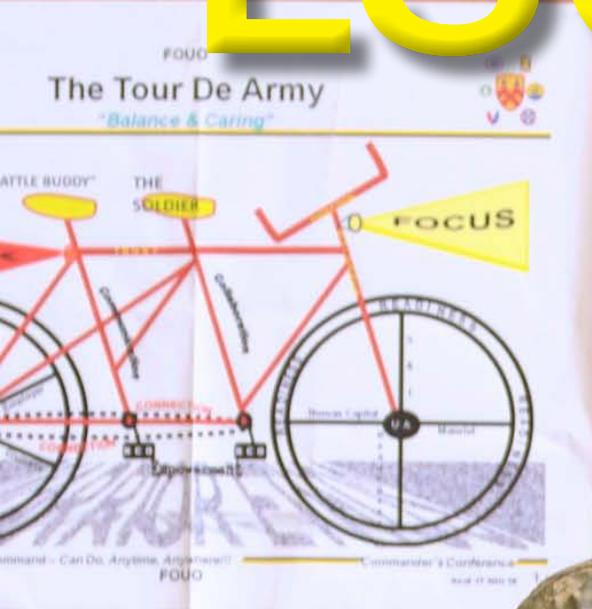


ESC TODAY



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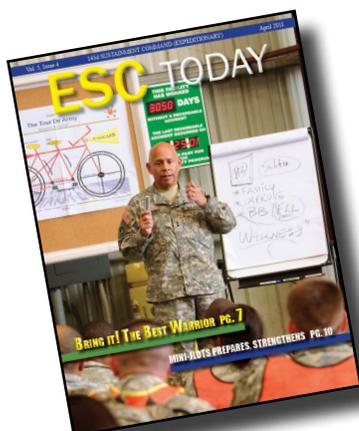
WELLNESS

BRING IT! THE BEST WARRIOR PG. 7

MINI-JLOTS PREPARES, STRENGTHENS PG. 10

April 2011

VOL. 5, ISSUE 4



<< On the Front Cover

"Maj. Gen. Luis Visot, commander, 377th Theater Sustainment Command, addresses more than 200 Soldiers from 14 units who participated in mini-Joint Logistics Over The Shore (JLOTS) operations hosted by the 332nd Transportation Battalion, 143d Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) in Tampa, Fla. March 4 - 6, 2011 about The Tandem Bicycle (TB). The Tandem Bicycle is a metaphor each of us can use to take stock of his or her own motivations and personal values in the larger context of our roles as PROFESSIONAL SOLDIERS AND LEADERS. This is what professionals do- strive for self-awareness, try to find opportunities to grow, and work diligently to be better. **See more on page 5.**

Photo by Maj. John Adams 143d Sustainment Command (Expeditionary)

5, 10

Inside This Issue >>

Messages from the top.....	3
Le Tour de Army.....	5
Bring it: Best Warrior Competition.....	7
Mini-JLOTS.....	10
Road dogs.....	12
Military tradition: dining-in.....	13
A D-Day reunion.....	14
Yellow Ribbon prepares families.....	16
Around the ESC.....	17

ESC Today is the monthly command information magazine of the 143d Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) and is an authorized publication for members of the Department of Defense, according to provisions in Army Regulation 360-1. The opinions and views expressed in ESC Today are not necessarily official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, Defense Department, Department of the Army or the headquarters, 143rd ESC. The

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ESC TODAY



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The Command Post

The pending repeal of Don't Ask, Don't Tell is a significant event that we all need to understand completely. First, the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy will remain in effect until 60 days after the repeal is certified and made public by the Secretary of Defense. We anticipate that occurring in the fall of this year. In the meantime, the 143d ESC will conduct a robust training plan to inform Soldiers of the new policy. During that time I expect leaders across the formation to maintain their professional demeanor and focus on our Army Values and Guiding Principles, which make us the best military in the world.

The key features of the new policy are based on the idea that an individual's sexual orientation is a personal and private matter which will no longer bar an individual to military service or be a basis for discharge. The new policy is not designed to change our Soldiers' religious beliefs, moral views or our core Army Values. I will not go into specific details of the new

policy as you'll receive answers to many of your questions in the training ahead. However, I do encourage you to engage Soldiers and create dialog during the training in order to maximize its effectiveness. Remember, we maintain a zero tolerance policy for harassment, violence, or discrimination.

Diversity has always been a leading factor in the Army's strength and will remain so. Our warrior ethos drives our success; not race, sex, nor social status. A clear focus on Leadership-Professionalism-Discipline-Respect will enable this change in policy to be executed with minimal disruption to our wartime mission. Again, the current "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy is still in effect.

Spring is upon us and with it comes many opportunities for training, family outings and multiple outdoor activities. We cannot lose focus on Safety and the implementation of risk mitigations. Keep that in mind when planning either your annual training or a trip to the



Col. Mark W. Palzer
Commander
143d Sustainment Command
(Expeditionary)

park. Stay safe, remain connected with your Soldiers, and always lead from the front!

Sustaining Victory!

Army Strong! 🇺🇸

The Bottom Line

Based on recent marksmanship results during our Best Warrior Competition and small-arms weapon qualification it has become clear to me that our Soldiers are not taking advantage of weapons simulators and other means of practice to enhance their individual marksmanship skills.

With many Reserve units a considerable distance from a military installation, it may be difficult for some Soldiers and units to practice their marksmanship skills at a live firing range. The Engagement Skills Trainer (EST) 2000, the Laser Marksmanship Training System (LMTS) and other devices are excellent tools for all warriors to sustain their marksmanship skills after initial entry training.

Soldiers can practice the four fundamentals of marksmanship—steady position, aiming, breathing and trigger control—at the unit before even

setting foot on the range.

The Army Reserve has been engaged in continual conflict for nearly a decade. Unit readiness is vital to sustain our current operations, and an effective marksmanship program contributes to that readiness.

Train the trainer. Good trainers are more experienced and skilled on the subject than the Soldiers they are training. Good trainers also combine their knowledge of marksmanship with patience, understanding and encouragement.

NCOs, take the lead. Stress the importance of weapons proficiency to your Soldiers and then lead from the front by honing your own skills. Units within the 143d continuously rotate through deployments. Without sustaining their weapons expertise, how will our warriors be combat ready?

Army Strong! 🇺🇸



Command Sgt. Maj. James Weaver
Command Sergeant Major
143d Sustainment Command
(Expeditionary)

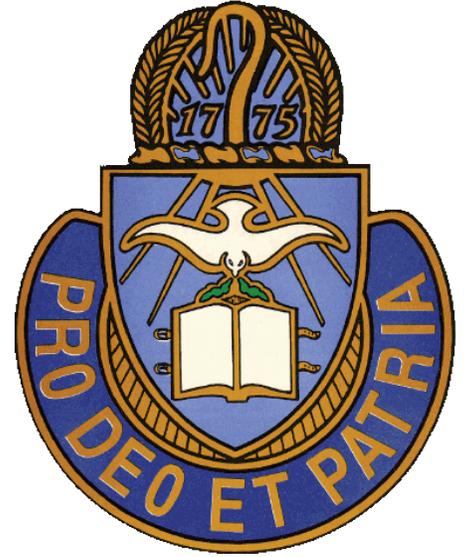
REFLECTIONS BY THE CHAPLAIN: *GOD KNOWS WHO YOU ARE!*

■ BY LT. COL. TIMOTHY LANCE
143d Sustainment Command (Expeditionary)
Chaplain

As a school teacher, I often ask my middle school students the question, “who are you?” I am usually amazed at the responses that I receive. Then I wonder how many of us adults have never seriously entertained that question. Who are you really? The truth is that most people will have difficulty answering that question. Many people go through life living other people’s dream for them. Living lives of quiet desperation trying to impress mom, dad or some other “significant” person. However, there comes a point in everyone’s life that one must engage in a serious introspection and self-examination to discover the real you.

If you are unable to determine who you really are, I suggest that you get in touch with your Manufacturer, the Creator and sustainer of.

The Psalmist declared in Psalm 139 that God knows everything about you. He knows when you sit and when you rise. He knows and understands the very thoughts of your mind and every word that forms on your tongue. You are fearfully *and* wonderfully made by an awesome God. His works are marvelous indeed. Seek to please your Creator and not to please man. Be who you really are on the inside. John Wooden wrote; “Be more concerned with your character than your reputation, because your **character is** what you really are, while your reputation is merely what others think you are.” ☒



ATTENTION

All Soldiers assessed into **MOS 88N Transportation Management Coordinator** are required to have a security eligibility of **secret** effective June 1, 2011. The requirement for security eligibility of secret is effective January 1, 2013 for Soldiers holding MOS 88N who entered the MOS prior to June 1, 2011.

Also, all new accessions into MOS 88N be a U.S. citizen effective June 1, 2011. The requirement for U.S. citizenship is effective January 1, 2013 for all Soldiers holding MOS 88N that entered service prior to June 1, 2011.



"Keeping Them Clean"

Afghanistan 2006
By Sgt. 1st Class
Darrold Peters
Digital Oils

•From the collection “Army Artists Look at the War on Terrorism 2001 to the Present: Afghanistan, Iraq, Kuwait and the United States”
•Courtesy of the Army Art Collection, U.S. Army Center of Military History (USACMH) <http://www.history.army.mil/index.html>



LE TOUR DE ARMY

"WELLNESS: Connections, Balance & Caring"



Seven Key Essential Elements:

1. **WELLNESS:** Connections, Balance and Caring; Good Order and Discipline; Goodness and Value
2. **THE SOLDIER and Their BATTLE BUDDY:** TRUST; Dialogue; Consensus; Selfless Service; Partnering and Networking; Understanding; Humanness; Intellect; Creativity (Right Brain) & Logic (Left Brain)
3. **FOCUS** (Direction and Guidance; Mission; Outcomes) and **RISK** (Priorities and Resources)
4. **CONNECTIONS:** Cooperation, Collaboration, Communication, Coordination, Rapport
5. **THE HUBS:** First Line Leaders (FLL) and The Unit Administrator (UA)
 - FLL - Resilience Wheel
 - UA - Readiness Wheel
6. **MOMENTUM** - Connections with...
 - Self (Identity)
 - Others
 - Purpose
 - Environment
 - Higher Self

377th Theater Sustainment Command - Can Do, Anytime, Anywhere!!!
 MG Luis R. West / lrb.west@osar.army.mil

The Tandem Bicycle

AG OF 15 JAN 11 4



LE TOUR DE ARMY

"WELLNESS: Connections, Balance & Caring"

7. **THE ENVIRONMENT**
 - Supportive: JIM, IO, NGO, CA
 - o Joint, Intergovernmental, Interagency, Multi-National
 - o International Organizations
 - o Non-Governmental Organizations and Private Volunteer Organizations
 - o Civil Authorities
 - o Commercial Partners
 - Operating: VUCA, RC, PC
 - o Volatile, Uncertain, Complex, and Ambiguous
 - o Rapid Change
 - o Persistent Conflict

Two Additional Questions: (From Daniel H. Pink, Drive: The Surprising Truth About What Motivates Us)

- What is Your Sentence?
- Was I better Today than Yesterday?

The Tandem Bicycle

AG OF 15 JAN 11 5

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LE TOUR DE ARMY

"WELLNESS: Connections, Balance & Caring"

"The Army as a Profession of Arms & The Soldier as a Professional"

(A Professional Code of Ethics)

(Character, Competence, Courage, Candor, Conduct, and Commitment)

- > Self-Awareness and Situational Awareness (Situational Leadership and Cultural Sensitivity)
- > The Environment: Operating and Supportive
- > Improvisational Leadership (Decentralization & Creativity)
- > Operational Adaptation: Combined Arms Maneuver and Wide Area Security
 - The Army Capstone Concept - The Why?
 - The Army Operational Concept - The How?
 - FSC: Offense, Defense, Stability, and Civil Support
- > Understanding, Visualize, Describe, Direct, Assess, Lead (Battle Command)
- > You as A Professional Soldier: Example, Leader, Coach, Teacher, Mentor, Thinker, and Sensor

377th Theater Sustainment Command - Can Do, Anytime, Anywhere!!!

The Tandem Bicycle

MG Luis R. West / lrb.west@osar.army.mil

AG OF 15 JAN 11 6



Photo by Sgt. Elisebet Freeburg | 143d ESC

Spc. Cleophus Higgins, 282nd Quartermaster Company, fires at a pop-up target with his M4 rifle March 3 during the 2011 Best Warrior Competition.

COMPETING FOR THE TITLE: BEST WARRIOR

Imagine in a span of three days you run for two miles; walk in boots carrying heavy gear for more than six miles; navigate through dense woods for hours both day and night trying to find metal posts camouflaged in the brush; race over large wooden hurdles; crawl on your belly under low obstacles; and endure even more hardships. Nine men accepted these challenges to compete for the title of the 143d ESC's Best Warrior:

■ BY SGT. ELISEBET FREEBURG
143d Sustainment Command (Expeditionary)

CAMP BLANDING, Fla.—The 143d Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) held its command-level Best Warrior Competition Feb. 28 to March 4 at Camp Blanding, Fla.

“This year’s Best Warrior Competition has been the most competitive Best Warrior Competition that the 143d ESC has sponsored thus far,” said Command Sgt. Maj.

James Weaver, the most senior enlisted Soldier for the 143d ESC.

Along with three other Soldiers, Sgt. Kendrick L. Dixon competed in the Noncommissioned Officer of the Year category of the competition. A motor

transport operator from the 803rd Quartermaster Company, this was Dixon’s first time competing for the title.

“It was intense,” said the Dallas, Texas native with a smile.

Boasting about 73,000 acres total, Camp Blanding offers a variety of training locations and topography. There are eight lakes including the 2,000-acre circular Kingsley Lake, and numerous ponds and streams. A diversity of trees including oaks, pines and cypress trees constitute the thick woods.

Day One:

All competitors had previously competed within their own unit and were selected to continue to this level. The Best Warrior hopefuls arrived Monday at Camp Blanding in time for an orientation meeting and in-processing for the next three days of events. The competi-

tion would wrap up Friday at a morning awards ceremony recognizing the achievements.

“It was overwhelming at first, but I welcomed it,” said Staff Sgt. Don L. Holder, a human resources specialist from the 518th Sustainment Brigade. “I felt like I was representing my unit.”

Holder, a Fayetteville, N.C., native, would claim the title “NCO of the Year.”

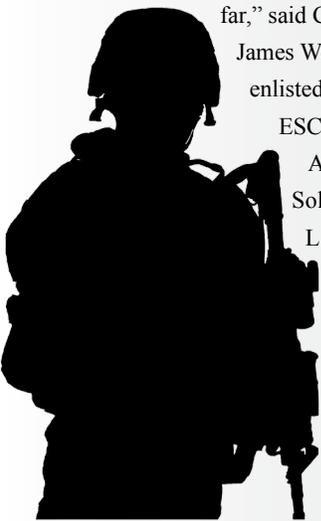
Day Two:

The first full day of competition, the troops took an Army Physical Fitness Test, endured a “mystery event,” wrote an essay and appeared before a board of sergeants major.

The mystery event proved to be a confidence course with six obstacles for troops to maneuver up, under and over.

“The confidence course was fun,” said Dixon.

See BWC, pg. 8



BEST: highest quality, excellence



Photo by Sgt. Elisebet Freeburg | 143d ESC
(Left) Spc. Mitchell W. Reynolds, 175th Ordnance Company, and Pfc. Steven Payne, 861st Quartermaster Co., climb ropes as quickly as they can on a timed obstacle course March 1.

BWC, cont.>>

“The excitement everybody had, the motivation everyone had, made it seem like a unit out there,” said Dixon. “It wasn’t even a competition anymore.”

The competitors were timed as they raced in pairs through the course.

other event.”

During the exam, board and essay portion, Soldiers were assessed on their knowledge of such subjects as current events, military courtesy, military justice and U.S. Army history.

Day Three:

The competitors began the day with a two-hour land navigation event.

Using a compass, map, protractor and pencil, competitors navigated through a 1 square mile area of forest searching for their four designated “points”—metal posts hidden in the trees.

“The land navigation was the best. I enjoy map reading,” said Holder. “I looked all this [Camp Blanding area] up on Google before coming out here.”

Several of the other competitors disagreed with Holder’s sentiment.

“Land nav is not something reservists practice all the time,” said Sgt. Ted Lewis,



Photo by Sgt. Elisebet Freeburg | 143d ESC
Spc. Mitchell W. Reynolds, 175th Ordnance Company, runs to the end point after completing the land navigation course March 2.

urban warfare skills by detaining and searching a role-player.

Competitors were also evaluated on their knowledge of warrior tasks, like evaluating a casualty and rendering first aid.

The day finished with a return to the land navigation course. Flashlight in hand, Soldiers again trudged the thick forest alone for hours, this time in the dark.

Again, they had two hours, but this time only three points to find.



Left: Spc. David Moore, 528th Transportation Company Detachment, climbs an obstacle March 1. Right: Sgt. Ted Lewis, 416th Adjutant General Co., kicks a door open while Sgt. Kendrick Dixon, 803 Quartermaster Co., waits to enter a building during Military Operations on Urban Terrain (MOUT) March 2.



Photos by Sgt. Elisebet Freeburg | 143d ESC



Left: Staff Sgt. Don L. Holder, 518th Sustainment Brigade, plots his course during the night land navigation course March 2.

Although he beat out four others for the title “Soldier of the Year,” Spc. Mitchell W. Reynolds, a generator mechanic from the 175th Ordnance Company, admitted the confidence course was difficult for him.

“It [the event] was one and a half or two hours after our PT test [APFT],” said Reynolds, a Bisoce, N.C., native. “I didn’t realize exactly how fatigued I was until I was into the course. I was probably more drained from that than any

a supply sergeant from the 416th Adjutant General Co. and a Tuscaloosa, Ala., native, who competed for NCO of the Year.

The next event was another “mystery.” The competitors were transported to a Military Operations on Urban Terrain (MOUT) site to conduct urban warfare tactics. Divided into squads, competitors entered a building and “cleared” rooms of possible enemies. They also displayed their

Day Four:

Before the sun rose, competitors were already trekking down a 10-kilometer road, loaded down with a rifle, an advanced combat helmet, and 35 pounds of gear on their backs. Although the troops had three hours to complete their journey, all competitors finished in less than two hours.

See BWC, pg. 9

WARRIOR: one engaged or experienced in warfare, soldier

BWC, cont.>>

The rest of the morning and much of the afternoon was spent at the weapons range. The Soldiers were given time to zero (calibrate) their weapons, before qualifying on their M-4 rifle. They were required to shoot at pop-up targets simulating enemies while lying in a prone position first with their weapon sup-



Photo by Sgt. Elisebet Freeburg | 143d ESC

Sgt. Ted Lewis, 416th Adjutant General Company, circles bullet holes on his target with a pencil March 3. Competitors “zeroed” or calibrated their rifles before moving to the qualification range.

“Over the course of the competition all of the competitors learned the importance of being the ‘total Soldier,’” said Weaver. “If they didn’t already know it, they quickly realized that they must possess the skills to excel in all events in order to be competitive and win the overall competition.”

Palzer congratulated the competitors for a job well done and gave an inspiring speech about the Army.

It’s Soldiers who win wars, and Soldiers who win hearts and minds, he said.

“I am proud of each competitor,” said Weaver. “Every one of them was highly motivated. They gave everything they had to win.”

Weaver thanked the staff of Camp Blanding for their support.

“The Camp Blanding Training Site is a much better location to conduct the Best Warrior Competition than the sites that we selected for the past two years,” said Weaver. “The training areas here at Camp Blanding coupled

ported on a rifle rest and then without support. Finally, the competitors shot while kneeling. To qualify, Soldiers had to hit at least 23 out of 40 targets.

I really enjoyed the camaraderie, said Reynolds. “[I enjoyed] meeting Soldiers from different units. Everyone brought different attributes to the table.”

Day Five:

Friday morning, the competitors, supporters and competition workers came together at an awards ceremony recognizing their hard work and achievements. Weaver along with the 143d ESC commander, Col. Mark Palzer, presided over the ceremony.

with the support that the Camp Blanding support staff provided were superb.”

The competitors agreed.

“Man, I loved it [the location],” said Dixon with a smile.

“Let’s come back. We can do it [the competition] again in two weeks, if you all like.”

Reynolds and Holder will represent the 143d ESC at the next level, the 377th Theater Sustainment Command’s 2011 Best Warrior Competition scheduled for April. The winners of the 377th TC level will continue to the Army Reserve Command-



Photo by Sgt. Elisebet Freeburg | 143d ESC

Competing in the NCO of the Year category, Sgt. Ted Lewis, 416th Adjutant General Company, rests his head after completing the 10 km road march at Camp Blanding, Fla. March 3.

level BWC in June.

“It would be cool to see more Soldiers come out [next year],” said Reynolds. “You won’t realize your strengths or weakness a lot of times until your abilities are tested.”

Others expressed their plans to return.

“I look forward to next year,” said Lewis. “I know my weaknesses now. I plan to train for them and help other Soldiers to compete.”

Soldiers competing at this level represented the following units within the 143d ESC: 803 QM Co., 416th AG Co., 175th Ordnance Co., 518th Sustainment Bde., 282nd QM co., 528th Transportation Co. Detachment, 143d ESC Headquarters and Headquarters Co., 861st QM Co., and 558th TC Det. ☒

BEST WARRIOR



Photo by Sgt. Elisebet Freeburg | 143d ESC

Left to Right: Col. Mark W. Palzer, 143d ESC commander, presents awards to Spc. Mitchell W. Reynolds, 143d ESC soldier of the year, and Staff Sgt. Don L. Holder, 143d ESC NCO of the year, at an awards ceremony March 4.

What is Mini-JLOTS?

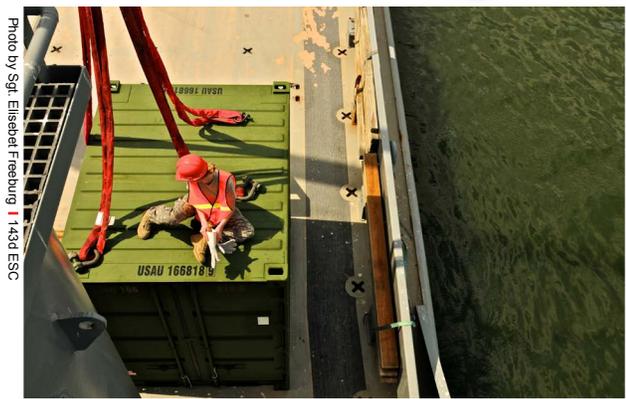


Photo by Sgtr. Elisabeth Freiburg | 143d ESC

BY MAJ. JOHN ADAMS
143d Sustainment Command (Expeditionary)
Public Affairs Officer

TAMPA, Fla. ---More than 200 Soldiers from 14 units participated in a logistical training event hosted by the 332nd Transportation Battalion, 143d Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) here March 4 to 6 during a mini-Joint Logistics Over The Shore (JLOTS) operation.

The 332nd Transportation Battalion conducted 24 hour Reception, Staging, and Onward-Movement (RSO) operations to deploy military units through a developed port facility at Rattlesnake Point, United States Army Reserve Center.

The battalion directed port throughput operations at unimproved ports to include the Marine Industrial Park Pier at Rattlesnake Point, and beach-head operations at Gandy Beach.

Maj. Gen. Luis Visot, commander, 377th Theater Sustainment Command and Col. Mark Palzer, commander, 143d ESC visited troops performing their duties throughout the weekend. The weekend's operations strengthen the units' ability to work in austere environments similar to Haiti during Operation Unified Response. ☒



Photo by Maj. John Adams | 143d ESC

Top Left: A Soldier from the 332nd Transportation Battalion unhooks a shipping container from a crane after the container was loaded on to the Army vessel Land Craft Utility 2031 New Orleans March 5 during a mini-Joint Logistics Over the Shore (JLOTS) operation at Rattlesnake Point, Tampa, Fla. *Top Right:* Soldiers from the 332nd Transportation Bn. release a shipping container from a crane March 5 during a mini-JLOTS operation. *Bottom:* More than 200 Soldiers from 14 units participated in a logistical training event March 4 to 6.

>>For more mini-JLOTS photos, see pg. 11

More mini-JLOTS photos >>

Photo by Sgt. Elisabet Freeburg | 143d ESC



Photo by Maj. John Adams | 143d ESC



Photo by Maj. John Adams | 143d ESC

Left: More than 200 Soldiers from 14 units participated in a logistical training event hosted by the 332nd Transportation Battalion, 143d Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) March 4 to 6 during a mini-Joint Logistics Over The Shore (JLOTS) operation in Tampa, Fla. *Top Right:* Maj. Gen. Luis Visot, commander, 377th Theater Sustainment Command, interacts with troops while addressing them March 5 during a visit to the mini-JLOT operation. *Bottom Right:* Chief Warrant Officer 2 Gerald Mitchell, 824th Transportation Company (Heavy Boat), explains mini-JLOTS operations to Maj. Gen. Luis Visot, commander, 377th Theater Sustainment Command, and other leaders as they visited the site March 5.

On the job at mini-JLOTS March 5 >> Soldier on the Street:

"What do you like the most about your job in the Army?"



Name: Pfc. Yusef Alejo
Hometown: Miami, Fla.
Job: movement specialist
Unit: 839th Transportation Company Detachment



Name: Pfc. Stephanie Thompson
Hometown: Hollywood, Fla.
Job: movement specialist
Unit: 195th Terminal Support Team



Name: Sgt. Richard Williams
Hometown: Fort Pierce, Fla.
Job: movement supervisor
Unit: 195th Terminal Support Team



Name: Spc. Code Fore
Hometown: Orlando, Fla.
Job: movement specialist
Unit: 195th Terminal Support Team

"My job is moving equipment in and out, plus 100 percent accountability [of equipment]. I move equipment, so other Soldiers can accomplish the mission."

"I like the different job skills and knowledge that will transfer into a civilian job."

"I enjoy the different varieties of the job and the places I get to visit."

"I enjoy the friendship and camaraderie that I build."

Photos by Sgt. Elisabet Freeburg | 143d ESC

ROAD DOGS

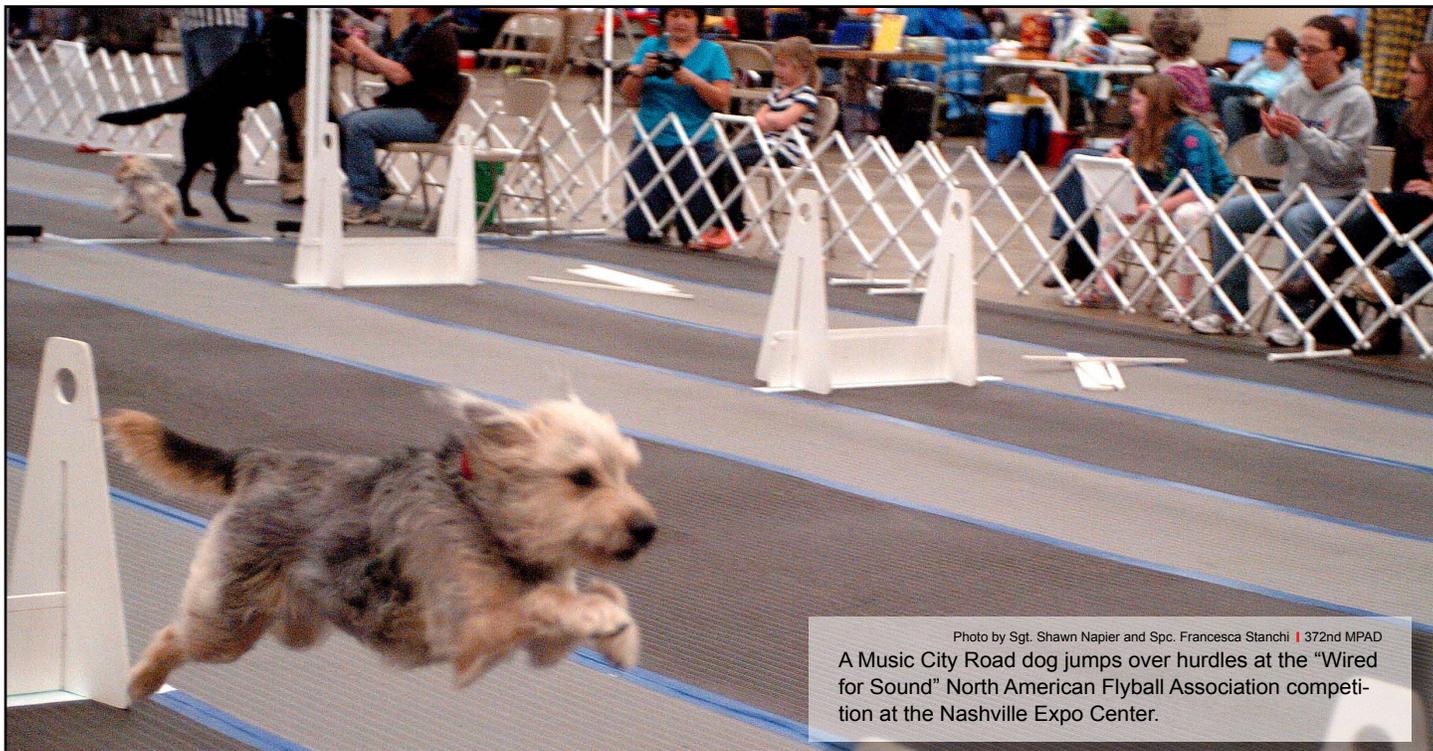


Photo by Sgt. Shawn Napier and Spc. Francesca Stanchi | 372nd MPAD
A Music City Road dog jumps over hurdles at the "Wired for Sound" North American Flyball Association competition at the Nashville Expo Center.

SUPPORTING OUR TROOPS

■ BY SGT. SHAWN NAPIER AND SPC. FRANCESCA STANCHI
372nd Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

NASHVILLE – Sgt. Maj. Cheryl Abel, sergeant major of the 655th Transportation Company Army Reserve unit out of Millington, Tennessee, known as the Road Dawgs, made a special presentation to the Music City Road Dogs at the Nashville Expo Center April 2.

More than 150 dogs from five states were competing in "Wired for Sound", a North American Flyball Association (NAFA) sanctioned event sponsored by the Road Dogs. Since the first of the year, the Road Dogs have adopted the 655th during their current deployment to Afghanistan as part of Operation Enduring Freedom.

Retired Chief Warrant Officer 4 Carl E. Lambert, State Chair Representative of Tennessee, presented Meritorious Service Awards to Road Dog representatives Jane Kline and Marie Murphy in recognition of their support of the 655th. Lambert also awarded the Road Dogs with the Seven Seals Award for leadership and initiative in support of the men and women who serve in the National Guard and Reserve.

Donations made by members of the Music City Road Dogs were accepted by Abel. These donations will be sent to the Soldiers of the 655th stationed in Kandahar, Afghanistan. ☒



Photo by Sgt. Shawn Napier and Spc. Francesca Stanchi | 372nd MPAD

Retired Chief Warrant Officer 4 Carl Lambert, State Chair Representative of Tennessee and Sgt. Maj. Cheryl Abel, sergeant major of the 655th Transportation Company, present Jane Kline and Marie Murphy with Meritorious Service Awards at the Nashville Expo Center during the "Wired for Sound" competition. From left to right: Marie Murphy, Sgt. Maj. Cheryl Abel, Carl Lambert and Jane Kline.



Photo by Sgt. Shawn Napier and Spc. Francesca Stanchi | 372nd MPAD

Ray Abel, retired veteran, places donated packages from the Music City Road Dogs to Soldiers of the 655th Transportation Company stationed in Kandahar, Afghanistan.

Tradition stretches across time to bring Soldiers together



Photo by Spc. H. Marcus McGill | 319th MPAD

1st Lt. Timothy P. Hutcherson, Adjutant 207th RSG, adds dry ice to the grog used for the 207th dining in held at Fort Jackson on Feb. 26. More than 100 soldiers and family members celebrated the tradition that dates all the way back to 16th century England.



Photo by Spc. H. Marcus McGill | 319th MPAD

Prior to the start of the event, Lt.Col. Timothy P. Bobroski, Commander 362nd Quartermaster Battalion, and Lt.Col. Katrina K. Dowis, Executive Officer 207th RSG, take a moment to discuss details of the 207th RSG dining in that was held on Feb 26 at Fort Jackson Officer's club.

■ BY SPC. H. MARCUS MCGILL
319th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

FORT JACKSON, S.C.- Members of the 207th Regional Support Group gathered at the officer's club here on Saturday, Feb. 26 for their first ever dining-in.

More than 100 soldiers and family members celebrated the tradition that dates all the way back to 16th century England.

Commissioned officers, NCOs, and enlisted men and women came together and shared in the evening's festivities.

According to the United States Military Academy's guide to the dining in, one of the biggest purposes of the event is to increase camaraderie among Soldiers.

Traditional protocol was coupled with an evening of laughs as the dinner served as a perfect example of fulfilling this goal.

"The Dining-In was a way to socialize with the unit leadership outside of the annual training briefing," said Sara M. Harris, Staff Administrative Assistant 207th Regional Support Group. "The event is a sure way to bring

together the units and Soldiers."

After a formal reception line, those in attendance got to enjoy time to visit with one another before being called to take their seats in the banquet room.

Col. James C. Bagley served as President of the evening's event while 1st Lt. Timothy P. Hutcherson served as Vice-President. These roles date back to the earliest days of the dinner.

Bagley and Hutcherson performed these duties similarly to what may have been seen when the dining-in was carried out at

the height of its popularity with the U.S. military during World War II.

Awards were given and jokes were told as servicemembers enjoyed a full dinner that lasted more than two hours. For many Soldiers, the event was the highlight of the weekend-long annual training briefing. During the yearly training brief, Soldiers were in meetings for eight hours a day.

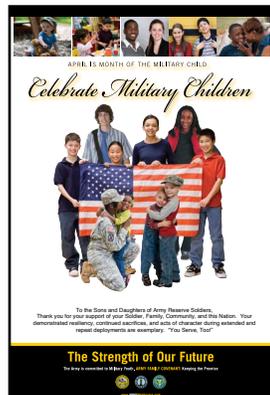
"This was a success and everyone had a good time," said Harris. "I believe it is safe to say we will do this again." ☒

UPCOMING EVENTS:

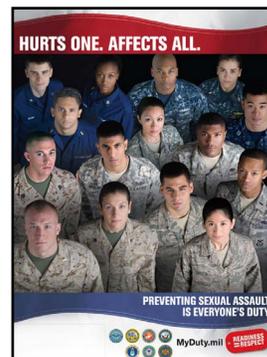
April 23, 2011, is the 103d birthday of the Army Reserve



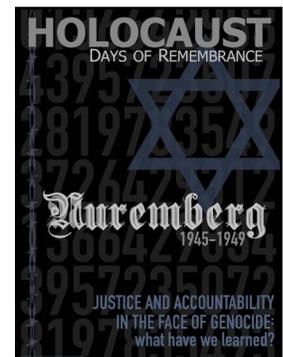
April is the Month of the Military Child



April is Sexual Assault Awareness month and the Army is 'Committed to Achieving Cultural Awareness and to Stop Sexual Assault'



Holocaust Remembrance Day is Sunday, May 1. Holocaust Days of Remembrance will be observed from May 1-8.



D-DAY,

A REUNION

AND "HELL BY THE SEA"

■ BY SGT. ELISEBET FREEBURG

143d Sustainment Command (Expeditionary)

CARRABELLE, Fla.—On the dawn of June 6, 1944, the Allies landed on the coast of Normandy. Stretched across a 50-mile expanse of beaches, these men fought through a barrage of machine-gun fire, artillery shells and mortar bombs toward enemy lines. By the end of the day, Allied troops had gained a hold on French soil, but the U.S. had sustained an estimated 6,000 to 10,000 casualties. For many of those heroes, their journey to the beaches of Normandy began in a small coastal Florida town nestled against the Gulf of Mexico. Today, the town of Carrabelle can boast of a past rich with American history.

Army Reserve vessel Landing Craft Utility 2031 New Orleans, manned by members of the 824th Transportation Company (Heavy Boat), participated in the 16th annual Camp Gordon Johnston reunion held here in Carrabelle March 10 to 12.

Nicknamed by trainees as “hell by the sea” for its at-the-time miserable living conditions of heat, bugs and snakes, the temporary Camp Gordon Johnston in Carrabelle trained approximately 250,000 amphibious Soldiers from 1942 to 1946, most of whom would continue on to fight in Europe and the Pacific.

This was the third time Sgt. Evangelista Santiago, senior engineman for Detachment 1 of the 824th TC, has participated in the event



Photo by Sgt. Elisebet Freeburg | 143d ESC

The public congregates on CarRabelle Beach, Fla., to watch the Army Reserve vessel Landing Craft Utility 2031 New Orleans, manned by members of the 824th Transportation Company (Heavy Boat), perform maneuvers March 12 during the 16th annual Camp Gordon Johnston reunion. Carrabelle Beach is a former landing site for military landing crafts and Soldiers training for the Normandy Invasion of World War II.

which began in 1995 to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the end of World War II.

“The people [event partakers] are so friendly,” said Santiago, a Tampa, Fla., native, who enjoys working with the public.

Arriving at the Carrabelle community dock March 11, the crew of the New Orleans opened the ship to the general public and

gave tours March 12 and 13. Besides touring the deck and cargo area, visitors were able to see firsthand the dining area and living quarters, as well as the engine room. Guests also met the skipper, Chief Warrant Officer 2 Gerald Mitchell, and were able to ask him questions about the boat and tell their own war stories.

I met one veteran who trained here in 1942 and went on to fight in Guam and the Philippines, said Mitchell.

“We were honored to be part of the reunion,” said Mitchell. “The town of Carrabelle was wonderful, and we loved it.”

A public occasion, the reunion honors veterans of all wars, not just WWII. A golf tournament was held Thursday, March 10 with veterans in attendance. Friday, March 11 there were several event opportunities for those attending the reunion, including food, boat tours and live music.

The U.S. Army band from Fort Rucker, Ala., led a parade Saturday morning March 12. Many veterans along with their families rolled down the street in vehicles, trailers and floats displaying homemade banners, military memorabilia, and waving U.S. flags while supporters and members of the community watched and cheered.

This year, spectators were able to see a WWII U.S. Army M3A-1 halftrack vehicle along with other restored military vehicles.

See D-Day, pg. 15



Photo by Sgt. Elisebet Freeburg | 143d ESC

Civilians approach the Army Reserve vessel, Landing Craft Utility 2031 New Orleans, manned by members of the 824th Transportation Company (Heavy Boat) for a free tour March 12 during the 16th annual Camp Gordon Johnston reunion held in Carrabelle, Fla. During World War II, the temporary Camp Gordon Johnston trained approximately 250,000 amphibious Soldiers, most of whom would continue on to fight in Europe and the Pacific.



Photo by Sgt. Elisebet Freeburg | 143d ESC

Soldiers from the 824th Transportation Company (Heavy Boat) opened the Army Reserve vessel, Landing Craft Utility 2031 New Orleans, to the public for free tours March 12 during the 16th annual Camp Gordon Johnston reunion held in Carrabelle, Fla. During World War II, the temporary Camp Gordon Johnston trained approximately 250,000 amphibious Soldiers, most of whom would continue on to fight in Europe and the Pacific. Stationed in Tampa, Fla., the 824th TC reports to the 332nd Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, 143d Sustainment Command (Expeditionary).

D-Day, cont.>>

Soldiers from the 332nd Transportation Company Battalion drove two Humvees with upgraded armor in the parade as well.

A barbecue was held in the afternoon, followed by a dinner dance. The New Orleans was scheduled at 3:00 p.m. to land and unload several Humvees west of the town on Carrabelle Beach.

Marked by the Florida Department of State as a historic site, Carrabelle Beach is a former landing site for military landing crafts as servicemembers from Camp Gordon Johnston practiced landing for the Normandy Invasion.

Floating close to shore, the 174-foot New Orleans—a significantly larger landing craft than those used during D-day training—was unfortunately not able to land due to water depth.

The crowd of about three hundred people still appeared to enjoy the mock landing, snapping photos of the boat in action.

The 824th TC has participated in the reunion since 2006; except for 2009 when the New Orleans was receiving improvements and repairs in the shipyard, and 2010 when the ship was involved with the Haitian humanitarian relief effort, Operation Unified Response.

Servicemembers that trained at Camp Gordon Johnston include those from the 4th Infantry Division, 28th ID, 38th ID, 534th Engineer Boat and Shore Regiment, and 534th Scouts.

Stationed in Tampa, Fla., the 824th TC reports to the 332nd Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, 143d Sustainment Command (Expeditionary). ☒

655th TC Yellow Ribbon event prepares families for deployment

BY 1ST LT. JOSEPH LARREW
372nd Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

MEMPHIS -- Soldiers and families from the 655th Transportation Company, out of Naval Air Station Memphis in Millington, Tennessee, gathered for a Yellow Ribbon event in preparation for a combat deployment to Afghanistan.



Photo by 1st Lt. Joseph Larrew | 372nd MPAD

Soldiers of the 655th Transportation Company march in to take their seats as their families look on at the beginning of the Yellow Ribbon Farewell Ceremony in Millington, Tenn., Dec. 5.

The event took place over two days here, and Soldiers from all over the United States that were deploying with the unit were flown in with their families to join the festivities.

Soldiers, families and vendors alike all gathered to exchange information about family readiness groups and a legion of resources available to families and Soldiers before, during and after deployment, but information wasn't the only thing filling the air.

"You can never be ready for it, but we've been through it before so, I kind of know what to expect and I know where the information is if I need, if something comes up," said Merlean Blanks, a military spouse.

Families used this time as a part of the process of saying their goodbyes to their Soldiers. The Army uses Yellow Ribbon events to help families realize the abundant resources at their fingertips while their Soldier is overseas.

Dana Lesinski, the mother of a Soldier, said she really liked that she came because she could see all the families that came together to support each other.



Photo by 1st Lt. Joseph Larrew | 372nd MPAD

Soldiers and their families eat lunch together during the Yellow Ribbon Event for the 655th Transportation Company from Millington, Tenn., Dec. 4.

"Just seeing everybody together, that you are not alone and there is help available," she said. "Anything you need, the Army is right behind your back."

Families learned about resources like Military OneSource, Tricare, Military Family Life Consultants and the emergency communication services that the Red Cross provides.



Photo by 1st Lt. Joseph Larrew | 372nd MPAD

Dana Lesinski (center), mother of a Soldier, looks over some information at one of the booths during a break between speakers at the Yellow Ribbon Event for 655th Transportation Company from Millington, Tenn., Dec. 4.

Blanks found the information given by the speakers helpful. "Mainly Tricare, the information we need to keep our kids enrolled, since we have 21-year old just about, so we need to get the information to put in Tricare. That's one of the most important things we got."

The Navy Band was there to move the ceremony along with their repertoire of patriotic ballads. The commander, 1st Lt. Joshua Alley, felt confident that his troops are ready to go to war and that this event will raise his level of confidence that the families will be ready.

"The main thing I want, basically, is for all the family members to walk away confident knowing that they are going to have all the available resources to them to navigate this deployment and that their company, the 655th, will be taking care of them."

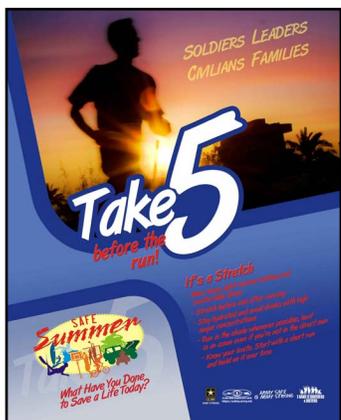
Alley also talked about the importance of Family Readiness Groups (FRGs), "I would really like to see the FRG really strongly developed, because when you have so many cross-level Soldiers, it's really hard to develop a really good FRG. This is the first time, really, to get all the family members in my deploying unit over there."



Photo by 1st Lt. Joseph Larrew | 372nd MPAD

The Navy Band fills the air with patriotic music at the Yellow Ribbon Farewell Ceremony for the 655th Transportation Company from Millington, Tenn., Dec. 5.

As the Soldiers prepare themselves for their deployment, they can now sleep a little easier knowing that their families have been properly prepared for their absence. ☒



It's Spring! get outside and run

RUNNING SAFETY TIPS:

- Wear loose, light-colored clothing and comfortable shoes.
- Stretch before and after running.
- Stay hydrated and avoid drinks with high sugar concentrations.
- Run in the shade whenever possible; heat is an issue, even when you're not in direct sun.
- Know your limits. Start with a short run and build on it over time.

UNIT PHOTOS WANTED

Seeking photos of Soldiers from your unit performing operational duties and/or basic soldiering skills. Include a basic caption with names, ranks, place, date and a short description of what is happening in the photo. Send photos and/or any questions you may have to john.adams16@usar.army.mil



Photo by Maj. John Adams | 143d ESC

Sgt. Jerome Griffin, a 689th Engineer Company Soldier and Kissimmee, Fla., native, talks with a World War II reenactor March 27 during a two-day "The Road to Victory" WWII military display event. Soldiers from the 689th and the 196th Transportation Company were on hand with a Palletized Load System vehicle and upgraded-armor Humvee for event attendees to tour. All vehicles were provided by Area Maintenance Support Activity-50 (AMSA-50).



Courtesy Photo

Col. Mark W. Palzer answers questions from Soldiers of the 518th Sustainment Brigade and 941st Transportation Company, while addressing them at a mock Forward Operating Base at Fort Bliss, Texas.



Courtesy Photo

A 655th Transportation Company convoy of Palletized Load System (PLS) vehicles carrying military cargo and Mine-Resistant, Ambush-Protected (MRAP) gun trucks rolls through Kandahar City, Afghanistan.



Photo by Sgt. Valerie Taylor | 912th HRC

Soldiers of the 912th Human Resources Company clean weapons during their monthly battle assembly Feb. 6 in Orlando, Fla.

SOLDIERS LEADERS
CIVILIANS FAMILIES

Take **5**
before taking
that shot!

Aim for Safety

- Treat every weapon as if it were loaded
- Handle every weapon with care
- Identify the target before your fire
- Never point the muzzle at anything you don't intend to shoot
- Keep the weapon safe and your finger off the trigger until you intend to fire
- Wear hearing and eye protection
- Don't drink alcohol or take drugs before or when handling firearms



What Have You Done
to Save a Life Today?



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