



THE

BRIDGE

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Engineer Warriors Beat the Heat



COMMAND NOTES

Maj. Gen. Paul E. Crandall

Along with a change of seasons at this time of year we also welcome the start of a new training year. The new year represents fresh opportunities for achievement by executing plans that have been rigorously tailored to meet the needs of the Army and our Nation. The command has been extraordinarily successful due to the devotion of its members at every level. It might seem a tall order to meet or exceed the accomplishments that have been recorded thus far, but we can improve because our organization is one that grows junior Soldiers into great leaders. I continually witness the leadership and mentoring that our more “seasoned” Soldiers unselfishly shared with our younger Soldiers who are eager to learn and serve. The energy, creativity and enthusiasm brought to bear are refreshing and help us to face new challenges with confidence. Our command regenerates great capabilities by recognizing, respecting, and capitalizing on everyone’s contributions and talents.



We would not be so effective without the generous support of our families, friends, and employers. To them I extend my heartfelt thanks.

416th TEC units have been recognized for leadership in safety awareness and action. As always, I ask for your continued vigilance on matters of safety, both on and off duty. I will also share the reminder that as members of a great Army community there may be times when any of us may need help. Please remember that there are many people around you who genuinely care and are happy to help.

I hope that you will enjoy this issue of the Bridge which is the largest printed to date. It contains photos and commentary on a broad cross section of our command, and it is but a small sampling of so many great stories about the more than 12,000 Soldiers, Civilians, and Families that are the fiber of the 416th TEC.

Thank you for your sacrifices and contributions to our Army and Nation. Essayons!

IN TRAINING:

Our Families
NCO Corps
Junior Soldiers

OPPORTUNITIES:

Personal growth
Education
Professional development
Health care

APPRECIATION:

Families
Soldiers
Employers



Produced for the 416th Theater Engineer Command

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Staff Sgt. Jason R. Fiedler, a construction operations noncommissioned officer assigned to Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 310th Expeditionary Sustainment Command at Fort Benjamin Harrison, Ind., attempts a cross collar choke on Sgt. Marcus Caruso of 847th Human Resources Company, 103rd Expeditionary Sustainment Command during the Combatives portion of the Regional Best Warrior Competition here in Ft. McCoy, Wis. June 11. Fiedler was the runner-up for the NCO competition and represented the 416th TEC in the USARC competition because of an injury sustained to the overall NCO competition winner Sgt. Matthew Hall. Photo by U.S. Army photo by Sgt. 1st Class Andy Yoshimura, 416th TEC, PAO.

RIGHT:

Sgt. Matthew Hall, 416th Theater Engineer Command Best Warrior Competition NCO winner, did not stop during his 10K ruck march here in Ft. McCoy, Wis. Soldiers had to carry close to 100 pounds during wet conditions. Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Andy Yoshimura, 416th TEC PAO.

BACK COVER PHOTO:

Unit Public Affairs Representative Photo of the Quarter

A Chinook delivers the final sling load during Operation River Assault at Ft. Chaffee, Ark. in July. Photo by Sgt. Matthew Prince



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Command Sgt. Maj. Larry E. Reeve

Training Increases our Value!



Command Sgt. Maj. Larry Reeve talks to the Soldiers of the 367th Engineer Battalion in Fort Bliss, TX prior to their deployment to Iraq. Photo by Spc. Angela Cadriel, 367th Engineer Battalion

"I challenge each Soldier in the 416th Theater Engineer Command to have ownership for your unit and train to fight. Take pride in your service to our nation, because we take pride in you. Hold your head up high because you are protecting those who need us most."

The majority of our units have now completed Annual Training for FY 2010 and I traveled to many of the sites to view them first hand. I was able to see the 416th Theater Engineer Command Soldiers build bridges, operate heavy machinery, building roads, build weapons ranges, fabricate and erect steel buildings, and operate dining facilities. We have firefighters and chemical Soldiers engaged in training exercises and administrative folks setting up their S-1 shops in the field environment and continuing on with their duties. I was able to see our junior Soldiers taking charge of getting the mission accomplished and it was quite impressive. Every site that I visited I was greeted by a Safety non-commissioned officer (NCO) who ensured that I was in the proper uniform for the work being done.

The most important thing that I was able to view was that our Soldiers were engaged and getting valuable training time while completing missions in a timely manner above standards. To be able to accomplish what was done by our Soldiers at Annual Training this

year required a great deal of planning by our leadership and execution by our Soldiers and it was remarkable.

I challenge each Soldier in the 416th Theater Engineer Command to have ownership for your unit and train to fight. Take pride in your service to our nation, because we take pride in you. Hold your head up high because you are protecting those who need us most.

We have Soldiers from numerous Military Occupation Skills (MOSs) in the 416th TEC who contribute and it is difficult to thank everyone for what they do. From the Supply Sergeant who ensures that we have equipment; to the truck driver who gets us where we need to go, to the Unit Administrator (UA) who makes sure we get paid and everyone else who makes it all come together, you are more valuable than you know.

Thanks for all you do
CSM Reeve

Engineers bid Farewell to Beloved Commander

Story and photos by Staff Sgt. Peter Ford

BRYAN, TEXAS --Troops from the Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 420th Engineer Brigade, of the 416th Engineer Command, stood at attention in the humid heat of Texas here, June 5, to bid farewell to their company commander, Capt. Eric Russell of Gause, Texas, during a change of command ceremony.

Many soldiers have mixed emotions about his departure because of the strong bond built between Russell and his soldiers while deployed to Afghanistan. While some soldiers are happy to see him leave to further his career; others are sad to see him go because of his great leadership.

"Capt. Russell is a soldier's soldier," said Sgt. Jim Zingg, an executive assistant assigned to HHC, 420th Eng. Bde., and native of Bryan, Texas. "With him [Capt. Russell] troops come first and training is a priority," he added.

Because of hard, continuous, training and compassion for his soldiers, Capt. Russell brought his entire troops home safely from Afghanistan to their loved ones; an accomplishment he holds with pride. According to Russell, who served as the HHC commander for three years, he hates to leave but is eager to go.

"I have mixed emotions about leaving," said Russell. "However, I am looking forward to the challenges that lie ahead of me," he continued after transferring the unit colors to Capt. David Sisk, the incoming commander, who resides in Conroe, Texas.

Russell says he is proud to pass the colors on to another soldier with a great track record. Both commanders are combat proven with vast engineer experience and they both look forward to new challenges that lie ahead of them. ■



First Sgt. Christopher Jadowski, of Caldwell, Texas, passes the colors of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 420th Engineer Brigade to Capt. Eric Russell, the outgoing commander, from Gause, Texas, June 5. The change of command ceremony symbolizes the transfer of authority from one commander to another.



Soldiers of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 420th Engineer Brigade, show their new commander, David Sisk of Conroe, Texas, they are physically by doing push-ups after the change of command ceremony in Bryan, Texas, June 5. "There are no free rides here," said 1st Sgt. Christopher Jadowski, of Caldwell, Texas. "Don't expect one because you will not get one," Jadowski continued.



Soldiers of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 420th Engineer Brigade stand in formation with Capt. Eric Russell of Gause, Texas, for the last time during a change of command ceremony in Bryan, Texas, June 5. Many of the Soldiers had deployed to Afghanistan with Russell.

Buffalo Soldiers

Story by Sgt. 1st Class Andy Yoshimura

Ft. Irwin, Calif – Soldiers of the 744th Mobile Augmentation Company brave the August 107-degree weather as they climbed in their Humvee's, Buffalo (Mine Protected Vehicle) and Husky (Vehicle Mounted Mine Detector) in preparation for a route clearance mission. This time, the 744th are not in Iraq or Afghanistan but are spending nearly four weeks at the National Training Center (NTC), Ft. Irwin, Calif. training in preparation for their deployment to Afghanistan in early 2011.

There are many new soldiers in

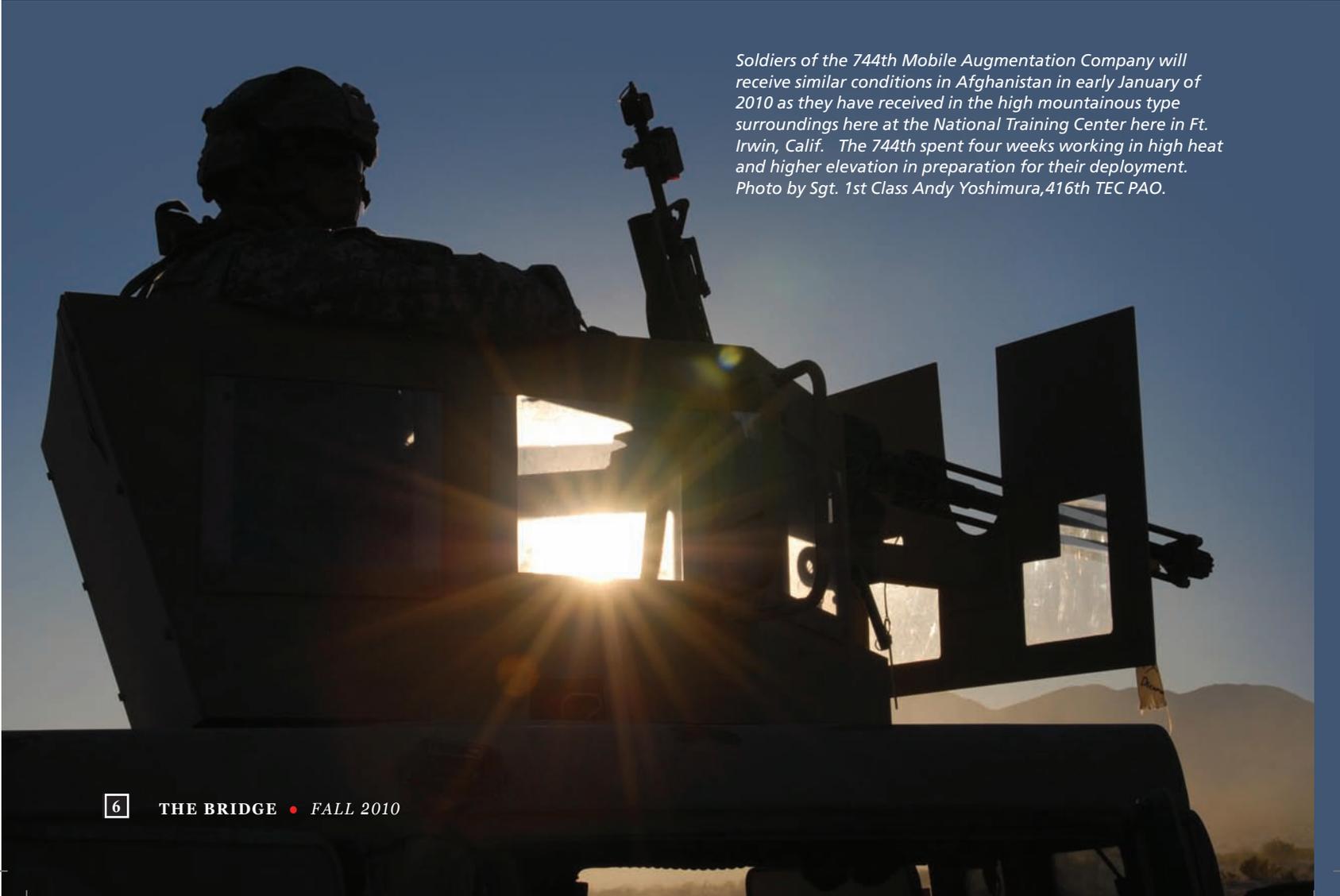
the 744th. Something that 1st platoon of the 744th lacks is the amount of experienced soldiers from previous deployments. As most of them have left the unit, just a handful has stayed with the unit. The quality of the leadership of the three non-commissioned officers who did deploy to Iraq floods the privates and specialists with their vast knowledge of not only their experiences but with the familiarity of equipments and vehicles these soldiers have never seen.

“These soldiers have come a long way from a week ago,” said Sgt.

Daniel Baerga, who deployed with the 744th to Iraq in 2006, “Their actions have been fluid and they have learned a lot in being proficient in their skills.”

Not only are the soldiers training on basic infantry skills but they are working with vehicles and route clearance equipments they have never seen before until they arrived here in NTC.

“I have a lot of confidence in interrogating mines,” said Pfc. Matthew Hutchison, a combat engineer and operator of the Buffalo, “I feel real safe in this vehicle.”



Soldiers of the 744th Mobile Augmentation Company will receive similar conditions in Afghanistan in early January of 2010 as they have received in the high mountainous type surroundings here at the National Training Center here in Ft. Irwin, Calif. The 744th spent four weeks working in high heat and higher elevation in preparation for their deployment. Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Andy Yoshimura, 416th TEC PAO.

The Mine Protected Vehicle, or Buffalo is a 23-ton vehicle that is intended to withstand a substantial blast because of its high cabin area for passengers to sit in along with a unique boat like wall design constructed with a thick steel structure that lessen the pounds per square inch blast from an explosion.

"This vehicle has saved my life," said Baegra. During one of many route clearance missions in Iraq, Baegra and a crew of five others came across a highly explosive device which detonated sending the vehicle ten feet in the air. "All six soldiers sitting in this type of vehicle all survived," Baegra said.

The Buffalo is used as a clearance vehicle which can search unidentified devices that can potentially be explosives hidden in

the ground. Attached to the vehicle is a 30-foot extension shaped like large claws similar to the Wolverine comic character which is used to probe debris, dirt and in some cases asphalt around an uncertain device. This is all done from inside the cabin with the use of a remote and a video camera mounted on the actual arm of the extension.

For today's mission, 1st platoon had to clear one of the routes to a local make-shift town of Sharq Darzawa Jame'a which was considered "black" (not been cleared in more than 24 hours). Supplies had to be delivered to this town which is approximately 20 kilometers away from their forward operating base.

In front of the convoy is the "Husky" which can detect mines

across an entire two way road. The Husky has a similar boat like design along with a heavy armor wall like structure of the Buffalo. In order for the Husky to identify potential explosives, the vehicle has to travel around 5 to 10 miles an hour making the 20-kilometer trip a three hour mission, not counting the stopping and interrogating explosives that are found during the convoy.

During this full-spectrum cycle of the training, the opposition forces (OPFOR) are able to attack soldiers while they were performing their missions. Upon arrival of Sharq Darzawa Jame'a, the convoy was hit by a small-arms fire from one of the buildings while supplies were delivered to the village. Soldiers

Continued on page 19



The claws of the Mine Protected Vehicle "Buffalo" probes through the sands of Ft. Irwin, Calif. on August 15th, in search of a possible improvised explosive device that was detected on the side of the road. The 744th Mobile Augmentation Company will use a vehicle similar to this for their route clearance missions in Afghanistan. Photo by Sgt. Jeremiah Richardson, 416th TEC PAO.



Sgt. Ward Mayfield, a combat engineer of the 477th Mobile Augmentation Company, pulls road security during a training exercise here in Ft. Irwin Calif. August 2010. Mayfield is seen here guiding a local villager around an improvised explosive device that was found during their route clearance mission on August 15th. Soldiers of the 477th will spend up to 4 weeks training for their deployment to Afghanistan in early 2011. Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Andy Yoshimura, 416th TEC PAO.

Good Leaders' Training Develop Good Soldiers

by Staff Sgt. Peter Ford, 211th MPAD

FORT HUNTER LIGGETT, Calif.—Soldiers of the 983rd Engineer Battalion travel from various regions around the United States to enhance their skills during Castle Installation Related Construction (IRC), here August 8.

Castle IRC is an exercise designed to provide Army Engineers with realistic hands-on training. Although manned with many inexperienced soldiers, the noncommissioned officers of the 983rd Eng. Bn. manage to accomplish the mission by mentoring young soldiers. Mentoring soldiers begins with setting standards.

"We began setting standards by ensuring soldiers wear proper protective equipment whenever they are on the work sites," said Staff Sgt. Kyle Rush, a member of the 304th Engineer Company, 983rd Eng. Bn. who is the site manager for vertical construction of an Entry Control point being constructed. "Making on the spot corrections and properly training soldiers to strengthen their weaknesses is vital to the mission and to the soldier," he added.

Castle IRC helps soldiers much like the leaders of the 983rd Eng. Bn. They help soldiers see their weaknesses and allow them the opportunity to improve upon them as well as enhance their strengths.

"Our NCOs [noncommissioned officers] take the time to teach us how to do things if they feel we are having difficulty grasping a concept," said Spec. Brennan Tanner, a carpenter assigned to the 486th Eng. Co., 983rd Eng. Bn. "Classroom training is good but nothing compares to the real thing, like applying what I have learned," continued Tanner.

If soldiers show they are capable of doing a particular job, NCOs let them do it without micro-managing them, according to Tanner. Allowing soldiers to perform their jobs without too much interference builds confidence.

"I love seeing NCOs help develop young soldiers by stepping back and letting them get their hands dirty," said Lt. Col. Ricardo Javier, who is a native of Puerto Rico and commander of the 983rd Eng. Bn. "It is pretty exciting to watch Soldiers make improvements," Javier added.

Good NCOs coupled with challenging training develops confident, skilled Soldiers to become mentors for future Soldiers. ■

1. Pvt. Anthony Ramos of the 304th Engineer Company, assigned to the 983rd Engineer Battalion hammers nails into a frame being built for a tower that will be a part of the Entry Control which is now in the beginning stages of construction, August 8. While the horizontal engineers are working on preparing the grounds, the vertical engineers are constructing towers and bunkers. Photo by Staff Sgt. Peter Ford, 211th MPAD.

2. Pvt. Brittney Young, a carpentry and masonry specialist, of the 486th Engineer Company, places a support for a guard tower. Soldiers of the 486th are here in Ft. Hunter Liggett, Calif. supporting Castle IRC (Installation Related Construction) building Entry Control Point buildings and towers for training sites that will be used for future use in mobilization exercises. Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Andy Yoshimura, 416th TEC, PAO.



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3. During Castle IRC, Sgt. Tim Caradona of the 478th Engineer Platoon, 983rd Engineer Battalion takes time to mentor Private 1st Class Karla Salgado-Catalan of the 387th Engineer Company, 983rd Eng. Bn. by building her confidence and letting her know there is no task so big that she cannot accomplish. Salgado-Catalan was trying to load a compactor onto a vehicle to work on another Entry Control Point. "Salgado-Catalan was nervous and I was just trying to keep her calm and encourage her," said Caradonna. Photo by Staff Sgt. Peter Ford, 211th MPAD.

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4. Pfc. Jared Haycock and Pfc. Eric Brooks, both of the 486th Engineer Company, cuts a rod for a part of an anchor of a tower that is being constructed. Soldiers of the 486th are spending two weeks in Ft. Hunter Liggett supporting Castle IRC (Installation Related Construction), Aug 2010. Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Andy Yoshimura, 416th TEC, PAO.

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5. Spc. Jeff Gaylord gives the OK sign to Pfc. Gerardo Torres, both of the 387th Engineer Company, as Torres dumps dirt into the back of a gravel truck. Soldiers of the 387th are constructing a new road for an Entry Control Point here in Ft. Hunter-Liggett, Calif. in support of Castle IRC (Installation Related Construction) Aug. 2010. Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Andy Yoshimura, 416th TEC, PAO.

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6. Spec. Brennan Tanner, a carpenter of the 486th Engineer Company, 983rd Engineer Battalion, wears all of his personal protective equipment during training at Castle IRC. The NCO set standards for Tanner as a young Soldier. Wearing personal protective equipment is just a habit according to Tanner. Photo by Staff Sgt. Peter Ford, 211th MPAD.

JULY 24, 2010

Double 'TEC' at Operation River Assault 2010

Story by Pfc. Devin M. Wood, 412th Theater Engineer Command

Photos by Sgt. Matthew Prince, 416th Theater Engineer Command

FORT CHAFFEE, Ark. -- As the sun rose over Fort Chaffee Ark., the morning of July 21, 2010, Army Reserve engineers from the 671st and 341st Engineer Companies began assembling an Improved Ribbon Bridge across the Arkansas River as part of Operation River Assault. Boats dashed in all directions across the river to retrieve bridge sections that dropped from CH-47 Chinook helicopters above, and trucks positioned on the river banks.

"You have to control all the work boats and make sure they are all in the right order and make sure the safety boat does its drills as well," said Sgt. Pierre Dubois of the 671st Engineer Company.

The Soldiers assembled the 320 meter temporary bridge in approximately 90 minutes; 30 minutes ahead of schedule.

"The Arkansas River offers the bridging units a realistic training opportunity," said Sgt. 1st Class William Richards, the 412th Theater Engineer Command's training non-commissioned officer. "Not only do they have to deal with the distance of the crossing, but the river flow as well."

Once completed, the company commanders known as "Bridge Masters" inspected the structure for completeness and safety. Once the bridge was cleared for traffic, Brig. Gen. Jimmy Fowler, the 412th's deputy



A CH-47 Chinook helicopter delivers the first sling load during Operation River Assault at Ft. Chaffee, Ark.

commander, led a convoy of 27 tactical vehicles across the span.

"My younger soldiers learned so much I have no doubt in my mind, after this exercise, that these guys can now operate any of this equipment perfectly," said Sgt. Jacob Hibbeln of the 671st Engineer Company.

"I was with the "build" crew and they showed me how the bridge works, which latches to throw, and how to put

it together properly," said Pfc. Corey Williams, a 671st Engineer Company Soldier taking part in his first Extended Combat Training. "I'm enjoying it, except I don't really like the heat."

The Arkansas River tested the engineers, and earlier that week United States Army Reserve Command ran an informal test of its own. Lt. Gen. Jack C. Stultz, the USARC commander, visited River Assault and observed the 412th



Soldiers from the 671st Engineer Detachment guide vehicles to the river bank and unload bridge pieces during Operation River Assault at Ft. Chaffee, Ark.

and the 416th TECs working together. Both two star commands changed from engineer commands to theater engineer commands when the Army Reserve transformed from the Regional Support Structure to the current Functional Command Structure in Oct. 2009.

"I said I want two engineer commands that are responsible for the engineer assets I got in the Army Reserve," Stultz said. "And I want them in various stages of readiness, year one, two, three, four and deployed."

The 412th inherited all the engineer units east of the Mississippi River, and the 416th got the ones to the west, according to Maj. Gen. Paul F. Hamm, the 412th commander.

"Amazingly it's divided up evenly," Hamm said. "We each got approximately 12,000 soldiers...we each have three brigades; two engineer brigades and one Maneuver Enhancement Brigade."

During River Assault, the 412th was the executive agent, and one its subsidiaries, the 926th Engineer Battalion, maintained command and control of the subordinate units, most of which came from the 416th.

"We've all gelled together and things have worked out," Hamm said. "As we know, units will go into theater and they'll work with other units they're not necessarily accustomed to."

"I'm impressed," Stultz said, after spending two days at River Assault.

He witnessed, and in some cases participated in, training that ranged from a demolition range, to bridging operations.

Stultz said the different types of training he saw at River Assault are examples of what Soldiers want.

"Don't waste my time," Stultz said. "If you're gonna train me, train me. And make it realistic. Don't make it...sitting in the class room listening to somebody talk. Put me out here on the water, let me put a bridge together, let me get hot and sweaty and dehydrated."

The fact that the Soldiers built the bridge and were able to get the vehicles across represents the true test of the training, according to Hamm.

"We spanned the river," Hamm said, from his vantage point on a nearby barge. "It's not often they get the opportunity to bridge a river with the size and velocity of the Arkansas." ■



Soldiers of the 671st and 341st Engineer Detachments work to fit together two bridge halves during Operation River Assault at Ft. Chaffee, Ark.

277th Completes Dual Purposed Mission

Story and photos by Sgt. Reuben Aleman, 277th Engineer Company, UPAR

While attending this year's annual training the 277th Engineer Company has successfully completed a unique and rewarding mission. While many reserve soldiers travel long distances to train or aid the local populace, the 277th did both in their home town of San Antonio, Texas during the middle of July, 2010. As a horizontal construction company, the 277th was given the task to create fire breaks around the perimeter of Camp Bullis, Texas.

For years wild fires have kept the surrounding neighborhoods around Camp Bullis, where the 277th conduct their battle assemblies and training, on edge. Although Bullis has a wide variety of training areas, this benefit also brings a large amount of responsi-

bility. During the summer months the lush valleys and meadows on Camp Bullis become dry and barren in the Texas heat, and which also brings the risk of fires that commonly occur while training on a live gun-fire rang

In 2009 fires broke out across Camp Bullis destroying over 100 acres of land and endangering the civilian population in the process. The deadly combination of dry heat and rounds going down a gun range made the post command consider ideas to prevent these wild fires from spreading to the nearby neighborhoods.

This operation is basically what most equipment operators would consider cutting and grubbing. This task will prevent fires from spreading by clearing all vegetation on the

perimeter of the base. On the surface this mission seems simple enough, but when the Texas hill country is mixed into the equation then the whole scope of work changes drastically.

Staff Sgt. Tom Hartung and Sgt. Ray Alvarado were given the leadership of this mission Hartung's experience in the field combined with Alvarado's knowledge of equipment operations made this mission a huge success. Utilizing 17 soldiers and a hand full of equipment, the 277th managed to complete 26 miles of fire breaks or a gap in vegetation that acts as a barrier to slow the progress of a fire. Hartung's crew worked vigorously to ensure the mission was done safely and proficiently. The leadership was comprised mostly of veterans and the



Left: Grader – Soldiers of the 277th Engineer Company builds a road or “fire break” which controls and prevents fires from spreading by eliminating brush around the perimeter Camp Bullis, Texas.

Right: Firebreaks – a road “fire break” protects the community surrounding Camp Bullis, Texas.

majority of the lower enlisted were still new to the army, so this gave the leadership and opportunity to train new soldiers on each piece of equipment.

Spc. Joshua Nolan, a two time veteran of OIF, contributed to the success of the mission greatly by coaching each individual Soldier on their equipment operating skills. Nolan's patience and detailed knowledge of the equipment was critical to the success of the mission.

"I think that this was a perfect opportunity," said Nolan when asked about the training. "for a lot of these new soldiers to be able to train and get comfortable on the equipment."

One such soldier was Pfc. Duke Mueller. Both Hartung and Alvarado agreed that Mueller's dedication and

hard work set the standard on the job site. Mueller has only been in the Army Reserve for a year but his willingness to learn the equipment and attention to detail earned him recognition from his leadership and peers.

When asked about what challenges he faced on the job site Mueller noted, "Huge rocks and boulders were constantly in our way out there," said Mueller, "Most of the work was done going uphill. I'm just glad we had good NCO's who watched and supervised us."

This year's Annual Training (AT) was beneficial to all Soldiers. New Soldiers from the 277th became more familiar with the equipment while at the same time they contributed to the overall safety of the surrounding neighborhoods. ■



New Enemy Tactics Mean New Equipment

Story and photos by Sgt. Amanda Solitario, 304th Public Affairs Detachment

For the soldiers huddled in laughter and chatter, it was just an ordinary day. Until the news cracked through the radio from the reconnaissance patrol.

Word spread quickly through the camp; a chemical attack just outside of the perimeter had struck soldiers of the 349th Chemical Company. Their comrades inside leapt to their feet, hastily applied Mission Oriented Protective Posture (MOPP) gear, and assembled a decontamination site.

This mission capped a three-day training exercise designed to hone the decontamination and

reconnaissance skills of 349th soldiers at Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Wash. in August.

“You must stay knowledgeable with the equipment you use,” said Staff Sgt. Kenneth Cummings, acting platoon sergeant for 3rd Platoon. “It is like a knife. You have to keep it sharp or it will not work when you need it.”

The exercise showcased a new piece of decontamination equipment, which the soldiers saw for the first time only the previous day.

The M26 Joint Service Transportable Decontamination System Small Scale is a high pressure power washer designed to decontaminate vehicles exposed to chemical or biological agents.

Cummings said this model replaced the older M17 Lightweight Decontamination System and seems to be more efficient in a chemical or biological environment where speed and reaction time are critical.

“The M26 is a push start and runs on one type of gas (instead of two types of fuel used by the M17),” he said. “Although it is not as mobile, I think it is way more effective.”

By avoiding the need to load two separate types of fuel and pull-start the engine, soldiers can now start decontaminating almost immediately, according to Sgt. 1st Class Detrick Traylor, training noncommissioned officer in charge.

“It allows us to get the mission started right away,” he said. “And saving time can save lives.”

The modifications in equipment are just one way chemical units are evolving in the face of a changing battlefield.

Traylor said units are now seeing the enemy use industrial chemicals and materials. Ultimately, this means adjusting the focus of training.



Sgt. Nathan McVay, a CBRN Soldier with the 349th Chemical Company, assists Pfc. Michael Amabile, a CBRN Soldier with the unit, in donning his mask and level-A suit during a training exercise at Joint Base Lewis-McChord.



“We used to be worried about weaponized chemicals that our mask could not protect against,” Cummings said. “Now the enemy is using what is under our sink. We now train on toxic industrial materials.”

While the decontamination section learned about the M-26, the reconnaissance platoon broke away to train for their civilian mission.

Many chemical units have the knowledge and capabilities to assist emergency services in the event of a chemical attack on U.S. soil, explained Sgt. Robert Cole, a chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear (CBRN) specialist with the unit.

This additional duty, known as “white mission,” rotates among military chemical units across the country. The 349th expects this job to fall into their lap soon.

“We are on stand-by for white mission,” said Cole. “Our annual training this year will involve white mission.”

White missions require different training, because the level “A” suits worn during civilian missions are different from standard MOPP gear.

Instead of protective masks, soldiers wear air tanks and face masks similar to scuba gear. Steel tipped boots cover a tarp-like suit that encapsulates the individual in an air- and water-tight ensemble for protection from biological and chemical weapons.

Spc. Robert Durbin, a CBRN Soldier with the reconnaissance platoon in the 349th Chemical Company from Joint Base Lewis-McChord, trains with the Improved Chemical Agent Monitor in a mock Hazmat zone.



Army Reserve Soldiers with the 349th Chemical Company from Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Wash. and 365th Chemical Company from Salt Lake City, Utah practice decontamination during a training exercise. The Soldiers spent three days in the field training on new equipment and refining decontamination and reconnaissance skills.

very warm and humid. There is a loss of dexterity when you are inside, and it is easy to get frustrated.”

The temperature, however, was a cool 75 degrees with frequent breaks from the sun.

“This is perfect weather,” said Cole. “On a really hot day you can lose up to five pounds of water weight in that suit.”

Still, after only 20 minutes inside, Soldiers emerged from their bright blue suits with sweat dripping from their brows while sucking in breaths of fresh air.

“I feel for them, but they are Soldiers,” Cole said. “We have all been there.” ■

Essayons! 2010

Story by Staff Sgt Marla Keown, 207th PAD

Saws roaring, hammers pounding and heavy equipment engines loud enough to vibrate your core. If anyone was visiting Fort McCoy, Wisc, from June 12th through the 26th, they were sure to feel and hear the bustle of Operation Essayons 2010 and the multitude of working engineer soldiers that were the driving force.

Engineer units from across the United States traveled to Fort McCoy for their annual two weeks of training. The goal of Operation Essayons is to develop and sustain soldiers' technical skills by assisting Fort McCoy in the development of the training areas.

"Think of how much money we are saving the base commander by having our soldiers doing work out here," said Maj. Anthony B. Puckett, Operations Officer for Operations Essayons 2010. By having Reserve units complete construction work for the base, the base commander will have more funds available to put towards the facilities. "Bases love to have Engineer units come to these exercises and work for them," added Puckett.

Engineer units from two different engineer battalions supported construction efforts for Operation Essayons. Eleven units under the 467th Engineer Battalion and the 489th

Engineer Battalion worked on 15 different projects during their time at Fort McCoy. The projects ranged from building training classrooms known as South West Asia Huts, to making berms and gravel roads for a new privately owned weapon ranged scheduled to be completed by November 2010.

"Operation Essayons is the biggest construction exercise out here," said Sgt. Scott Larock, the troop project sergeant in charge. "All the construction is technical and all the soldiers train on the technical aspects of their Military Occupational Specialties," Larock added. This means that carpenters, masonries, electricians and concrete detachments all get to train on their Army jobs.

Sgt. Daniel Buchholtz, a carpentry and masonry specialist with the 672nd Engineer Company (EN CO), a Reserve unit from Missoula, Mont, was happy that he and his company were getting hands-on training. "We have been out here for two days just busting tail, in the heat, nonstop just to get the job done," said Buchholtz. "There wasn't one person complaining and to top it off we had our chief and first sergeant out here. They took their blouses off and went right to work," Buchholtz added. The company worked hard and worked together and got the job done.

The soldiers of 3rd Platoon, 672nd EN CO worked long and hard to make sure a base pad was ready for later construction work where a steel storage facility will later be built. The Engineers laid down the footers for the pad. The footers are the load bearing parts of the building, where most of the weight from the framework of the building will rest. It is a very labor-intensive job to complete that includes lots of rebar work. "It is basically the skeleton," said Buchholtz.

With the footers ready, soldiers with the 603rd Engineer Company, a Reserve unit from Puerto Rico, moved in to lay concrete. As the concrete pumps through, a vibrator is used to get all the air pockets and inconsistencies in the concrete out of the footers. Once the concrete is poured, soldiers trowel it off to make it nice and smooth. "And then we call it a day at this site," added Buchholtz.



Pvt. Juan Rivera and Spc. Steven Lueloff of the 327th Engineer Company are helping forming a radius of a roof panel. This is one of a hundred they will be forming in construction of a K-Span structure. Soldiers from the 327th are spending two weeks in Fort McCoy in support of Operation Essayons. Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Andy Yoshimura, 416th TEC PAO.



Soldiers of the 358th Engineer Company, a Reserve unit from New Cumberland, Penn., construct a South West Asian Hut that will be used as training aids for transportation companies at Fort McCoy, Wisc., as part of Operation Essayons, June 21, 2010. Photo by Staff Sgt. Marla R. Keown, Public Affairs Specialist 207th PAD.



Soldiers of the 327th Engineer Company, a Reserve unit from Ladysmith, Wisc., build a watertight, arched structure that spans 50 feet wide by 100 feet long at Fort McCoy, Wisc., as part of Operation Essayons, June 21, 2010. Photo by Staff Sgt. Marla R. Keown, Public Affairs Specialist 207th PAD.

Teamwork was a familiar sight at the varying construction zones. Throughout the training exercise soldiers of all different trades worked together and learned from each other. Cross-level training could be found at every site. Electricians were getting hands on training in carpentry and masonry and heavy equipment operators could be seen teaching plumbers how to operate the different machines.

"The engineers are a totally different breed than anyone else in the military," said Spc. Steven J. Lueloff, a heavy equipment operator for the 327th EN CO, a Reserve unit from Ladysmith, Wisc. "You have your group of people that work hard, and then you have your group of people that work harder. I'd like to think that we are the people that work harder," said Lueloff.

Overall, Operation Essayons seems to have been a success.

"When you go to the construction sites and see everyone is gainfully employed and you see one on one interaction... teaching the troops how to correct what they are doing and getting thorough explanations... that is the key for Operation Essayons, that the troops get training," said Larock.

Spc. Lueloff seems to be in agreement with Sgt. Larock. "Being an engineer is like watching a child grow. You get to a site and nothing is there. Then by the end you can be appreciative of what you accomplished," said Lueloff.

"Everyone here did the jobs that they were sent to do," said Puckett. "I think the units were all very successful."

Troops that trained at Operation Essayons this year will be able to move on to the next level of training next year at Fort Hunter Liggett, Calif. ■



Operation Essayons-019 - Sgt. Jessica L. Warren, 23, a heavy equipment operator for the 955th Engineer Company, a Reserve unit from Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., grades a road built by the engineers in order to make it more stable, at Fort McCoy, Wisc., as part of Operation Essayons, June 22, 2010. "I love my job," said Warren. "I get lots of hands on training and a sense of accomplishment from what I've done." Photo by Staff Sgt. Marla R. Keown, Public Affairs Specialist 207th PAD.

Fit Warrior

Story and photo by Sgt. Christopher Conley, 304th PAD

Boise, Idaho - Under an expansive Rocky Mountain sky, soldiers sweat to the beat of a cadence. Weary of being held back from achieving their goals, trainees flock from across the 416th Theater Engineer Command (TEC) to Boise, Idaho for Operation: Fit Warrior.

Locally, the 391st Engineer Company sponsors this, the third cycle of a two-week retreat twice a year. Sessions are conducted in the spring and fall, to teach soldiers the importance of proper diet and exercise. At the crack of dawn, they hit the streets of Gowen Army Airfield for the first of two daily physical training (PT) sessions. Then they learn about eating right and proper exercise in a four-hour class.

The Fit Warrior cadre said the soldiers are striving to meet Army standards in height, weight, and physical fitness.

"Fit Warrior establishes guidelines for living a healthier lifestyle to achieve Army values and goals," said Staff Sgt. Robert Bond, a supervisor with the 391st Engineer Company. "A nutritionist comes in the first week and gives guidance on dieting and exercising, and everything from sleep to snacking is covered."

1st Lt. Trinity Storey was the nutritionist on hand for the most recent Fit Warrior cycle.

"My involvement entails giving nutrition presentations for Fit Warrior. Over the last two weeks, everyone became familiar with proper nutrition, the fuel for per-



Soldiers of the 416th Theater Engineer Command play volleyball during Operation Fit Warrior at Gowen Army Airfield, Boise, ID in June

formance," said Storey, who was on loan from her normal duty as a registered dietician at Brooke Army Medical Center at Fort Sam Houston, Texas. "[We've covered] what a basic healthy diet is," she added. "We've gone back to the basics of what carbohydrates, proteins, fats and basic calorie needs are. We've talked about fad diets, nutritional supplements, high cholesterol, and heart disease."

Soldiers received daily food logs, writing down everything they ate from wake-up to lights-out.

Sgt. Ben Carpenter, a member of the 391st Engineer Company, lost two inches off his waist during this cycle. He attributed this to the nutritional coaching on portion sizes and gradually meeting dietary goals.

"I considered myself to be marginal in PT and I wanted to improve," he said. "My hardest event is the sit-up. I wanted to get my core stronger, and it never hurts to improve your cardio score."

The soldiers also receive instructional CDs and caloric intake formulas to take home with them for proper nutritional guidance.

"I think this is a good jump start for people who haven't been doing any exercise, acting as catalyst to send you on a good fitness plan." Carpenter added. "Be sure to eat healthy, exercise and avoid the crash diets. Don't try to drop ten pounds in a week. That's just not healthy." ■

The 416th TEC is on Facebook, Flickr and You Tube!

You can find out more on what goes on in the 416th Theater Engineer Command by adding us on Facebook. If you have photos of your loved ones overseas, please email those photos and description of the photo to:

ENG416PublicAffairsAllUsers@usar.army.mil



facebook

flickr™



Spc. Austin McPhail, a combat engineer of the 744th Mobile Augmentation Company, loads blank .50 caliber rounds into his M2 Browning Machine Gun while sitting in his Humvee turret in preparation for their route clearance mission. During the Full Spectrum stage of their training, opposition forces will attack convoys, bases and disrupt the 744th during their mission. Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Andy Yoshimura, 416th TEC PAO.

Buffalo Soldiers *Continued from page 7*

were able to stand ground while already being mounted and targeted by the potential threat.

“It is interesting to see how much the training has developed over time,” said Staff Sgt. Jeremy Brummett, platoon sergeant of “Chaos” platoon. “In 2006, we were driving around with minimal OPFOR contact. Now we have equipment where we can get realistic training on,” he said.

The experienced soldiers are allowing those soldiers with less experience to get hands on training with these route clearance equipments.

“This is about as realistic as possible short of actually getting blown up,” said Brummett.

“We know that our NCO’s have experience,” said a confident Hutchison while manning the remote arm of the Buffalo, “this is something different and I love doing it”.

Patience is important in clearing routes. A three-hour mission can sometimes turn into an all day affair with interrogating mines, destroying explosive devices and receiving small arms fire. Capt. Scott Sparrow, the commander of the 744th is proud of what his company has done during this rotation at NTC. “We have found all IED’s with a 100% find rate,” said, Sparrow, “I’m confident we will perform our mission in Afghanistan with honor and distinction.”

Soldiers of the 744th are dedicated in performing their mission. They will spend countless hours making sure that all soldiers are comfortable with their duties here in NTC. Rest assured, if the 744th is in front of your convoy, the mission that you are on will run smoother and will make life a little easier when you are driving on the roads of Afghanistan. ■

DERUSSY MUSEUM OPENS TO PUBLIC

Story and photos by U.S. Army Staff Sgt. Marla R. Keown, 207th PAD

Dignitaries, honored guests, soldiers and curious locals gathered together in front of Fort DeRussy's Army Museum to celebrate the completion of two newly restored parapets, July 6, 2010.

One hundred years after U.S. Army Engineers completed construction on Battery Randolph at Fort DeRussy, Hawaii, U.S. Army Reserve Engineers completed construction for a second time. Over 310 Army Reserve Soldiers from the 416th Theater Engineer Command, 420th Engineer Brigade and the 980th Engineer Battalion restored Battery Randolph's structure to its original appearance as it was built a century ago.

The \$710,000 project opened up over 7,400 square feet of new administrative, classrooms, workshops, galleries and exhibits areas for an ever-growing collection of artifacts. Along with creating more museum space, the construction project also restored Battery Randolph to its original appearance, but without the original structure of 15-foot thick walls.

Battery

Randolph's parapets "were used as defensive walls from which Battery Randolph's soldiers and huge 14-inch guns could remain hidden, then when needed, pop up and fire an artillery projectile about the size of a Volkswagen, before returning once again into a concealed position," said Col. Douglas S. Mulbury, U.S. Army Garrison Hawaii Commander.

These particular parapets were 15-feet thick. "When factored in with the earthen berms on the ocean side of the battery, it was the equivalent of 30 feet of steel reinforced solid concrete and was capable of withstanding a direct hit from a 2000-pound artillery shell," Mulbury added.

Battery Randolph was also capable of withstanding numerous wrecking balls in 1969. "As the threat of ship to shore bombardment became obsolete, so too did the need for (Battery Randolph)," said Maj. Gen. Michael J. Terry, Senior Commander, U.S. Army Hawaii.

"Having claimed the lives of numerous wrecking balls and causing the eventual bankruptcy of the demolition company, Battery Randolph's reinforced concrete walls and massive construction won both the battle and war, having only lost its protective parapets in the process," Terry added.

In 1976, the Army designated Battery Randolph home of the U.S. Army Museum, at Fort DeRussy, with



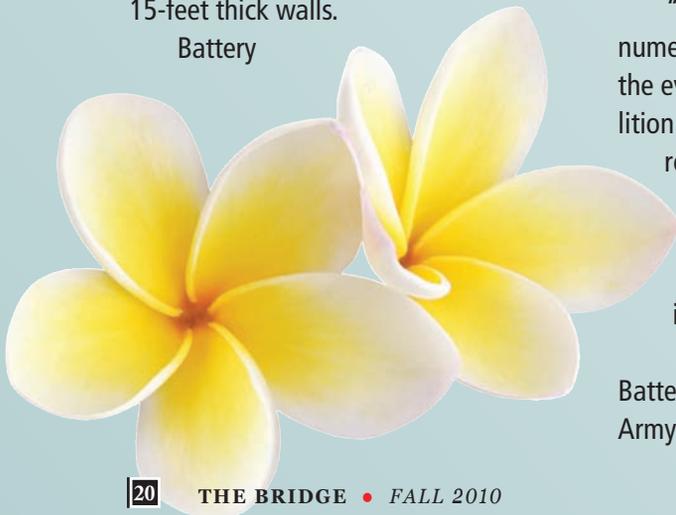
Dr. Lawrence K.W. Tseu, DDS, FAGD, the largest single contributor and local philanthropist, accepts a plaque presented to him at the Parapet Restoration Ceremony at Battery Randolph Army Museum at Fort DeRussy, Hawaii, July 6, 2010. The construction wouldn't have been made possible without such donations. Tseu dedicated the plaque in memory of his wife Bo Hing Chan.

the purpose of preserving the past, honoring the Soldiers who have died in combat, and sharing with all who visit Oahu, the significant contributions that the Army in Hawaii has played in the defense of our nation.

Reserve soldiers started getting down and dirty on May 8, 2010. Three 21-day rotations later, the Reserve Engineers not only completed the parapets, but they completed their annual training requirement – performing and perfecting their engineer construction skills – while at the same time, preserving the historic edifice of Battery Randolph.

"You have completed in 63 days, what could have easily taken 18 months under other circumstances," said Terry. "Your work saved the tax payers in excess of over 2.9 million dollars," Terry added.

The construction wouldn't have been made possible without





Keike Ka'aha Kahu Melvin "Moki" Labra opens the Parapet Restoration Ceremony at Battery Randolph Army Museum at Fort DeRussy, Hawaii, with a traditional Oil and Pule ritual, July 6, 2010.



Col. Douglas S. Mulbury, Commander of the U.S. Army Garrison Hawaii, addresses the audience at the Parapet Restoration Ceremony at Battery Randolph Army Museum at Fort DeRussy, Hawaii, July 6, 2010. Dignitaries, honored guests and soldiers gathered together to celebrate the completion of two newly restored parapets.

membership and donations made through the Hawaii Army Museum Society, a nonprofit organization that supports the museum, said Executive Director Vicki Olson.

Olson said the largest single contribution was made by local philanthropist Dr. Lawrence K.W. Tseu. In honor of such generosity, a plaque was presented to Dr. Tseu, which he dedicated in memory of his wife Bo Hing Chan.

The hard-working soldiers were also honored with a plaque for their long-lasting contribution to sustain history and heritage to the U.S. Army Hawaii Museum through their reconstruction efforts. ■



Retired Gen. David A. Bramlett thanks soldiers of the 302nd Engineer Company (Vertical), a Reserve unit from San Antonio, after the Parapet Restoration Ceremony at Battery Randolph Army Museum at Fort DeRussy, Hawaii, July 6, 2010. Over 310 Army Reserve Soldiers restored Battery Randolph's structure to its original appearance as it was built a century ago.

Hooah Let the Best Warriors Out

Story by Sgt 1st Class Chris Farley,
88th Regional Support Command Public Affairs Office

FORT MCCOY, Wis.— Summer always marks the onslaught of summer big budget movies and sequels.

One action packed sequel that played here exclusively and won't be shown at the local Cineplex because it isn't a movie, but is a sequel to last year's successful warrior challenge, is the 2010 Regional Best Warrior Competition held here.

Twenty Army Reserve Warrior Citizens were cast for the 2010 Regional Best Warrior Competition from the 416th Theater Support Command, 84th Training Support Command and the 88th Regional Support Command. For a second time, the three commands merged resources to host one spectacular

competition utilizing more resources, logistics and personnel to top last year's competition.

This year's competition was wrenched up a couple notches with more surprises; more physically demanding events and social media websites were utilized for fans to follow their favorite candidate.

Sgt. Maj. Kevin K. Greene, 2010 Regional Best Warrior Competition cadre, said when they were in the planning stage they didn't want to create a competition where the book smart Soldiers had the advantage over Soldiers that were physical beasts and vice versa.

Greene said, "We want a true best warrior. We want somebody that not only can think on their feet but is also physically capable. It's the whole package."

To name a few events returning from last year was the Army Physical Fitness Test, the appearance board, weapons qualifications and Warrior Training Tasks. New to this year's starring line up was an approximately 10-kilometer road march with candidates carrying over 100 pounds of gear, Army modern combatives and three mystery events.

The new Medical Simulation Training Center, also known as MSTC, here had a supporting role during the RBWC. Candidates



entered a dark and foggy room, with flashing lights and blaring heavy metal music playing in this confined room. On the floor was an Emergency Care Simulator or dummy that's programmed to bleed, breath, go into convulsions and blink. These horror films like special effects were utilized to simulate real world combat conditions. Once candidates were inside the room, they had to evaluate a casualty and administer first aid.

"Most times in your unit you get a very simulated kind of environment for these tasks but here you really get a bit more feel for the sense of urgency of the task," said a tired Army Staff Sgt. Jason R. Fiedler, 2010 RBWC candidate, after he finished going through the MSTC.

The three mystery tasks were reflexive fire, route clearance and the physical conditioning course. The physical conditioning course was on the final day before the combatives tournament and all candidates were pushed to their physical limits to overcome every obstacle as fast as they could. Each candidate would receive 50 points on this course if they finished it in four minutes or less.

Spc. Anthony T. Lindell, 2010 Regional Best Warrior

Competition candidate, finished the course in three minutes and twenty seconds with a five point penalty for not successfully completing the rope crawl. Like a stunt seen in an action movie, Lindell scaled a wall fast, dropped, did a combat rolled back on to his feet and ran off to the next obstacle.

"I kind of ran and jumped. You know when you jump from a high distance you're suppose to roll with it. So I kind of planted my feet and rolled with it and kept on going," said Lindell as he critiques his own stunt.

Tired from the course and other events from the week, candidates pushed themselves and each other one last time to compete in combatives.

"The key to success in any combatives match is to have the "Top Gun" soundtrack in your head going into the match and through the match. You can't lose," said Army Sgt. Marcus P. Caruso, 2010 Regional Best Warrior Competition candidate.

"The thing I noticed in the scoring is was that there was no run

Continued on page 37

Photos from left to right in filmstrip:

- Warriors finishing up the 10K ruck march here in Ft. McCoy, Wis. on 8 June 2010 during the Regional Best Warrior Competition. The course itself had many hills the Warriors had to overcome in wet and rainy conditions. Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Andy Yoshimura, 416th TEC PAO.
- Spc. Ronald Larson, of the 353rd Transportation Company, climbs under an obstacle on his way to the finish line during the Confidence (obstacle) Course event on 9 June 2010. Photo by Sgt Shiloh Becher, 416th Theater Engineer Command.
- Spc. Rafael Gutierrez, of the 2nd Brigade-70th Division, attempts to find his next point by shooting an azimuth after reaching his first point on 9 June 2010. Gutierrez is one of 20 Soldiers competing in the Regional Best Warrior Competition in Ft. McCoy, Wis. Competitors had three hours to find four points on a hilly and rugged terrain. Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Andy Yoshimura, 416th TEC PAO.
- Staff Sgt. Jason R. Fiedler, a construction operations noncommissioned officer assigned to Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 310th Expeditionary Sustainment Command at Fort Benjamin Harrison, Ind., attempts to position himself in a dominating position on Sgt. Marcus Caruso of 847th Human Resources Company, 103rd Expeditionary Sustainment Command during the Combatives portion of the Regional Best Warrior Competition. Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Andy Yoshimura, 416th TEC PAO.
- The competitors of the Regional Best Warrior Competition line up to race one another during the 2-mile-run portion of the Army Physical Fitness Test, here at Ft. McCoy. Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Andy Yoshimura, 416th TEC PAO.
- Sgt. Patrick Cochran evaluates a casualty during the Regional Best Warrior Competition at Ft. McCoy, Wisc on 8 June 2010. Competitors were examined on their first aid knowledge in a simulated environment. Photo by Sgt 1st Class Andy Yoshimura, 416th TEC PAO.
- Spc. Joshua Ahn, 416th Theater Engineer Command Best Warrior Competition Soldier winner, executes the 10-Kilometer (about 6.2 miles) ruck march in wet conditions in Ft. McCoy, Wis. on 8 June 2010. The 10K Road March is one of many events that is evaluated in this year's Regional Best Warrior Competition. Photo by Sgt 1st Class Andy Yoshimura, 416th TEC PAO.





2010 Regional Best



Spc. Joshua Ahn
416th Theater Engineer Command
SOLDIER OF THE YEAR



Spc. Kevin Looney
84th Training Support Command
SOLDIER OF THE YEAR



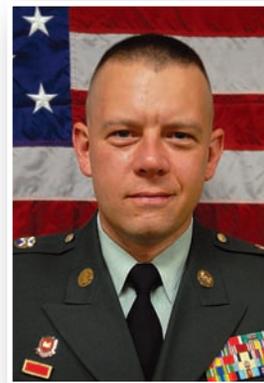
Staff Sgt. Eric Wilcoxson
88th Regional Support Command



Staff Sgt. Erik Bailey
84th Training Support Command



Staff Sgt. Elite Pierre
88th Regional Support Command



Staff Sgt. Jason Fiedler
310th Expeditionary Sustainment
Command



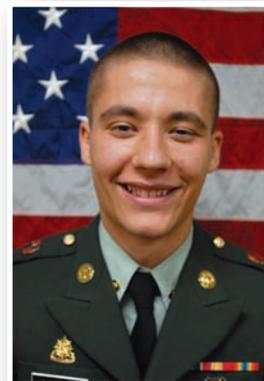
Sgt. Marcus Caruso
103rd Expeditionary Sustainment
Command



Sgt. Rafael Gutierrez
84th Training Support Command



Sgt. Patrick Cochran
416th Theater Engineer Command



Spc. Anthony Lindell
310th Expeditionary Sustainment
Command

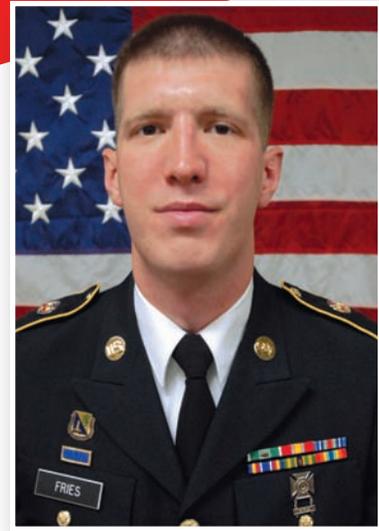
Warrior Competition Contenders



Sgt. Matthew Hall
416th Theater Engineer Command
NCO OF THE YEAR



Sgt. 1st Class Christopher Bender
84th Training Support Command
NCO OF THE YEAR



Staff Sgt. Matthew Fries
88th Regional Support Command
NCO OF THE YEAR



Staff Sgt. Dennis Peetz
84th Training Support Command



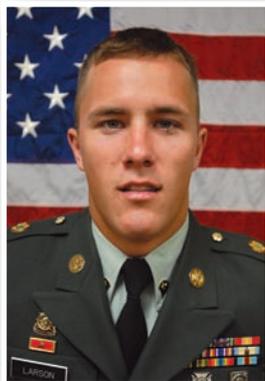
Staff Sgt. Earl Morgan
84th Training Support Command



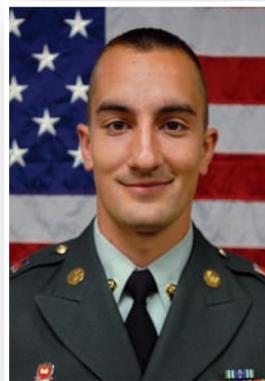
Sgt. Kenneth Hixenbaugh
84th Training Support Command



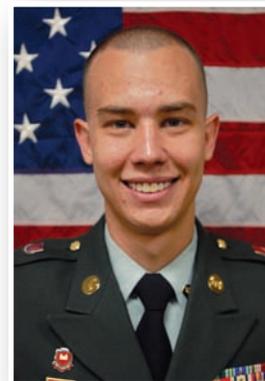
Sgt. Tony Inthavong
416th Theater Engineer Command



Spc. Ronald Larson
103rd Expeditionary Sustainment
Command



Spc. Andrew Sireno
416th Theater Engineer Command



Spc. Andrew Newlon
416th Theater Engineer Command

Ohio Couple Teams Up for Army Reserve Best Warrior Competition

Story by Sgt. 1st Class Ron Burke, 211th MPAD

FORT McCOY, Wis. – “On what day did the Civil War end?” asked Sgt. Alicia Rider. Her husband took a minute and answered, “April 9th, 1865.” “Correct,” she replied.

Down the hall in the auditorium, several other pairs of soldiers and sponsors were huddled together, reviewing current events, military history, tactical knowledge and spot-checking uniforms. The husband and wife were next in line for his board appearance, here, July 26.

Today is the second day of the 2010 Army Reserve Best Warrior Competition where the best soldiers from commands across the Army Reserve have converged at Fort McCoy, Wis., to compete for the title of Best Warrior. When the winners are announced Friday, the top non-commissioned officer and junior enlisted soldier here will then move on to the Department of the Army Best Warrior Competition to be held in October. This year, however, is the first time since the Army Reserve started this competition four years ago, that a husband and wife have teamed up as competitor and sponsor.

A sponsor is the mentor for a competitor during the competition. They work together reviewing training materials, getting prepped for a board appearance among other warrior challenges. It is only when the competitor takes on the individual tasks like land navigation or



Sgt. David W. Rider, a health care specialist with B Company, 256th Combat Support Hospital in Twinsburg, Ohio, answers questions posed by his wife and sponsor, Sgt. Alicia Rider, who is also a health care specialist, in preparation to enter the boardroom during the 2010 Army Reserve Best Warrior Competition here at Fort McCoy, Wis., July 26. Both Soldiers live in Akron, Ohio, and enjoy the common bond that the competition and the Army Reserve as a whole create. Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Ron Burke, USARC.

Army combatives does the sponsor watch from a distance.

Seated together in a long hallway just outside the entrance to the board room, Sgt. David W. Rider, a native of Strongsville, Ohio, assigned to B Company, 256th Combat Support Hospital in Twinsburg, Ohio, answered several more questions before being called and told to knock and enter the boardroom where Command Sgt. Maj. Michael D. Schultz, the senior enlisted advisor for the Army Reserve, and several command sergeants major waited to grill him with questions and inspect his uniform.

As David stood up and entered the board room, his wife moved down the hall to a lonely chair to wait out his board appearance.

“Preparing for this was harder than preparing our wedding because when he goes out to compete I can only support him. I can’t ruck march for him and I can’t help him run two seconds faster,” said Alicia, who is a healthcare specialist assigned to the

371st Minimal Care Detachment in Twinsburg, Ohio.

David, who is also a healthcare specialist, met his wife during a stateside mobilization for Operation Enduring Freedom at Fort Gordon, Ga. As a practical nurse for Maxim Healthcare, David provides home care of ventilator-dependant patients.

After changing their wedding date three times due to training, the two Soldiers were married on June 3, 2010, which is also the same day they began dating years earlier. They enjoyed a nice bed and breakfast honeymoon, and three days later, he left for Air Assault school.

Alicia said, “Over time I realized what it [Best Warrior Competition] was and it was pretty impressive to find out that he was competing at his unit’s soldier of the month boards and winning. I wanted to be a part of it.”

Both soldiers are attending college to earn a Bachelor of Science in nursing. She is studying at Kent

USARC's 2010 BWC Winners!



Sgt. David W. Rider (left), a healthcare specialist from Strongsville, Ohio, assigned to the 256th Combat Support Hospital, the winner of the noncommissioned officer Best Warrior, stands with his wife, Alicia, and Army Reserve Command Sgt. Maj. Micheal D. Schultz during the awards dinner for the 2010 Army Reserve Best Warrior Competition at Fort McCoy, Wis., July 30, 2010. Photo by Staff Sgt. Mark Burrell, Army Reserve public affairs.



Army Reserve Command Sgt. Maj. Micheal D. Schultz congratulates Spc. Joshua McDowell for winning the Soldier of the Year "Best Warrior" during the awards dinner for the 2010 Army Reserve Best Warrior Competition at Fort McCoy, Wis., July 30, 2010. Photo by Staff Sgt. Mark Burrell, Army Reserve public affairs)



State University and he is studying at the University of Akron, both in Ohio. He currently has a 4.0 grade point average despite the amount of training and preparation for this year's competition.

"We have study sessions and we go over flashcards," he said. "We also do physical training together and here she's been running all over the post taking care of things for me."

Sponsors for the competition must be ready to assist at a moment's notice to ensure the success of their Soldier. Competition will heat up as competitors begin tactical drills that will test them to the core this week.

"I knew it [the competition] was important to him," said Alicia. "I like seeing the things going on behind the scenes and not just getting the phone calls telling me what's happening. Now that I'm here I can appreciate the competition that he has and see what he's up against."

The pairing between husband and wife during the competition has

been fruitful. David explained that having his wife as his sponsor allows for a more relaxing setting compared to a first sergeant and competitor pairing.

The door to the board room opened and as David came into view Alicia stood up expectantly. The couple left the board room waiting area and settled into the comfortable chairs of the building's auditorium.

"I have a lot of respect and admiration for her," he said after leaving the boardroom. "It makes me very happy to have her as my sponsor."

"This experience is strengthening our relationship because we've had more time together and we have the common bond that is the Army," she said. "If it wasn't for the Army, we never would have met."

And the board appearance? According to David, it went well. "The best board I've been to," he said. ■



Sgt. David Rider competes in the 2-mile run during Army Physical Fitness Test at the 2010 Army Reserve Best Warrior Competition at Fort McCoy, Wis., on Monday, July 26, 2010. Rider, representing the 807th Medical Deployment Support Command, is a native of Strongsville, Ohio. U.S. Army photo by Timothy L. Hale/Army Reserve Public Affairs.

Straight Shooting

Story and photos by Sgt. Jerimiah Richardson 416th TEC Public Affairs



Over one thousand three hundred gun loving marksmen from around the country invaded Camp Perry, Ohio for ten days with fervor and force. On its' vast rifle ranges, politicians, veterans, businessmen, truckers, stockbrokers, policemen and people from all other walks of life were in a spirit of celebration and patriotism akin to a Veteran's Day parade - all for the love of the gun.

All branches of the military represent themselves at the Civilian Marksmanship Matches and the Army Reserve is no exception. Lt. Col. Jon Casillas from the 416th Theater Engineer Command is the Army Reserve team leader. Some years ago he found out about the Army Reserve Team in a most unusual way. "I saw some videos and thought... hey this looks like some fun!" said Casillas. Now, after years of hard work, he is the leader of the team and rarely gets an opportunity to shoot. With that in mind, he's determined to do well and shoot his best.

He stands at the ready line with his cart of equipment like dozens of other shooters to his left and right and checks over his equipment to make sure it's in its perfect place. Everything he does in preparation to fire is meticulously precise like a well rehearsed waltz: wind speed, check; elevation of sight post, check; temperature, check; lighting, noted; Ten 77 grain hollow point bullets per firing order? Hooah! Yes indeed.



Lt. Col. Jon Casillas prepares his checklist for the scorekeeper at the National Trophy Individual Rifle match held at Camp Perry, Ohio.

This is like the World Series of marksmanship against some of the best in the world and attention to detail is everything. Sgt. Maj. Neal Dickey, a senior NCO out supporting the USAR team, said it best, "These guys have no tricks out here. They practice the basics at an extreme level." This specific match that Casillas is competing in is the National Trophy Individual Rifle Match and will require him to be near perfect to win.

The whistle blows and it's time for the Colonel to move up to the firing line; but first, more preparation. He puts on a

About the Army Reserve Marksmanship Team:

The Army Reserve Team aspires to the highest standards of marksmanship and consistently wins national group and individual competitions. For a number of years the Army Reserve has used such events to both encourage soldiers to aspire to a higher level of weapons proficiency and for recruiting. The USAR rifle team can and will come out to any Army Reserve unit for a battle assembly to train soldiers on the standards of marksmanship if said unit funds it. If you're interested in what it takes to become a member of the USAR or the 416th TEC team, email Lt. Col. Jon Casillas at jon.b.casillas@us.army.mil



The 416th Theater Engineer Command Marksmanship Team



Lt. Col. Jon Casillas hands off his information to his score keeper before firing at the National Trophy Individual Rifle Match.



Lt. Col. Jon Casillas of the 416th Theater Engineer Command checks the wind speed and direction in order to adjust his rifle correctly for optimum firing at the National Trophy Individual Rifle match held at Camp Perry, Ohio.

special firing vest that helps him keep the weapon stable. Then he checks and double checks all of his equipment. To his left and right hundreds of other shooters are lined up. The call from the tower comes, "Fire when ready!" The air is still and quiet for just a moment. At his own pace he loads only one bullet into the chamber of his modified AR-15... "sight picture, breath, trigger squeeze" and sends it screaming 200 meters through his target and out to Lake Erie. The air is roaring with rifle fire. In spite of the noise and distraction, the Lt. Col. checks the placement of his shot through his scope with cool calculation. He then moves into a routine of prepping his weapon, his stance and his sight picture one bullet at a time until all his shots are expended.

After he's done with the first of three increasingly difficult firing lines, he's walks back to the ready line slightly disappointed. "The mistakes were mine, they weren't the bullets," he says. He shot well, but not perfect. Against such stiff competition it meant the rest of the day would be hard going to pull off a win. Casillas wasn't too upset though. "It's about the challenge," he said. And that, along with the rush, the gunpowder and the spirit d' corps is why he does it.

Casillas didn't end up winning the match that day, but his team fared very well over more than ten days of competition. The USAR team's own Sgt. 1st Class Anderson won both the Pershing and Rattlesnake Trophies for his performance and the Army Reserve team also won the Celtic Chieftan Trophy as a whole. ■



Lt. Col. Jon Casillas fires at his two-hundred meter target during his first firing order of the National Trophy Individual Rifle Match.



Robert Pestrige checks the placement of Lt. Col. Casillas shots through his scope before recording his score at the National Trophy Individual Rifle Match.

Winter Auto Safety Tips

Here are some tips that can save your life, don't require any special skills or training and only take a couple of minutes:

- Plan some extra time into your winter morning routine to allow yourself to experience a safer and less stressful drive into work each day.
- Clear snow and ice from car windows before driving (not just a tiny spy-hole that allows extremely limited visibility). Include side and rear windows and mirrors. Don't forget the roof; it's only a matter of time before that snow starts sliding into your fields of vision. Also clear off all lights. For those of you that don't experience "Yankee winters", this applies to clearing morning dew also. Keep an old towel or cloth in your car for this purpose.
- Defrosters don't work instantly; give them time to do their job. Start your car, turn on heater and window defroster, (rear also if equipped), then clear all windows, mirrors, lights and license plate. In most areas it is best to lock your car while it is warming up, so it's there for YOU and only you. (Make sure that you have 2 sets of keys). Never warm up your car in the garage. Too many tragedies have occurred from this.
- NOW is the time to check out your vehicle to make sure that it's ready for the winter. Change windshield wiper blades. Fill washer fluid (use winter deicing formula starting in late fall). Take a good look at your tires and replace them if they appear overly worn. If your battery is getting old, consider replacing it, too.
- Shovel and salt your sidewalks, driveway and stairs. Consider the risks that you take each winter day and try to reduce the hazards you face.



Mr. Richard Flanagan is the 416th Theater Engineer Command Safety Manager. Photo by Sgt 1st Class Andy Yoshimura.

Alert!

15-passenger van drivers

15-passenger vans handle differently from other vehicles such as passenger cars. They do not respond as well to abrupt turns and require additional braking distance.

REDUCE YOUR CHANCE OF ROLLOVER

✓ Check your vehicle loading

- Heavily loaded 15-passenger vans – those with 10 or more passengers or with loads placed on the roofs – have an increased chance of rollover.
- If possible, have passengers and cargo forward of the rear axle and avoid placing any loads on the roof.

✓ Check your tires

- Excessively worn or improperly inflated tires can lead to a loss-of-control situation and a rollover.
- At least once a month, check that the van's tires are properly inflated and the tread is not worn down.

✓ Check your safety belts

- 80% of people killed in rollover crashes in 15-passenger vans were not wearing their safety belts.
- Require all occupants to use their safety belts or appropriate child restraints.

✓ Check your road conditions

- Most rollovers occur at high speeds as a result of sudden steering maneuvers.
- Use caution on interstates and rural roads to avoid running off the road.
- If your van's wheels should drop off the roadway, gradually slow down and steer back onto the roadway when it is safe to do so.

✓ Check yourself, the driver

- U.S. DOT recommends 15-passenger vans be driven by trained and experienced drivers.
- Ensure you are well rested and alert.
- Maintain a safe speed for weather and road conditions.



www.safercar.gov

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416th TEC 2010 Youth Summit

by Shayla Butler, Family Programs Community Outreach Specialist, Photos by Pfc. Matthew Armanio

In August the 416th Theater Engineer Command (TEC) Family Programs Division successfully conducted their 2nd Annual Youth Summit. This year the program continues to grow by doubling the attendance from the prior year with youth attending from 3 brigades (BDE) and traveling from more than six states. During the Youth Summit, youth had the opportunity to meet and work with other military youth, civilian leaders and community professionals. The youth also participated in discussions about what it means to be an Army Reserve youth, gave their opinions on future events and activities, and participated in various fun activities.

Attendees arrived on Friday full of energy, with plenty of time to get checked into the hotel and register for the event. The Family Programs Director and Family Programs Coordinator Ms Kimberly Franklin and Mr. Victor Lezza, kicked off the event with introductions and a brief

outline about the weekend. Parents were released and asked to return at 8pm to pick up their children. The youth were a little shy at first, but by the end of the event they developed new friendships with other youths that are going through or have gone through some of the same challenges they are currently experiencing in their lives.

The first night began with two demonstrations: Airbrush demonstration by a local Airbrush Artist, Timmy Delarosa, who explained how his equipment is used and his technique. He then began to airbrush the youth names onto their aprons, which they will be using during Saturday's activity. Officer Keith Kirkpatrick and his partner Iggy, of the Palatine, Illinois Police Department demonstrated how the K9 unit works.

The three day event also included team building activities such as interactive games, ice breakers and a cup cake & cookie decorating session,

during which the youth wore their newly airbrushed aprons. Additionally, Mikayla Edberg, an Army Reserve Teen Panelist, was one of the many special guest speakers at the event.

Mikayla explained what the Army Reserve Teen Panel (ARTP) is and encouraged the other youth to apply to become a member during the next application session. Youth Summit attendees and their parents witnessed this very unique opportunity. Adapted from the Army Teen Panel (ATP), the Army Reserve Teen Panel serves as a vital connection between teens and AR Leadership. The mission of the ARTP is to foster communication between Army Reserve teens and Army Reserve leadership on issues facing youth in today's society. The ARTP consists of 29 Army Reserve connected youth who work diligently on the panel together for two years through tri-annual meetings and monthly conference calls. The ARTP also serve at least



Mikayla-Army Reserve Teen Panelist Mikayla Edberg flew in from Minnesota to inform us of her experience as a Teen Panelist. Mikayla explained to the youth the difference she has made through projects, briefings, and community service.



Youth members, Theresa R., LaTrel B., Edgar M., Emma W., Kurrin R., Melody N., Jessica G. participate in the Yarn Game. They were able to visualize how they are all connected to each other through their soldier.

eight hours a month at Army Reserve Family Programs (ARFP), AR CYSS, various military-affiliated, and other approved events to capture the views of fellow teens. Through projects, briefings, and community service, these young adults make a difference. Since 2006, ARTP has created and dispersed newsletters, collectively produced care packages for the children of deployed troops, and educated peers and the Army Reserve. Listed below are a few of the qualifications required to become an ARPT member:

1. Must be a Family Member of U.S. Army Reserve Soldier or civilian employee
2. Must be a member in good standing in the military or civilian community
3. Must be enrolled in the 9th-11th grade for the 2010-2011 school term
4. Must maintain a grade point average of "C" or better in school.

If that's you, please visit www.afrp.org/cys or contact, Shayla Butler, your CYSS Community Outreach Specialist at 630-910-3213 Ext. 215, Shayla.butler@us.army.mil.

Mark your calendars because ARTP applications for new members will be released in the Fall of 2010. Applications must include a letter of recommendation from an Adult Leader (Principal, Teacher, School Counselor, Director of community program applicant participates in, member of Military Leadership, Family Programs Director of Staff member, etc.).

The Youth Summit culminated with an out brief from the "... youth to the 416th TEC Chief of Staff, Col. Lawrence Slavicek. During the out brief Slavicek learned what the youth thought of the weekend activities. "Listening to the short presentations given by every young person at the Summit demonstrated to me that regardless of their age they each had a sincere and thoughtful message that they needed to share," said

Slavicek. "The benefit to our Command and our Soldiers from this program is the sharing of experiences among many individuals both young and older, resulting in stronger and more cohesive families which cannot help but make for much better military environments and communities in which to grow."

The 416th TEC 2010 Youth Summit was a complete success because of the young attendees that were engaged and outspoken during the entire event. Their parents witness this very unique opportunity to have their children be part of an exciting military-related program focused on youth.

The 416th TEC is committed to looking for opportunities to increase youth activities by giving youth a platform to have their voices heard. Through this venue they can make a difference by voicing their opinion about how the Military affects them and their Families, and, thereby, make history representing Army Reserve Teens worldwide. ■



Youths prepared to decorate cookies and cupcakes under the guidance of Chef Louie.



Keep your feet on the sheet-Youths had a difficult task of making sure their feet did not leave the sheet while trying to flip the sheet over. Although this was a fun activity, it gave the youth an opportunity to demonstrate their team building skills.

“Growing Pains”

The Army’s Transition to Two Level Maintenance (TLM)

By Alan C. Wyatt

Introduction:

In the 80s and 90s, Executive Officers (XOs) with their Maintenance Officers and Technicians constantly struggled to get equipment evacuated, inspected, and accepted by support units. Simultaneously, these leaders managed an enormous organizational workload resulting from scheduled services and command maintenance periods. Maintenance leadership constantly dug for work order and supply status in preparation for the regularly scheduled and lengthy maintenance meetings that occupied the majority of their time and efforts. An abused priority system in both maintenance and supply prevented support from focusing efforts on the most immediate needs; personal intervention was constantly required. The level of effort required by XOs to manage equipment maintenance in the complex four level system was certainly excessive when compared to the amount of resources available in the support structure.

Transformed modular forces have been built with a new maintenance system designed to address many of these maintenance frustrations. Two levels of Maintenance (TLM) is that system. The Army Maintenance Transformation (AMT) plan explains the conversion from a four-echeloned maintenance structure to a two-echeloned structure. This article will explain the new concept, the revised processes, and address some of the challenges units are facing in the implementation of this transition.

Why Change:

First, let us examine the reason for change. Our previous maintenance system was characterized by the term “Fix Forward.” In this system, support echelons were pushed forward to make repairs and return equipment to the user as close to the point of failure as possible. Maintenance tasks were accomplished at the lowest level possible. If the task exceeded the resources of a particular level, either it was evacuated to a higher level or higher-level assets were sent forward to complete the repair. Specific capabilities existed only at certain levels, which required

the Army to deploy three echelons to have the full range of capabilities in a theater of operations when the Army deployed. This resulted in a large maintenance footprint, which required and even larger logistics footprint to support all of the additional maintenance units. The previous system, developed during the time of the second world war (figure 1), has served the Army well; with new technologies in information, maintainability, diagnostics, and the speed at which we can move personnel, equipment, and parts, we needed to commensurately update our processes.

Why is this new system better?

Consider this example of a typical maintenance action. Under the four level maintenance system, an operator identified a class III leak from a differential output seal. The operator annotated the fault on the 5988-E during the after operations checks, and the fault was then reported to organizational maintenance by turning in the 5988-E upon closing the dispatch. Receiving a 5988-E with a deficiency, organizational maintenance verified the fault and began the process of evacuating the truck to support. Prior to evacuation, all unit level faults had to have been corrected. An ULLS-generated work request was produced. Since the vehicle had a “not-mission capable” (NMC) fault the Commander had to “Circle X” the fault or tow the truck to support. The support unit’s inspection section would then conduct an initial acceptance inspection to verify the fault, but would most certainly identify additional shortcomings for the customer unit to correct. Then

vehicle would then be taken back to the customer unit’s location to correct these faults, then back to support to verify the corrective action, and so on... By following the “By the Book” instructions (FM 4-30-3 dated July 2004) to correct this fault, the unit executed 78 total steps - 47 of which were merely updating records - and the vehicle was transported to or from the support shop four times. Below is a comparison of the steps necessary to complete the evacuation and repair process in the four and two level systems.



Figure 1: Four Level of Maintenance, a 70-year-old System

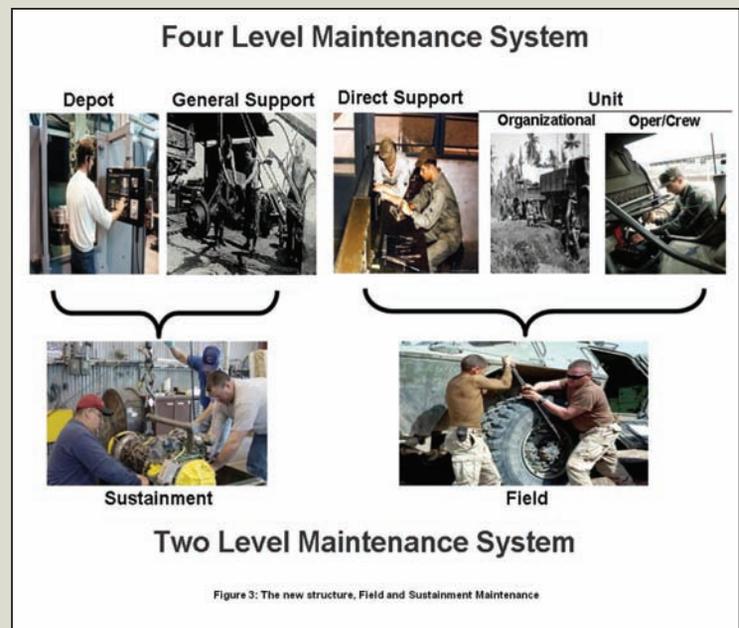
	4LM	TLM
# of total steps in the process	78	27
# of steps updating forms and records	47	10
# of people the evacuation process flowed through	10	4
# of people that verified the fault existed	5	3
# of people that validated the work order was filled out correctly	5	2

In an effort to get systems repaired and reduce system down time, critical steps were often bypassed. Figure 2 is a simplified comparison of the steps necessary to complete a repair action in the two different system and shows the reduction in evacuations and redundant inspections by implementing TLM. With the merger of Unit and DS maintenance, the process is much more streamlined; redundancies in paperwork, evacuations, inspections, and verifications are reduced; providing reduced repair cycle time with greater efficiency in all processes.

Comparison of the Work Flow

Action	4LM	TLM
Create a unit level work order number	✓	✓
Maintenance supervisor verifies fault	✓	✓
Prep for evacuation	✓	
Transport to support activity location	✓	
Acceptance/rejection inspection by support	✓	
Transport back to unit to work off faults	✓	
Work off faults from DS initial inspection	✓	
Re-inspect at support	✓	
Create a DS work order number	✓	
Order parts, receive, and issue needed parts	✓	✓
Assign to shop section, supervisor inspects	✓	
Mechanic repairs	✓	✓
In process inspection	✓	✓
Shop section supervisors final QC inspect	✓	✓
Inspection sections final inspection	✓	
Customer inspect/accepts	✓	
Transport to unit	✓	

Figure 2: Simplified comparison of step necessary to complete a maintenance action in the two and four level systems



Consolidating Four Levels into Two:

The Two Level Maintenance (TLM) system is different in that it introduces a "Replace Forward/Repair Rear" concept rather than the previous "Fix Forward" philosophy. This employs maintainers on the battlefield to identify a faulty component and replace it, thereby returning equipment to the fight more quickly and leaving the lengthy time-consuming repair work to the next echelon.

The new TLM system combines the previous echelons of unit and direct support (DS) maintenance to form field maintenance (figure 3). Field maintenance is focused on returning equipment to the battle quickly by troubleshooting a system to isolate and replace the malfunctioning component. This previous system would attempt to repair components as far forward as possible. In the TLM system, replacement will take place within Brigade Combat Teams (BCT) and repairs will generally be done at echelons above brigade (EAB). Field maintenance consists of the tasks necessary to bring the system back to an operational status and return it to the fight.

The previous echelons of general support (GS) and depot maintenance are now combined to form sustainment maintenance (figure 2). Sustainment maintenance tasks are focused on the overhauling, rebuilding, and repairing of components, assemblies, and modules and then returning them to the supply system. Modular BCTs will have no sustainment maintenance capability. Most repair tasks, previously DS, have been shifted to the sustainment maintenance level. Ideally, sustainment maintenance

nance activities will provide support to the supply system from the continental United States. However, in an effort to return equipment to the supply system as quickly as possible and support surges in demand for critical readiness drivers, sustainment maintenance activities may be located anywhere in the supply chain.

On-System and Off-System:

Field maintenance can be categorized by the term *on-system*. On-system" which includes *near-system*, maintenance focuses on returning end items, systems or sub-systems to a fully mission capable status. On-system tasks include preventive maintenance services, diagnostics to identify faulty components, replacement of these components, and battle damage assessment and repair (BDAR). All maintenance activities in the Army will do Field Maintenance, even sustainment activities. Field maintenance is the maintenance a unit does on its own organic equipment. A limited number of our previous DS repair tasks will continue to be performed at the field maintenance level due to their criticality in sustaining equipment readiness. We will refer to those tasks as "near system" and thus field maintenance tasks. A good example of a "near system" task is the repair of line replaceable units (LRUs). This task is technically the repair of a component and would be located in sustainment maintenance. However, due to its criticality in maintaining equipment readiness, the decision was made to keep this "near system" task in the BCT, thus making it a field maintenance task.

Sustainment Maintenance task can be characterized by the term "off-system." These are the maintenance tasks necessary to return components, modules, and assemblies, and end items to the supply system. Sustainment maintenance activities will perform

diagnostics and repairs of components, modules, or assemblies.

This segregation of *on-system* and *off system* tasks has transferred the lengthy time-consuming repair work off the battlefield and back to our sustainment echelon, of which Army Materiel Command has responsibility. This allows the maneuver commanders to focus on the fight (figure 4). Additionally, these improved business processes will reduce the logistics footprint and eliminate redundancies and unnecessary steps. The diagram below shows some key differences between our two levels of maintenance.

	Field Maintenance	Sustainment Maintenance
What?	Replace	Repair
Characterized by	On or Near System	Off System
Support what?	Weapon System	Supply System
Done where?	In every organization in the Army	Echelons Above Brigade

Implementation:

The changes needed to implement two levels of maintenance have stretched across all levels of doctrine, organization, training, material, leadership, personnel, and facilities (DOTMLPF). For example: maintenance doctrinal publications have been updated; unit structure has changed, merging the previous organizational and direct support organizations; and soldiers have been retrained from organizational or direct support mechanics into multicapable maintainers. However, many units are not sure if they have all the necessary components to operate under the TLM concept, and many are not sure how to tell.

To evaluate an organization's ability to conduct maintenance under the TLM concept, go to CASCOM Ordnance Concepts, Army Knowledge Online (AKO) collaboration site (https://www.us.army.mil/suite/collaboration/folder_V.do?foid=7515524), and open the TLM Scorecard. The scorecard will provide commanders with a mechanism to evaluate each of the DOTMLPF areas for the essential components necessary to conduct maintenance under the TLM concept and provide a red, amber, green result.

Summary:

The Army has provided many new enablers to assist in the performance of maintenance in this new two-tiered system, such as the tools, automation systems, facilities, and training. However, all these things are not necessarily required to implement TLM. To perform the task you only need the tools and the training. TLM is a simpler, more streamlined system that gives commanders more control of their maintenance resources and assets. Leaders at all levels must learn the new system, understand the capabilities, and implement this system. ■

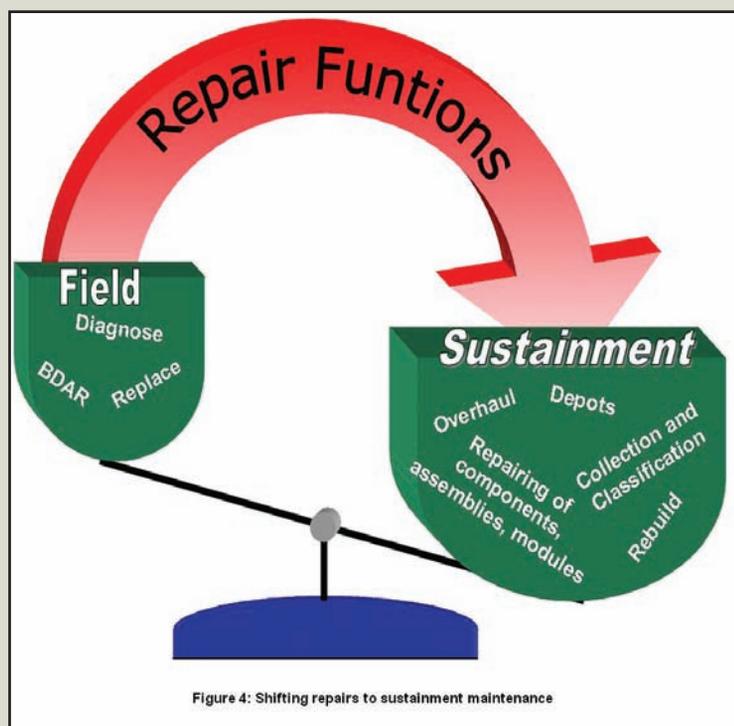


Figure 4: Shifting repairs to sustainment maintenance



Sgt. 1st Class Eugene Powell was awarded the Ordnance Order of Samuel Sharpe for significant contributions in the United States Army Ordnance Corps. The award to Powell is for serving in the Ordnance Corps with demonstrated integrity, moral character and professional competence.

SFC Powell was invaluable in providing assistance to the G4, the staff elements, and the units as they transformed to a modular force under the newly formed TEC structure while at the same time pushing for the implementation of the new Two-Level Maintenance doctrine.

Hooah Let the Best Warriors Out *Continued from page 23*

away winner. It was down to the last event on the last day to determine the winners,” said Greene.

Another different direction and advantage for candidates this year is the Public Affairs, nicknamed the A-Team, utilized social media sites to post daily images and videos of the RBWC. Sgt. 1st Class Eric B. Wilcoxson said, “It’s pretty crazy that one minute you’re doing it and the next minute it’s published on the web.” Wilcoxson said this gives candidates’ family and friends the advantage of keeping in touch while the candidates are competing in the competition. To see all the action packed video dailies, end of exercise video and pictures of our Warrior Citizen A list stars check out the following websites.

- 1) **416th TEC FACEBOOK:**
<http://www.facebook.com/416th-Theater-Engineer-Command>
- 2) **416th FLICKR:**
<http://www.flickr.com/416th-Theater-Engineer-Command>
- 3) **USARC FLICKR:**
www.flickr.com/photos/myarmyreserve

Finally at a luncheon, the moment all candidates were waiting for was who would go on to the United States Army Reserve Command Best Warrior Competition.

The winning Soldiers of the 2010 Regional Best Warrior Competition were Spc. Kevin P. Looney for the 84th Training Support Command

and Spc. Joshua Ahn for the 416th Theater Engineer Command. The winning noncommissioned officers of the 2010 Regional Best Warrior Competition were Army Staff Sgt. Christopher L. Bender for 84th Training Support Command, Army Staff Sgt. Matthew J. Fries for the 88th Regional Support Command and Army Staff Sgt. Matthew J. Hall for the 416th Theater Engineer Command. Each winning soldier and NCO will compete again at the United States Army Reserve Command Best Warrior Competition held at Fort McCoy in late July.

Like James Bond, the Regional Best Warrior Completion will return next year so it will officially be a trilogy. ■

AROUND THE ARMY

Photos from the Field



1) Sgt. Alejandro Barajas of the 317th Engineer Company spends time with his family after returning home from his deployment to Iraq. The City of Kankakee, Ill. gave a big Welcome Home Ceremony for the 317th return from Iraq. Photos 1, 2, 3, and 4 by Sgt. 1st Class Andy Yoshimura, 416th TEC, PAO.

2) Children family members wait for their parents' arrival of the 317th Engineer Company on July 2010 here in Kankakee, Ill. The 317th spent nearly a year in Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

3) Sgt. Wayne Watts of the 317th Engineer Company shares a kiss with his wife during the 317th Welcome Home Ceremony

in Kankakee, Ill. Watts spent almost a year in Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

4) The Hat Guys perform at the Hard Rock Café in Chicago, Ill. celebrating the Army's 235th Birthday during Army week on June 17th. Dozens of local Army Reservists attended the free concert organized by the USO

including Soldiers from the 416th Theater Engineer Command.

5) Spc. Percy Watkins backing up Spc. Ben Haley on the hand line. The handline is using SR-AFFF (Alcohol Resistant Aqueous Film Forming Foam) to blanket the fire so as to minimize the spread. Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Mary Pace, Camp Gary Owen.



6) Pfc. Gary Wittenmeyer and Sgt. Kevin Stob of the 250th Engineer Company, Connecticut National Guard pulls a Humvee during the MWR Warrior Challenge in Camp Striker, May 2 2010. Events also included litterbuddy carry, ruck march, 800-meter dash, and a sand bag relay. Photo by Spc. Angela Cadriel.

7) The city of Chicago hosted Army Week celebrating the Army's 235th Birthday on June 14th, 2010. Entertainers, soldiers, supporters and family members filled Daley Plaza in its celebration. Miss Illinois 2009, Ashley Bond, poses with Sgt. David Kuzmar, Sgt. Victor Lezza, Staff Sgt. Victor Vargas and Sgt. Jorge Batres of the 416th

Theater Engineer Command. Photo by Sgt. Jerimiah Richardson, 416th TEC PAO.

8) Pfc. Matthew Armanio assists Spc Dwight Mcneal Jr. with adjusting his laser during Laser Marksmanship training at Fort Sheridan IL during may Battle Assembly. Photo by Sgt. Jerimiah Richardson.

9 Lt. Jason Kim takes aim at his target with his replica training 9mm berretta during Laser Marksmanship training held at Fort Sheridan IL in May. Photo by Sgt. Jerimiah Richardson.

Seasonal Influenza: The Disease

Influenza (the flu) is a contagious respiratory illness caused by influenza viruses. It can cause mild to severe illness, and at times can lead to death. Some people, such as older people, young children, and people with certain health conditions, are at high risk for serious flu complications. The best way to prevent the flu is by getting vaccinated each year.

In 2009-2010, a new and very different flu virus (called 2009 H1N1) spread worldwide causing the first flu pandemic in more than 40 years. During the 2010-2011 flu season, CDC expects the 2009 H1N1 virus to cause illness again along with other influenza viruses. The 2010-2011 flu vaccine will protect against 2009 H1N1 and two other influenza viruses.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is Influenza (Also Called Flu)?

The flu is a contagious respiratory illness caused by influenza viruses. It can cause mild to severe illness, and at times can lead to death. The best way to prevent the flu is by getting a flu vaccine each year.

Symptoms of Flu

People who have the flu often feel some or all of these symptoms:

- fever* or feeling feverish/chills
- cough
- sore throat
- runny or stuffy nose
- muscle or body aches
- headaches
- fatigue (very tired)
- Some people may have vomiting and diarrhea, though this is more common in children than adults.

How Flu Spreads

Most experts believe that flu viruses spread mainly by droplets made when people with flu cough, sneeze or talk. These droplets can land in the mouths or noses of people who are nearby. Less often, a person might also get flu by touching a surface or object that has flu virus on it and then touching their own mouth, eyes or nose.

Period of Contagiousness

You may be able to pass on the flu to someone else before you know you are sick, as well as while you are sick. Most healthy adults may be able to infect others beginning 1 day before symptoms develop and up to 5-7 days after becoming sick. Some people, especially children and people with weakened immune systems, might be able to infect others for an even longer time.

How Serious is the Flu?

Flu is unpredictable and how severe it is can vary widely from one season to the next depending on many things, including:

- what flu viruses are spreading,
- how much flu vaccine is available
- when vaccine is available
- how many people get vaccinated, and
- how well the flu vaccine is matched to flu viruses that are causing illness.

Certain people are at greater risk for serious complications if they get the flu. This includes older people, young children, pregnant women and people with certain health conditions (such as asthma, diabetes, or heart disease).

One study found that during the 1990s, flu-related deaths ranged from an estimated 17,000 during the mildest season to 52,000 during the most severe season (36,000 average). Studies going back to 1976 have found that flu-related deaths ranged from a low of 4,700 to a high of 56,600 (average 25,500). During a regular flu season, about 90 percent of deaths occur in people 65 years and older.

During 2009-2010, a new and very different flu virus (called 2009 H1N1) spread worldwide causing the first flu pandemic in more than 40 years. It is estimated that the 2009 H1N1 pandemic resulted in more than 12,000 flu-related deaths in the U.S. In contrast to seasonal flu, nearly 90 percent of the deaths occurred among people younger than 65 years of age.

Complications of Flu

Complications of flu can include bacterial pneumonia, ear infections, sinus infections, dehydration, and worsening of chronic medical conditions, such as congestive heart failure, asthma, or diabetes.

Preventing Seasonal Flu: Get Vaccinated

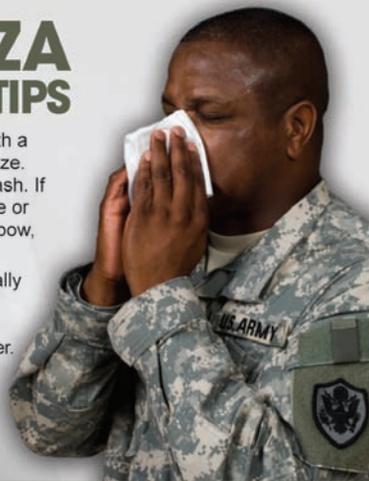
The single best way to prevent the flu is to get a flu vaccine each season. There are two types of flu vaccines:

- The "flu shot"—an inactivated vaccine (containing killed virus) that is given with a needle. The seasonal flu shot is approved for use in people 6 months of age and older, including healthy people, people with chronic medical conditions and pregnant women.
- The nasal-spray flu vaccine—a vaccine made with live, weakened flu viruses that do not cause the flu (sometimes called LAIV for "Live Attenuated Influenza Vaccine"). LAIV is approved for use in healthy* people 2-49 years of age who are not pregnant.

* IT'S IMPORTANT TO NOTE THAT NOT EVERYONE WITH THE FLU WILL HAVE A FEVER.

INFLUENZA PREVENTION TIPS

- » Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. Throw the used tissue in the trash. If a tissue is not available, sneeze or cough into the inside of your elbow, not your hand.
- » Wash your hands often especially after you cough or sneeze.
 - Use soap and water or
 - Use alcohol-based hand cleaner.
- » Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth.
- » Stay away from people who are sick.



- » Symptoms of influenza can include fever, cough, sore throat, body aches, headache, chills and fatigue. If you feel sick, contact your health care provider.
- » If you are sick, limit your contact with other people as much as possible. Stay home from work or school.
- » Clean high-touch surfaces daily (such as doorknobs, handles, light switches, and desks) with household disinfectant. Also clean contaminated surfaces such as bedside tables, bathroom surfaces, and kitchen counters.
- » Try to stay in general good health. Get plenty of sleep, be physically active, manage your stress, drink plenty of fluids and eat healthy food.
- » Get the seasonal flu vaccination each year.



U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine
 (800) 222-9698 / DSN 584-4375 / (410) 436-4375
<http://chppm-www.apgea.army.mil>

TA-11-0-009

About two weeks after vaccination, antibodies develop that protect against influenza virus infection. Flu vaccines will not protect against flu-like illnesses caused by non-influenza viruses.

The seasonal flu vaccine protects against the three influenza viruses that research suggests will be most common. The 2010-2011 flu vaccine will protect against 2009 H1N1, and two other influenza viruses (an H3N2 virus and an influenza B virus).

When to Get Vaccinated Against Seasonal Flu

Yearly flu vaccination should begin in September, or as soon as vaccine is available, and continue throughout the flu season which can last as late as May. This is because the timing and duration of flu seasons vary. While flu season can begin early as October, most of the time seasonal flu activity peaks in January or later.

Who is at Higher Risk for Developing Flu-Related Complications?

- Children younger than 5, but especially children younger than 2 years old,
- Adults 65 years of age and older
- Pregnant women, and,
- People who have medical conditions including:
 - Asthma (even if it's controlled or mild)
 - Neurological and neurodevelopmental conditions [including disorders of the brain, spinal cord, peripheral nerve, and muscle such as cerebral palsy, epilepsy (seizure disorders), stroke, intellectual disability (mental retardation), moderate to severe developmental delay, muscular dystrophy, or spinal cord injury].
- Chronic lung disease (such as chronic obstructive pulmonary disease [COPD] and cystic fibrosis)
- Heart disease (such as congenital heart disease, congestive heart failure and coronary artery disease)
- Blood disorders (such as sickle cell disease)
- Endocrine disorders (such as diabetes mellitus)
- Kidney disorders
- Liver disorders

- Metabolic disorders (such as inherited metabolic disorders and mitochondrial disorders)
- Weakened immune system due to disease or medication (such as people with HIV or AIDS, or cancer, or those on chronic steroids)
- People younger than 19 years of age who are receiving long-term aspirin therapy
- People with Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD)
- People who are morbidly obese (Body Mass Index (BMI) of 30 or greater)
- Also, last flu season, American Indians and Alaskan Natives seemed to be at higher risk of flu complications

Use of the Nasal Spray Seasonal Flu Vaccine

Vaccination with the nasal-spray flu vaccine is an option for healthy* people 2-49 years of age who are not pregnant. Even people who live with or care for those in a high risk group (including health care workers) can get the nasal-spray flu vaccine as long as they are healthy themselves and are not pregnant. The one exception is health care workers who care for people with severely weakened immune systems who require a protected hospital environment; these people should get the inactivated flu vaccine (flu shot).

Who Should Not Be Vaccinated Against Seasonal Flu

Some people should not be vaccinated without first consulting a physician. They include:

- People who have a severe allergy to chicken eggs.
- People who have had a severe reaction to an influenza vaccination in the past.
- People who developed Guillian-Barré syndrome (GBS) within 6 weeks of getting an influenza vaccine previously.
- Children younger than 6 months of age (influenza vaccine is not approved for use in this age group).
- People who have a moderate or severe illness with a fever should wait to get vaccinated until their symptoms lessen.

If you have questions about whether you should get a flu vaccine, consult your health care provider. ■

EMPLOYER PARTNERSHIP OF THE ARMED FORCES



Aderemi Olodun, Employer Partnership Office (EPO) representative for Illinois, Michigan and Iowa, explains the EPO program to a soldier while managing a vendors table during the United States Army Reserve Human Resource Command's (HRC) last Inactive Ready Reserve (IRR) muster for year 2010, at the Veterans Hospital in Ann Arbor, Mich. last month. Photo Compliments of Aderemi Olodun (EPO Rep).

“ I am proud to have launched the Employer Partnership initiative to show my gratitude to our brave Warrior-Citizens and to thank them for their service. The initiative gives our Servicemembers the opportunity to advance their private-sector careers and provides Family stability while they continue to defend and protect our country.”

*Lt. Gen. Jack C. Stultz
Chief, U.S. Army Reserve Commander,
U.S. Army Reserve Command*



get hired

The Employer Partnership of the Armed Forces will help you get hired

Linking America's Employers with talented Servicemembers to create a stronger workforce

A POSITIVE INVESTMENT FOR AMERICA

The Employer Partnership of the Armed Forces appreciates the unique circumstances Servicemembers encounter while balancing civilian work demands with service to our country.

Servicemembers Have Two Careers:

- One with the Military
- One with our Employer Partners

Through the Employer Partnership Office (EPO), you can more effectively leverage your Military training and experience for career opportunities in today's civilian job market, having access to job openings with Military friendly employers in various industries across the country.

The Employer Partnership Office job search engine is easy to use, and gives Servicemembers another tool to help them achieve their civilian career goals.

With over 1,000 Employer Partners you 'll find Fortune 500 companies with employment opportunities in:

- Health care
- Law enforcement
- Public safety
- Transportation and logistics
- Information Technology
- Telecommunications
- Human Resources
- Many other industries

Employer Partnership field representatives are also available to further assist in matching you and your Military Occupation Specialty (MOS) with an employer seeking those same work skills.

Frequently Asked Questions:

Q: Who Can Use The Employer Partnership Search Engine?

A: Current, Former, or Retired Servicemembers, and their dependents.

Q: What Can I Expect From This?

- A:**
- Access to over 1,000 corporate partners
 - Competitive advantage over other job seekers
 - Assistance from EPO Field Representative

The Employer Partnership Office assists Servicemembers in their career search and job preparations. Servicemembers must still meet the skill requirements expected for the available job opening.

Q: How Do I Get More Information?

A: Visit the Employer Partnership website at: www.employerpartnership.org email us at gethired@employerpartnership.org or call 1-877-450-HIRE (4473)

The Employer Partnership of the Armed Forces will help you get hired.

View thousands of jobs • Employers want your skills • get hired
For more information contact us at: hirenow@employerpartnership.org
1-877-450-HIRE (4473) • www.employerpartnership.org

A photograph of a satellite in space, silhouetted against a bright, glowing sun. The satellite is oriented vertically, with its main body and various instruments visible. A large rectangular panel is attached to the side of the main body. The background is a gradient of orange and yellow, suggesting a sunrise or sunset. The text "UPAR Photo of the Quarter" is overlaid on the bottom left of the image.

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