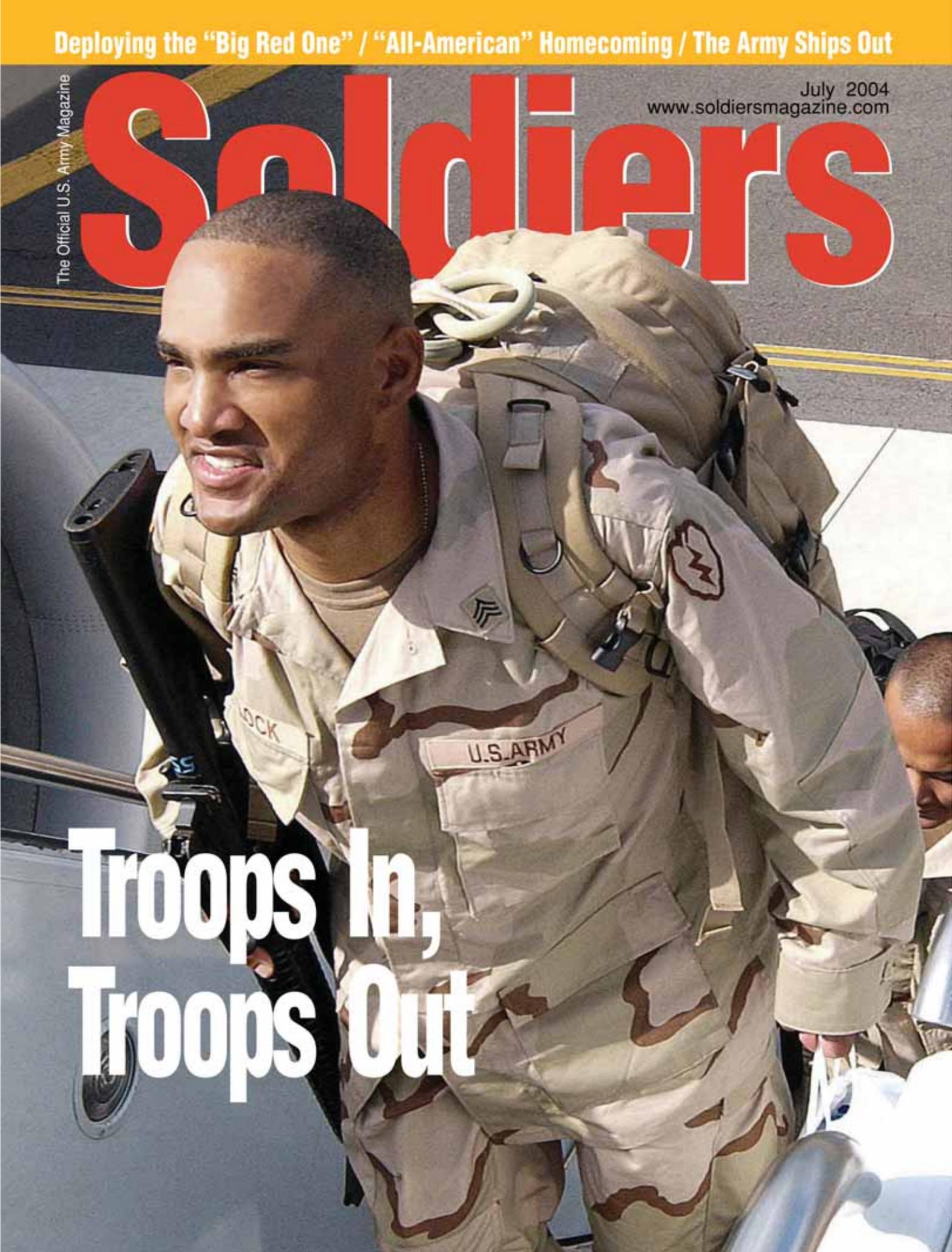


Deploying the "Big Red One" / "All-American" Homecoming / The Army Ships Out

The Official U.S. Army Magazine

July 2004
www.soldiersmagazine.com

Soldiers



Troops In,
Troops Out



Cover Story — Page 4

Within the past few months the Army has undertaken the largest movement of Soldiers and equipment since World War II.

— SPC Stephanie Carl

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Letter from the Editor

One of our missions here at **Soldiers** is to document historic and evolutionary events in the Army. In this issue we feature the recently completed Iraq troop rotation — the largest movement of American troops and materiel since World War II. In reading it you will no doubt be impressed with just what our Army is capable of. This was a Herculean feat accomplished over several months by thousands of dedicated people all pulling together to accomplish the mission in magnificent fashion. In "Moving an Army at War," a superb team of writers and photographers chronicles the various components of this historic operation.

To see the latest recruiting initiative, don't miss SPC Aimee Felix's piece on the Army's bull riders. She profiles the Army's newest partnership with one of the fastest growing sports in the country.



As always, **Soldiers** needs story and photographic contributions from the field. Remember, this is your magazine and it's a great venue through which to tell your post or unit story.

Rob Ali

Rob Ali
Editor in Chief



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Soldiers

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TRICARE Retiree Dental Program

THANK you for your February mention of the TRICARE Retiree Dental Program. The information is accurate, except that the Web site you refer your readers to for more information (www.ddpdelta.org) is being phased out in favor of www.trdp.org.

Jeff Album
via e-mail

Bad Tires

THE main subject of the April article "Cutting Down on Casualties" is accident prevention. The problem is that the first Humvee in the convoy picture has a mix of bias- and radial-construction tires. This combination could cause potentially undesirable driving characteristics that the operator could be unaware of.

WO1 Anthony J. Rombalski
via e-mail

Guarding the Golden Gate

HAVING been born in San Francisco, and raised in Marin County, I was gratified to read the March article about National Guard and other agencies' efforts to provide security for that marvelous structure which I grew up seeing almost daily — the Golden Gate Bridge.

Steve Harding's article was informative, interesting and somewhat reassuring. The photography to support the story was really top-notch.

Unfortunately, Mr. Harding made a fatal error that tends to irritate all Northern Californians who historically prefer not to be lumped in together with their Southern California neighbors.

He said in paragraph four that "The first Operation Golden Span was initiated just after the Sept. 11 attacks to secure two bridges in Southern California, the Golden Gate and the Bay Bridge connecting San Francisco with nearby Oakland ..."

To my knowledge, San Francisco and Oakland have never been considered Southern California cities. A

simple look at any map of the Golden State will tell you that. I'm surprised the Soldier's editing staff missed the obvious mistake.

LTC John C. Karp Jr. (Ret.)
via e-mail

Steve Harding, a native (though globe-wandering) Californian, replies:

"Thanks for the kind words about the article. The Guard Soldiers protecting the Golden Gate are doing a fine and important job, and it was a pleasure to spend time with them.

"As to my seeming lack of knowledge about the geography of the Golden State, I plead guilty to poor sentence construction rather than to geographical ignorance. The sentence you mention should have read 'The first Operation Golden Span was initiated just after the Sept. 11 attacks to secure the Golden Gate, the Bay Bridge connecting San Francisco with nearby Oakland, and two bridges in Southern California.' Sorry for the confusion."

Chinook Hot

THAT photo by SPC Gul A. Alisan on page 5 of your March edition is one of the best pictures I have ever seen. Granted, I am a little biased due to my aviation MOS, but still I really feel that photograph depicts the workhorse that the CH-47 is, and the even harder work our soldiers are doing in Afghanistan.

SFC Chaz Farkass
via e-mail

Arlington History Revisited

I READ with interest Beth Reece's March story on Arlington National Cemetery. After reading her comments on the founding of the cemetery, I believe clarification is warranted.

Arlington National Cemetery was Robert E. Lee's home. George Washington Parke Custis, descendant of Martha Washington and adopted grandson of George Washington, began construction of Arlington House in

1802. Ownership eventually passed to his daughter Mary Anna Randolph Custis, wife of Robert E. Lee. After the start of the Civil War the federal government confiscated the property. In 1864 Arlington House was purchased by the government to be used for war, military, charitable and educational purposes.

In June 1864 the War Department appropriated the grounds of Arlington House for use as a military cemetery, intending to both honor the Union dead and punish Robert E. Lee for joining the Confederacy. Among the first monuments was a vault containing the remains of 1,800 Union casualties of the battles of Bull Run.

The federal government dedicated Freedman's Village, a model community for freed slaves, in 1863. More than 1,100 freed slaves were given Arlington House land, where they farmed and lived during and after the Civil War.

Neither Robert E. Lee nor his wife ever attempted to recover control of Arlington House. After Lee's death in 1870 George Washington Custis Lee filed suit against the federal government. As Robert E. Lee's eldest son, he claimed the land had been illegally confiscated and that he was the legal owner. In December 1882, the U.S. Supreme Court decided 5 to 4 to return the property to G.W.C. Lee, determining that it had been confiscated without due process. In March 1883 Congress purchased the property from Lee for \$150,000. Freedman's Village was removed, but the military graves remained.

CPT William R. McKern
via e-mail

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Afghanistan

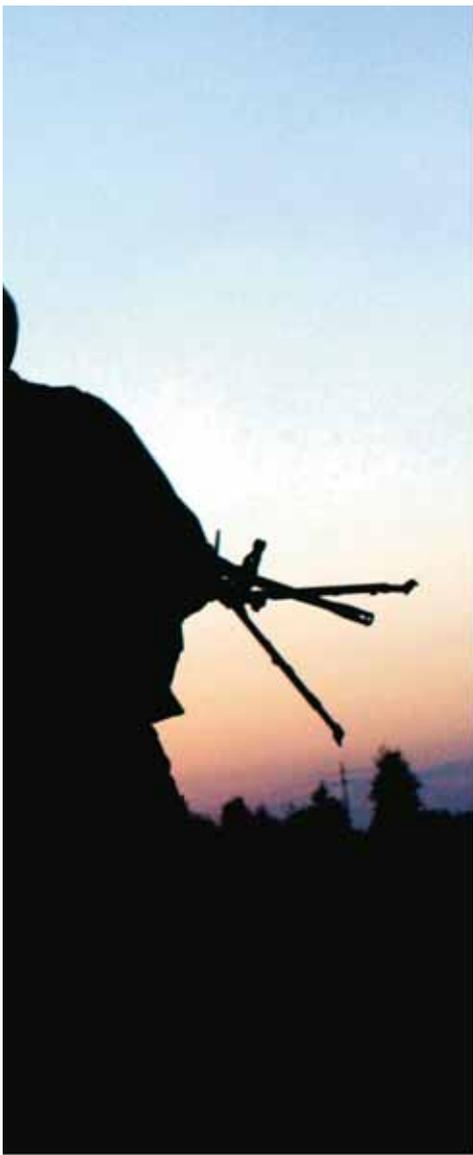
PV2 Dustin Baumbach from the 10th Mountain Division's Company C, 1st Battalion, 87th Infantry Regiment, sets up a Claymore mine around a security position in Afghanistan.

— Photo by SPC Gul A. Alisan









▲ Iraq

Airmen and Soldiers from the 1st Inf. Div. conduct a patrol in Balaad.

— Photo by Staff Sgt Aaron Almon II
USAF

▶ Africa

Soldiers from Co. B, 3rd U.S. Inf., "The Old Guard," watch as PFC Matthew Wagner unpacks C-4 explosive during a training exercise in rural Djibouti.

— Photo by SPC Eric M. McKeeby

◀ Korea

Soldiers from the Republic of Korea and from the Army's 3rd Bn., 1st Special Forces Group, prepare a U.S. Navy HH-60H Seahawk helicopter to participate in a fast-rope training exercise on the Army high-speed vessel *Joint Venture* 10 miles off the Korean port of Pyongtaek.

— Photo by SFC Eric E. Hughes





Troops In, Troops Out

Story by Beth Reece

SOLDIERS across the Army marked the one-year anniversary of the war in Iraq with kisses — some in elated reunion, others in farewell. As waves of veterans returned home from the desert, a fresh batch of Soldiers quickly replaced them in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

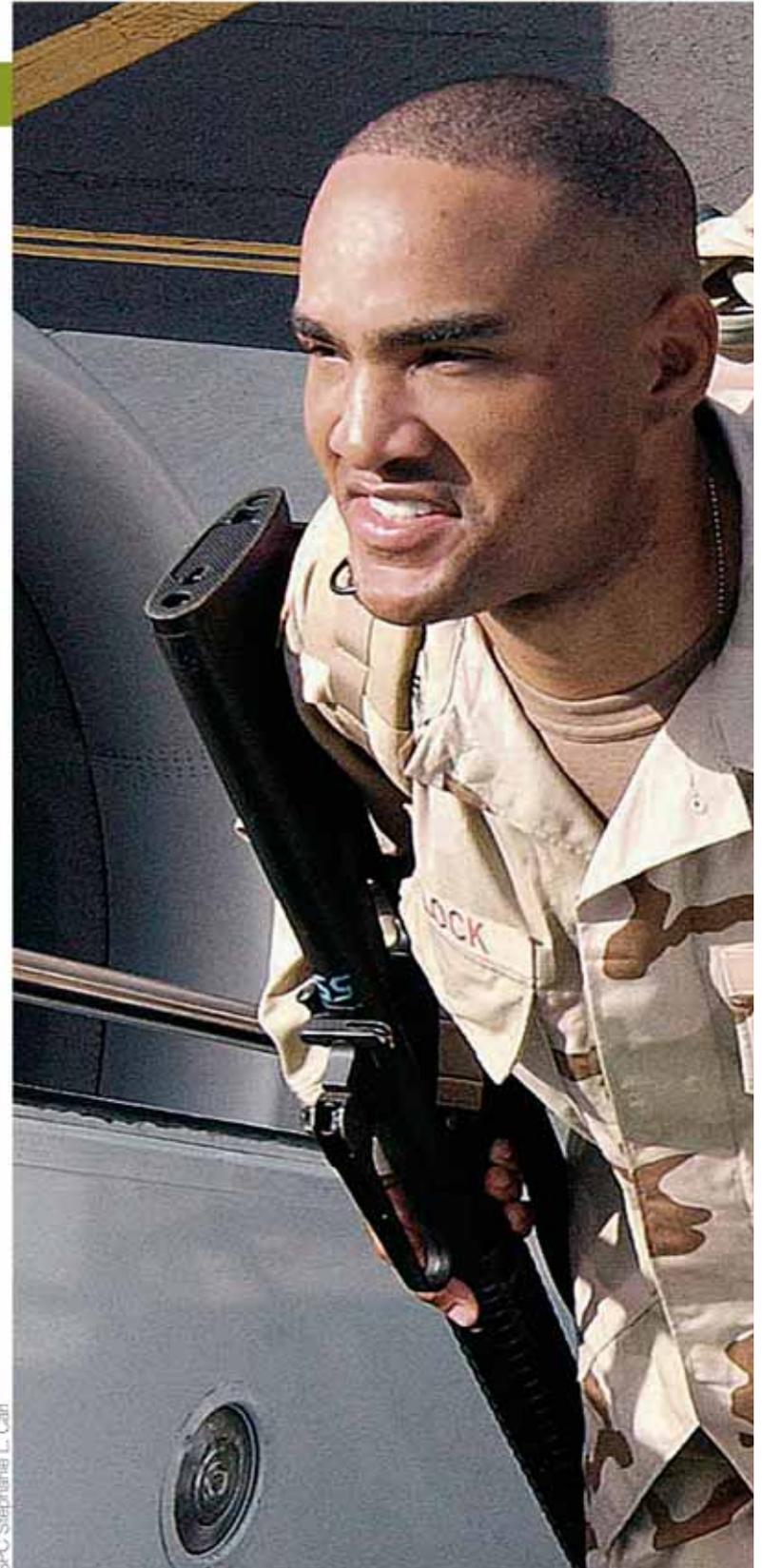
Approximately 130,000 troops ended a yearlong haul in Iraq between January and May. Their replacements numbered 110,000 — 80,000 Soldiers, 25,000 Marines, and 5,000 Air Force and Navy personnel. Some Soldiers returned to Iraq for a second tour, having returned home only six months earlier.

The rotation peaked just before the deadliest month since the war's start. From April 1 through 15, 87 U.S.

(Continued on page 10)



Beth Reece



SPC Stephania L. Carl

- ▲ Among the Soldiers deploying to Iraq as part of the Army-wide troop rotation were members of the Hawaii-based 25th Infantry Division.
- ▲ While many Soldiers were deploying, others — including SPC Kevin Melton of the Fort Hood, Texas-based 4th Inf. Div. — were returning home to their families.





Grazyna Musick

(Continued from page 8)

troops were killed in roadside attacks and firefights, and 560 were wounded.

In mid-April GEN John Abizaid, head of U.S. Central Command, requested additional troops to help fight off Islamic militants, foreign terrorists and remnants of Saddam Hussein's regime.

"Troop strength now and in the future is determined by the situation on the ground," said President George W. Bush during an April 13 press conference. "If additional forces are needed, I will send them. If additional resources are needed, we will provide them."



Airman 1st Class Daniel DeCook

▲ SSG James Smith of the Army Reserve's 257th Transportation Company holds his young son after returning from Iraq.

The Pentagon subsequently extended through July the tours of Soldiers in the 1st Armored Division.

Troops In, Troops Out

After Christmas America began welcoming home the 4th Infantry Division to Fort Hood, Texas, and Fort Carson, Colo.; the 82nd Airborne Div. to Fort Bragg, N.C.; the 1st Armored Div. to Wiesbaden, Germany; the 101st Abn. Div. to Fort Campbell, Ky.; the 3rd Armd. Cavalry Regiment to Fort Carson; and the 173rd Abn. Brigade to Vicenza, Italy.

Meanwhile, families wished luck and Godspeed to the 1st Cav. Div. from Fort Hood; the 1st Inf. Div. from Würzburg, Germany, along with the division's 1st Bde. from Fort Riley, Kan.; and the 2nd Inf. Div.'s 3rd Bde. from Fort Lewis, Wash.

Fourteen brigades replaced 17 by the rotation's end.

National Guard and Army Reserve Soldiers took a larger share of the

▲ Scenes of joyous welcome took place at Fort Hood and posts across the Army as troops returned from deployments around the world.

mission, their numbers growing from the previous 38 percent of the OIF force to 46 percent. Deployed are the 30th Brigade Combat Team of the North Carolina National Guard, the Arkansas Guard's 39th BCT, and the Washington Guard's 81st Armd. Bde.

Many Guard and Reserve Soldiers headed to the desert, while others were attached to rear-detachment commands to fill voids left by deployed Soldiers.

Layover in Kuwait

Nearly every unit en route to or departing from Iraq made a two-week stop in Kuwait. Incoming Soldiers collected equipment shipped or flown over, while outgoing Soldiers prepared equipment for shipment back to the United States.

"Troop strength now and in the future is determined by the situation on the ground," said President George W. Bush.

▶ PFC Daniel Loo and SSG Bounnan Sisana of the 1st Armored Div. were among the thousands of Soldiers whose tours in Iraq were extended by three months.

SSG Eric T. Sheiler

Third Army's Coalition Forces Land Component Command played host to as many as 250,000 Soldiers in March. Soldiers from almost every job specialty — particularly transportation and military police — were employed to help move equipment and troops in and out of the area.

CFLCC equipped transitioning Soldiers with beds, showers, tents, portable restrooms, wash racks, fuel points, dining facilities and even flatbed trucks for transporting equipment. CFLCC also assured access to medical facilities, AAFES and a post office.

"At the peak of 'the surge' we had to expand housing to 10 base camps to accommodate the large flow of forces," said CFLCC CSM John D. Sparks. "We had to put extra attention on morale issues and beef up all classes of supply."

The stop in Kuwait gave units heading to Iraq the chance to familiarize themselves with the Arabic language and local customs, and the

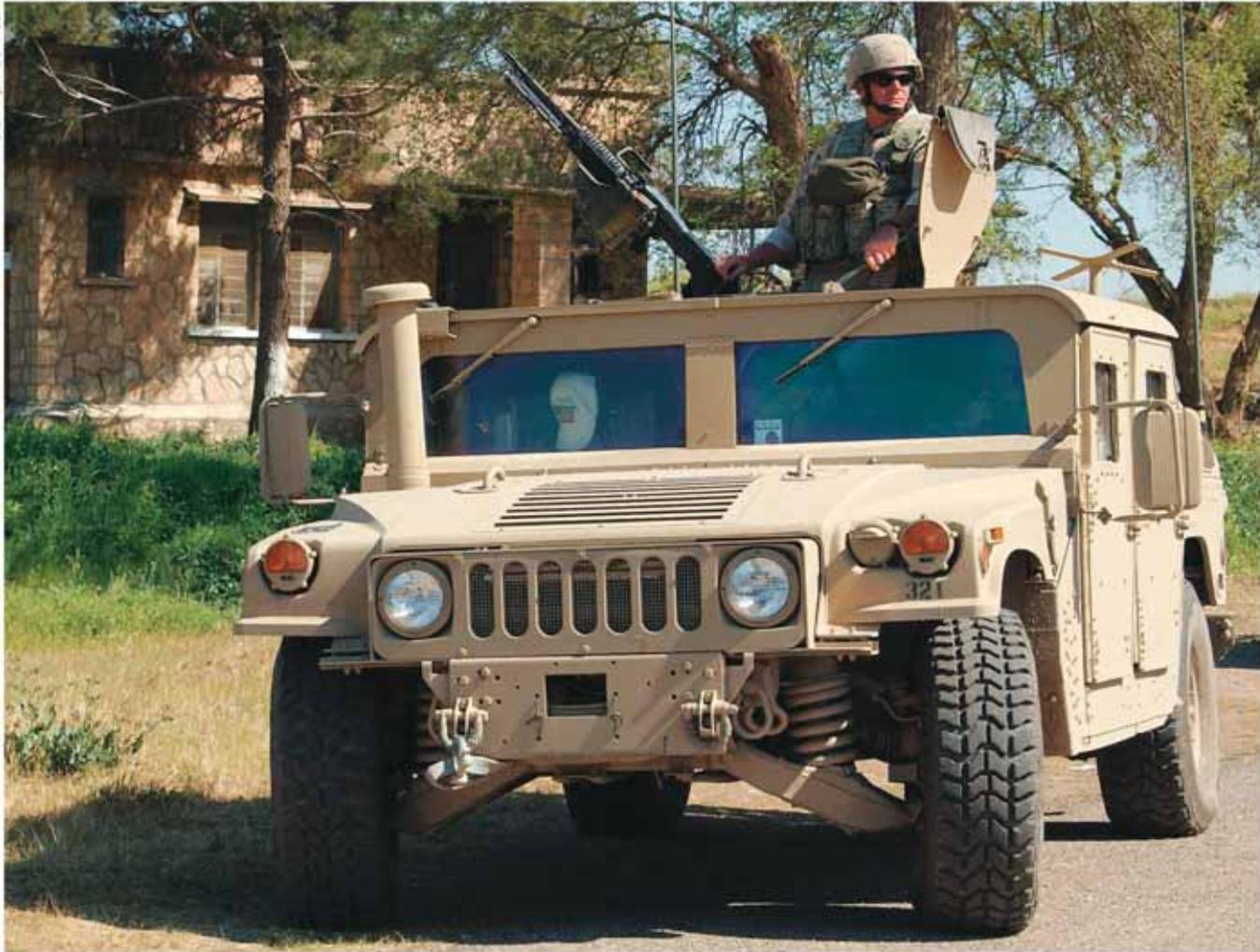
▼ The situation in Iraq remained tense despite the influx of new units, and Soldiers on duty in the war-torn country remained on high alert.



SSG Klaus Baesu

MOVING AN ARMY AT WAR





opportunity to conduct individual weapons training, improvised explosive device training and convoy live-fire training. CFLCC also helped arriving units upgrade their vehicles for combat operations.

Sparks said his Soldiers were well primed for preparing units about to embark on the estimated three-day road march into Iraq.

War Ready

The surge of firefights and attacks on convoys and base camps early this year underscored the need for war-ready troops.

Many reserve-component Soldiers preparing for deployment headed to Fort Riley, Kan., for training given by a task force of Soldiers from the Army Reserve's 3rd Brigade, 75th Division.

"We train these Soldiers hard," said MAJ Marie Ryberg, the task

force's exercise director. "We give them an austere and realistic training environment, because we're using lessons learned from Iraq."

In Iraq, guard duty and convoy escorts were heightened during the rotation to help protect units coming and going through the region. Patrols, raids and search operations continued as usual.

1SG Martin Kelley of the 4th Inf. Div.'s 10th Cavalry noted that duty in Iraq includes on-the-job training for skills not taught in standard military classes.

"I had to do a lot of stuff I never thought I'd do, and I needed to learn how to make government work," said

▲ Among the equipment pouring into Iraq as part of the troop rotation were hundreds of uparmored Humvees, like this one guarding a construction site in the village of Dibbis.

Kelley. "Before going to Iraq I had no idea how to set up a city council or rebuild a city."

Soldiers who returned from the desert advised those new to the mission to stay alert and not hesitate. The enemy in Iraq is tenacious, warned LTC Reginald Allen, commander of 1st Squadron, 10th Cav.

"Just get the mission done and come back home — don't try to make friends. When you try to be friendly you let your guard down, and that's

The surge of firefights and attacks on convoys and base camps early this year underscored the need for war-ready troops.



SPC Joseph Norton

◀ Convoys remained a frequent target of attack by Iraqi insurgents, and Soldiers maintained a constant vigil against ambush. These troops, from the 4th Inf. Div., are heading to Kuwait for movement to the States.

when bad things happen,” said SPC Gibran Jones of 1st Sqdn., 10th Cav. “You make yourself a target by looking like you don’t know what you’re doing.”

Back Home

“You throw men and women into a combat situation for a year, they’re going to need time to readjust,” said Chaplain (LTC) Gil Richardson of the 4th Inf. Div.

During Vietnam, Soldiers were plucked out of units individually and returned to the United States. Soldiers who returned in the recent rotation from Iraq and Kuwait flew home alongside those they served with. That, said CSM David List of 1st Sqdn., 10th Cav., delayed the anxieties of homecoming.

The Army also implemented the Deployment Cycle Support Program last year to help ease the reunion process between Soldiers and their families. The program ensures Soldiers receive information ranging from emotional well being and finances to health issues both before and after redeployment.

Instruction is tailored to married, single-parent and

unmarried Soldiers, as well as to spouses and children. It teaches Soldiers to notice changes in their behaviors, manage stress and work through communication barriers that may have risen during separation.

“One of the things we’ve learned from veterans of previous conflicts is that they wish somebody had told them it’s normal to feel strange and uneasy, to have anxiety or depression after coming home from war,” Richardson said. “We want to send the message to Soldiers that they’re not crazy. These reactions are normal and may last for a few weeks.”

Keeping their aggressiveness in check is also a challenge for some Soldiers, Allen said.

“We just spent a year busting into houses, knocking down doors and

arresting people. The culture respected aggressiveness, so we used it to help us,” he said. “Now that we’re not in Iraq, Soldiers have to put their aggressiveness back into perspective. They must remember that you can knock on people’s doors — you don’t have to break them down. Thanks to the reintegration training Soldiers have received, we’ve had no incidents since our return.”

The Mission Continues

In Iraq, Soldiers continue searching out insurgents and terrorists, and training the Iraqi Civil Defense Corps. They also continue building schools and hospitals, restoring cities and cultivating democracy.

Planning is already underway for the next unit rotation, and Soldiers who returned in spring are training for future deployments to Iraq.

National Guard units already alerted for deployment this year or in early 2005 include the 42nd Inf. Div. from New York, the 256th Inf. Bde. from Louisiana, the 116th Cav. Bde. from Idaho and Oregon, and the 278th Armd. Cav. Regiment from Texas. 🇺🇸



▶ Soldiers rotating into Iraq — such as these men of the 25th Inf. Div.’s 2nd Brigade Combat Team — first underwent weapons familiarization at the Udairi range complex in Kuwait.



SFC Sherree Casper



Deploying the

BIG RED ONE

Story by Margot Cornelius

IN Iraq, the once common green ivy leaf combat patches worn by 4th Infantry Division Soldiers from Fort Carson, Colo., and Fort Hood, Texas, have been replaced by big red numerals worn by 1st Inf. Div. Soldiers who deployed to Iraq from the United States and Germany.

About 12,000 members of the division known as the "Big Red One" deployed to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom in February. Together with about 4,800 National Guard Soldiers of the 30th Brigade

Margot Cornelius is the 280th Base Support Battalion public affairs officer in Schweinfurt, Germany.

◀ SGT Chad C. Edmons of the 1st Inf. Div. Band beats a bass drum during the transfer of authority in Iraq between the 1st and 4th Inf. divisions.



CPT Michael Payne

▲ GEN Gordon Sullivan (Ret.) poses with members of the 1st Bn., 77th Armor, after visiting units at Kuwait's Udairi Range.

Combat Team, they form Task Force Danger.

The 1st Inf. Div. replaced the 4th Inf. Div. in north-central Iraq, in an area known as the Sunni Triangle, which encompasses the cities of Tikrit, Baiji and Samara, as well as the Army's logistical supply area Anaconda, said MAJ Michael Anastasia, executive officer of the 1st Inf. Div.'s 2nd BCT. In Iraq the division was joined by the 25th Inf. Div.'s 2nd BCT from Hawaii.

The 1st Inf. Div. Soldiers spent several weeks in Kuwait conducting reception, staging, onward-movement and integration tasks, as well as convoy live-fire exercises, before conducting a three-day road march to northern Iraq.

A Twofold Mission

The division's mission is twofold: defeat destabilizing forces and legitimize the Iraqi government, not unlike the mission executed by 4th Inf. Div. Soldiers during their time in Iraq, division officials said. However,

▶ A scout from the division's 1st Squadron, 4th Cavalry Regt., boresights a 25mm gun before zeroing the weapon at Udairi Range.

1st Inf. Div. Soldiers have had the benefit of deliberate training, based on lessons learned by the 4th Inf. Div.

Before redeploying, 4th Inf. Div. Soldiers trained their replacements on the specifics of their mission, introduced them to points of contact in Iraq and familiarized them with the area.

Big Red One Soldiers are continuing the 4th Inf. Div.'s training of Iraq's Civil Defense Corps, teaching them to conduct cordon and search operations, clear rooms, conduct ambushes and operate traffic-control points, Anastasia said.

Another part of 1st Inf. Div.'s mission — with the critical support of

the civil-affairs units attached to the division — is to continue to rebuild and stabilize Iraqi communities. Soldiers are working closely with the Iraqi people to build schools and hospitals, and restore electricity and water, said 1st Inf. Div. spokeswoman MAJ Debra Stewart.

A civil-military operations officer is assigned to each of the division's battalions as a liaison among Soldiers and Iraqi civilians and local authorities.

"We'll remain in Iraq until our mission is completed," Stewart said. "Right now, it looks like we'll be here for a year, but we'll stay as long as it takes." ■



CPT Bill Copperroll





“All-American”

Homecoming



Story and Photos by Heike Hasenauer

FOR weeks, charter aircraft touched down at Pope Air Force Base in Fayetteville, N.C., bringing hundreds of 82nd Airborne Division Soldiers back into the waiting arms of loved ones who hadn't seen them in nearly a year.

Family and friends flooded the airfield's Green Ramp, the main Army terminal on the base, transforming it into a sea of color with vibrant foil balloons, flower bouquets and homemade welcome-home posters.

"Half of my heart was missing while you were gone," one of the posters read. "Now I'm whole again." Another carried the much broader message: "Welcome home heroes of the 82nd."

(Continued on page 18)



▲ Hundreds of 82nd Airborne Division Soldiers returned to Pope Air Force Base in Fayetteville, N.C., in March, April and May after spending nearly a year in Iraq.

◀ Children put the final touches on welcome-home posters as they wait for loved ones to disembark from a chartered airliner at Pope AFB.





Most of the 82nd Airborne Division — 12,000 of its 15,000 troops — had deployed to Iraq in increments.

(Continued from page 16)

Inside the terminal, little girls dressed in red, white and blue put finishing touches of color and glitter on a poster to welcome home a relative. A little boy dressed in pint-sized camouflage fatigues stood close to a little girl, perhaps his sister, waiting patiently for a loved one. And out in the unseasonably warm March morning, 1LT Daniel Galloway held a bouquet of roses, "one for each month we've been apart," he said about the absence of his wife, CPT Tammy Galloway, a member of the 82nd Abn. Div. staff.

She deployed to Iraq while he was in Iraq with the 3rd Battalion, 325th Infantry Regiment.

Most of the 82nd Abn. Div. — 12,000 of its 15,000 troops — had deployed to Iraq in increments, said division spokeswoman MSG Pam Smith. Additionally, 14,000 Soldiers from the XVIII

Airborne Corps and 500 from the U.S. Army Special Operations Command at Fort

Bragg had also deployed to Iraq.

By the end of May the 82nd Abn. Div.'s 1st Bde., the last brigade to deploy to Iraq, in January 2004, had returned home, just in time to participate in the post's traditional All-American Week — weeklong events, including a division run, division review, picnics and sporting events. An airfield-seizure demonstration involving 600 paratroopers jumping onto an airfield at Fort Bragg, and a memorial service at the 82nd Abn. Div. Memorial Museum to honor Soldiers who were killed in Operation Iraqi Freedom, were also on the schedule, Smith said.

Heartwarming homecomings were repeated numerous times at Army posts across America and at U.S. installations overseas, as the largest military rotation of troops since World War II was under way in March and April. Collectively, some 250,000 service members were either coming home or deploying, Army officials reported.

In long-anticipated moments of joy, many focused not on the uncertainty and anguish of the past year, but on their immediate plans for an upcoming three-week block of leave and the opportunity to get reacquainted with their families.

"When the world dials 911," said Fayetteville's Cumberland County executive George Breece, "it's the Soldiers at Fort Bragg who answer the call. We have people going and coming all the time. And every day is a welcome-home day; you can see it in the eyes of military spouses and children."

Inevitably, even with the local community's understanding and support, the war will creep into the lives of recently returned Soldiers, whether they choose to think about it or not. Many, after all, witnessed

▲ Children wait patiently at Pope AFB's Green Ramp terminal for returning moms, dads, brothers, sisters, uncles, aunts and cousins.

▲ Micheala Farris is all smiles as she anticipates her father's return.

▲ The waiting crowd breaks out in cheers as another plane loaded with returning Soldiers touches down.



▲ Adam James's mother, Pam Peschke, holds a sign welcoming him home as James's grandparents stand ready to greet him.

untold atrocities, among those the brutal deaths of comrades and friends.

Among the first returning 82nd Abn. Div. Soldiers from Iraq was Chaplain (MAJ) Scott Carson of the division's 3rd Bde., who was assigned near the city of Fallujah, a hotbed of guerilla activity about 35 miles west of Baghdad. Earlier, he'd been deployed to Afghanistan for six months.

"We were well prepared for the mission," said Carson. "We had casualties, but they were few because of the training we had." Thirty-six Soldiers of the 82nd Abn. Div. had been killed at the time this article was written — 13 were part of the 3rd Bde., which had other units attached to it. Some 160 Soldiers in the division were wounded.

Reintegration Training

Soldiers receive a reintegration briefing before they return from Iraq, Carson said. Two to three days after

they get back to Fort Bragg, they undergo additional reintegration training.

Carson presents a "normalization" briefing to explain that significant emotional issues are normal, he said. He also describes symptoms that indicate it's time to seek professional help.

SGM Jose Rodriguez of Headquarters and HQs Company, 82nd Abn. Div., returned from his fourth "real-world" deployment, having served in the Gulf during operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm, and in Bosnia and Afghanistan.

"On previous deployments, I didn't see much action," said Rodriguez, an intelligence specialist. "On this one, I saw it every day. I either saw an ambush, was in one or responded to direct fire. I saw everything — people blown up,

people dying."

Rodriguez admitted he was having some difficulty sleeping. "The other night I woke up screaming in bed. I was dreaming about being attacked by mortars. I didn't tell my wife that though."

His priorities are to "get back into

(Continued on page 20)



- ▶ Soldiers of the 82nd's 504th and 505th Infantry regiments were among those who returned to their loved ones in March.



Welcoming Soldiers Home

Story by SPC Lorie Jewell

OPERATION Tribute to Freedom, a program that tracks public-recognition events that honor Soldiers fighting the war on terrorism and offers assistance to community organizers, reported that some 3,300 Soldiers received heroes' welcomes in the last week of March.

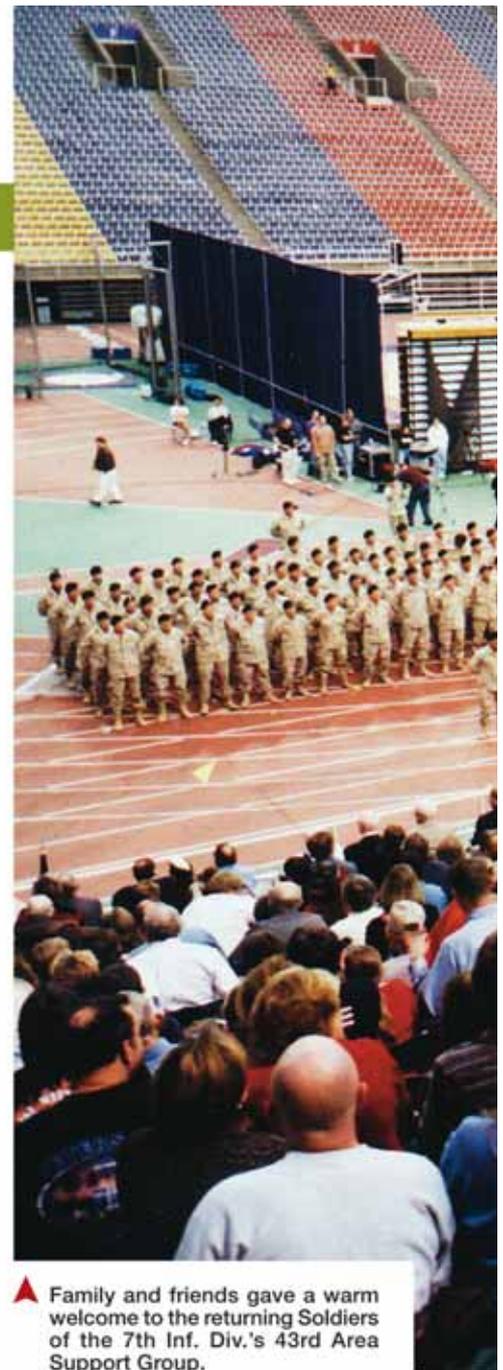
While the Defense Department announced the extension of tours for about 18,000 Soldiers in Iraq in April — putting a temporary hold on some homecomings — many welcome-back celebrations were expected to take place as planned.

In Colorado Springs, Colo., the military and civilian communities planned a parade June 5. Of roughly 12,000 area Soldiers sent to Iraq a year earlier, about 98 percent of them had returned home, said SGM Robert Harn of the 7th Infantry Division.

At Fort Hood, Texas, the USO put on a "Welcome Home" show in April for Soldiers of the 4th Inf. Div., which includes Task Force Iron Horse, responsible for

SPC Lorie Jewell writes for Army News Service at the Pentagon.

(Continued on page 22)



▲ Family and friends gave a warm welcome to the returning Soldiers of the 7th Inf. Div.'s 43rd Area Support Group.

(Continued from page 19)

a routine with my family," Rodriguez said, "and get myself back into the normal life I lived before. I want to get back to school, to earn my second Bachelor's degree, this one in intelligence studies."

"It's just good to be back," said CW4 David Curtis, of HHC, 82nd Aviation Bde. "There's some uncertainty about how long I'll be home before I go on another extended deployment. My daughters, 10 and 14, live in New England, so I just want to plan to be with them during their

vacations from school."

"If I had thought everything would be fine and safe in Iraq, I would have had a great time doing what I did, managing flight operations for an airfield near Fallujah," Curtis said. "We lost three Soldiers from the brigade."

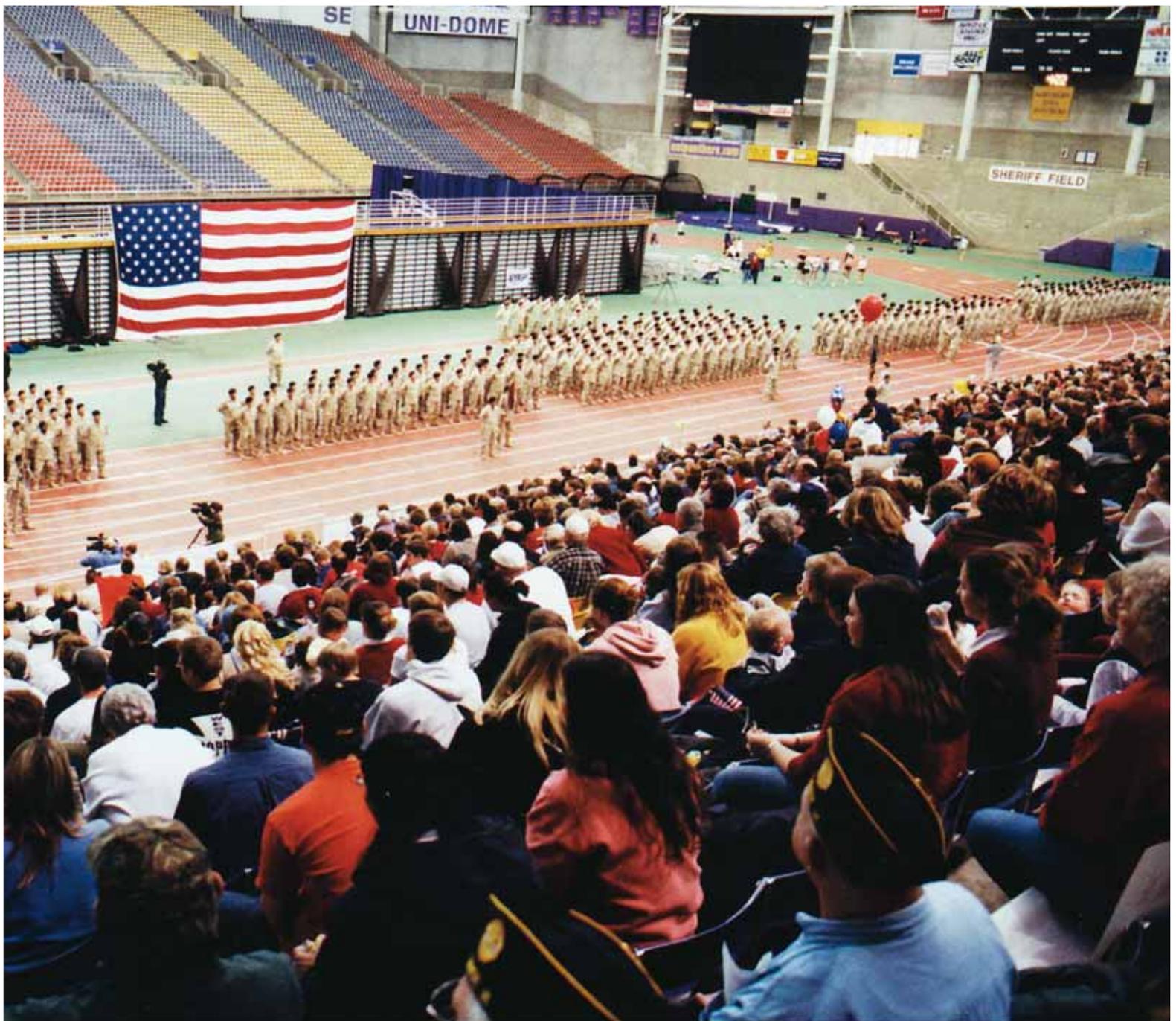
Curtis said he hadn't had a day off in eight months and was just looking forward to a Saturday. Weekends will have a whole new meaning, he said.

SFC Ronald Wylie, of HHC, 307th Engineer Bn., attended his daughter's

birthday party a day after he returned home, and his mother came up from South Carolina.

In Iraq, Wylie's unit helped restore an airfield near Baghdad that had been demolished by the Air Force when the war started. After the restoration, C-130s were able to bring in critically needed equipment for coalition forces.

Every job was critical, said LTC Eric Nantz, commander of the 1st Bn., 325th Inf. Regt. He and his Soldiers began moving by ground and air to Tullil Air Base in Iraq on day 10 of the



war. Their mission: to prevent insurgents from cutting the main supply route into Iraq used by the 3rd Inf. Div.

"Our task was to prevent the enemy from moving out of As Samara. Within 30 minutes after getting out of our trucks in that city, we were in a firefight. Within 45 minutes we were firing every weapon organic to my unit and receiving fire from RPGs, mortars and grenades," Nantz said. "Air Force F-16 fighters and Army OH-58 Kiowa Warrior helicopters reinforced the U.S.

Soldiers' firepower.

"Imagine Washington, D.C., without the president, the police force, the hospitals, electricity, or sewage disposal," Nantz said. "Then, imagine the ensuing chaos.

"Before we left Iraq, 172 schools were fixed, 128 pump stations were working, and there was a functioning sewage system," he said. "Coalition forces built a governing council, a police department and a bridge. What kind of training do Soldiers get to be able to do those things?"

"We did combat operations at the same time we took in over 500 Fedayeen prisoners. And then we turned that off in our minds and did sewage removal," Nantz said.

"Sure, there will be scars. But there'll be fewer because we deployed and redeployed as a unit. Buddies who have been there help each other because they understand."

Nantz credited families, too. "We all volunteered to do this. Our wives and kids didn't. They're also heroes," he said. 🇺🇸



(Continued on page 22)

the December 2003 capture of Saddam Hussein. Among the celebrities who were expected to join in the celebration were Wayne Newton, Jessica Simpson, Drew Carey, Billy Ray Cyrus and the Dallas Cowboys Cheerleaders.

Members of the Family Support Group for the 110th Maintenance Company, a Massachusetts National Guard unit, started planning their homecoming celebration in November 2003. With proceeds from several fundraisers, the group hired a caterer and disc jockey, and arranged for

◀ A large U.S. flag hangs above an Iowa City shopping mall to mark the return of the Iowa Guard's 109th Med. Co.

Civil Affairs Soldiers Come Home

Story and Photos by SFC Deborah Robichaux

WHEN Soldiers from the 304th Civil Affairs Brigade redeployed from Operation Iraqi Freedom, coalition officials and Iraqis alike knew the Soldiers' shoes would be hard to fill.

Mobilized from Pennsylvania in February 2003, the brigade led and supported missions in various places throughout the world. While the majority of its activities were centered in Iraq and Kuwait to support the 82nd Airborne Division and 1st Marine Div., detachments traveled to Germany, Jordan, Qatar and Turkey.

SFC Deborah Robichaux was assigned to the Combined Forces Land Component Command Public Affairs Office when this article was written.

"You have all accomplished tremendous things," said brigade commander COL William Beard during an awards ceremony. "As individuals and as a unit you have been out there getting things done."

The brigade's 2nd Battalion performed more than 500 missions in support of the 800th Military Police Brigade, helping to reorganize government and services in war-torn

regions of Iraq. Soldiers performed humanitarian aid, assisted in the reformation of town councils and public services, and mentored, equipped and trained Iraqi police forces.

Beard said that hardships endured

▶ Members of the 304th were awarded one Purple Heart, 37 Bronze Stars for Merit and 59 Army Commendation medals.



children's entertainment. They also put together gift bags containing items ranging from coupons for free ice cream cones to vouchers for overnight stays at a local bed and breakfast.

Residents of Bangor, Maine, greet plane-loads of Soldiers coming into the international airport for brief layovers. When the community's organizers learn of incoming troops, they start making phone calls, sending some 100 greeters to the airport to offer hugs, cakes, cookies and free use of donated cell phones.

Businesses, civic groups and government leaders all have shown their support to returning troops. This year's Kentucky Derby Festival paid

tribute to members of the state's National Guard, who returned in March, with Derby T-shirts and caps. In Utah, the Hilton Salt Lake City Center threw a welcome-home party for Soldiers of the Utah National Guard's 141st Military Intelligence Battalion. And a 12-square-foot cake fashioned into an American flag awaited members of the Florida National Guard's 1st Bn., 124th Inf. when they arrived home.

Such tributes do more than just make Soldiers and their families feel appreciated for their service and sacrifices, said Iowa Guard spokesman LTC Greg Hapgood.

"Especially in small towns, people

really take ownership of their Soldiers," he said. "There's no way they're not going to do something for them."

While most of the homecomings have been for Soldiers returning from Iraq and Afghanistan, some were for Soldiers returning from elsewhere in the world, including Central Europe and Africa.

Some 100 Soldiers of the Minnesota National Guard's 136th Inf. were greeted by hundreds of well-wishers and a police escort upon their return from Bosnia, where they performed a wide range of duties, such as distributing school supplies and gathering up mines and other weaponry. 🇺🇸



▲ The 304th and other civil-affairs units were responsible for a variety of humanitarian-aid initiatives — including rebuilding schools and providing students with clothes and school supplies.

by unit members during the past year have made every individual a seasoned Soldier, deserving of a proper homecoming.

"It's not how you start the race, it's how you finish," Beard said. "As seasoned Soldiers, unit members are a valuable asset, with skills and experi-

ences that must be passed on through the training of younger Soldiers."

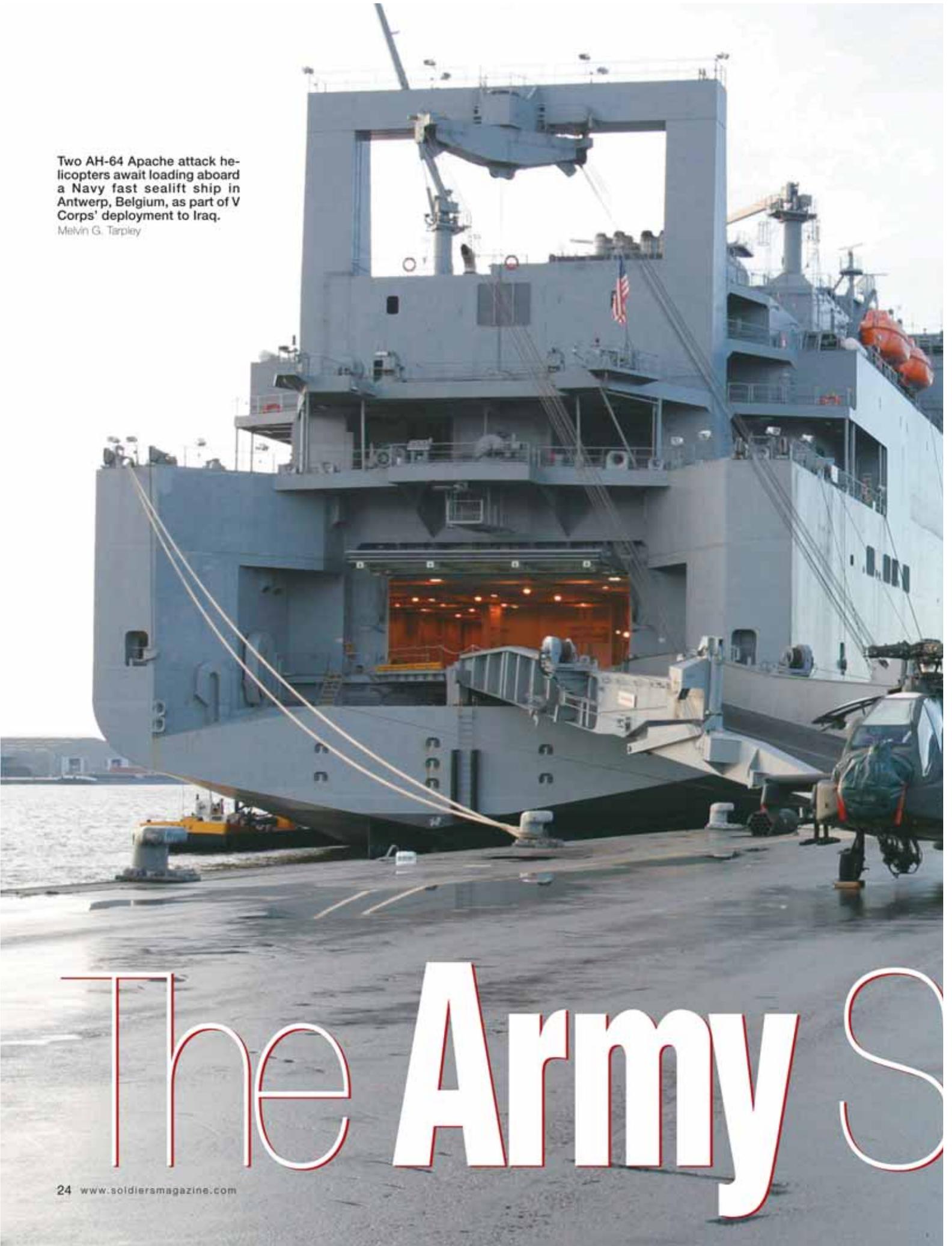
Though every Soldier played an integral part in the unit's overall success, some were recognized for their individual accomplishments. In all, one Purple Heart, 37 Bronze Stars for merit and 59 Army Commendation Medals

were awarded.

Pride should be the common denominator of what all members of the 304th take home, said BG Jack C. Stultz, deputy commander of the 377th Theater Support Command. "I'd be willing to go to war with you anytime." 🇺🇸



Two AH-64 Apache attack helicopters await loading aboard a Navy fast sealift ship in Antwerp, Belgium, as part of V Corps' deployment to Iraq.
Melvin G. Tarpley



The Army S

THE biggest shipments of American military equipment in a half century have led to a record for Surface Deployment and Distribution Command port cargo-handling operations.

In early March, SDDC transporters simultaneously worked cargo operations on four large, medium-speed, roll-on/roll-off vessels, or LMSRs, at Ash Shuaiba, Kuwait.

Three of the giant ships were discharging and a fourth was loading. In addition, a fast sealift ship was

Martin Weteling is a public affairs specialist with the 598th Transportation Group.

also discharging cargo at the port. The U.S. Navy's Military Sealift Command operates the five ships.

All of the cargoes were associated with Operation Iraqi Freedom.

"This is the largest number of LMSRs ever to work simultaneously in one port," said COL Victoria Leignadier, commander of the Netherlands-based 598th Transportation Group. "It is the largest number of MSC ships ever to work in the port of Ash Shuaiba.

"I am extremely proud of these Soldiers. All the credit goes to the outstanding transportation officers and NCOs I have out there making it happen day after



Ships Out

Story by Martin Weteling



(Continued from page 25)

day. Cargo operations are being conducted around the clock," said Leignadier.

The five ship operations involved the aggregate movement of 918,000 square feet of cargo, said COL Glen Joerger, deputy director of operations at U.S. Transportation Command. "That's the equivalent of 16 football fields."

In all, SDDC was involved in 300 vessel operations between December and May. The shipments are the biggest since World War II.

The bulk of the cargo moving through Ash Shuaiba belonged to Army and Marine Corps units en route to Iraq to replace military units that redeployed to their home stations. The arriving equipment belongs to the 1st Infantry Division, the 1st Cavalry Div., III Corps and the 1st Marine Expeditionary Group.

Outbound cargoes came from such units as the 1st Armored Div., the 101st Airborne Div., the 82nd Airborne Div. and the 4th Inf. Div.

Both active Army and Reserve Soldiers augment the work of the 598th in Kuwait. Reserve units assigned to the group include the 1181st and 1174th Transportation Terminal Battalions and the 91st, 388th, 509th and 1188th Trans. Detachments. 

USAREUR's Movers

Story by MAJ Mark Wright

IN DECEMBER 2003, U.S. military agencies worldwide combined efforts to organize and control the movement of some 42,000 Soldiers and more than 27,000 pieces of equipment both into and out of Iraq and Afghanistan, in support of operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom.

Equipment had to be moved simultaneously through multiple countries, each with its own rules and regulations regarding air, rail, barge and commercial truck movement.

U.S. Army, Europe, commander GEN B.B. Bell gave the commanding general of the Germany-based 21st Theater Support Command overall responsibility in Europe for the deployment and redeployment of all USAREUR forces to and from Iraq and Afghanistan.

"A task this large requires cooperation and teamwork from dozens of agencies and many times that number of people," said 21st TSC commander MG Bennie Williams. Every member of the team was a critical player in moving more than 75 percent of

USAREUR's total force.

Among the organizations outside USAREUR were the Surface Deployment and Distribution Command, Installation Management Agency-Europe, the Air Force, the Defense Logistics Agency, German Joint Support Command, Coalition Joint Task Force-7, Contracting Command and many others.

Representatives from Germany, Austria, Italy, Belgium and the Netherlands helped clear the way for the massive amounts of USAREUR equipment that flowed through their countries.

As requirements changed in the OIF theater of operations, the 21st TSC deployed approximately 30 percent of its own uniformed strength in addition to accomplishing its originally assigned mission. Additional USAREUR units, including the 69th Air Defense Artillery Brigade, joined the effort.

During the original build-up of forces for OIF the 21st TSC pushed out, in a little over six weeks, approximately 18,000 vehicles and cargo for V Corps Headquarters and separate brigades, the 3rd Corps Support

MAJ Mark Wright works in the 21st Theater Support Command Public Affairs Office in Germany.



▲ Members of the USAREUR-based 1st Transportation Movement Control Agency board an Iraq-bound aircraft.

Command and the 1st Armored Division.

The 21st TSC was called upon to move some 4,000 pieces of equipment per week to support the USAREUR relief in place for OIF II. The unit reviewed all of its missions and assigned tasks to subordinate units and outside agencies to achieve proper command and control at each stage of the various movements.



1st TMCA

Each of the command's five brigade-size elements — the 1st Transportation Movement Control

Agency, 200th Materiel Management Center, 37th Trans. Command, the 29th Support Group and the General Support Center-Europe — specializes in various methods of high- and low-level logistical operations.

The 1st TMCA is USAREUR's movement controller. It develops transportation infrastructure, working with host-nation authorities to orchestrate the theater transportation plan for movement of equipment by train, barge, airplane and truck.

The 1st TMCA developed a theater transportation plan for the movement of all USAREUR equipment and the synchronized movement of all forces during the operation. It sent elements to coordinate with SDDC deployment support teams to help each unit determine such vital

information about its own equipment as height, weight and physical dimensions.

The 1st TMCA then used these data to determine what assets would be needed to move equipment in the time allotted.



29th Support Group

The 29th Sprt. Grp. provides combat-service support to USAREUR and is the 21st TSC's only deployable support group, with two multi-functional support battalions and an aviation intermediate maintenance battalion under its control.



► A civilian GSC-E representative discusses vehicle-loading operations in Antwerp with a member of the 37th TRANSCOM.

The 29th Sprt. Grp. coordinated with IMA-Europe to establish operations and assume command and control at some 13 rail sites in Germany, as well as seven installation staging areas and marshalling areas for three barge sites.

At the ISAs and marshalling areas 29th Sprt. Grp. personnel inspected, maintained and prepared equipment for shipment. Working hand in hand with the SDDC, they managed traffic flow and the safe loading of equipment onto barges.

Hundreds of barges, rail cars and commercial line-haul trucks moved the military cargo to the port of Antwerp, Belgium, where all traffic arrived into or departed Europe.



37th TRANSCOM

The 37th TRANSCOM has two main missions — transportation and military-police operations. Its personnel coordinated and supervised 21st TSC efforts at the port of Antwerp. Their activities complemented the work of the SDDC personnel loading Navy transport ships at the port.



200th MMC

The 200th MMC is the command's center for management of theater-level supply and repair parts. Its personnel met critical supply requirements, providing uniforms, body armor and other equipment for the deploying soldiers.

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The GSC-E

The General Support Center-Europe is the fifth brigade-sized element under the 21st TSC. At its repair and refurbishment centers virtually any piece of equipment in the Army's inventory can be fixed.

The GSC-E was involved in all phases of the operation, working early on to complete the installation of cab reinforcement kits and .50-caliber ring mounts to deploying 5-ton trucks. Its personnel also performed maintenance at the port of Antwerp, so vehicles could be loaded into ships on schedule.

Teams were also sent to Kuwait to assess equipment from returning units, so that vehicles requiring major overhaul work could be identified early on and shipped directly from Antwerp to repair facilities.

In April 2004 the 21st TSC continued its operations for the relief

in place of OIF II. The carefully synchronized operation resulted in the movement of some 15,000 Soldiers and more than 70,000 tons of equipment belonging to the 1st Infantry Div. and other Europe-based units that redeployed from Iraq.

Simultaneously, more than 27,000 Soldiers and more than 150,000 tons of equipment were deployed from Germany-based units.

"This operation, in all its complexities and with all its challenges, has succeeded without a serious injury and with all goals met or exceeded," said Williams. "This was the result of the combined efforts and teamwork of units, agencies and host nations supporting our Army team.

"They synchronized their movements and operations for the successful deployment and redeployment of virtually all of USAREUR," he said. ■

"A task this large requires cooperation and teamwork from dozens of agencies and many times that number of people."



▲ Soldiers work to load a UH-60 Black Hawk aboard a waiting sealift ship. More than 75 percent of USAREUR's total force was moved.





Keeping Up the Pace

Story and Photos by Steve Harding

WHILE all Americans can take immense pride in the success of the recent worldwide movement of the nation's military might, the Soldiers of the Army Reserve's 1192nd Transportation Terminal Brigade have a much more personal interest — they've played a major role in the operation's resounding success.

Based in New Orleans, La., the unit specializes in getting vital equipment to and from ports and on and off the huge cargo ships that form the basis of the nation's military sealift capability.

It's a job at which the 1192nd has excelled. Since being called to active duty in January 2003 the 1192nd has worked at 15 ports across the country. As of mid-April the unit had discharged or loaded 158 ships carrying a total of more than 19 million square feet of cargo. The 1192nd has also loaded or discharged almost 20,000 commercial trucks and more than 26,000 rail cars.

Nor is the job over for the 1192nd. At the time of *Soldiers'* visit, unit members were unloading the large sealift ship USNS *Sisler* at the port of Jacksonville, Fla., while simulta-

neously preparing to move on to a new mission in Corpus Christi, Texas.

Called to Duty

Like many National Guard and Reserve units, the 1192nd was called to active duty as war with Iraq loomed early in 2003, said LTC Harold Sams, commander of the brigade's Headquarters and HQs. Detachment.

"The unit was brought onto active duty for annual training in January 2003 and was formally mobilized in March 2003," he said. "Because we knew we were going to be called up, we started preparing for mobilization back in March 2002. When the time actually came we moved through the mobilization station very quickly and were able to get right to the job."

And that first job was a huge one, said COL Maynard Sanders, the 1192nd's commander.

"We deployed to Corpus Christi, where we were tasked with moving the 4th Infantry Division to Kuwait. The war couldn't start until the

▶ A civilian dock worker drives a vehicle and its trailer off the USNS *Sisler* at the start of the offload process in Jacksonville.







division arrived in theater, so there was a lot of pressure on us to step up and get the job done," Sanders said.

"When the 4th Inf. Div. commander told us, 'We're in your hands,' we took it seriously. We knew these Soldiers were going right into combat, and we wanted them to have everything they needed for that mission. And that's exactly what we gave them," he said.

A Nationwide Mission

Even as it was embarking the 4th Inf. Div., the 1192nd was being tasked with similar missions at ports throughout the country, Sams said.

"Our area of responsibility shifted with the needs of the Army, with missions at ports on both coasts and the Gulf of Mexico," he said. "Since our total manning is only about 100 people, we handled the mission by forming teams of 15 to 20 Soldiers to supervise operations at each port."

"We knew these Soldiers were going right into combat, and we wanted them to have everything they needed for that mission."

Corpus Christi and Beaumont, Texas, have been the unit's busiest assignments thus far — a total of some 38 ships and nearly 24,000 pieces of equipment at the former and, augmenting the 842nd Trans. Battalion, 34 ships and 21,000 pieces of equipment at the latter. In Jacksonville the 1192nd has loaded or discharged 28 ships and handled some 14,000 pieces of equipment. Other ports at which the unit has worked include Charleston, S.C.; Wilmington, N.C.; Savannah, Ga.; Long Beach and San Diego, Calif.; Philadelphia, Pa.; Norfolk, Va.; and Tacoma, Wash.

"We sent teams all over the country, and some of the teams were headed by E-4s instead of E-7s," Sanders said. "These kids are just amazing, and they do whatever it takes to get the job done."

Most of the unit's operations at the various ports have been joint efforts, said MAJ Douglas Athey, the 1192nd's operations officer. The Navy's

▲ The *Sisler's* tightly packed vehicle decks make ground guides a necessity while maneuvering a vehicle toward the ship's ramp.

▶ A multi-ton tanker truck flies effortlessly off the ship's upper deck, courtesy of a huge crane that will lower the vehicle onto the pier.

Military Sealift Command owns and operates the ships; the Marine Corps often provides personnel when a particular ship is carrying Marine equipment; and the Coast Guard provides security both ashore and afloat. Added to that mix, Athey said, are National Guard Soldiers from Puerto Rico who provide security aboard the ships, local law-enforcement agencies in each city, as well as civilian stevedores, truckers and railway workers.

Every time the unit goes into a different port it has to first do an assessment, Athey said. The Soldiers look at the port's facilities, organization and labor force.

One of the challenges the 1192nd faces is the differing condition of port facilities, he said. For example, some of the ports have vast areas of paved hardstand where vehicles can be efficiently massed before being loaded or after being unloaded, while the



MOVING THE ARMY TO VICTORY



“When it all comes together — all the conditions are right, the planning is right and everyone is in sync — everything runs smoothly and the equipment gets where it needs to go.”

assembly areas at other ports are not paved.

“Unpaved assembly areas can present a lot of problems when you’re trying to load or unload vehicles from a ship,” Athey said. “When it rains the areas turn to mud, and that complicates everything.”

Complications and Choreography

Whatever the complications at a particular port, the loading and unloading of a vessel always has to be a well-choreographed event, Athey said.

“It’s our job to plan for everything to ensure that things run smoothly, because getting the equipment where it needs to go is vital, whether it’s going

▼ A Soldier guides an Iraq-bound uparmored Humvee off its delivery truck so it can be driven aboard the waiting sealift ship.

forward to the combat zone or back to its home installation,” he said.

“The importance of planning is especially obvious when we’re loading a vessel. The units identify ‘force packages’ that they want loaded in a certain order. For example, the first force package might be engineer equipment for crossing rivers or eliminating obstacles. The idea is that each force package is put aboard the ship in exactly the order that it will be needed when it arrives in-theater, so that things roll off the ship ready to move out,” Athey said.

To ensure that vehicles leave the ship in the correct order once they reach their destination, the 1192nd prepares a detailed load plan for the vessel, said MAJ Joe Woll, the officer in charge of the 1192nd’s activities in Jacksonville. Resembling a builder’s blueprint of each of the ship’s cargo decks, the load plan shows exactly

where each vehicle and piece of equipment will go.

“Each vessel has its own personality, and each loading and unloading has unique challenges,” Woll said. “For example, we’ll have a load plan for a specific ship but when the ship comes in, something will be different and we have to adjust to the new conditions. Some of the operations go fairly quickly, some take longer.

“When it all comes together — all the conditions are right, the planning is right and everyone is in sync — everything runs smoothly and the equipment gets where it needs to go,” he said.

Jacksonville Operations

A prime example of “everything coming together” occurred in Jacksonville in late April.

The sealift ship USNS *Sisler*





▶ Dozens of the more than 200 vehicles awaiting loading sit on the Jacksonville pier. The *Sisler* also took aboard 31 Iraq-bound cargo containers.

arrived at the Florida city's Blount Island marine terminal on April 29, carrying vehicles and equipment belonging to the returning 82nd and 101st Airborne divisions. Forty-eight of the 1192nd's Soldiers — augmented by members of the 528th Transportation Battalion, an active-duty unit from Fort Story, Va. — were tasked to supervise the unloading of the ship, its cleaning, and the loading of vehicles and equipment bound for Iraq.

The offload phase of the operation involved driving Humvees and other vehicles off the ship via its stern ramp, as well as lifting cargo containers and other vehicles off the upper decks with huge shore-side cranes. Bar-code labels attached to each vehicle and piece of equipment allowed Soldiers of the 1192nd's Cargo Documentation Section to accurately identify and track each object.

"That allows us to prioritize the shipment of vehicles and equipment," Woll said. "For example, here in Jacksonville the 82nd Airborne's materiel has priority on leaving the port, so our automated cargo tracking allows us to know every minute how much of the division's equipment has come off the ship, where it's parked and where it is in the dispatch process."

The system also allowed the 1192nd to keep the units up to date on where their equipment was, its condition and its expected arrival date

at home station, Woll said.

Once off the ship the vehicles and cargo containers were subject to search and examination by U.S. Customs agents — assisted by Soldiers — to ensure that no drugs, illegal weapons or other contraband were being smuggled into the country. Department of Agriculture inspectors also checked the offloaded materiel for foreign plants, seeds or insects that might have been hitching a ride.

"If a vehicle doesn't pass the agricultural inspection, it's sent through a pressure wash to steam clean it," Woll said. "Cargo containers found to be carrying sand or dirt that might be home to potentially harmful plants or seeds have to be cleaned before they're released for shipment to the home station."

As soon as all the returning materiel was ashore, the vehicles and cargo containers waiting on the pier for shipment to Iraq began going

▶ Soldiers help clean a just-offloaded cargo container. The containers are inspected and cleaned as needed to prevent the arrival of foreign plants, seeds or insects.

aboard the *Sisler*. Soldiers scanned each item's barcode before it went up the ramp or was lifted aboard by crane, and in less than 72 hours the huge sealift vessel was ready to sail.

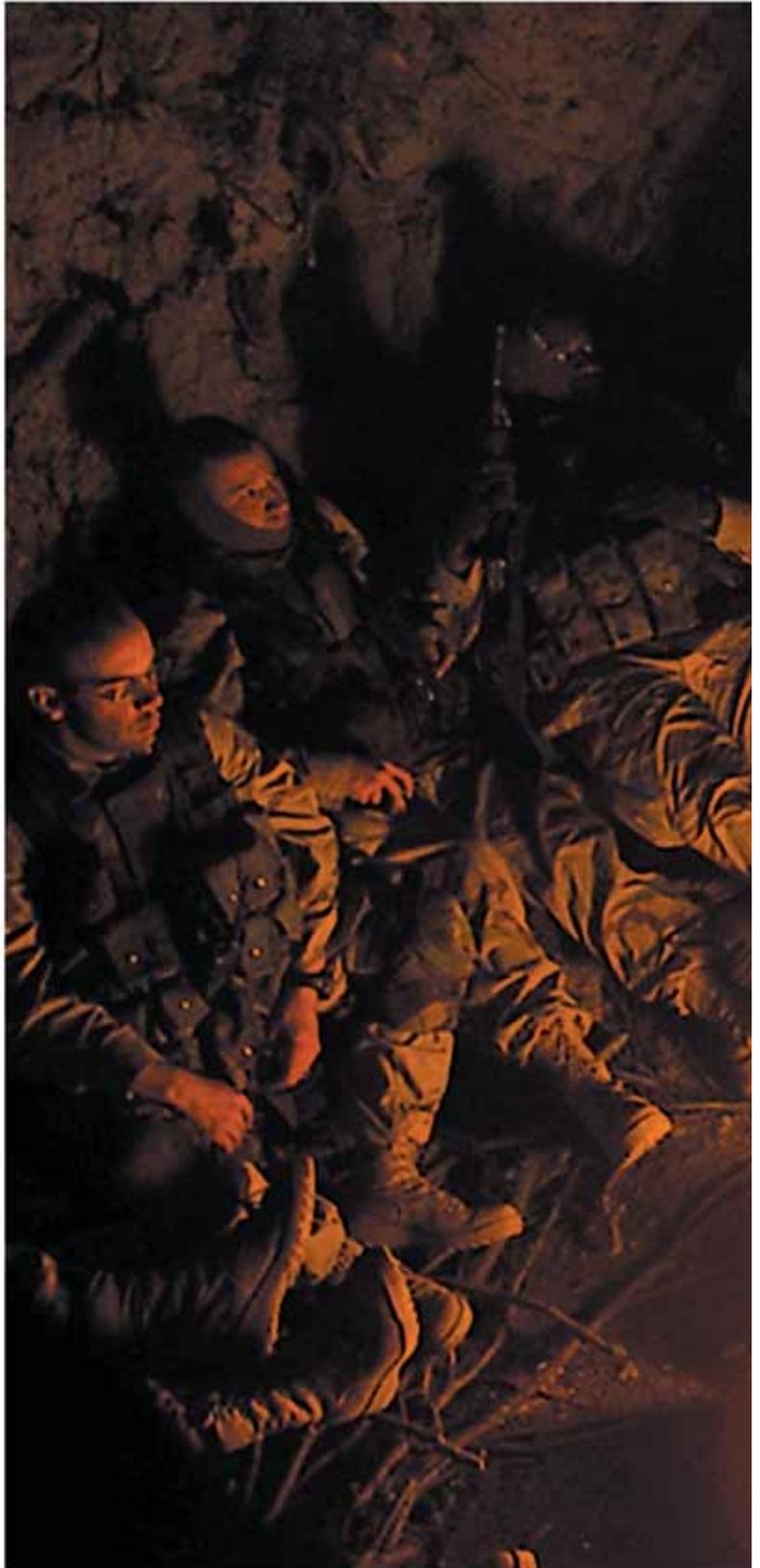
In all, some 1,425 vehicles and pieces of equipment and 377 cargo containers were unloaded from the *Sisler* during its brief stay in Jacksonville, while another 216 vehicles and pieces of equipment and 31 containers were loaded aboard. Soldiers of the 1192nd managed and supervised the entire process, displaying what their commander called "their usual professionalism."

"Here in Jacksonville — and everywhere else they've served in the past 14 months — these Soldiers have really risen to the challenge," Sanders said. "They've touched just about every piece of equipment that went to war in Iraq, and they played a pivotal role in our victory there and in our ongoing operations. I'm very proud of these Soldiers, and they can be very proud of themselves." ❧

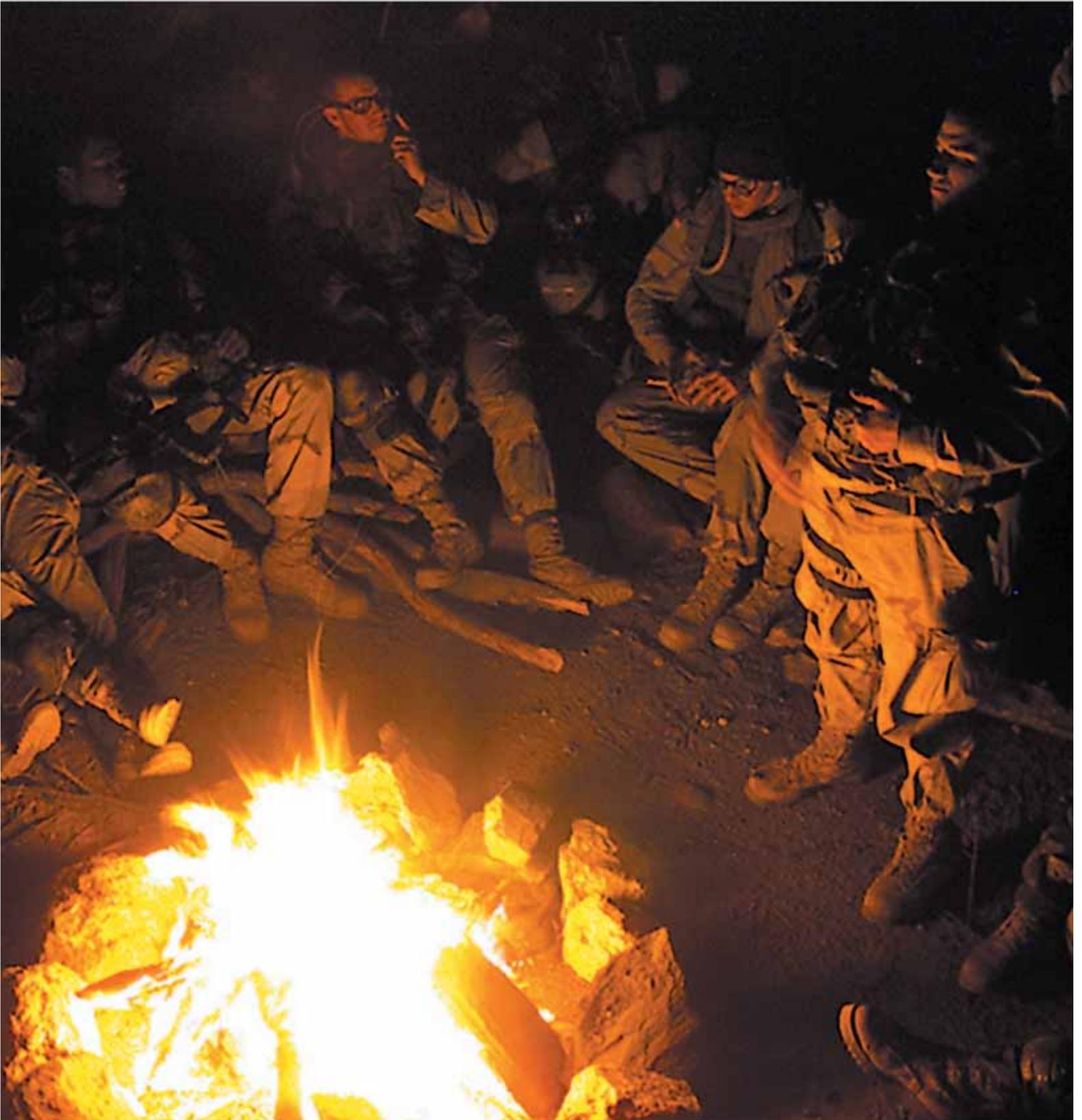


Sharp Shooters

FORT Hood, Texas' 4th Public Affairs Detachment spent more than 10 months in Afghanistan supporting Operation Enduring Freedom. SGT Greg Heath, a photojournalist with the unit and an Intermediate Photojournalism Course graduate, shares his images highlighting the Soldiers deployed to that region of the world. 🇺🇸



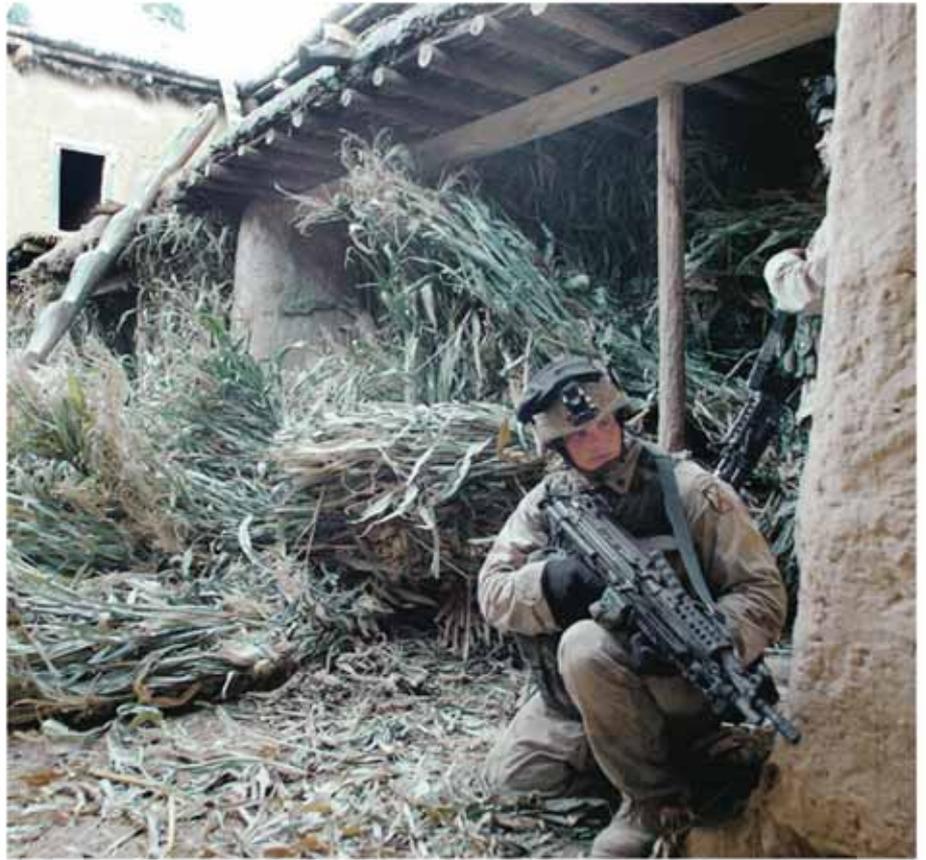
A 10th Mountain Division Soldier stands vigilant inside the perimeter of Firebase Comanche in Afghanistan's Ghazni province.



Soldiers relax after scaling a mountain to reach their objective in Nuristan Province.

Sharp Shooters

- ▶ (Right) A 10th Mtn. Div. Soldier provides security as members of his unit search an Afghan compound in Nuristan Province during Operation Mountain Resolve.
- ▶ (Far right) PFC Jeremy Bartosic from the division's Company B, 2nd Battalion, 87th Infantry Regiment, provides security while fellow Soldiers search the large village of Surobi.
- ▼ (Below) 82nd Airborne Div. Soldiers load onto a CH-47 Chinook helicopter at Bagram Air Base to kick off Operation Warrior Sweep in southeast Afghanistan.
- ▼ (Below Right) CPL Jesse Burleigh from Co. A, 307th Engineer Bn., searches through hay and debris for weapon caches during Operation Warrior Sweep in southeast Afghanistan.





ArmyHistory in July

Beyond its role in defense of the nation, the Army and its Soldiers have contributed to medicine, technology, exploration, engineering and science. The milestones listed in this monthly chronology offer only a small glimpse of that proud story of selfless service. It is also your story.

For more about Army history, go to www.ArmyHistoryFnd.org and www.Army.mil/cmh.

1700s

1775 — At the main patriot camp near Cambridge, Mass., George Washington assumes command as general and commander in chief of the Continental Army, on July 3. He issues General Order 1, announcing the authority of Congress over the assembled forces.

1775 — Birthday of the Army Medical Department and Medical Corps. On July 27 the Continental Congress establishes an Army hospital with a director and chief physician.

1777 — On July 31 Congress commissions France's Marquis de Lafayette. At 19 he is the youngest general officer ever commissioned into the American Army.

1800s

1838 — Congress establishes the Corps of Topographical Engineers to lead Army exploration and mapping expeditions throughout the nation.

1846 — At the start of the War with Mexico, COL Steven Kearny's Army of the West had marched from Fort Leavenworth, Kan., arriving at Bent's Fort, Colo., by July 29. From there they will march to seize Santa Fe, N.M.

1861 — On July 21 Union forces attempt to capture the rail town of Manassas, Va., but are routed by Confederate forces.

1862 — on July 12 President Abraham Lincoln approves the act of Congress creating the Army

Medal of Honor. In March 1863 six recently released survivors of the Andrew's Raid behind Confederate lines are the first Army recipients.

1863 — Battle of Gettysburg. In a battle raging from July 1 through July 3 the Army of the Potomac defeats the invading Confederate forces. The battle is a turning point of the Civil War.

1866 — President Andrew Johnson signs a Congressional act on July 28 establishing four black infantry regiments (38th, 39th, 40th and 41st Infantry) and two cavalry regiments (9th and 10th Cavalry).

1898 — Army commander in chief LTG Nelson A. Miles on July 25 lands an Army expeditionary force at Guanica, Puerto Rico. It is the last time the Army's senior general commands troops on a campaign.



1814 Battle of Chippewa, Canada. On July 5 BG Winfield Scott's attacking troops refuse to waiver under heavy shelling from British artillery. As the brigade advances steadily against the enemy line, the surprised British commander exclaims, "Those are regulars, by God!"



1947

By COL Raymond K. Bluhm Jr. (Ret.)

An officer of the Army History Foundation and co-author of "The Soldier's Guide" and "The Army."

1900s

1900 — COL Emerson H. Liscum, commander of the 9th Inf. Regiment, is fatally wounded on July 13 during a battle at Tientsin, China. His last words, "Keep up the fire," become the regimental motto.

1917 — "Lafayette, we are here." These words, spoken by COL C.E. Stanton of the American Expeditionary Forces staff at a July 4 ceremony at the Marquis' tomb, honor France's contribution to the American Revolution and America's commitment to its allies following U.S. entry into World War I.

1918 — Aisne-Marne Campaign. The U.S. 1st and 2nd divisions spearhead a successful Allied attack, forcing the Germans back to the Vesle River and ending the threat to Paris.

1932 — Unemployed World War I veterans gather in Washington, D.C., demanding early payment of their bonuses, which would help ease the hardship caused by the Great Depression. Regular Army troops are called out to disperse the petitioners on July 28.

1940 — The armored force is formed under BG Adna R. Chaffe. On July 15 the 1st Armored Div. at Fort Knox, Ky., and 2nd Armd. Div. at Fort Benning, Ga., are constituted as part of the force.

1942 — The Army takes transportation responsibilities from the Quartermaster Corps and establishes a new Transportation Corps.



1943 — Operation Husky. Units of the 82nd Airborne Div. conduct the first major Army parachute combat assault on the island of Sicily. It is followed by amphibious landings by U.S. Seventh Army and British forces.

1944 — The U.S. 77th Inf. Div. lands on July 23 to assist in heavy fighting to capture the island of Guam. The island is finally secured in August.

1947 — On July 26 President Harry S. Truman issues Executive Order 9981, desegregating the U.S. armed forces.

1950 — Task Force Smith. LTC Brad Smith's task force from the 24th Inf. Div. is rushed from Japan to stop the invasion of South Korea by troops from the North. Without adequate weapons, the task force is outflanked and driven back.

1958 — Operation Bluebat. Army Task Force 201, composed mainly of 187th Battle Group, joins Marines on July 19 to stop civil war in Lebanon. One soldier is killed and one wounded before all U.S. forces are withdrawn.

1962 — Birthday of the Military Intelligence Corps. Army General Order 38, dated July 1, establishes an Intelligence and Security Branch, which is renamed in 1967.

1980

The Army adopts the M1 Abrams as its main battle tank.

1965 — On July 1 the Army inactivates the 11th Air Assault Div. at Fort Benning. In its place stands the Army's first airmobile unit, the 1st Cav. Div., whose colors have been brought from South Korea.

1976 — On July 7 the U.S. Military Academy enrolls its first female cadets. Of the 119 women who enter, 62 finish and are commissioned in 1980.



2003

2000s

2002 — Soldiers of the 1st Inf. Div. at Fort Riley, Kan., begin training as firefighters before deploying to fight forest fires in Oregon.

2003 — Command of the U.S. Central Command passes from GEN Tommy Franks to GEN John P. Abizaid on July 7.



Vote

IT'S YOUR FUTURE

LIVING overseas? You can still vote. According to the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act, Americans living abroad may use absentee ballots to vote in federal elections.

Americans overseas should request absentee ballots by completing **Standard Form 76**, which is available through voting-assistance officers and **should be completed by Aug. 15.**

"It's important that every American citizen of voting age votes," said James H. Davis, the Army's voting-action officer. "Voting is how you influence who is in charge of your quality of life. It's your entitlement as an American citizen."

Absentee-ballot requests are issued from citizens' states of legal residence. At least 49 states now accept electronic transmission of absentee-ballot requests. Instructions are outlined by state and territory in Chapter 3 of the 2004-05 Voting Assistance Guide.

Some states accept electronic transmission of voter ballots, as well. **Ballots should be returned by Oct. 11, but can still be mailed up to election day.** Ballots are given priority handling within the military postal system but some delays in ground transportation may occur in the Iraq area, due to force-protection concerns and operational commitments.

Those who have applied for but have not received ballots by Oct. 11 can request a Federal Write-in Application Ballot, Standard Form 186, from their units' voting-assistance officer.

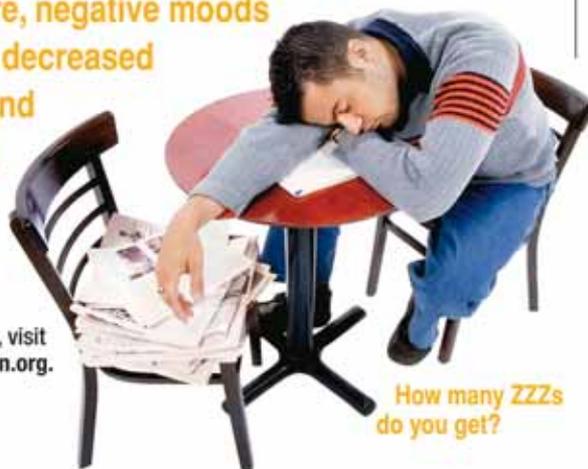
There's more on voting at www.fvap.gov.

DON'T CHEAT YOURSELF

Sleep

LIVING on five hours of sleep a night? Sleep experts with the National Sleep Foundation estimate that adults need seven to nine hours of sleep a night. Anything less can lead to obesity, high blood pressure, negative moods and behavior, decreased productivity and safety issues.

ADULTS
NEED
7
to
9
HOURS



How many ZZZs do you get?



For more about sleep, visit www.sleepfoundation.org.

Sports

ARMY TEN-MILER

TO celebrate its 20th year, the Army Ten-Miler is increasing its 2004 runner field to 20,000. The race starts and finishes at the Pentagon in Washington, D.C., at 8 a.m. **Oct. 24.**

The annual race began in 1985 with 1,379 runners and is now the largest ten-mile race in America. For the last three years the field has been limited to 18,000.

Registration closes Sept. 17 or when 20,000 runners have registered.

— MDW Public Affairs Office



To register or learn more about the event, go to www.armytenmiler.com.



On your mark... Get set... Register online for the Army Ten-Miler...

Beware

DIPLOMA MILLS

EXPECT to get promotion points for a college degree that requires no class work or tests? Think again, warn Department of Defense education specialists.

A diploma mill is a college or university that operates primarily to make money, often offering college credit for life experience rather than formal education.

Diploma mills prey on naive people who are often too busy with families and careers to attend classes. Such schools are not properly accredited and issue degrees without ensuring an education occurs. Diploma mills used to be the province of mail-order



For more information, go to www.ed.gov.

schools, but with the Internet, many more such schools are popping up.

Schools can be accredited on a regional or national level, but not all accrediting agencies are recognized by the Department of Education.

Because some distance-learning schools are reputable and some accredited institutions do give credit for work experience, Soldiers should seek the aid of Army Education Center counselors when researching schools' accreditation.

The Army does not offer financial aid to Soldiers pursuing degrees from nonaccredited schools. — *Army News Service*

TIPS ON SPOTTING DIPLOMA MILLS

- ❖ The school does not require studying, tests or essays.
- ❖ The school boasts of accreditation, i.e., "fully, nationally or worldwide accredited," but has no legitimate accreditation.
- ❖ The school relies on "portfolio assessments" or "life experience."
- ❖ The school advertises through e-mail messages sent to millions of potential students.



The Army does not recognize degrees from nonaccredited schools. For schools to be recognized as accredited by the U.S. Department of Education, they must meet such standards as quality of education, library size and student-to-faculty ratio.

The Army's



Bull Riders

Story by SPC Aimee Felix

THE TRICK is to have a good grip on the rope, a steady position on the bull, and the confidence to begin what could be the most dangerous eight seconds of your life. Wearing a helmet is optional.

It is in the courage and commitment it takes to participate in the risky sport of bull riding that LTG Dennis D. Cavin, commander of the U.S. Army Accessions Command, sees similarities in character between bull riders and Soldiers. The similarities make the Army's recent two-year partnership with Professional Bull Riders Inc. a natural fit, he said.

Randy Bernard, chief executive officer of PBR, backed this assertion when he said, "Like Soldiers, bull riders possess the will to win, pride in their work and no-quit attitude that are signs of a true champion."

The partnership is part of a recruiting initiative geared toward building an awareness of the Army among potential recruits. The Army's bull-riding team was officially introduced to the public during the

SPC Aimee Felix is assigned to the 14th Public Affairs Detachment at Fort Carson, Colo.

- Army-sponsored bull rider Mike Lee tries his best to stay on top of a bull named Big Show during the U.S. Army Invitational bull-riding event. Lee hung on for a full eight seconds, scoring 84.5 out of 100 points.

SPC Curt Cashour



Army-sponsored PBR Invitational in Colorado Springs, Colo.

Mike Lee is the youngest of the three bull riders. The 20-year-old has been riding bulls since he was 14 and is fiercely loyal to his sport. "I want a sponsor that will be loyal to me, and I know that's what the Army's all about," he said.

Another bull-riding Texan, James White, is a favorite for the 2004 Rookie of the Year title. The Army's third bull rider is Jaron Nunnemaker, a 30-year-old from California who enrolled in bull-riding school at 18.

It makes sense for the Army to get exposure by sponsoring bull riding, because it's one of the fastest growing sports in the country, Cavin said. Other Army-sponsored sports, such as drag racing and arena football, provide evidence that this type of exposure is effective in attracting 17- to 24-year olds to the Army, he said.

Recruiting Command has reduced the amount of money it's spent on

traditional television and print advertising to invest in Internet and cable-network ads and sports, which have, collectively, increased recruitment by 16 percent, said Cavin.

In 1995, three years after the creation of the PBR, the organization had just two sponsors. Since then support has increased to \$17 million and 18 sponsors.

"These people wouldn't be signing on if they weren't getting their money's worth in exposure," said Bernard.

"Besides, having a third party promote us is invaluable because it's not just the Army selling itself," Cavin said.

Throughout their two-year contract, the riders will also visit high schools across America to speak to young people about opportunities available in the Army.

"These guys are sportsmen with fans, so kids will listen to them," said Cavin. 🇺🇸

Rodeo Riders

THE ARMY also sponsors seven cowboys and a cowgirl as part of a partnership with the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association. The newest Army team debuted at one of rodeo's biggest competitions, the Pace Picante ProRodeo Chute-out at the Orleans Arena in Las Vegas.

Team members are:

Luke Branquinho. A steer wrestler, he made it to the final round at the Las Vegas chute-out.

Trevor Brazile. He competes in tie-down roping, steer roping and team roping.

Fred Whitfield. A tie-down roper, he will be inducted into the Pro Rodeo Hall of Fame in August.

Andy Bolich. A bareback rider.

Wayne Folmer. A team roper and three-time Wrangler NFR qualifier.

Cody DeMoss. The saddle bronc rider is a top contender for this year's title.

Brittany Pozzi. The barrel racer finished seventh overall in her first PRCA season.

Zack Oakes. A bull rider, he won RodeoHouston and the PRCA's Xtreme Bulls in Clovis, N.M., earlier this year.



SPC Matt Millham



SPC Matt Millham

▲ Army Chief of Staff GEN Peter J. Schoomaker and LTG Dennis D. Cavin smile after James White, the first Army bull rider to compete, was able to stay on his bull for the full eight seconds required to get a score.

▲ Lee — the Army team's youngest rider — settles himself onto Big Show before launching into his eight-second, high-scoring ride.

Go Army!

Remembering the Fallen

Story by SPC Benjamin R. Kibbey

WHEN he was forced to fashion statues of Saddam Hussein on horseback, the Iraqi sculptor known as Kalat had no idea that someday he would melt them down to create a memorial for American Soldiers.

The two original statues, which adorned a gate at the palace complex where the 4th Infantry Division's headquarters group is located, were removed with explosives last summer, said ISG Mark Anderson of Headquarters and HQs. Company. Anderson has monitored the memorial project's progress since then.

Members of the 555th Engineer Group cut the toppled statues into pieces and delivered them to Kalat, who reshaped the chunks of bronze into a likeness of an Ameri-

SPC Benjamin R. Kibbey is a member of the Army Reserve's 367th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment.

can Soldier being comforted by a small girl as he mourns a fallen comrade.

In July 2003 former HHC 1SG Glen Simpson posed for the photograph the sculpture is based upon, said division CSM Chuck Fuss.

The artist, who fears retaliation from former regime loyalists for his work with coalition forces, spent several months sculpting and casting the statue. Though he worked with another artist to create the original statues of Saddam, he produced the 4th Inf. Div.

memorial on his own, said Anderson.

The sculpture is based on a scene many in Iraq have witnessed in one form or another. A Soldier kneels before a memorial of boots, rifle and helmet — his forehead resting in the hollow of his hand. Behind and to his right stands a small Iraqi girl with her hand reaching out to touch his shoulder.

The little girl relates sympathy mixed with gratitude. She was added to remind people of why the sacrifice was made, Fuss said.

"It's about freedom for this country, but it's also about the children who will grow up in a free society," he said.

Though it now sits in one of Saddam's former palaces, the statue will soon be shuttled to Fort Hood, Texas, where it will become part of a larger memorial project at the 4th Inf. Div. Museum. There, plaques will be hung in memory of those Task Force Ironhorse Soldiers who died in Iraq.

The memorial planned for the Fort Hood museum is projected to cost between \$30,000 and \$40,000, and is scheduled to be completed in July. Fuss said it's being paid for through donations from TF Ironhorse Soldiers and from private contributions raised by the 4th Inf. Div. Association.

The cost of the statue, about \$18,000, was paid through small donations from 4th Inf. Div. Soldiers, Anderson said.

"I think this is the best way we can honor the memories of the fallen Soldiers," Fuss said.

"Really that's what it's for — a tribute to all the Soldiers over here who lost their lives," Anderson said. "They will never be forgotten, and they will always be heroes in our eyes." 

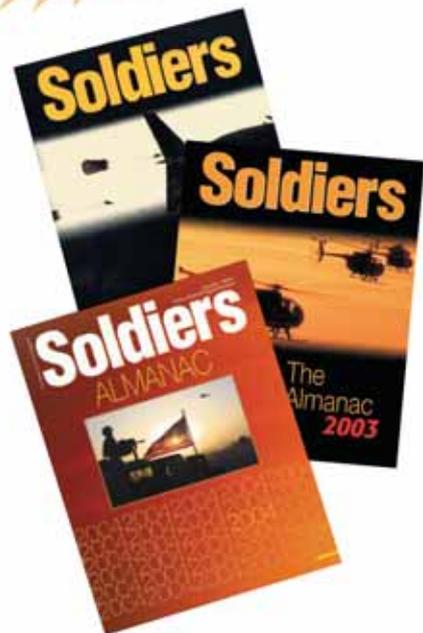
"They will never be forgotten, and they will always be heroes in our eyes."



◀ The artist known as Kalat pauses to look at the memorial he created to honor the fallen Soldiers of the 4th Infantry Division.

IT'S YOUR TIME TO SHINE IN SOLDIERS' MOST POPULAR ISSUE

Soldiers is planning the January 2005 Almanac and wants your images for the "This is Our Army" section. Send us your candid photos of the Army family at work or play.



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RULES AND HELPFUL INFORMATION—

1. Photos must be taken between Aug. 22, 2003, and Aug. 20, 2004.
2. Your package should be postmarked NLT Sept. 3, 2004.
3. Photo or images without complete caption information will not be considered. We need the who, what, where and when, as well as the photographer's name and rank. We must be able to easily identify which caption goes with which image.
4. Complete the form below. Copy for more than one entry.
5. Soldiers prefers color prints or slides, but will also accept digital images.
6. Digital images must be very high resolution, a minimum of 5" x 7" at 300 dpi. Do not send prints made from digital images.
7. For tips on shooting, check out "Writing and Shooting for Soldiers Magazine" and the Soldiers Style Guide. Both are available at www.soldiersmagazine.com.

GOT QUESTIONS?
Contact our photo editor by phone at (703) 806-4504 or (DSN) 656-4504, or via e-mail to soldiers@belvoir.army.mil.

NOTE:
Due to a limited staff, we regret that photos and accompanying information cannot be returned.

Soldiers

"This Is Our Army" Entry Form

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Photocopy this entry form and attach a copy to each photo you submit.

Where and when was the photo taken? (Use approximate date if necessary.)

Caption (Include full name, rank and unit of person(s) pictured.)

Postmark by Sept. 3, 2004.
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Soldiers Online at
www.soldiersmagazine.com.

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Fort Belvoir, VA 22060-5581

Salsa Band **Hot** On **Tradition**

FOR a Latin salsa band only four months old, **Fierro Caliente**, which means Hot Iron, seems to be hitting all the right notes.

This energetic group of musicians has been providing the Soldiers of Forward Operating Base Ironhorse in Tikrit, Iraq, a taste of Hispanic culture and music. The group features a wide range of musical styles from salsa to Dominican-influenced merengue to the slower boleros, all of which are hits from the tops of multiple Latin music charts.

"We wanted to give the soldiers something to help entertain their minds," said SGM Cesar Castro, sergeant major for the 1st Battalion, 22nd Infantry Regiment.

Castro teamed with **SFC Chris Lopez** and **SFC Al Marroquin**, fellow band members and musical directors, to start the band. The ensemble has gained far-flung recognition, appearing on the front page of the Miami Herald, and even exposure in some countries in Central and South America.

Although Castro is not a member of the 4th Inf. Div. Band, he is a lead singer and one of Fierro Caliente's original members. He has played in several Latin-music bands, including one in Germany.

Lopez has played with such Latin artists as Max Tores Jr. and Marvin Santiago, and has appeared before in the Monterey Pennsylvania Jazz Orchestra.

Once the spark for such a band was lit, the call went out to musicians in the 4th Inf. Div. band, who were told that the first requirement was dedication. Sixteen soldiers — half of whom are of Hispanic heritage — answered the call.

"We're giving it our own flare," said Lopez, a trumpet player from Seminole, Texas. Lopez works with Marroquin on many pieces, converting synthesizer or accordion parts from the original songs to suit Fierro Caliente's instrumentation.

Marroquin and Lopez have both agreed that the reason Fierro Caliente is taking off so quickly is because of the dynamic energy with which they play their music.

Both share a strong passion for the band and its music, which affects the other members as well. Coupled with the crowd's reaction, it reinforces the band's willingness to step up its musical performance.

"We're passing our energy on to the younger soldiers," said Marroquin. "We want to connect with the audience. That's what makes artists artists." 🎸



SPC Samuel Soza is with the 367th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment.

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Road to the Olympics

1LT Chad Senior



Photo by Tim Higgs

AFTER finishing 14th at the World Cup event May 9 in Budapest, Hungary, 1LT Chad Senior was ranked No. 1 in the U.S. in men's modern pentathlon, a five-sport event that includes pistol shooting, fencing, swimming, equestrian riding and cross-country running. Senior, from North Fort Myers, Fla., finished sixth in the event in the 2000 Olympic Games in Sydney, Australia.

WCAP is one of 50 morale, welfare and recreation programs the Army provides soldiers and families worldwide through the U.S. Army Community & Family Support Center.

