



181st Infantry Regiment

Around the Powder Horn

“Keep Your Powder Dry”



September 15, 2010

Volume 3

1/181 Leads the Way While Training with Joint Forces

By Capt. John Quinn

CAMP ATTERBURY, Ind. – After months of training, the Provincial Reconstruction Teams (PRT) are overcoming the challenge of bringing a myriad of military personnel and experience together to form cohesive units.

The PRTs are comprised of members of the Air Force, Army and Navy, who all bring different skills, including engineering, civil affairs and medical expertise, to the mission of empowering local leaders to make communities self-sustaining and build a future for Afghanistan.

Most of the members of the 1/181 will serve as the security element to PRTs which will deploy to various geographically separated areas throughout the rugged nation. Sgt. 1st Class Robert Derwitsch, a platoon sergeant with A Co., said the differences between the Army, Navy and Air Force initially caused some friction, which is expected when combining any group of people who have their own traditions, methods and vernacular.



Photo By Spec. Michael Broughey

A C Co. soldier alerts the location of enemy forces, who attacked with paintball guns, during a training exercise to defeat improvised explosive devices while on mounted patrol Aug. 31.



Photo by Spec. Michael Broughey

Sgt. Stephen Fryer (third from front) directs his team: Private 1st Class Nicholas Latino in front, followed by Private Richard Bjork, along the wall of a simulated city street during urban operations training Sept. 12.

“It’s starting to sink in,” Derwitsch said, adding the time in the field really gave their PRT a chance to bond.

In another PRT, Maj. John Scharrett, who oversees a civil-military operations center, said the members of B Co. are assets to the unit, which includes only soldiers and airmen.

“This is all new for the Air Force folks,” Scharrett said, adding soldiers, especially those from the 1/181, have been extremely helpful to their counterparts.

1st Lt. Brittany Martin, who serves in the U.S. Air

“These Boston guys are pretty good. You couldn’t ask for a better bunch of guys.”

– Petty Officer 2nd Class (PS2) Blake Edwards

Force, said the infantrymen from B Co. are very professional guys who are extremely knowledgeable and helpful.

Sgt. Jon Leduc, a 1/181 medic assigned to the B Co. PRT, said the airmen and Civil Affairs soldiers work hard and listen well.

Petty Officer 2nd Class (PS2) Blake Edwards, who serves as an administrator with the U.S. Navy, said this is the second time he’s worked with soldiers and he’s able to pass on tips about operating Mine Resistant Armor Protected (MRAP) vehicles, which he learned about when he deployed to Iraq in 2006-07.

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Scenes from Camp Atterbury

Photos by Spec. Michael Broughey

From top, clockwise:

1/181 soldiers staged their equipment following a live-fire exercise Sept. 4.

Private 1st Class Michael Harper, of D Co., kicks open the door to the room that Spec. Ross Dalton is about to enter and clear during tactical room-clearing training Sept. 11.

Sgt. Ellis Taylor (right), a team leader for D Co., stacks behind Spec. Jeremy Letson and Private 1st Class Michael Terestre as they clear the corner of a hallway during tactical room-clearing training Sept. 11.



For more photos and pertinent information search Facebook for the 181st Infantry Regiment page!

Congratulations to the family of Sgt. Charles Carestia of D Co. and Amanda McMahon on the arrival of their son Maxwell Peter Carestia, born Aug. 27 at 7 lbs. 12 oz.



Internet Security: Fighting the Information War

By Staff Sgt. Gerald Pixley

In this day and age it is not only important for service members, but also family members, to be aware of Internet security. Department of Defense (DoD) networks have a certain amount of security built into them, but home networks do not.

Things to think about:

Wireless: Wireless networks are the way to go when using the Internet at home. With one wireless router you can set up a whole house with Internet access. However, wireless networks are not intrinsically secure. All wireless routers come with a default administrator username and password. The first thing you should do is change this, as any hacker worth his salt knows all the defaults. Also, if you broadcast your System Identification (SID), it makes it easier for hackers to find your network. You can turn your SID broadcast off on your router, but make sure all devices on your network are

set to connect automatically and connect even if your router is not broadcasting.

Viruses: As DoD members you are entitled to free anti-virus service. Everyone should have anti-virus on their computers, especially if it's free. There is a link on the AKO homepage, Self Service tab, Antivirus Services to download the free anti-virus. Remember: just because you have anti-virus on your machine, it doesn't mean you will never get a virus. It just prevents the majority. You still need to be careful what you are downloading, opening for email, and allowing programs to install.

Phishing: Phishing uses spoofed emails and fraudulent web sites designed to fool recipients into divulging personal financial data such as social security numbers, credit card numbers, account usernames and passwords, etc. Your financial institutions will never send you an email asking you to verify personal information. If you

receive an email like this, it's best to contact your institution directly by phone or their official web site rather than clicking a link in an email. You can check www.antiphishing.org for more information.

Social Engineering: Social Engineering is a relatively new insidious way individuals or organizations try to piece together your personal information. They use emails, phone calls and even regular mail that seem very innocent to gather bits and pieces of enough information to get at your bank accounts and credit cards. An attacker can seem unassuming and respectable, possibly claiming to be a new employee, repair person, or researcher and even offering credentials to support that identity. Also, be careful what you throw away, or use a shredder. These individuals will resort to dumpster diving to get information.

The best way to avoid any issues is to be aware and be proactive.✕

Leader's Corner

Seventy years ago today, the U.S. Army's 7th Infantry Division and 3rd Battalion, 5th Marines conducted an amphibious assault at Inchon Harbor, Korea, in a successful attempt to turn the tide of the Korean War. The battle itself is considered a strategic masterpiece and one might expect that the soldiers and Marines fighting the battle were shock troops well-versed in the art of war. But that was not the case.

Up until Inchon, the U.N. forces had suffered numerous defeats, had retreated across the Korean peninsula and were surrounded in a small perimeter in the country's south, with their backs to the sea. The grim work of holding that perimeter fell upon the combat units left inside. For the Inchon landing, the Army and Marine Corps collected up any and all Military Occupational Specialties (MOS) not directly involved in the Pusan perimeter defense, reequipped them and quickly retrained them in basic combat skills. At Inchon, the stakes were high and everything rode on the basic combat skills each soldier was expected to bring to the fight. The Inchon landing was wildly successful and the Korean capital of Seoul was subsequently captured 10 days later.

Keep this battle in mind as the 1/181 finishes our combat training and prepares to start our mission. Many soldiers will be executing missions outside of where they expected their MOS to take them. But, regardless of your MOS, every soldier's job is a rifleman first and foremost. The army trained you in an MOS in which you volunteered to be trained; now that Army is asking you to do a job which requires the skills expected of all soldiers.

KYPD!

—Command Sgt. Major Peter Guidor

Training is beginning to wind down here at Camp Atterbury, but it's not over yet. We have accomplished quite a bit since arriving in early August. Can you believe it? We have already been gone for a month and a half.

During the past six weeks, there have been numerous challenges, each presenting a different issue to the platoon, company and battalion leadership. Our leaders at all levels are doing great. They have an ability to adapt to continually changing situations and make things work. The Provincial Reconstruction Team leadership also recognizes this quality, as comments about the warriors of the 1/181 are always positive.

It is great to hear that each unit's family readiness group (FRG) is engaged and planning activities. Remember, the numerous benefits available for family members can be accessed in a variety of ways. Don't hesitate to call the full time support personnel at the family assistance centers or your family readiness group leader for information about programs and activities or forms and supporting documentation requirements. Take some time to review what is available and take advantage of these programs. Please make an attempt to get as many family members as possible involved in FRG activities. I want to thank the FRG's leadership, as well as all participants of the groups. Your efforts and support provide some comfort that our families are being looked after while we are deployed. As I say to the soldiers; keep up the good work!

Keep Your Powder Dry!

—Lt. Col. Tony Couture

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Photo by Spec. Michael Broughey

Spec. David Cooley, a member of HHC's 1st Plt., provides security for an entry control point with the M-249 squad automatic weapon during base defense operations Sept. 1.

Provincial Reconstruction Teams Coalesce

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On the other hand, Edwards said the members of D Co., even the youngest members, are more than eager to share their knowledge about weapons, equipment and tactics.

Spec. Matt Boucher, of A Co., said his platoon reviewed all the basic infantry combat skills. From moving from one place to another, ensuring a location is secure, to actions under fire with the rest of the members of the PRT.

"They're pretty good at picking it up," Boucher said, adding there are a lot of Seabees, members of Naval Construction units, in his PRT and they are very flexible and competent in their own right.✂



Photo by Spec. Michael Broughey

Members of A Co., strip and clean their M-16, M-4 and M-249 weapons at a live-fire range Sept. 10.



RHINELAND 1944-1945



The 1/181 earned the Rhineland Campaign Battle Streamer for its actions in France and Belgium during World War II. It was one of the final battles of the war in the European Theater and took place between Sept. 15, 1944 and March the following year.