

9/11

2001-2011

A World of Change



A look back at the last 10 years:
how our world has changed
and how we've changed the world



The Mountaineer
Special Edition

Commander looks at division's role in war on terrorism

Sgt. Matthew Diaz
10th Mountain Division Journalist

Most people can probably tell you exactly where they were and what they were doing the moment the Sept. 11 attacks took place. But for many members of the 10th Mountain Division (LI), what stands out most in their memory is where they were shortly after the attacks: Afghanistan.

The 10th Mountain Division (LI) was one of the first units deployed to Afghanistan, and it has been on a nearly constant deployment cycle ever since.

"Look at the history of the (reactivated) 10th Mountain Division. It all started with Hurricane Andrew. Then it went into Somalia, Haiti, Bosnia, Kosovo, right into (Afghanistan and Iraq)," said Maj. Gen. James L. Terry, Regional Command South and 10th Mountain Division (LI) commander. "And I think 10th Mountain Division was leading the way in a lot of these things."

Apart from the 10th Mountain being affected by the attacks a decade ago, the Army as a whole has seen drastic changes. It has restructured its units and equipment to handle the rigors of deployment.

"In 10 years, the Army has changed tremendously. I think as much as anything, the modular structure that we've gone to in order to meet the demands of the operational environment has really re-



FILE PHOTO

Maj. Gen. James L. Terry, Regional Command South and 10th Mountain Division (LI) commander, speaks to deployed troops in Afghanistan. Terry will redeploy with division headquarters this fall.

shaped the Army – how it thinks, how it fights and especially the doctrine that goes behind it all – the counterinsurgency doctrine," Terry remarked.

With the new challenges facing coalition forces in the Iraq and Afghanistan campaigns, the Army had to change how it fights. This new enemy was not the conventional force the Army had long envisioned. They thought and behaved in different ways and required a different approach, often forcing combat units to nav-

igate complex political, social and economic problem sets.

"We had a Cold War thought process of very linear warfare, and so today what you wind up with is this counterinsurgent environment, which causes you to really have to learn your way through the environment as opposed to fighting your way directly through it," Terry said.

Learning how to fight militarily in a new manner and adopting a new mindset, both in America and abroad, shows that

Sept. 11, 2001, was a day of significance for not only Americans, but a dawn of a new global age.

"We've come together as a nation and we're pretty committed to stopping terrorism, and I think we've proven that over the years," Terry said. "I think it was a human tragedy. It's not only Americans who suffered since 9/11. ... You have a lot of Afghans who suffered also."

As for American Soldiers, the events of that September day galvanized their resolve to serve and called many new people to service.

"I think we've all, since 9/11, picked up a certain operational pace and tempo that we didn't see before that, and I think it recommitted a lot of us to support and defend the Constitution of the United States," Terry commented.

In the aftermath of it all, the nation sees its service members in distant lands, separated from their loved ones, doing a difficult job. They are working together to bring peace and stability to a tumultuous region and attempting to neutralize the possibility of future terrorist attacks.

"I want to thank all the Soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines out there who have sacrificed in Iraq and Afghanistan, but especially those who have served under my command as we move toward stabilizing Afghanistan and creating a brighter future," Terry added. □

Former Soldier recalls reporting to Fort Drum on Sept. 11

Rachael Tolliver
Special to The Mountaineer

I was on my way to Fort Drum when I stopped for the night at a hotel between Cleveland, Ohio, and Erie, Pa. It was Sept 10, 2001, and my drive would total about 16 hours. I was driving from Kentucky, and my sign-in date at Fort Drum was supposed to be Sept. 11 – I wanted to arrive in plenty of time to get signed in and find my way around.

This would be my first division assignment, and the only things that I knew about the 10th Mountain were the things I heard from other Soldiers and what I read on the Internet.

"Most deployed division in the Army" was the most common response when people found out where I was going.

I left the hotel by 8:30 a.m., bought gas for my Chevy Blazer, called my husband and ate an apple for breakfast. I flipped through the radio until I found something

I enjoyed and headed northeast on I-90.

At about 8:50 a.m., ABC news anchor Peter Jennings came on air to announce that an airliner had crashed into one of the World Trade Center towers. He was calm – all things considered – but emphatic, and I remember thinking, "Wow, that was one heck of a nasty accident."

Ten minutes or so later, Jennings again was talking about a tower. It took me a full minute to realize he was talking about a second plane and a second tower. I flipped

the radio to different stations, and the news was the same. I also heard about missing planes that were thought to be ... flying right over my head apparently. Word was – we were attacked from someplace far away.

I was scared. I was by myself, a long way from home and Family, headed to the most deployed division in the Army, and it would months before my husband would

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Cover illustration by Reggie Cullen

Looking back: Fort Drum Firefighter reflects on emergency response at ground zero

Michelle Kennedy
Staff Writer

Americans sat glued to their television sets watching in horror as the 9/11 attacks unfolded before their eyes. That terrorist act affected people across the country, especially firefighters and police officers who watched their brothers in arms enter the burning World Trade Center twin towers that later crumbled to the ground.

One of Fort Drum's own, Firefighter Capt. Robert W. Tennies, remembers what it was like to see the aftermath firsthand.

Tennies, who works at Fire and Emergency Services' Fire Station No. 3 on Wheeler-Sack Army Airfield, also worked as a part-time emergency medical technician for an ambulance service in Watertown. He and several of his co-workers volunteered to assist in the rescue effort at ground zero. After receiving permission for leave, he and nine other EMTs traveled Sept. 14 to the Big Apple to do anything they could help.

Although the group was gone only three days, Tennies said the things he saw at ground zero will be with him the rest of his life.

When they arrived in New York City, the group had to wait several hours for an assignment.

"A few hours into our standby, we were asked to go down to ground zero," Tennies said. "We had two ambulances, and we were going to perform emergency medical services if needed. We pretty much were in standby mode, but they allowed us to help on the 'pile' to dig."

Tennies said the city's empty, dirty streets were "eerie."

"On the way through the city, everything was barricaded and all the building faces were covered with dirt," he said. "It was very eerie going down (the streets) and then actually seeing ground zero."

Like Soldiers, Tennies said firefighters share a similar camaraderie with their "brothers," and he said knowing that 343 firefighters perished when the buildings collapsed was heartbreaking.

"It hurt. It hurt (knowing) 343 firefighters died, but then actually seeing (the site)," he



MICHELLE KENNEDY

Capt. Robert Tennies, a Fort Drum firefighter, stands in front of a fire truck at Fire Station No. 3 on Wheeler-Sack Army Airfield.

continued. "It (hurt my) heart that so much devastation happened. The whole thing was just really overwhelming. It took a few minutes to catch your breath and realize what you're looking at."

Counselors were available around the site for the rescuers and law enforcement personnel who needed help, but people were not the only ones having a hard time dealing with the tragedy.

The search and rescue dogs became depressed, too, Tennies said.

"(The dog handlers) actually buried live people (in the rubble) so the dogs could find somebody alive," he said. "(The dogs) were getting depressed because they weren't finding anybody alive. They would bury live people, the dogs would find them, and they'd be happy (and they could do their jobs) again."

Although the dogs began feeling a sense of job satisfaction again, the overall feeling at ground zero was tense, Tennies said. When a team found a body, everything stopped. Local agencies determined whether the victim was a civilian, firefighter or police officer. If it was a firefighter or police officer, the respective agency would step in.

"They would move the debris and move their brother and take him out," he said.

At one point, there were so many people



ROBERT TENNIES

Emergency responders sift through the rubble at ground zero in the days following the attacks on Sept. 11, 2001.



ROBERT TENNIES

A makeshift monument thanking the emergency personnel who lost their lives in the World Trade Center was placed near ground zero.

willing to volunteer that they were turned away to ensure law enforcement retained "some kind of command and control," Tennies explained.

Despite the devastation that the city, as well as the nation, felt after the 9/11 attacks, civilians who flocked to New York City were nothing but supportive, Tennies recalled. They were standing at the ready to provide gear or refreshments for the workers.

"The people of New York City shook our hands, they hugged us and were grateful for what we were there for, (which is a testament of the American spirit)," he said. "People came to New York City to do that (hard) job. It was just amazing."

Tennies also remembers when President George W. Bush addressed the nation, condemning the attacks.

"President Bush basically said we weren't going to sit down and take this from anybody," he said, adding that shortly after Bush's address to the nation, he began seeing Fort Drum Soldiers preparing for war.

"It was a really good feeling knowing (that Fort Drum firefighters were) going to take care of (Soldiers') Families while they're away to go fight for our freedoms," he said. "(Soldiers and Families) are our customers. While they're away, we're going to take 100 percent care of their Families, so they don't have to worry while they're gone." □

Sergeant major recounts past 10 years at Fort Drum

Paul Steven Ghiringhelli

Staff Writer

Late one evening in December 2000, Sgt. 1st Class Carl A. Ashmead pulled off Interstate 81 and hunted the dark country roads for signs of civilization.

He had been assigned to A Company, 1st Battalion, 87th Infantry Regiment, and after years in Hawaii, and Georgia before that, the nippy North Country would be his Family's new home.

When they finally stumbled on the quiet post, there was no gate, no guard -- just a sign telling incoming Soldiers to report to the 24-hour shopette. From there, another sign provided directions to the Fort Drum Inn.

The tired travelers went to bed. They awoke in the morning to 18 inches of snow. "Looks like we made it to the right place," he told his Family.

In nine months time, the calm and secure setting would become one of America's busiest wartime hubs.

"Two airplanes have flown into the World Trade Center," Ashmead told his Soldiers on Sept. 11, 2001, after gathering them around a tower at Fort Drum's Range 44. "I'm not sure what this means, but I think we may be at war. We're going to change what we're doing so that you guys are prepared."

Ashmead's instincts had machine gun crews zeroing their weapons and qualifying on the range until every cartridge had been fired the next morning.

"I realized that (it) could quickly escalate into something," recalled the sergeant major, who a decade earlier had gone into Panama with Army Special Forces.

Ashmead's unit was soon be among the first on the ground in Afghanistan where the mission was to overthrow Taliban rule and take away safe havens from al-Qaida -- the terrorist organization that attacked the U.S.

Then a rifle platoon sergeant, Ashmead is now command sergeant major of 2nd Battalion, 14th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team. He has spent the last 11 years of his Army career with brigades based at Fort Drum.

"When I first came here, this post had a very poor reputation (Armywide) as a place to serve," he said. "But I rapidly found out that the organization itself was fantastic. Long before Fort Drum picked up 'The Best Kept Secret' as their tagline, I would refer to the 10th Mountain Division and Fort Drum as the best kept secret in the Army.

"So (many of) the people who come here



Ashmead

and serve ... enjoy being in a professional organization that's kind of come to be counted on as the go-to guys for the Army and the nation," he added. "Very few organizations in the Army, especially in the NCO Corps, have individuals who opt to remain on the post or in the organization for up to a decade."

After four combat tours -- two in Afghanistan and two in Iraq -- Ashmead likes to characterize Fort Drum as the home of a gritty, no-frills, highly effective infantry division with a blue-collar work ethic.

"We don't have a bunch of helicopters like the 101st and we don't jump out of airplanes like the 82nd," he said. "But we have the ability to be sent someplace rapidly and get the job done, whatever it may be.

"Whether that's Haiti, Bosnia, Kosovo (or) Hurricane Andrew in Florida," he added. "The division has shown that it's very agile ... because it's been tagged with all of these marginal missions."

Ashmead figures the division's reputation influenced Army leaders to make 1-87 Infantry the first conventional battalion to deploy to Afghanistan once the war on terrorism began.

"That decade and a half of being willing to do any job and not thinking we're too good for anything, or that we're not capable of doing what was asked, kind of showed through when the Army said: 'Who's available?'" he said of 9/11. "And they sent us."

In the anxious weeks leading up to their deployment, Ashmead said 1-87 Infantry worked long and hard, often up to 20 hours a day. When units arrived in Uzbekistan in mid-October, they were loaded with ammunition, bottled water and Meals-Ready to Eat. By December, days after CIA operative Mike Spann became the first American killed in combat, Ashmead was a part of an advance party sent to Kabul, Afghanistan,

to survey landing zones.

He said 1-87 Infantry's ultimate mission in Afghanistan was guarding the airfield in Bagram while lending support, including firepower, to U.S. Special Forces interacting with the Northern Alliance.

In addition to the hazards of war, life in Afghanistan was tough early on. Ashmead said he did not receive mail nor take a shower for nearly 90 days. Living in GP tents heated by coal-burning stoves slowly turned Soldiers' uniforms black. But Ashmead said troops waited for them to rot before digging out fresh ones from their rucksacks.

Within two months, 1-87 Infantry was fighting in the first large-scale battle of the war. Named Operation Anaconda, U.S. forces routed Taliban and al-Qaida fighters entrenched in the rugged mountains of the Shah-I-Koht Valley region of eastern Afghanistan.

"It was very much a standard infantry fight," said Ashmead, adding that the battle was fought at some of the highest elevations of any operation in U.S. Army history.

Soldiers returned not long after Operation Anaconda to great respect and appreciation from the Fort Drum community.

"We were conquering heroes," Ashmead said. "We had struck the first blow in the war on (terrorism)."

It was the beginning of a mutually favorable relationship that Ashmead has carried on ever since with the place he now calls home.

"The North Country here is a predominantly blue-collar, working-man's environment," said Ashmead, who was born and raised on a farm in Idaho. "I think the division's work ethos meshes well with the civilian community's work ethos off post.

It's not easy to go and do some of the jobs we've done, such as Hurricane Andrew, Haiti or Somalia. But then again, it's not easy to be a dairy farmer in the North Country or work on a road crew, because the elements fight you as much as anything else."

Since 9/11, two wars and a steady diet of deployments are not the only things affecting Fort Drum community members. Security increased dramatically, most noticeably with gate construction projects to control access to the installation. Other changes are not as tangible, and still others have gone unnoticed.

"The changes at Fort Drum have been evolutionary more than revolutionary," he said. "(But) I would say that the major change has been with (Army Families).

"Family has always been an important aspect of the Army," he explained. "But it

never took the place of getting the job done. It always came second when it came to getting the job done."

Ashmead said the idea that a Soldier's readiness relies heavily on a Family's readiness to support their warrior has gained major attention among Army leaders since 9/11. He noted the expectation is no longer that Soldiers will work late nights unless absolutely necessary.

The sergeant major is quick to credit his wife, Sheri, and their four children -- Victoria, 20; Hillary, 18; Moe, 17; and Paige, 14 -- for helping him to succeed while wearing the uniform of an Army persistently at war.

"The things that I have done over the last 10 years have been easy, because it's what I do for a living," he said. "It's what I wanted to do. It's what I joined the Army to do 24 years ago.

"(My Family), on the other hand, didn't sign up for missed birthdays, missed Christmases and missed everything," he said. "They've helped me by being the one constant in this ever-changing environment. They (help me) with their support for what I do."

Families used to dread accompanying their Soldier to Fort Drum, Ashmead said. Not only was the weather a deterrent, but the local economy struggled for many years. He said the number of houses built in Jefferson County in 2000 could probably be counted on one hand.

"Now look at it," he said, noting the growth in housing construction over the past 10 years.

"This used to be the little post in the North," he continued. "It's not that anymore. Now it's one of the premier flagship force-projection posts in the U.S. Army."

Another change Ashmead has noted since 9/11 is the idealism of incoming Soldiers.

"(Before) 9/11, most of the Soldiers we had weren't joining the Army because they wanted to be in the military ... but for some benefit that the Army was going to provide," he said. "A majority of the Soldiers who joined immediately after 9/11 were joining to do their part."

After his first deployment to Afghanistan, Ashmead became first sergeant of B Company, 2nd Battalion, 22nd Infantry Regiment. He deployed to Afghanistan again from 2003 to 2004 -- this time to Kandahar.

Upon their return, 2-22 Infantry had 11 months of dwell time. Ashmead was reassigned as first sergeant of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2-22 Infantry, and

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Service members re-enter military after attacks on nation

Sgt. 1st Class JR Williams

10th Combat Aviation Brigade PAO

(Editor's note: After the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, many former service members re-entered the military. Following is a story about one Soldier who felt compelled to serve his country in a time of war.)

PARWAN PROVINCE, Afghanistan -- The morning began just like every other morning. Jesus Roman-Hernandez took a bus from his home in West New York, N.J., to the Newport Mall in Jersey City, to board the PATH train that would bring him to his job with Delta Airlines at LaGuardia Airport in New York City.

Roman-Hernandez, who grew up in Brooklyn, took the position with Delta after completing five years in the Marine Corps as an avionics specialist. His transition back to civilian life had begun about 10 months earlier, and the new job allowed him, his wife, and new son to live near his hometown, Family and friends.

When the bus dropped Roman-Hernandez off at the Newport Mall, he made a simple decision that would change the direction of his life forever; he decided to smoke a cigarette before getting on the train.

"I was standing in the parking lot of the mall and looking at the skyline while I smoked," recalled now-Spc. Jesus Roman-Hernandez, a 10th Combat Aviation Brigade early warning systems operator. "All of a sudden, I noticed smoke pouring out of one of the towers of the World Trade Center."

At first, Roman-Hernandez thought it was some kind of accident causing the smoldering plumes pouring from Tower 1.

"At that point, there was a crowd of us just looking and wondering what could have happened," he explained. "Then, we saw the second plane crash into Tower 2. When I saw the second plane hit, that's when it started to look fishy."

The crowd of people in the parking lot watched in shock as their beloved landmark burned and blazed just on the other side of the river.

"I couldn't go to work at that point because the PATH train ran through the World Trade Center, and it was pretty clear that they weren't running any more trains that way," Roman-Hernandez recalled.

"Nobody really understood what was going on. We were all listening to the radio outside of the mall, trying to find out what

was happening in the city."

Nobody knew what to do, so they listened and waited and watched the scene just beyond the water. That's when a report broke in -- the Pentagon was just hit.

"Once I heard the Pentagon was hit, the first thing in my mind was, 'We're going to war.' I didn't know with [whom] at the time, but I knew we were going to war," Roman-Hernandez said.

Since he had left the Marine Corps only a few months earlier, the Brooklyn native was still a member of the Inactive Ready Reserve. The Marines could contact him at any time and recall him to active duty.

The thought began to build in his mind. He wasn't sure what to do, but then his attention was diverted. The first tower began to fall.

"It was almost like a movie, even though I was watching everything happening with my own eyes. But watching the towers fall? That was just disbelief, just complete disbelief. It just couldn't be happening," he said.

As both towers collapsed, the former Marine had one other thought, "I better get home."

In the moments that followed the collapse, it became apparent that public transportation would not be an option. The city and everything around it was shutting down.

"Everything was so crazy. You couldn't call. The phones wouldn't work, you couldn't get a hold of your family to make sure everyone was all right, the buses and trains weren't running," Roman-Hernandez said.

"I wasn't sure how the IRR worked, but I thought (the Marine Corps) would recall me for sure. I figured someone was either going to come find me or call me, I just didn't know how it would happen. I kept thinking that I just had to get home and find my uniforms. I ended up walking from Jersey City back to West New York."

Once home, Roman-Hernandez waited for the call that would send him to war -- and he was fine with going.

"New Yorkers, we have an attitude to begin with," he explained. "From my point of view, New Yorkers took the attacks more personally. One of our landmarks was taken, and we'll never see it again. You know, my wedding photos were taken with the New York City skyline in the background and that includes the twin towers. I'll never look at those the same.

"I was definitely for going to war because whoever did this, we had to push them

back," he continued. "So for me, it was personal."

The call from the Marine Corps never came. In the meantime, the effects of 9/11 were taking their toll. The aviation industry was hit pretty hard, and airlines began to lay off personnel. Delta Airlines was no different, and as a recent hire, Roman-Hernandez was among the first let go. He ended up taking a job at the Newport Mall, and when the Marines didn't come looking for him, he went to them.

"I tried to go back into the Marine Corps, but that was going to take too long. By 2002, (the U.S. military) was in Afghanistan, and I wasn't getting anywhere. I made it my resolution in January to get back in," Roman-Hernandez said. "I moved my wife and son into my mother-in-law's place and got them settled so that I could focus on getting back in."

He went to the Military Entrance Processing Station and received a higher score on the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery exam than he had the first time around. When things didn't work out with the Marine Corps, he talked with Army recruiters. By April 2003, Roman-Hernandez was back on active duty, this time as a U.S. Army Soldier.

"I came in with the expectation to deploy -- a certainty," Roman-Hernandez said. "I just felt I have to go to do my part."

Although back on active duty, things didn't turn out the way the Soldier expected.

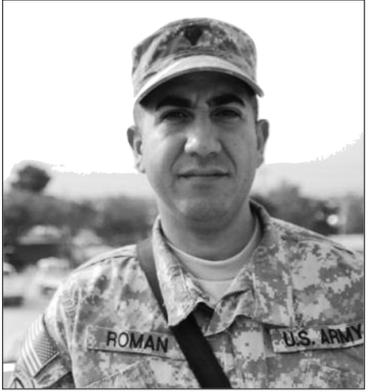
"It took me 10 years to get to Afghanistan. I was supposed to go to Iraq in 2005 as an individual augmentee, but the mission was cancelled a week before I was set to leave," he explained. "Then, I kept getting sent to units that just redeployed or who weren't going."

Despite his frustration, the early warning systems operator kept looking for an opportunity. But, he wondered if he was going to make it downrange after everything he went through to come back on active duty.

"I really wanted to keep the job I had in the Corps as an avionics specialist when I joined the Army, but as prior service, my options were limited. I took what I was offered, because it would get me in and let me do my part," he said.

Ultimately, patience earned Roman-Hernandez an assignment to the 10th Combat Aviation Brigade and an opportunity to deploy.

"Now, I'm here and finally doing my part," he said. "Being here and doing my



SGT. 1ST CLASS JR WILLIAMS

Spc. Jesus Roman-Hernandez, stands outside at Bagram Airfield, Afghanistan. He returned to active duty after witnessing the attack on the World Trade Center on Sept. 11, 2001.

duty in the war, it makes me feel good. I didn't join to be idle. Even if I'm not directly involved, I can facilitate the combat operations."

Roman-Hernandez credits his wife, Irma, for helping him reach his goal.

"My wife is very supportive, and she really understands what this means for me," he said. "She went through my deployment to Kosovo with the Marines, so she knew what to expect. And even though this deployment is a little different, she always supports me, no matter what."

Reflecting on the journey of the last decade, the Soldier admits it's been a long road.

"It's a little frustrating that it's been 10 years since 9/11, and we're still here," he admitted. "We got Osama bin Laden this year, and I feel we made headway in that area. But, Afghanistan still has a ways to go, and the World Trade Center hasn't been rebuilt."

Still, the New Yorker looks ahead to the future.

"I still like what I do, and I'm going to keep going and do my best until it's time for me to retire," he said.

There is only one question that haunts him from time to time.

"What if I didn't stop to smoke and got on the train that got hit going through the tunnel of the World Trade Center?"

And if Roman-Hernandez knew then what he knows now, he said he would not change things.

"I still would have done it," he said. "There's still that sense of duty; I just had to do it. Even after a decade in Afghanistan, even after Iraq, and the downturn of our economy -- all the negative things we can bring up -- I would still have done it. I don't think I would have done anything differently." □

Security concerns after 9/11 fundamentally transform Fort Drum

Paul Steven Ghiringhelli

Staff Writer

Threats to Fort Drum are not new. North Country natives know what lake-effect snowstorms and freezing rain will do to the best of drivers.

Interestingly enough, however, even in a post-9/11 world, one of the biggest threats currently facing Fort Drum and the 10th Mountain Division (LI) has not changed.

"Based on our past, the biggest threat to Fort Drum is our winters," said John Simard, Fort Drum antiterrorism officer.

He then explained that the overall threat to Fort Drum is best described as "asymmetrical," or irregular.

"We look at all threats," he said. "We look at criminal threats. We look at environmental threats. We look at cyber threats.

"You can't just look at a terrorist threat," he added. "The threat has many faces."

But all other dangers aside, and even though officials classify the terrorist threat here as "low," Fort Drum has seen major security changes take place since 9/11.

For the past 10 years, terrorism threats have become multifaceted, even evolving to some extent, Simard noted. Potential attacks that officials once thought might involve a hijacked plane now include the "lone wolf" scenario, such as the alleged self-radicalized mass shooter at Fort Hood – Maj. Nidal Hasan.

Simard, who has been involved in antiterrorism for the past seven years, said he was a first sergeant attending a meeting at Division Artillery headquarters on Sept. 11, 2001. As an Army civilian two years after retiring from active duty, Simard got a taste for force protection at the Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security.

Four years ago, he became the installation's first official antiterrorism officer.

He said despite lone-wolf scenarios, all threats to Fort Drum are assessed by law enforcement based on specific targets and objectives.

"Do you really think that al-Qaida will board a jetliner and crash it into the middle of Fort Drum? Is that plausible?" Simard asked. "Or is it more possible that a self-radicalized individual ... (will) just decide to act on their own?"

"Which one is more possible? And which one is more dangerous?"

Which one is more likely, combined with countless other factors, influences Fort Drum's force protection condition, or

FPCON.

Simard said FPCON levels include Normal, Alpha, Bravo, Charlie and Delta, and definitions range from a "general global threat of possible terrorist activity," or FPCON Normal, to a "terrorist action against a specific location or person is imminent," or FPCON Delta.

Immediately after 9/11, the installation jumped to FPCON Delta, according to Charles Childs, Fort Drum's physical security chief.

At Wheeler-Sack Army Airfield, County Routes 29 and 37 were completely shut down, recalled Jim Corriveau, Public Works director. As officials evaluated and re-evaluated areas of risk on Fort Drum, construction projects were launched to boost security, including drop beam barriers at Hays Hall and increased vehicle-to-building distances for busy parking lots.

Officials also focused on the installation's access points.

Brian M. Appleby, Public Works' Master Planning Division chief, noted that new standards were implemented to replace or upgrade gates at Iraqi Freedom Drive, 45th Infantry Division Drive and Mount Belvedere Boulevard.

At the same time, construction began on the post's future gates at Gas Alley, Nash Boulevard and the airfield. All gate construction projects were completed by 2003, officially making Fort Drum a "controlled-access" installation.

Another security measure taken was in the design and construction of new buildings. Simard said the Army set strict rules on how buildings are engineered, based on the potential of explosive devices.

In recent years, force protection experts on post have partnered with Public Works to implement security standards on all new construction, including modular buildings. That means engineers select geographically suitable locations, install blast-resistant windows and doors, and design structures in a way that prevents the progressive collapsing of buildings with multiple levels.

Simard said keeping buildings at safe enough distances away from roadways and parking areas is an excellent and inexpensive way to implement force protection.

"Obviously, the farther away your facility is from a potential bomb, the less the blast is going to affect the building," he said. "We (want) to minimize the possibility that a vehicle could stop, park and detonate in place."

After 9/11, security around structures also became a focal point. Simard said officials barricaded or double-fenced facilities critical to Fort Drum's mission – deploying Soldiers – or that otherwise had a high potential for attack.

The installation's "barrier plan," a product of Fort Drum's Directorate of Emergency Services and part of the Installation Physical Security Plan, is also a critical procedure in place that protects the community based on FPCON levels.

"If in fact there is an increase in threat, we can execute that barrier plan across post as we need it," Simard said. "We can get to a point where 10th Mountain Division Drive is just completely closed."

Another major security-enhancing change was the post's mass notification system, or "Giant Voice." In addition to 22 outdoor towers across post, including the airfield, all new construction over the last several years in facilities considered inhabited contain built-in enunciators.

If quickly alerting the masses becomes necessary, Fort Drum emergency response officials have that recourse.

"We can put out any type of message, whether a manmade hazard or some kind of severe weather," said Bob Clark, the DPTMS operations technician who sits in an underground office where the Giant Voice is located.

Simard said he has great confidence in law enforcement and medical personnel in the community who work in tandem with the Antiterrorism Office in the event of an attack or threat.

"Our emergency response people here on Fort Drum are the best," he said. "They know what to do. We (also) have a great relationship with the community hospitals, which helps us immensely. We know their operational procedures and they know ours."

Although al-Qaida is still intent on attacking, Simard believes the new emerging threat of a lone wolf "self-radicalized" individual makes antiterrorism measures especially difficult for law enforcement.

"It used to be that terrorist (organizations) like al-Qaida, the Taliban, al-Shabaab ... would start to chatter," he said. "Then guys at the FBI, who are expert at picking up all of that chatter, they can figure out what's going on.

"But the threat's kind of changed," he continued. "Now, you got the lone wolf and that internal threat, like (suspects Hasan



PAUL STEVEN GHIRINGHELLI

Since Sept. 11, 2001, Fort Drum security officials have installed 22 outdoor towers like this one located near Hays Hall. Dubbed the "Giant Voice," the installation's mass notification system was created as a response measure to alert the masses for emergencies.

and Pfc. Naser Abdo) in Killeen, Texas.

"Those guys don't chatter," he said. "They don't say anything."

Simard said large groups chatter because logistics, materials and communications require it. Individuals who act independently usually have everything they need or accumulate small items over time.

"They won't cause people to (take notice)," he said, lessening another line of defense for law enforcement – community help.

Subsequently, Simard stressed how absolutely critical public awareness is to antiterrorism efforts worldwide.

"If you look at the Times Square bomber, he parked his car in a no-parking spot," he said. "So a vigilant store vendor saw that the vehicle was parked in the wrong place and had smoke coming out of it. He called the police.

"We hope that on Fort Drum, (community members) do the same thing," he said. "It's the neighbor. It's the employer. It's the people around that individual who maybe notice something. We really need the community to pick up on those indicators and to call our anonymous tip line at 774-TIPS (8477)."

Given the way 9/11 spawned many new threats in the U.S., Fort Drum continues

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be done with his National Guard duties and could join me.

Add to it I had a DoD sticker in my windshield and military gear stacked in the back of my vehicle — I felt like I stuck out like a sore thumb.

About 30 minutes later, I was talking to my mother on the phone when she said, "Oh honey, there's smoke coming from the other side of the White House. No, wait — it's the Pentagon. Someone flew another plane into the Pentagon!" At that point, I doubt there was a service member in the armed forces who didn't know what this all meant.

I stopped about every 20 minutes on the rest of the drive because I had dozens of messages to answer –

Family and friends knew I was headed to Fort Drum, but they didn't know where

in New York it was located.

My niece, who was 6 at the time and was home-schooled, was studying geography but she had not learned the difference between New York state and New York City. She knew I was headed to New York, and in her mind, I was going to be right at the site where her morning cartoons were interrupted to broadcast the terrorist attacks. I reassured her that I was hundreds of miles away. To this day, she has no desire to fly.

My drive to the installation was very long and tedious. I stopped once to watch a TV in a hotel reception area — at about the time I heard of the crash in Pennsylvania.

There were about 50 other concerned travelers as my companions and I watched the replays of the attack for the first time.

Late in the afternoon my attempt to get on post to sign in was a failure – the front

RECOUNTS, from Page 4

deployed to Iraq in 2005.

With troops being lost sometimes every day to improvised explosive devices, he called that first combat tour in Iraq the "bad old days" of the Iraq War. He said before the U.S. had developed new technologies and techniques to counter them, 500- to 1,000-pound IEDs were buried deep beneath roads, and the enemy was sometimes using infrared mechanisms and timers to trigger them.

"Somebody was getting blown up every day," he said.

The advent of the IED changed the entire Army. Ashmead said before 9/11, an infantry battalion had roughly 20 vehicles.

"Now, I have 45 to 50 armored vehicles in my organization," he said. "The IED threat has motorized light infantry to a certain extent."

It also expanded the global war on terrorism to a 360-degree battlefield.

"There is no longer any rear area where you can travel relatively safely in a canvas-sided vehicle," he explained. "Now, everything is a combat vehicle, because IEDs can be everywhere."

After redeploying to Fort Drum in 2006, Ashmead attended the Army's Sergeants Major Academy in Fort Bliss, Texas, for nine months.

He returned to the North Country in 2007 to become operations sergeant major for 3rd Squadron, 71st Cavalry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team. A year later, he assumed his current position as 2-14 Infantry's command sergeant major.

"I think the division's work ethos meshes well with the civilian community's work ethos off post. It's not easy to go and do some of the jobs we've done. ... But then again, it's not easy to be a dairy farmer in the North Country or work on a road crew, because the elements fight you as much as anything else."

Command Sgt. Maj. Carl A. Ashmead

He called his second combat tour to Iraq from 2009 to 2010 a "very gentle" deployment, because the Iraqi Army and police were doing all the heavy lifting.

"We were there almost entirely in a supporting role," he said. "We were just watching them run for the goal line."

Ashmead noted 2nd Brigade Combat Team had a long history in Iraq and that it was one of the last combat brigades to pull out.

He also mentioned how the deployment provided some closure for the brigade, since 2-14 Infantry was able to help apprehend the mastermind behind the deaths of Staff Sgt. Alex Jimenez, Spc. Byron Fouty and Pfc. Joseph Anzack. The Soldiers were with the brigade's 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry Regiment, when they disappeared in May 2007 while on patrol in the so-called "triangle of death" south of Baghdad.

"It was a little bit of closure that we were able to bring justice," he said. "Most every-

guard denied me entrance and said the post was locked down. I had to go back to the interstate area to get a room.

When Sunday rolled around, I went to church in the post chapel.

The chaplain addressed the events of the week with a specific story. As best I remember it, a young — officer I think — was in the chaplain's office for emergency assistance on 9/11. It seems his wife worked in one of the World Trade Center towers and was trying to get out via an elevator. She called him, and they were talking as she was trying to escape. When she entered the elevator, her signal cut off. He never heard from her again. There were several messages during this sermon. But the one the chaplain kept coming back to, and the one I took away, was supporting Families, Soldiers and people in your community.

As Paul Harvey would have said, "we all

SECURITY, from Page 6

body was able to leave Iraq with a very positive sense of what we had done and what had been accomplished there."

Looking back over his many years as a Soldier at Fort Drum, Ashmead said the most rewarding job he has had with the division is his current one.

"As the battalion command sergeant major, I really have an impact on not just the Soldiers but the non-commissioned officers (too)," he said. "The NCOs who have come along since 9/11 are probably better warfighters than any from the NCO Corps developed during the Cold War. We probably haven't seen a Noncommissioned Corps like this since (Vietnam)."

The sergeant major said one of the most enjoyable jobs was in 2001.

"When you're a platoon sergeant ... you're there every day with the Soldiers," he said. "You're connected very closely to them. And you're the first guy who really has the answers."

Ashmead said he's grateful for his time so far at Fort Drum and the North Country. He noted it's a community that loves and supports its Soldiers, which is why many of those troops choose to stay in the area when retiring from Fort Drum.

"Being here for (the past) decade has been a very positive experience for me and my Family," he said. "I can think of actually no better place to serve in the U.S. Army than at Fort Drum, N.Y. There's no better place to live than in northern New York.

"I wouldn't trade it for anything," he added. "I wouldn't trade it for 10 of the best assignments in the U.S. Army." □

know the rest of the story."

I now work as a civilian for the Army in its marketing division, and as I travel around the Army, I run into numerous people I served with – some are still Soldiers and others have moved on. In the intervening years, much has happened – we have dedicated, memorialized and consecrated; we have rebuilt; we have sacrificed; we have mourned and we finally "got" bin Laden. We also "got" Saddam Hussein.

For a short time during the beginning of this historic-making period in which we have all been participants, we united as one. We hurt and mourned as one. We moved forward as one. We committed as one. And as the chaplain said my first Sunday at Fort Drum, we supported each other – as one.

Spc. Rachael Tolliver formerly served as a staff writer on Fort Drum's post newspaper.

implementing procedures to prepare for catastrophe.

Simard said annual force-protection exercises, like active-shooter scenarios, help officials calculate and plan for their emergency responses. Testing the Giant Voice twice a month also supplements response plans.

"What if the bad guy does get through (our defenses), and we need to alert the masses?" he said.

In addition, recent upgrades and security measures have been completed at Iraqi Freedom Drive, Nash Boulevard and Wheeler-Sack Army Airfield. Appleby said the updates include new canopies, guard booths, additional lanes, emergency generators, automation prep and active vehicle barriers.

The same modernizations are under way at Mount Belvedere Boulevard – tentatively scheduled to be completed this month. Updates are not yet scheduled to begin at the Gas Alley and 45th Infantry Division Drive gates.

But even with the many physical security plans and measures put in place since 9/11, Simard said the giant puzzle law enforcement officials actively seek to solve involves viable threats detected early by alert neighbors, co-workers, friends and relatives.

"For the most part, the community is much more aware and much more apt to report (something) since 2001," Simard said. "If something seems out of the ordinary, people are reporting (it).

"There's no piece of data that is too small," he added. "(Call 774-TIPS) and let the law enforcement guys investigate." □

Spouses use technology to stay 'connected' during deployment

Michelle Kennedy

Staff Writer

Today, technology is a part of everyday life. People use "apps," or applications, to do everything from buy household items or downloading music to balancing their checkbooks. Likewise, a simple Internet connection can unite two people thousands of miles away.

During the past 10 years, military Families have been put to the test. Long deployments and the occasional phone call have made it difficult for Families to stay connected. However, in recent years, technology has improved, taking Soldiers away from the battlefield and temporarily placing them back in their homes. Soldiers can now participate in important Family events like Thanksgiving, anniversaries and even the birth of a child.

One Fort Drum spouse whose husband is deployed to Afghanistan with the 10th Combat Aviation Brigade has seen the improvements in communication since the beginning of the war.

Kelley Arnold and her husband, Chief Warrant Officer 4 Rick Arnold, were married in June 2001 while he was stationed at Aviano Air Base, Italy. They were preparing to report to Fort Drum when they first heard the news of the attacks on the World Trade Center.

"(Before I met Rick), I wasn't affiliated with the Army at all," Arnold said. "As (the movers) were driving away with our things, that's when the first plane hit the first tower. Seeing that while living in a foreign country, all I could think was 'Is this real?'"

Like all Americans living in a foreign country at the time, the Arnolds were instructed to stay out of public as much as possible until they arrived in the North Country in October.

"At that time, I was such a newbie (to the Army) that Rick didn't talk to me all that much about what was going on," Arnold said. "He kept me in the dark because they were told not to talk about (security threats). I didn't question it."

When 10th CAB deployed to Afghanistan in 2003, it was initially planned as a six-month deployment, but it lengthened to 10 months, Arnold said.

"It seemed like they'd never come home," she said.

Arnold was assigned to a forward operating base that was fairly new, so there wasn't



MICHELLE KENNEDY

Kelly Mear video chats with her husband, Staff Sgt. Charles Mear, at their Fort Drum home. Mear, who is with 10th Combat Aviation Brigade, is deployed to Afghanistan and will redeploy this fall.

a lot of ways he could communicate home.

"That deployment was extremely difficult," Arnold said. "He could only make phone calls from the (Morale, Welfare and Recreation) tents. Calls were few and far between."

"I remember missing his phone call three times in a row and I just sat down and bawled because that was my only contact with him," she continued. "It got to the point where I wouldn't do anything. I just sat by the phone waiting."

The unit redeployed in 2004 before returning to Afghanistan in 2006-2007. In the two years 10th CAB was home, technology improved vastly downrange and in some locations, Internet was available to individual Soldiers.

The Arnolds began using computer video chats during the second deployment, and continued to use programs like Messenger, Skype and Facebook to stay connected during the brigade's third and fourth deployment.

"It was phenomenal," Kelley Arnold said. "The picture was grainy and the picture would freeze, but you could see him in real life. You could see that he was OK."

The computer program the Arnolds used also allowed Rick to purchase a phone number.

"He had an answering machine and I could call him back," Arnold added. "It's

kind of silly, but if I really needed to hear his voice – even if I knew he wasn't going to be there – I would call his number just to hear him. That would help me get through the day and would instantly bring a smile to my face."

Kelly Mear, another 10th CAB spouse, said she and her Family didn't begin using online video chats until the brigade's deployment to Iraq in 2008-2009. She and her husband Staff Sgt. Charles Mear, and children Grace, 8, and Adam, 6, have been through three deployments with the brigade.

The Mears were married in 2000, and like the Arnolds, they have been through their fair share of separations.

When Charles Mear was assigned to Korea in 2005, the Family didn't have a computer at home.

"We had amazingly high phone bills, (and we mailed) cards and letters," Kelly Mear said. "(Communicating) was expensive at the time, but for the last two deployments, we've had laptop computers."

Mear said one year, she placed the laptop on the dinner table during the Family's Thanksgiving feast, so her husband could share the holiday with everyone. She also said being able to share the everyday things she and the children do allows them to stay connected as a Family.

"(We can share) the little things that hap-



SGT. JONATHAN W. THOMAS

Command Sgt. Maj. Ronald Johnson, command sergeant major for 3rd Brigade Special Troops Battalion, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, watches his son graduate from Carthage Central High School during a live video stream June 24.

pen in our lives and what's going on (in Afghanistan), so when they do come home, they're not so out-of-the-loop," Mear said. "They know what's going on, how many teeth have been lost, who's gotten a haircut (or) special things (the children accomplished) at school."

Kelley Arnold and Kelly Mear both agree, however, that technology sometimes has a negative side.

"I think I take (his calls) for granted sometimes," Arnold said. "Because we talk so often, I get used to receiving a call every day instead of valuing every second I get to talk to him. Being able to talk to Rick a lot is a double-edged sword for the simple reason that now I worry why he hasn't called."

When Charles Mear first deployed to Afghanistan last year, his children had a hard time adjusting to the deployment, Kelly Mear said.

"Initially, it was very difficult for the kids," she said. "There were times (when) they didn't want to see him. They were too heartbroken, because they knew he wasn't coming home any time soon."

Mear added that it took the children about a month to be able to interact with their father online, and now they're excited to see and talk to him.

"(Digital communication is) good for the Family," Mear explained. "It's all about the communication. It helps keep the Family close. □

Children of war find ways to cope with separations

Michelle Kennedy

Staff Writer

When Soldiers deploy, it's up to their spouses to do what they can to hold the Family together until they're reunited. However, military children are required to make sacrifices, too, often stepping up to fill the temporary void left by their service member parent.

Many of the Army's tiniest warriors have never known a time without deployments. Multiple separations cause them to grow up a little faster than some of their peers. They have to do their part to complete household duties and help care for other siblings, all while keeping a brave face for their remaining parent at home.

Name: Jonathan Patton

Age: 10

Jonathan Patton said he often helps his mom, Sonia, around the house. His Family has been stationed here since 2007.

"I have to help her out with everything, especially electronics," he said. "Usually when she's sick, I have to make her breakfast and lunch. Then she feels better."

Jonathan was 10 months old when his father held him for the first time. His dad deployed to Kosovo with 2nd Squadron, 17th Cavalry Regiment from Fort Campbell, Ky, when Jonathan was born. Since Jonathan was born, the Family has endured deployments to Iraq in 2005 and 2008, and to Afghanistan in 2010.

Although deployments are tough, Jonathan said he enjoys being in a military Family.

All of his friends have parents in the military, and they all share an unspoken bond because they understand what it's like to go through a deployment.

"I get to meet a lot of nice kids who know what (I'm) going through, and sometimes they'll help (me) out," he said. "I don't think (other children) understand what we go through. If they had to experience it, they'd understand."

While other children may have to deal with an occasional separation from their parents, it's for a shorter period than military children endure, Jonathan added.

"It's a really big difference; they're used to having their dad or mom always there with them," he said. "Some kids think Soldiers go out and fight, but it's a lot more than that – they fight for our country."

Jonathan and his mother watch the news every morning, and he said knowing what is going on in the world, especially where his dad is serving, makes him feel better



STAFF SGT. JOHN QUEEN

Pfc. Chris Paterson holds his 6-year-old daughter Aliva before deploying to Afghanistan from Fort Drum on Jan. 9, 2010. Paterson is an infantryman assigned to C Company, 2nd Battalion, 22nd Infantry Regiment, 1st Brigade Combat Team. His battalion would be the first of six from the 1st BCT to deploy as part of the troop surge in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

even though it also scares him.

"Sometimes it's sort of frustrating, but I know why they're there," he said. "I understand they're there to help prevent (another terrorist attack) from happening."

Patton has been gone nearly a year, and Jonathan said they are anxiously awaiting his return.

"Sometimes I sort of get blue (when he is away), but after a while – when you've been through it for 10 years – you sort of get used to it," he explained. "But the two parts where it really gets to you is when he comes back and when he leaves – at the beginning and at the end."

It's especially hard in the beginning, because Jonathan and his father do everything together.

"It's easy to adjust to Dad being home," he said. "We plan stuff before he comes home. The first thing I'm going when he gets home is hug him, and I usually jump on him. Usually we go to dinner. He likes Cracker Barrel when he comes back, so we have to go there."

said. "I have one friend who's a foster child and is in a similar situation. I still keep in touch with friends at Fort Drum on the phone and through email; most of their dads are deployed, too."

Sometimes watching the news scares Rebecca, because she understands what's going on overseas.

"It makes me worry and wonder," she explained. "It makes me wish he was back home, and I just hope he doesn't get hurt."

"I'm just really proud of my dad for being the military and serving our country," she continued.

The Crist Family is preparing for a permanent-change-of-station move to South Carolina after Rebecca's father returns from Afghanistan.

"I'm excited about the move to S.C.," she said. "(My dad is) coming home soon, so we'll probably go back to Fort Drum, but he'll probably be (in Maine) for Thanksgiving and Christmas."

Name: Ruth Mintz

Age: 14

Ruth was born in Sauk City, Wis., during her father's deployment to Bosnia. Luckily, he was able to make it home for her birth. Ruth's mother, Karyn, had moved home to be near her Family while she was pregnant with their first of four children.

The Mintz Family is no stranger to Fort Drum – they've been stationed and deployed out of Fort Drum three times in Ruth's lifetime.

Ruth said her favorite thing about being from a military Family is being able to move around. While she loved living in Germany and Australia, she said her favorite place so far is Sackets Harbor. They returned here in 2010.

The unit deployed to Afghanistan with 3rd Brigade Combat Team this past spring.

"The first time (I remember my dad deploying) was when we were at Fort Drum for the first time when I was 8," Ruth said. "I don't remember really realizing that he was gone, but (being older), now I understand."

During the next deployment a couple of years later, Ruth said she asked her mother not to tell her when he was deploying because she didn't want to go through the weeks preceding his absence, knowing he would soon be gone. Going to a redeployment ceremony, however, is always a happy occasion.

"I remember looking for my dad (at the ceremony); he always wears his hat a goofy

Fort Drum landscape sees decade of physical changes

Jennifer Caprioli
Staff Writer

For the past 10 years, Fort Drum's landscape – specifically the training area, housing and mission-essential infrastructure – has been overhauled, upgraded and expanded to align with the current overseas contingency operations.

Training facilities

In the months following the Sept. 11 attacks, Fort Drum began to expand training capabilities and resources to meet the mobilization and training need, as well as the needs of theater-specific missions.

Fort Drum personnel began focusing on small-unit tactical training and what was required to enhance and expand the training ranges, as well as the resources required to meet those training needs as they evolved, said Joe Wood, Training Division chief.

Post personnel realized training should be focused on small-unit tactics, such as entering and clearing buildings. And, with the advent of the improvised explosive device, units must learn to defeat the devices, so training resources and assets were developed that would help Soldiers prepare for various kinds of scenarios.

"(Before) 9/11, we were prepared for major conflict. We were training for full-spectrum operations, or mission-essential tasks, units preparing for war, such as a major conflict on a continent or somewhere else in the world," Wood explained. "Training was more focused toward a larger scale."

Up until 9/11, the primary focus of the Army was peacekeeping operations. "Since that kind of training was going on, we didn't really focus on unit attack and small-unit tactics that were necessary to defeat insurgent operations," Wood noted.

To meet that need, structures began popping up throughout the training area, which is located northeast of main post.

"On any given day, (we) have anywhere from 3,500 to 9,000 Soldiers in the training

area, so you have to have multiple levels of facilities so more than one unit can train at a time," Wood said.

Fort Drum's training area is equipped with three types of urban live-fire facilities.

Since 2005, Fort Drum has built three shock-absorbent concrete shoot houses, which allow units to fire live ammunition during training. Each SACON house, which is about 2,500 square feet, replaced old wooden shoot houses.

These structures are designed to replicate buildings with compartmentalized rooms and hallways, so Soldiers can use them to practice how they would enter and clear a building and efficiently secure the facility, Wood explained.

One of the shoot houses is fully automated, meaning it has video and audio capability, used in after-action reviews.

Also built in the training area is Dodge City, a 10-station Military Operations on Urban Terrain assault course, and two live-fire villages, consisting of multiple structures to accommodate various training scenarios.

The training area also houses four types of urban sites, which are used for village scenarios and training.

The first village, built in 2005, is a metal mobile MOUT village, which consists of 45 structures with third-world facades, mosques, a market and walled compound.

"When you design the training, it can't be just for one country because we're not going to always be in one country; we're going to always be in one country; we're going to be all over the world," Wood said. He describes the villages as "universal, with a third-world flavor."

There is another MOUT site, located on Swift Road, which consists of 24 wooden structures, including a mosque and a market.

Fort Drum personnel built another village, the Sterlingville Urban Sprawl, which consists of eight wooden structures and a market laid on a road intersection. Soldiers use this area for checkpoint and other training operations.

The fourth site, the Afghanistan Village



MICHELLE KENNEDY

Soldiers from 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team participate in a life-fire mission this past June at one of the many ranges in the training area that have been upgraded since 9/11.

Complex, is a MOUT consisting of 35 container structures simulating an Afghan-style village divided into two separate walled compounds.

Woods said they focused on replicating an Afghan village because "(Afghanistan) is a large theater and we've been there for over 10 years."

There is also an urban training facility in the training area, called the Combined Arms Collective Training Facility. It is a city of 30 structures, equipped with an after-action review facility, flight landing strip,

fenced military compound, dispersed roadside structures and smaller compounds.

In addition to the facilities in the training area, there are facilities, called brigade combat team MOUT sites, in the cantonment area, next to the brigades' barracks and headquarters.

"That allows (Soldiers) to go right out the back door and train on their urban tasks, without having to go out to the range," Wood explained.

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Army civilians step up to meet post challenges

Michelle Kennedy
Staff Writer

Fort Drum has seen a lot of change in the past 10 years – from population growth, more infrastructure, increased security and training. While many know Soldiers conduct their day-to-day operations at the North Country installation, civilians continue to stand behind them to provide services and support.

"Army civilian employees' main focus is to support Soldiers and Families," said Denise Wallace, Civilian Personnel Advisory Center director, adding that some also support other civilians. "Everyone somehow touches the life of a Soldier or Family."

All of Fort Drum's basic operations – from utilities, to taking care of the roads, overseeing building construction projects, gate security, the PX and the commissary – are all performed by civilians, Wallace explained.

After 9/11 and the subsequent deployments that followed, civilians were needed even more, not only to fill the "boots" of Soldiers' duties on post, but to provide support to their Families at home.

When 3rd Brigade Combat Team stood up in August 2004, the post's population of Soldiers and Families grew. Directorates across post were required to hire more civilians and perform more duties than before.

"When you increase the Soldier population, the Family population increases, which means more child care centers, more barracks, more (unit) headquarters, more training growth," Wallace said. "The Army realized to keep a Soldier, you have to keep the Family."

Fort Drum's Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation's sole focus is on caring for Soldiers and Families, according to Hal Greer, FMWR director.

FMWR's Army Community Service program has been a staple at most Army installations for the past 46 years. Fort Drum's growth since 2001 has caused the program to grow exponentially, almost doubling in size, Greer explained.

"This is a commitment to Families by our Army," he said, adding FMWR currently employs some 500 civilians and roughly 75 contractors.

Soldiers and Family Members can find anything from relocation, employment and deployment preparation information, to financial help and counseling, assistance for international spouses and social workers. For example, Fort Drum's Mobilization and Deployment Program is specially designed to assist Soldiers and Families with the de-



MICHELLE KENNEDY

Ron Cooper, Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security branch chief, tests out a machine gun during a simulated convoy training exercise July 19. Army civilians step up to support Soldiers and Families every day.

ployment experience, providing training, resources and advice.

FMWR's Child, Youth and School Services also has grown from three child development centers in 2001, to nine today.

"We've carefully hired the right people – mostly Family Members. They're a great credit to our organization," Greer said.

The Directorate of Public Works' mission is to maintain and expand a supportive real property inventory for Soldiers and Families to include the best housing, unit operations facilities, training ranges, community facilities and reliable infrastructure while enhancing environmental stewardship and sustainability, according to Jim Corriveau, DPW director.

PW is responsible for everything from housing and issuing single Soldier barracks, to environmental compliance and stewardship.

The organization also cares for infrastructure, physical plant operations and maintenance, master planning of real estate and property, and engineer services like dams, bridges, fire suppression systems, structural certifications and code compliance.

"Our PW mission requirements are based upon the post population and facility inventory, both of which have grown substantially over the past 10 years," Corriveau explained. "PW currently has 314 assigned employees. This grows to about 430 during winter with our seasonal temporary augmentation staff for snow removal operations."

"It's an enormous privilege to be responsible for planning, building, operating and maintaining this magnificent physical plant in direct support of our Soldiers and Families," he continued.

The Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security's 274 employees' responsibilities range from the air traffic control tower at Wheeler-Sack Army Airfield to the training ranges for routine, pre / post-deployment training and other operations, according to Greg Ferguson, DPTMS director.

DPTMS staff coordinates emergency, security and antiterrorism efforts; mobilization and demobilization of units; and supports training functions, among many other tasks. The organization also maintains the state-of-the-art Battle Command

Training Center.

Since 9/11, DPTMS added the Security Intelligence Division, Ferguson added.

"The Security and Intelligence Division advises and assists the garrison commander in defining, coordinating, managing and executing Fort Drum's multi-discipline security program, including personnel, information and industrial security, and security education training and awareness," he said.

The Directorate of Logistics, which employs more than 700 civilians and contractors, saw growth since 2001 because of the unit modularization and increasing number of deployments, according to Brian Sterner, acting DOL chief. DOL provides installation logistics support – maintenance, supply and transportation – to Fort Drum garrison and tenant units.

"Logistics support includes all classes of supply and services, covering everything from food service to UH-60 Black Hawk reset," Sterner explained. "DOL supports tactical logistics units and provides support directly to Soldiers and their Families as

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SPC. BLAIR NEELANDS

Spc. Moshal Sanchez, right, a linguist with 3rd Battalion, 6th Field Artillery Regiment, 1st Brigade Combat Team, translates as Alhaj Shahreza Munshi Zada, minister of culture and information for Faryab Province, explains to Lt. Col. Kyle Marsh, 3-6 FA commander how the cast metal type pieces used in their printing press works, in Maimaneh, Afghanistan.



STAFF SGT. MICHEL SAURET

An Iraqi interpreter with Multinational Division - Center rides a helicopter above Camp Liberty during a 2008 mission to meet with Iraqi leaders.

Afghan and Iraqi instructors

bring different perspective to post-9/11 world

Jennifer Caprioli

Staff Writer

Changing your whole life around and moving across an ocean to an entirely different country isn't easy. Add in the complications of being in a country where there is widespread misunderstanding of your religion, the way you look and the language you speak, and it almost seems impossible to survive.

Despite the negativity they have seen in their native lands and in the United States, two men – who grew up in very different countries, who share a common bond of religion – have been able to define themselves as Americans, while still keeping their heritage alive.

In 2001, just a few months before the Sept. 11 attacks, 22-year-old Hamza Jasim, a native of Babylon, Iraq, immigrated to the U.S.

That same year, Abdul Qader Sharifi, a native of Kabul, Afghanistan, got his first taste of working with the U.S. military.

After years of working at various jobs throughout the U.S., Jasim came to Fort Drum in 2007 and began working in the Language and Cultural Awareness Center as an Arabic language and Iraqi cultural awareness instructor.

During that time, Sharifi worked with coalition forces. He was involved in devel-

oping the Constitution of Afghanistan and took part in the country's first two elections.

In 2009, when asked if he'd like to come to the U.S. on a special immigration visa, Sharifi, then 26, jumped at the chance for a life in the "land of opportunity." At the time, his wife, whose mother had been killed by the Taliban, was pregnant with their first child.

Sharifi began working at the center on Fort Drum last year as a Farsi, Dari and Pashto language instructor and Middle Eastern cultural awareness adviser.

In the beginning

"(At first) my experience in the United States wasn't pleasant," Jasim admitted. "(I was seeking) a better life, freedom and equality."

Instead, he found a world where everyone was "aware of people who had this Middle Eastern look," and he felt like people harbored an unpleasant curiosity and hate toward him.

Torn between staying in a country that didn't seem to want him and a country that wouldn't let him return, Jasim made the decision to stay in the U.S.

"At the beginning, it was just a job. I was looking to do my part and secure my income. After a while I saw a big effect on how people observed the learning experience, and I got involved more," Jasim said.

He said he knows his job here is an important aspect of the learning process and essential to building better relations between nations.

Learning the U.S. culture

"(America) is a land of opportunity for those who know the value of it," Sharifi said.

"When I was in Afghanistan, working with Americans, and they saw starving children who were working to earn up to \$1 (per day), the Soldiers didn't understand why the children had to work," he explained. Sharifi said he had a difficult time explaining that the Afghan government doesn't help out their citizens like the U.S. government does.

"You have to always keep your own culture, but I always believed in freedom, women's rights (and) education, but lifestyle-wise, there were a lot of things to accept (in the U.S.)," he said. He has put down roots in the North Country, because he wants a better life for his wife, daughter and baby on the way.

Understanding their culture

"To a certain extent, the (Afghan and Iraqi) cultures are similar," Jasim said. "Because (our cultures are) dominated by religion, we share a lot of the same values."

The cultures differ mainly when it comes to legacy traditions, which include celebra-

tions and dress.

"The most important thing – the day-to-day life – is based on and dominated by religion. That's why (there are) a lot of similarities," Sharifi explained.

A better tomorrow

Both countries have noted significant changes over the past 10 years.

After 2006, changes came to Afghanistan. Schools were built and roads constructed, Sharifi explained.

"In Afghanistan, a lot of things are going on the right path, but a lot of improvements need to be done in the country," he explained.

"Iraq has improved. Iraq has opened up to the world, trade-wise, and (the Iraqi) people became more aware of world events," Jasim said.

Both countries have begun practicing democracy.

"Afghans really appreciate what the (coalition forces) have done for us," Sharifi said, noting their appreciation is for the overall freedom and job opportunities they've gained over the past 10 years.

Sharifi noted that Afghanistan's young generation appreciates the freedom they have.

"The new generation will always appreci-

See PERSPECTIVE, Page 22

Young 10th Combat Aviation Brigade Soldiers reflect on 9/11

Jennifer Caprioli

Staff Writer

The average Soldier was between 10 and 14 years old when planes, hijacked by suicide bombers, crashed into the World Trade Center's twin towers in New York City. While not all Soldiers were directly affected by the terrorist attacks, many made the decision to join the military as a reaction to the assault on their country.

Average Soldiers in today's Army waited up to eight years before they could answer the call of duty, but vividly remembers exactly what they were doing the day that inadvertently changed their lives forever.

Sgt. Joshua Brummett, a forward observer with Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 10th Combat Aviation Brigade, recalls the morning of the Tuesday attacks as a 12-year-old boy in band class, living in Cincinnati.

"The principal came over (the loudspeaker) with the announcement that something had happened in New York. They immediately stopped everything and turned the (television) on, and we watched it all unfold after the initial attack," he explained. "Once the first tower went down, (there) was just complete silence. Nobody knew exactly what to think, and it was pretty hectic."

After the attacks on the World Trade Center's north and south buildings, Brummett said his principal came over the loudspeaker and announced that there was another plane crash at the Pentagon, followed by the fourth in Pennsylvania.

"It was just somber throughout the rest of the day. We watched the news and let everything develop," he added.

Across the country, another 12-year-old was getting ready for school when her mom broke the news to her.

Sgt. Nicole Trevino, a paralegal with HHC, 10th CAB, was living in Tucson, Ariz., but had Family Members in New York City that day.

"We couldn't get through any of the phone lines, and it was just (chaotic)," she said. "I was really scared, but I think I was too young to understand everything that was going on. I saw a lot of fear and anger in my parents and siblings."

Confusion was the typical feeling among many adolescents across the country. The words "al-Qaida" and "Taliban" were not household subjects at the time, so the attacks came as a surprise to America's youths.

Pfc. Michelle Dunning, a human resource specialist also in HHC, 10th CAB, was an 8-year-old in Clarksville, Tenn. She said she didn't understand what was going on when the lights at her school were turned off and there was a moment of silence for a tragedy that occurred more than 900 miles away.

Because television was not turned on, Dunning was confused until she got home and saw her father.

"I remember my dad telling me he was probably going to have to deploy," she said of her father, a retired chief warrant officer 4, who was with 101st Airborne Division at the time.

Dunning admitted she didn't understand

where her father was going or what he would be doing at the time – all she knew was that she was upset he would be leaving.

On the opposite side of the country, more than 2,800 miles away in San Diego, Pfc. Harold Taylor, signal support system specialist with HHC, 10th CAB, thought the attack was some sort of joke.

Taylor and his friends were acting like "typical highschoolers" and joking while they were watching the news. Then, they watched the second plane hit and the class became quiet.

"We thought it was a missile," he said. "That changed the whole mood of the class."

Since he was living in a military town, he and his friends instantly knew their parents would be gearing up for duty.

"As a kid, I didn't understand why (anyone) would do that," he said, noting that was the first time he heard about Osama bin Laden. After that, he began seeing the military in a different light.

"Growing up, my dad was always (away), but then I understood why," he explained.

His choice to join the military stemmed from his father's influence, knowing people who were in New York City at the time of the attack, and he was intrigued after hearing accounts from his friends who went into the military immediately after high school.

After attending college, he joined the Army.

"I joined the military because I feel like I can make a difference," he said.

Trevino's decision to serve in the military wasn't directly influenced by 9/11, but more

by her brother, who joined the Marine Corps in response to the 9/11 attacks.

"He decided he wanted to join the military so he could support our country, and I decided I wanted to do exactly what my brother did," she said.

Dunning said her decision to serve her country was influenced by another Family Member – her father.

"I wanted to say I did something for my country, but a lot of it had to do with my dad," she said, hoping her decision would make him proud of her.

Brummett said his decision to join the Army was based entirely on the 9/11 attacks.

"Once I got to 9th grade and we started the initial invasion, I decided then that this was what I was going to do. I graduated six months early (from) high school and joined (the Army) right away," he explained. "I firmly believe we had to do something in response to the attacks."

The Soldiers all agree that joining the Army and deploying in support of their country has given them a better appreciation for life.

"I've learned a lot about Iraq and Afghanistan, and not all of (the people) are hateful toward the U.S. A lot of them are very appreciative of what we've done. I've learned that not everyone is against us and everyone eventually just wants us to keep the peace," Brummett said.

"I think seeing everything firsthand is something that you can't explain to someone else who hasn't been here. I feel like it gives (me) a different outlook – especially interaction with the local (population). (I) can see how much alike we are," Trevino said.

"(The events of) 9/11 definitely made me appreciate things more, and I have a different perspective on life," Dunning added.

The Soldiers also noted they have developed a better understanding of the military missions overseas.

"Because we're (deployed), we (see) what (the U.S.) has been through for the past 10 years," Brummett noted.

"I think there are a lot of good things going on over here. We read about them, we hear about them and sometimes, we participate in them, and I think that is a great thing we are doing," Trevino explained.

Soldiers from 10th CAB deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom last fall and will redeploy to Fort Drum within the next few months. □



MASTER SGT. DOUG SAMPLE

Combat Aviation Brigade CH-47 Chinook helicopters sit on the flightline at Bagram Airfield, Afghanistan, on April 11, 2007, waiting for a night assault to begin.



10th Mountain Division leaves 'boot' print in history

From global war on terrorism to overseas contingency operation

Jennifer Caprioli and Michelle Kennedy
Staff Writers

Before the World Trade Center twin towers fell and the planes crashed into the Pentagon and a field in western Pennsylvania, about one-third of the 10th Mountain Division (LI) was already deployed to places such as Egypt, Bosnia and Kosovo.

What began as declaration of war evolved into a mission to win hearts and minds. Prepared to carry out whatever mission necessary, troops on the ground in Afghanistan and Iraq were set on bringing justice to those who took the lives of innocent people.

Tyrannical forces had taken over areas in the Middle East, resulting in Soldiers not only performing operational missions but also providing humanitarian aid.

Soldiers began constructing schools, roads and bridges for the local population. They also delivered supplies such as food, winter weather gear and books to families in remote villages. To facilitate other methods to make a living, seeds, fertilizer and veterinary care were provided to farmers and their livestock.

During the past 10 years, Soldiers from Fort Drum's 10th Mountain Division (LI) have been in the heat of battle. They made sacrifices – long separations from their loved ones, harsh living conditions. Fathers and mothers, sisters and brothers, friends and comrades paid the ultimate sacrifice: fighting, living and dying in an unforgiving land.

It all began that fateful day known as 9/11.

2001

♦Sept. 11 – Terrorists hijack four commercial jets, each leaving around 8 a.m. Two are flown into the World Trade Center in New York City and one into the Pentagon.



In 2007, Soldiers from 1st Brigade Combat Team board a passenger plane en route to Iraq.

FILE PHOTO

gon, while the last crashes into a field in western Pennsylvania. It is later discovered that the terrorists were members of the al-Qaida network, led by Osama bin Laden.

Soldiers on post are placed on alert, citing force protection plans as top priority.

♦Sept. 13 – Congress authorizes President George W. Bush to declare war on

those responsible for the attacks.

♦Sept. 23 – Fort Drum deploys Soldiers of 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry Regiment, to Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md., in support of Operation Noble Eagle to protect potential domestic targets from additional terrorist attacks.

♦Oct. 2-10 – The first overseas deployments

send Fort Drum Soldiers to Uzbekistan. Soldiers of 1st Battalion, 87th Infantry Regiment and 4-31 Infantry deploy to support Operation Enduring Freedom.

Troops conduct patrols and infiltrate the heart of Afghanistan, seeking out al-Qaida and Taliban terrorists responsible for the Sept. 11 attacks.

"When 1-87 Infantry was alerted to deploy overseas the first week of October and then our division headquarters in November, it was clear that the 10th Mountain Division would be on the front lines very early in the fight," said Maj. Gen. Franklin L. Hagenbeck, 10th Mountain Division (LI) and Fort Drum commander.

♦Mid-November – Elements of 10th Mountain Division (LI) headquarters deploy to support operations in the Middle East. The headquarters becomes the lead unit in the ground war on terrorism.

♦Pvt. Giovanni Maria, 19, a member of A Company, 1-87 Infantry, becomes the first 10th Mountain Division (LI) noncombat casualty in the global war on terrorism on Nov. 29.

2002

♦Mid-February – A 10th Mountain Division (LI) tactical operations center moves to Bagram Airbase, Afghanistan, which includes Special Operations Forces and Task Forces 1-87 Infantry and 4-31 Infantry. There, division-level planning takes shape for what many consider to be the most pivotal mission in the war on terrorism: Operation Anaconda.

♦March 2 – Operation Anaconda, the coalition's effort to drive out remaining terrorists from their refuge in the Shah-I-Koht Valley, begins. Operation Anaconda is hailed as a success by top-level officials. The operation came to a close in mid-March.

♦April – Soldiers from 4-31 Infantry cap-



FILE PHOTO

During a deployment to Afghanistan in 2004, Soldiers from 2nd Battalion, 87th Infantry Regiment regroup during a mission.

ture and destroy numerous enemy weapons, munitions and equipment, and clear and destroy caves and bunkers. Among the recovered items were U.S. weapons and equipment that had been lost to the enemy during a horrific gunfight between al-Qaida fighters and U.S. Special Operations Forces.

♦April to September – Polar Harpoon gets under way. Soldiers from 4-31 Infantry sweep through the Shah-I-Koht region, destroying what was left of enemy bunkers. The effort, designed to thwart al-Qaida and Taliban personnel from returning to the region, is deemed a success.

♦Sept. 5 – All members of 10th Mountain

Division (LI) have redeployed to Fort Drum by this time.

2003

♦March 17 – Bush announces he will give Saddam Hussein and his sons 48 hours to leave Iraq, or coalition forces will attack Iraq.

♦April 7 to June 10 – Soldiers from 2nd Battalion, 87th Infantry Regiment, and 2nd Battalion, 22nd Infantry Regiment, head to Fort Knox, Ky., to help test the effectiveness of a new armored vehicle, the Stryker.

♦April – Soldiers of 10th Mountain Division leave Basher Air-

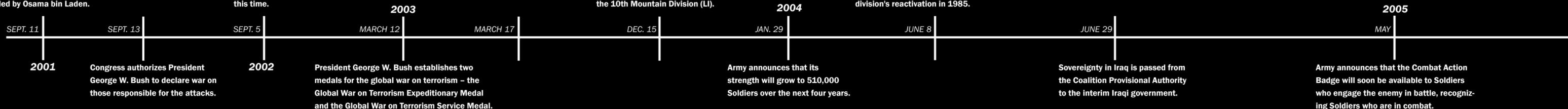
Terrorists hijack four commercial jets, each leaving around 8 a.m. Two are flown into the World Trade Center in New York City and one into the Pentagon, while the last crashes into a field in western Pennsylvania. It is later discovered that the terrorists were members of the al-Qaida network, led by Osama bin Laden.

All members of 10th Mountain Division (LI) have redeployed to Fort Drum by this time.

President George W. Bush announces he will give Saddam Hussein and his sons 48 hours to leave Iraq, or coalition forces will attack Iraq.

The first of 13 CH-47 Chinooks arrive at Fort Drum. The arrival marks the first time the heavy-lift capability has been assigned to the 10th Mountain Division (LI).

Afghanistan President Hamid Karzai visits Fort Drum, where he personally thanks 10th Mountain Division Soldiers for their role in ousting the Taliban regime and aiding Afghanistan. He is the first foreign head of state to visit Fort Drum since the division's reactivation in 1985.



10th Mountain Division leaves 'boot' print in history

field in northern Iraq and head to the town of Kirkuk, providing fire support coordination, force protection, looter control and airfield security for 173rd Airborne Brigade.

♦May 4 – Infantrymen from C Company, 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry Regiment arrive in Djibouti to support Combined Joint Task Force-Horn of Africa. Their mission involves detecting, disrupting and defeating transitional terrorist groups operating in the Horn of Africa region. They also will conduct civil-military and humanitarian operations.

♦June 5 – Division Soldiers arrive at Camp Phoenix, Afghanistan, to begin training the Afghan National Army.

♦July – Soldiers of 2nd Battalion, 15th Field Artillery Regiment are tasked to support 173rd Airborne Brigade in Task Force Government, which is designed to help newly elected leaders of Kirkuk, Afghanistan, build a stable democratic government.

♦July – Soldiers from 3rd Platoon, A Troop, 3rd Squadron, 17th Cavalry Regiment arrive at Kandahar Airfield in support of Operation Enduring Freedom, becoming the first cavalry unit deployed in support of the mission.

♦Aug. 31 – While on patrol near Shkin, Afghanistan, Spc. Chad



A 1st Battalion, 87th Infantry Regiment Soldier sets up security in November 2005 in preparation for a humanitarian assistance mission to distribute food, clothes, medical supplies and toys to Iraqi citizens.

FILE PHOTO

E. Fuller, and Pfc. Adam L. Thomas, both infantrymen assigned to 1-87 Infantry, are killed in action. They are the first combat deaths the division has suffered in the war on terrorism.

♦September – Soldiers from B Company, 41st Engineer Battalion become the first in the Army to field the Scottish-made Aardvark mine-clearing vehicle, which uses a system of rapidly spinning chain link flails that violently cut into the ground's surface at varying depths.

♦Dec. 15 – The first of 13 CH-47 Chi-

nooks arrive at Fort Drum. The arrival marks the first time the heavy-lift capability has been assigned to the 10th Mountain Division (LI).

2004

♦Jan. 6 – Soldiers from C Company, 2nd Battalion, 87th Infantry Regiment arrive in the Ghazni Province, Afghanistan, to help create Comanche Firebase.

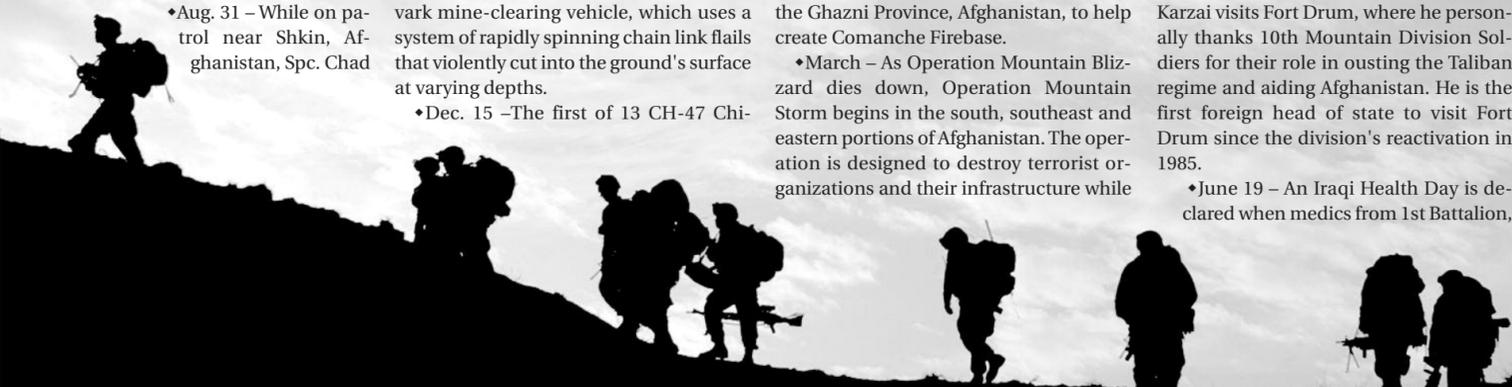
♦March – As Operation Mountain Blizzard dies down, Operation Mountain Storm begins in the south, southeast and eastern portions of Afghanistan. The operation is designed to destroy terrorist organizations and their infrastructure while

continuing to focus on national stability and support.

♦April – Soldiers from 3-17 Cavalry help with a renovation project in Mosul, Iraq, which will provide local villagers with access to purified water for drinking and cooking.

♦June 8 – Afghanistan President Hamid Karzai visits Fort Drum, where he personally thanks 10th Mountain Division Soldiers for their role in ousting the Taliban regime and aiding Afghanistan. He is the first foreign head of state to visit Fort Drum since the division's reactivation in 1985.

♦June 19 – An Iraqi Health Day is declared when medics from 1st Battalion,



The 10th Mountain Division's brigade combat teams are the first modular units to enter Operation Enduring Freedom.

Secretary of Defense Robert M. Gates extends active-duty Army deployments to 15 months.

Army announces Fort Drum will receive a maneuver brigade by 2013, bringing some 1,500 additional Soldiers here. Overall growth reaches nearly 8,000 since 2003.

2008

Marks last day to wear the battle dress uniform.

The 3rd Battalion, 85th Infantry Regiment reactivates after 62 years to support Fort Drum's wounded and seriously ill Soldiers as a Warrior Transition Unit.



From global war on terrorism to overseas contingency operation



FILE PHOTO

Afghanistan President Hamid Karzai shakes hands with Sgt. Danny Swank, 110th Military Intelligence Battalion, during a ceremony held in the president's honor in 2004, as Maj. Gen. Lloyd J. Austin III looks on. Swank earned the Purple Heart and a Bronze Star for his service in Afghanistan.

32nd Infantry Regiment supply some 100 residents of Al-Fauhaylat with 65 first aid kits. The effort is designed to provide the Iraqi people with basic medicines to treat themselves.

♦June – Soldiers from B Company, 10th Signal Battalion establish telephone, radio and Internet connections in Camp Victory, Iraq. The company will provide tactical commu-

nications for receiving information from 1st Cavalry Division and higher.

♦July – The announcement comes that 4th Brigade Combat Team will be stood up at Fort Polk, La., as part of the 10th Mountain Division (LI).

♦Aug. 20 – The division's 3rd Brigade Combat Team is stood up at Fort Drum. The unit is one of the Army's new brigade combat teams – highly deployable units designed to enhance combat operations.

♦Sept. 27 – The 10th Mountain Division (LI) officially transforms into the modular format the Army is evolving into during a ceremony at Sexton Field on post. Seven units are inactivated and 13 units are activated.

♦October – Soldiers from 2nd Battalion, 14th Infantry Regiment spend more than \$1 million on civic projects such as water pumps, water purification projects, school refurbishments, repairs to war-related damages, and wheat and barley seed for farmers in Baghdad, Iraq.

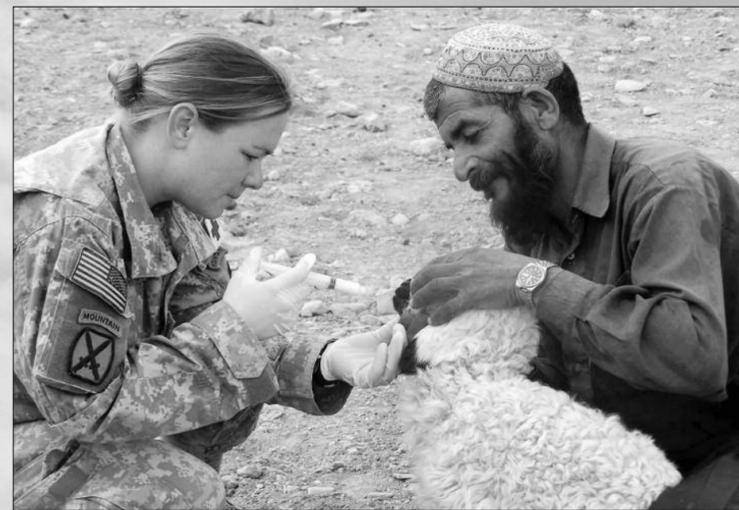
2005

♦Jan. 19 – The 4th BCT is officially activated at Fort Polk, La., as part of 10th Mountain Division (LI). With more than 3,000 personnel, this activation is a result of the modular focus to change active component maneuver brigades into 43 brigade combat team units of action by 2007.

♦Jan. 26 – While conducting a night patrol, Soldiers from 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry Regiment, foil a kidnapping attempt of eight Iraqis in Baghdad's Kadimiya District.

♦Jan. 30 – Division Soldiers in Baghdad, Iraq, bear witness as the Iraqi people vote in their first democratic election.

♦April 8 – Army announces eligibility for



FILE PHOTO

Spec. Melissa Hykes, E Company, 94th Brigade Special Troops Battalion, administers de-worming medication to an Afghan man's sheep in 2006.

Iraq and Afghanistan campaign medals. Soldiers are eligible for the Afghanistan Campaign Medal if they served in direct support of Operation Enduring Freedom on or after Oct. 24, 2001. Soldiers are eligible for the Iraq Campaign Medal if they served in direct support of Operation Iraqi Freedom on or after Oct. 24, 2001. The medals replace the former Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal.

♦April 20 – Soldiers from 1st Brigade Combat Team receive the Army combat uniform in preparation for their deployment later in the year.

♦May 20 to June 16 – The 2nd BCT's operations in Camp Liberty, Iraq, result in detaining more than 600 suspected terrorists.

♦Sept. 10 – The 1st Brigade Combat Team officially takes over operations from 256th Brigade Combat Team at Camp Liberty, Iraq. Soldiers of 1st BCT will pick up

where the 256th BCT left off by conducting cordon and searches, air and medical missions, establishing security and helping to train Iraqi forces.

♦Oct. 16 – Soldiers from 1st BCT witness a historic vote as they help the Iraqi Army provide security during the nation's constitutional referendum. Overall, about 15.5 million of Iraq's 26 million people voted.

♦Oct. 25 – Soldiers from 1st Squadron, 71st Cavalry Regiment drop much-needed supplies to Iraqi neighborhoods throughout western Baghdad. The purpose of the mission is to help Iraqis help themselves by working with local officials to create jobs renovating dilapidated buildings into sprawling community centers.

♦Dec. 15 – Soldiers from 1st BCT provide outer cordon security of Iraqi polling sites, allowing more than 10 million Iraqis to go to the polls and

President George W. Bush declares that deployments return to 12 months with a minimum of 12 months at home.

Army announces reorganization of National Guard and Reserve into modern, modular units, making them "interoperational with the active component."

President Barack Obama announces U.S. combat troops will redeploy from Iraq by August 2010, leaving about 35,000 to 50,000 American forces there to attend to Iraqi troop and police training, counterterrorism and other duties.

President Barack Obama scraps the term "global war on terrorism" and replaces it with "overseas contingency operations."



10th Mountain Division leaves 'boot' print in history

elect a new parliament.

2006

♦Feb. 7 – Soldiers from 2nd Battalion, 15th Field Artillery Regiment are recognized for rescuing two Egyptian hostages from insurgents.

♦Feb. 21 – The 10th Mountain Division headquarters prepares to replace Southern European Task Force as command element for Combined Joint Task Force-76.

“We are not at war with the Afghan people, but the enemies of Afghanistan,” said Maj. Gen. Benjamin C. Freakley, 10th Mountain Division (LI) and Fort Drum commander, during the casing of the division's colors. “We are not going over to conduct a peacekeeping mission or meet with the United Nations. We are going to destroy the enemy, period.”

♦March 2 – Soldiers of 1st BCT hand over their area of operations to the Iraqi Army at Camp Liberty, Iraq.

♦March 13 – The 3rd Brigade Combat Team assumes command in Regional Command – East in Forward Operating Base Salerno, Afghanistan. At the time, many Fort Drum Soldiers are deployed – division headquarters and elements from 3rd BCT, 4th BCT and 10th Combat Aviation Brigade were deployed to Afghan-

istan, while 1st BCT was in Iraq. Elements from 2nd BCT also were away at the National Training Center, Calif.

♦March – The 10th Mountain Division's brigade combat teams are the first modular units to enter Operation Enduring Freedom.

♦April 23 – Soldiers from 2-87 Infantry help with Afghan school opening in Paktika Province. The school will support 150-250 students.

♦Aug. 1 – Soldiers of C and D companies, 1st Battalion, 32nd Infantry Regiment tame the notorious Pech Valley Road. Soldiers arrived in the area in May and operated in tiny posts along the road, a known passage for terrorists and improvised explosive device attacks.

“When I first came here last November for (a predeployment reconnaissance), this road was no-man's land,” said Maj. Paul N. Garcia, Chosin Battalion operations officer. “When we went down the road, it was a major combat operation. The enemy owned the road.”

♦Aug. 6 – The 10th Soldier Support Battalion helps the Afghan government start a new pay system for Afghan National Police to ensure personnel are paid on time.

♦Aug. 29 – Combat engineers from A Company, 3rd Brigade Special Troops Battalion secure a path in Afghanistan's Zornat District. The route-clearing mission will ensure the Soldiers' safe passage through the area.

♦Sept. 17 – The 2nd Brigade Combat Team assumes command of Camp Striker in Baghdad, Iraq, from a brigade from 101st Airborne Division.

♦Sept. 25 – Soldiers from 2-87 Infantry rescue an Afghan official's kidnapped son from inside a cave. Radi Gul was kidnapped Sept. 1, because his father was being pressured to release a key Taliban leader.

♦Oct. 27 – The 7th Engineer Battalion, 10th Sustainment Brigade reactivates at Fort Drum.

♦Nov. 25 – Polar Bears from 4-31 Infantry join with Iraqi Army to complete Operation Polar Black Diamond. The air-assault mission inserted Soldiers into a terrorist safe haven in the Quarghuli Village.

Soldiers knew their mission would not be complete until they established the battle position in the village. It would be the western-most outpost in the Polar Bear area of operations. The unit later conducted an additional land, air and sea operation on Dec. 7.

♦Dec. 4 – Fort Drum Soldiers conduct waterborne operations for the first time since Vietnam, along the Euphrates River. Soldiers from 2-14 Infantry focus on preventing insurgents' ability to cross the river into the unit's area of operations and to search for weapons caches on nearby islands and the shoreline.

♦Dec. 22 – Soldiers of 1-89 Cavalry work to integrate the Iraqi National Police near Camp Striker, Iraq. The units attend a town hall meeting, where they receive support



FILE PHOTO

Soldiers of 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry Regiment search fields and reed lines in Rushdi Mullah, Iraq, for Sgt. Alex Jimenez, Pfc. Joseph Anzack Jr. and Pvt. Byron Fouty, three missing U.S. Soldiers who were abducted by terrorists in 2007 in Yusufiyah.

and acceptance from villagers requesting police presence to secure safe route to market. Villagers, mostly Sunni, began embracing the mostly Shia police force.

From global war on terrorism to overseas contingency operation

2007

♦Jan. 7 – Several of 10th Sustainment Brigade's TF Muleskinner Soldiers assist in Aria Bottle Water Plant opening in Bagram, Afghanistan. The completion and opening of the plant was a sign of improving security and progress in the area.

“The key to rebuilding Afghanistan is projects like this,” said Col. Larry D. Wyche, then commander of the Joint Logistics Command and 10th Sustainment Brigade. “Ultimately, you have to create a secure and stable environment, which in turn, provides opportunities for economic growth.”

♦Jan. 10 – Soldiers of 10th Mountain Division (LI) and Combined Joint Task Force-76, along with Pakistani military members, thwart an attack in eastern Afghanistan. A large group of insurgents gathered along the Pakistan-Afghanistan border prepared to attack International Security Assistance Force and Afghan forces in Paktika Province's Bermel District. A combination of artillery fire and air strikes destroyed the enemy as they approached the forward operating base, killing some 130 of the 205 insurgents.

♦Jan. 25 – Some 3,200 Soldiers of 3rd BCT receive word that their mission in Afghanistan has been an extended for four months.

“This mission is about relationship. This is a war about ideas, not killing,” Freakley tells 3rd BCT spouses during a special town hall meeting on post.

Soldiers of 1-32 Infantry see benefits of the extension when the unit is invited to a village for the first time to meet with elders, working toward security in Korengal Val-

ley. Unit begins its return home in late May.

♦Feb. 8 – Soldiers of 2-14 Infantry and 6th Iraqi Army Division troops re-establish presence in Az-Zaidon after more than a year. Soldiers gain valuable information about terrorist activity and question local residents and suspected terrorist operatives. Medics also provide aid, and troops distribute school supplies.

♦April 8 – Soldiers of 2-15 FA and 210th Brigade Support Battalion respond to a mass casualty incident at Forward Operating Base Mahmudiya, Iraq, providing care to more than 26 Iraqis injured during the terrorist attack.

“We have always trained for this (a mass casualty), but I never expected it,” said Spec. Cecilia Morales, a 210th BSB medic attached to 2-15 FA. “The one thing that got to me was seeing the hurt children; the terrorists have no compassion for life.”

♦May 12 – Three 4-31 Infantry Soldiers disappear outside Yusufiyah, Iraq. Some 4,000 coalition and Iraqi forces search day and night for Sgt. Alex Jimenez, Pfc. Joseph Anzack Jr. and Pvt. Byron Fouty, who later became prisoners of war / killed in action.

“The attack demonstrates the way in which insurgents operate without regard for human life and the future of their Iraq or its citizens,” said 1st Lt. Jared Miranda, a fire support officer with 4-31 Infantry. “And it should serve to strengthen our resolve to accomplish the mission here for the Iraqi people.”

Anzack's body was recovered May 23. Jimenez and Fouty, whose remains were found July 8, 2008, were both posthumously promoted to staff sergeant and specialist, respectively.

♦Aug. 22 – The 3rd Battalion, 85th Infantry Regiment reactivates after 62 years to support Fort Drum's wounded and seri-

ously ill Soldiers as a Warrior Transition Unit.

2008

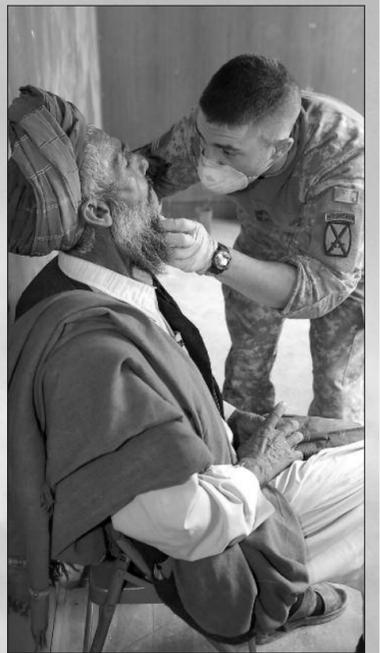
♦January to February – Iraqi citizens stand up against terrorist activity in their communities by asking coalition forces for help establishing programs to help combat insurgents. Soldiers of 2-22 Infantry work closely with the Kirkuk community and help set up Concerned Local Citizen programs, similar to a neighborhood watch program. Iraqi citizens set up checkpoints, look out for terrorist activity and report useful information to coalition and Iraqi Security Forces.

“The fact that local citizens want to help take responsibility for protecting their village in a legal program is a positive sign in the overall progress for the people and their government,” said Sgt. Shaun Benfield, 2-22 Infantry.

♦February – Combat engineers from 1st Brigade Special Troops Battalion clear the way in Iraq, discovering some 60 IEDs and 13 hoaxes in the first five months of their deployment. The A Company “Annihilators” helped reduce the use of IEDs against military and civilian targets by 60 percent, according to Gen. Raymond T. Odierno, Multinational Corps-Iraq commander.

♦February to March – In an effort to restore peace and stability, members of 1-87 Infantry and the Iraqi Army conduct Operation Restore Peace sessions in the Hawijah District of Afghanistan. The operations allow insurgents to rejoin society in attempts to promote peace in the region.

“The reconciliation process is our attempt to take the foot of the insurgent off of the population's neck,” said Col. David Paschal, 1st BCT commander, about ORP III on Feb. 24. “We cut it off by taking away the al-Qaida leader's ability to use those I call ‘economic insurgents’ by offering them a way out of the violence and into the light of peace.”



FILE PHOTO

Staff Sgt. Matthew Johnson, 3rd Squadron, 71st Cavalry Regiment, examines the teeth of a local man during a 2009 medcap at the Kherwar District Center, Afghanistan.

♦February – Soldiers of 1-87 Infantry receive new Mine Resistant-Ambush Protected combat vehicle while deployed to Forward Operating Base McHenry in northern Iraq. The new vehicle is based on a platform familiar to Soldiers, according to Staff Sgt. Paul Brown. The differences include a much heavier 40,000-pound body; four-point harnesses instead of traditional seat belts; more comfortable seats, which are contoured



Multinational Division - Center and Multinational Division - Southeast combine to form Multinational Division - South at Basra International Airport.

Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates announces plans to add up to 22,000 Soldiers to the U.S. Army's ranks.

2010

MARCH 31

JULY 20

MARCH

MARCH 7

AUGUST

2009

Army announces Brigade Combat Team modernization plan slated for fiscal year 2011 budget.

Iraq's national elections are a success. At some 50,000 voting booths across Iraq, voters selected from a large field of candidates, both men and women.

Army unveils new Operation Enduring Freedom camouflage pattern "multicam."

10th Mountain Division leaves 'boot' print in history



FILE PHOTO

Sgt. 1st Class Jared Monti stands on an Afghan mountain in 2006. Monti, a 3rd Squadron, 71st Cavalry Regiment Soldier, was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor in 2009.

to fit the Soldier and his equipment; communications equipment and more room.

♦March – Soldiers from 1st Squadron, 71st Cavalry and A Company, 2-22 Infantry regiments are selected for a new wartime mission. The troops move to a new location from the Kirkuk area of northern Iraq, to the headquarters area for Multinational Division – North in Tikrit. The units will work alongside Special Forces elements, conducting covert and classified combat operations.

♦March 28 – Local tribal leaders, known as the Sons of Iraq, sign an agreement promising to assist Iraqi and coalition security efforts in their regions. Many of the Iraqis who signed the agreement said Iraqi police and soldiers are more visible than in the past, which make local residents feel more protected. The organization was handed over to the Iraqi government in October. Iraqi Security Forces, officials and SoI members invited 3-89 Cavalry Soldiers to attend.

♦June 1 – The 10th Mountain Division (LI) takes command of Multinational Division – Center in Iraq. Maj. Gen. Michael L. Oates assumes command from Maj. Gen. Rick Lynch, 3rd Infantry Division commander. Oates pledges support to the people of Iraq, pointing out the division is committed to sustaining the advances in security that have been made in the region. He also said 10th Mountain Division will do all it can to help Iraq economically and politically.

♦Aug. 8 – The 1st Battalion, 10th Aviation Regiment cases colors at Hunter Army Airfield, Ga., before the unit relocates to join 10th CAB at Fort Drum. The unit will replace 3rd Squadron, 17th Cavalry Regiment, which is moving to the East Georgia airfield.

♦Nov. 26 – Task Force Falcon, 10th CAB, takes command of Multinational Division – North, in support of 25th Infantry Division (Task Force Lightning) and Operation Iraqi Freedom. This marks the unit's fourth deployment, but its first to Iraq. The CAB will provide logistical and aviation support for coalition forces throughout MND-North, including medevac and air-traffic service operations and conduct tactical maneuvers, security and attack operations.

♦Dec. 6 – TF Muleskinner, 10th Sustainment Brigade, assumes command during its first 12-month deployment to support OIF at Camp Taji, Iraq. The unit is made up of more than 4,500 Soldiers and provides support to more than 90,000 troops in support of the mission.

2009

♦March – Soldiers of 3rd BCT take command in Afghanistan's Logar and Wardak provinces within Regional Command-East.

♦March 18 – Leaders of 3rd Squadron, 71st Cavalry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, hold a meeting with the Logar Security Council. The council's purpose is to resource one another in the ongoing effort to strengthen security in Logar.

"The larger organizations that are responsible for Afghan National Army and Afghan National Police logistics must be re-addressed in order to maintain the readiness of the Afghan National Security Forces," said Col. Jay Peterson, 3rd BCT deputy commander. "The ANA and ANP

have begun to gain solid ground as a security force with their country's best interest at heart. Making sure they have what they need to accomplish the mission successfully is a huge concern."

♦March 31 – Multinational Division - Center and Multinational Division - Southeast combine to form Multinational Division – South at Basra International Airport.

♦May 29 – Soldiers from 7th Engineer Battalion, 10th Sustainment Brigade deploy to Iraq and Afghanistan. It is the first time the battalion has deployed as a unit since the Vietnam War.

♦Aug. 20 – For only the second time in their history, the people of Afghanistan participate freely in a democratic election process. Afghan National Security Forces successfully secured some 6,500 polling sites across the country, with 69 polling sites in Logar Province.

"We take voting for granted in the (United States)," said 2nd Lt. Dan Jindrich, personal security detail platoon leader with 3rd Brigade Special Troops Battalion. "I like seeing how many people are out there, taking ownership for their country and security so people can come out and vote."

♦Sept. 17 – Sgt. 1st Class Jared Monti, 3-71 Cavalry, is posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor. Monti, who also was posthumously promoted, received the nation's highest honor for valor for his actions while serving in Nuristan Province on June 21, 2006. While leading a mission of 16 Soldiers, his patrol was outnumbered



Gen. Ray Odierno states it is unlikely the U.S. military will resume a combat mission in Iraq after Sept. 1, citing progress in Iraq's government and security forces. U.S. forces peaked at more than 170,000 there during the 2007 troop surge.

President Barack Obama announces Osama bin Laden's death. "Justice has been done," President Barack Obama said in announcing the death of Osama bin Laden in a U.S. military operation in Pakistan. The attack ends a manhunt of almost 10 years. Bin Laden and his henchmen planned and executed the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, that claimed more than 3,000 innocent lives in New York, Washington and Pennsylvania.

The Army makes the patrol cap its official headgear. Berets remain for dress uniforms.

AUG. 26

MAY 1

JUNE 1

2011

From global war on terrorism to overseas contingency operation

by some 50 enemy fighters. Monti's team was at risk of being overrun; however, he successfully disrupted an attempt to flank his patrol. Monti was mortally wounded while trying to save one of his wounded Soldiers. Thanks to Monti's quick thinking, his patrol successfully thwarted the attack.

2010

♦February – Soldiers of 2-22 Infantry assume control of Kabul Military Training Center, the primary training center for the Afghan National Army.

♦July 26 – Village elders from the Ghor-mach District of northern Afghanistan meet with members of the International Security Assistance Force and a representative from the U.S. Department of Agriculture to discuss the area's agricultural needs.

♦Nov. 2 – Maj. Gen. James L. Terry, 10th Mountain Division (LI) commander, assumes command of Regional Command-South from Maj. Gen. Nick Carter during a transition of authority ceremony at Kandahar Airfield.

♦Nov. 10 – The 10th CAB assumes aviation control in Regional Command-East from 3rd Combat Aviation Brigade from Hunter Army Airfield, Ga. Soldiers of 10th CAB will provide direct and general support aviation operations to RC-East and RC-Capital, and humanitarian assistance.

2011

♦Jan. 11 – Soldiers and Afghan National Security Forces clear a village in the Kharwar District. Soldiers from 4th BCT and the ANSF conduct a two-day foot patrol to establish a stronger Government of the Islamic

Republic of Afghanistan presence in the district. Their mission was to provide security for the ANA and ANP during an operation in Musakhen and Sheykan.

♦March 10 – Military and civilian engineers, some representing 10th Mountain Division (LI), complete a four-year project designed to increase Forward Operating Base Shank's ability to receive, refuel and arm aircraft. It includes a new runway capable of receiving fully loaded U.S. Air Force C-17 Globemaster III airlift aircraft, as well as a parking ramp and a new forward arming and refuelling point.

♦March – Members of 4th BCT establish Outpost Savannah at the mouth of the Tangi Valley, which is essential for security and preventing the movement of arms and insurgents in and out of the valley.

♦March 25 – Crews and helicopters from 10th CAB's Task Forces Phoenix and Shooter provide air transport for a major air-assault mission in RC-E in support of ANSF and joint operations. Two 10th CAB units collaborate to complete their mission: provide static load training and air-

"The American people did not choose this fight. It came to our shores and started with the senseless slaughter of our citizens. After nearly 10 years of service, struggle and sacrifice, we know well the costs of war. These efforts weigh on me every time I, as commander in chief, have to sign a letter to a Family that has lost a loved one, or look into the eyes of a service member who's been gravely wounded."

President Barack Obama during his announcement of Osama bin Laden's death, May 1, 2011.

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assault support into the Galuch Valley, allowing coalition forces to defeat enemies and speak with village elders.

♦April 8 – Soldiers of 4th BCT make final preparations to transition Combat Outpost Tangi to ANSF.

♦April 18 – During a transfer of authority, Soldiers of 3rd BCT assume responsibility of Forward Operating Base Pasab, Kandahar Province, Afghanistan, and the surrounding area from 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division.

♦May 1 – Obama announces Osama bin Laden's death. "Justice has been done," President Barack Obama said in announcing the death of Osama bin Laden in a U.S. military operation in Pakistan. The attack ends a manhunt of almost 10 years. Bin Laden and his henchmen planned and executed the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, that claimed more than 3,000 innocent lives in New York, Washington and Pennsylvania.

♦July 25-30 – During Operation Dagger Fury, pilots and crews from 10th CAB's Task Force Knighthawk provide aviation support to their fellow 10th Mountaineers from 4th BCT. The aviation brigade, TF

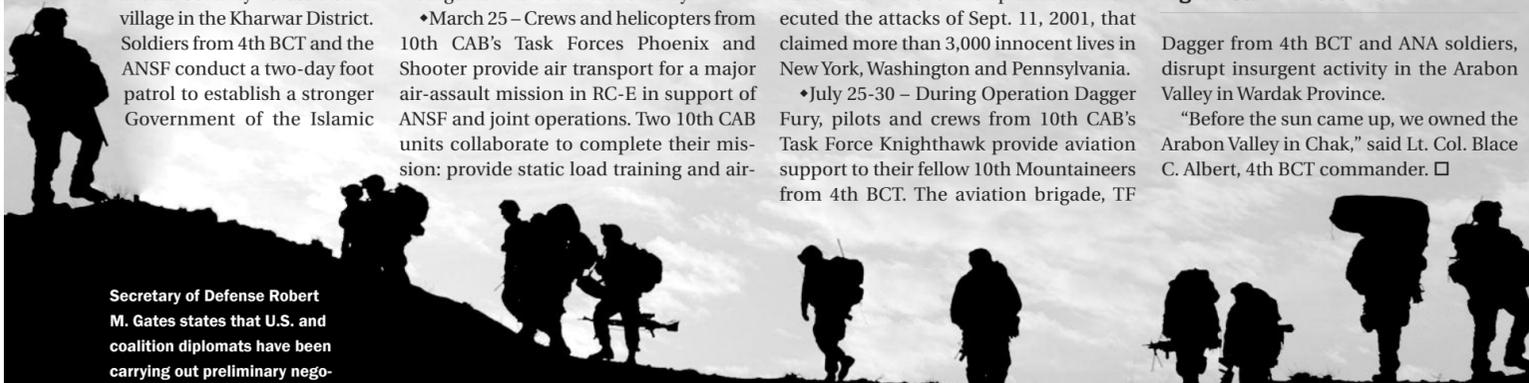


SGT. 1ST CLASS JOHN QUEEN

A Soldier assigned to 1st Brigade Combat Team enjoys a warm reunion with her husband after returning to Fort Drum from a deployment to Afghanistan in March 2011.

Dagger from 4th BCT and ANA soldiers, disrupt insurgent activity in the Arabon Valley in Wardak Province.

"Before the sun came up, we owned the Arabon Valley in Chak," said Lt. Col. Blace C. Albert, 4th BCT commander. □



Secretary of Defense Robert M. Gates states that U.S. and coalition diplomats have been carrying out preliminary negotiations with the Taliban for a couple of weeks.

JUNE 19

AUG. 5

SEPT. 11

Army officials announce beginning Jan. 1, with the exception of corps units and above, and individual augmentee deployments, most active-duty, National Guard and Reserve Soldiers will deploy for nine months.

The nation recognizes the 10th anniversary of 9/11.

DECADE, from Page 10

"All (of) these facilities were built and designed and are configured to help the Soldiers train in those tasks that they have to accomplish before they have to deploy," he continued.

Training area design and resources are based on feedback from commanders, he added.

Wood said they are constantly evolving and changing the training area facilities.

In addition to the ranges, the Training Division also introduced Soldiers to virtual trainers and simulators, which are used for mission command necessities, battle tracking and better command and control.

"All of those things have to integrate and synchronize, so we can give the units the resources they want, so they can train to the (desired) level before they go into theater," Wood noted.

He added that the use of the structures varies depending on deployment cycles, such as where the units are in the Army Forces Generation cycle, and what training assets are required for the upcoming mission.

Housing

While buildings were popping up in Fort Drum's training areas, large infrastructure designed to house Soldiers and Families were being built in the cantonment area.

Since 9/11, nearly 1,400 homes have been built on post, adding to the existing 2,270 housing units on Fort Drum.

In addition, more than 190 senior non-commissioned officer and junior officer

apartments, known as the Timbers, were built on post, providing about 320 spaces for Soldiers.

On-post housing in the permanent party barracks reached an additional 3,696 spaces since 9/11, with 560 more spaces that are currently under construction, explained Jeffords Hewitt, Single Soldier Housing Branch chief.

Hewitt noted the influx of housing was mostly based on a market analysis, which evaluates the availability of housing for Soldiers stationed at Fort Drum.

"The increase in total permanent troop strength and the availability of on-post and market housing played a part in the new homes built on post. And certainly the Army's 'Grow the Force' Initiative played a significant role in the construction of new barracks as well," he said.

Unit buildings

Other significant changes to post infrastructure, while they might not have been in reaction to the global war on terrorism, have occurred in the past 10 years.

On Sept. 27, 2004, the 10th Mountain Division (LI) officially transformed into the Army's new modular format. With the new modular format came the standing up of the 3rd Brigade Combat Team, which meant the beginning of a "shell game" to fit three infantry brigades into two footprints.

The 10th Combat Aviation Brigade, which grew from three battalions to five battalions, moved from North Post out to Wheeler-Sack Army Airfield by 2006.

"The intent behind that was to get 10th CAB out to where their main operations are

at the airfield," explained Brian Appleby, chief of the Master Planning Division. "It didn't make much sense to have their complex back on North Post, where they had to drive five or six miles to their workplace."

The 10th CAB's move freed up building space to be used by the BCTs, Appleby added. They started backfilling 10th CAB's spaces with 3rd BCT, and as time went on, 1st BCT moved into that space.

To alleviate facility shortages during transformation, about 90 modular buildings were added to meet short-term mission needs until permanent facilities were constructed.

In 2007, several projects began to construct three distinct footprints, one for each infantry brigade combat team, and by the end of 2008, units were moving into their new permanent facilities.

Projects are usually planned at least five years out before they actually break ground. Project approvals are dependent upon funding, Appleby explained. Transformation shortened the process to about three years and also began the process of standardizing facilities.

Since 2001, Fort Drum has added more than 5,750,000 of square feet of building space, either through the construction of new buildings or additions to existing buildings.

Currently, facilities on post total about 17,385,000 square feet.

It's misleading to note how many buildings have been added in the past 10 years because, during that time, old buildings have been torn down, explained Richard D. Nuijens Jr., real property accountable offi-

cer and chief of the Real Property Branch.

Appleby said it's important to continue to build new buildings and upgrade the infrastructure because the facility standards and mission requirements change over time.

"One example is that a company headquarters' old standard used to be about 5,000 square feet per company. Now it's well over 14,000 square feet," he explained. He said this is partly because companies in legacy facilities are short on TA-50 storage space.

"The reason we need to continue our construction is to build out our facility deficits to provide standardized facilities so everyone has the same uniform working conditions," he added.

Advances in technology over the past 10 years have driven some projects.

An example of this is the increased communications requirements for brigade headquarters. They now require a brigade operations center, network operations center and the sensitive compartmented information facility. These buildings support commanders' communication with units in training and in battle.

"As these standards change, we have to evaluate what we have on the ground, versus what the standard requires," Appleby explained. "Then we start programming projects to make up the differences. Sometimes we have to replace a facility, sometimes we have to add onto it and add more capability to it."

The Master Planning Division is working on about 20 projects, which are either in construction now or in the future years' defense program through fiscal year 2017. □

PERSPECTIVE, from Page 12

ate what the previous generation sacrificed to make things better," Jasim said.

Family's thoughts

Like the parents from a Western civilization, Sharifi and Jasim's parents want the best for their children, which is why their families didn't object to moving to the U.S.

"They feel pride," Sharifi said of his middle-class parents. While Sharifi's father, a doctor in Afghanistan, wants his son to get an education in the U.S. and return to his native country and do something for his people, Sharifi said he came to the U.S. because he wants a better life for his family, full of freedom and choices.

"My family's main concern is me doing (well)," Jasim said. "They worry about me, like any family would."

"They (families and friends) want to come (to the U.S.). They want to see a dif-

ferent life, especially the people who are fed up with all this chaos," Jasim explained.

"When you get this taste of freedom, opportunities and lifestyle, it's hard to adapt to something (else). We always look for the better. There's no comparison between here and (Iraq)," said Jasim, who has no plans of returning to live in Iraq – he just plans on visiting.

A new identity

"Document-wise we are American. We are Americanized. I consider myself American," Jasim said.

"This country (has given) us a lot," Sharifi said, noting his life-long dream was to come to the U.S.

"Being an American doesn't mean you forget about your heritage and past. I am an Afghan and I am an American too. I love both countries. I started my life here."

Both men agree that the next step for them is to get a higher education.

"Being an American doesn't mean you forget about your heritage and past. I am an Afghan and I am an American too. I love both countries. I started my life here."

Abdul Qader Sharifi

"Studying anything in the United States can take you anywhere in the world," Sharifi said. "I never came to the United States to make money."

They added that their family and friends constantly ask how the men can help them get a visa to come to the U.S.

Keeping heritage alive

"For me as a Muslim, I didn't know anything before (the Sept. 11 attacks) happened. But after that, I tried to (learn) about my own religion," Sharifi said, noting he was one of many Arab-Muslims who researched their religion after the attacks.

"It's become clear with time that the Muslim religion was not behind the whole chaos that happened 10 years ago," Jasim explained.

The men explained that they practice their religion as much as they can, but since there isn't a large Muslim population in the North Country, they sometimes must try very hard to keep their heritage alive.

Neither Jasim nor Sharifi has been back to their native country since coming to the U.S. Both claim it is not safe for them to return right now. But, both plan on eventually returning to visit the family and friends they left years ago. □



SGT. DARLENE MARTINEZ

"Sacrifices We Make," by Sgt. Darlene Martinez, 91st Military Police Battalion, won first place in the Military Life category of the 2010 Army Digital Photography Contest.



SPC. BRIAN P. GLASS

Sgt. 1st Class Luppa Gilchrist hands out candy to Afghan children at an orphanage in Bamyan in December 2010. Gilchrist is a supply noncommissioned officer assigned to 4th Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division's Task Force Patriot.



JENNIFER CAPRIOLI

Family Members and friends welcome home 149 Soldiers from 1st Brigade Combat Team during a redeployment ceremony Feb. 11 at Magrath Sports Complex. Soldiers were returning from a yearlong deployment to Afghanistan.



SGT. SEAN CASEY

Pfc. Joshua Clark and Spc. Saikan Corbitt, with B Company, 2nd Battalion, 30th Infantry Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team, move behind mud walls in order to take over an enemy sniper position during a recent mission in Charkh District, Logar Province, Afghanistan.



Sgt. 1st Class Gabriel W. Temples, a platoon sergeant assigned to D Company, 2nd Battalion, 30th Infantry Regiment, 4th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, Task Force Storm, navigates the swamp-like farmland after air-assaulting into Baraki Barak District, Afghanistan, April 17. Temples and his Soldiers provided security while Afghan National Security Forces searched areas of interest during the six-day Operation Baraki Bahar.

SGT. COOPER CASH

Clergy reflect on spiritual resiliency at Fort Drum since 9/11

Paul Steven Ghiringhelli

Staff Writer

In life's storms, God is often viewed as a last resort, noted Chaplain (Col.) Thomas L. Dudley, Fort Drum installation chaplain. Trouble seems to be one of life's greatest compulsions for turning hearts heavenward.

When a new day dawned Sept. 12, 2001, churches filled with people, and tears streamed down the faces of millions of shocked Americans as they sought sanctuary from the traumatic images of the most deadly act of war on U.S. soil in history.

"Right after 9/11, there was a great outpouring of interest in (God)," the chaplain recalled. "It was a crisis situation."

Dudley said spiritual yearning among Soldiers and Family Members typically comes in waves, but after 9/11, factors like war and multiple deployments piqued considerable interest.

And because Army communities are encouraged to be "resilient" in difficult situations, Soldiers experiencing painful emotions like fear or loss were motivated to call the chaplain when no other resource seemed helpful.

"Resiliency, of course, in my mind, has to do with a spiritual resiliency," Dudley said. "We can be physically resilient ... but there is a spiritual component (to resiliency) as well."

"When I am away or deployed somewhere, I know I have people who are praying for me. I have people who care about me. I have a God who cares about me. That gives me a feeling of resilience," he said. "We tell our Soldiers, 'Develop your spiritual muscle.'"

Dudley calls the Soldiers of the 10th Mountain Division a "tight bunch" who depend on one another in dangerous situations for extra resiliency.

But all Soldiers who go down range usually return from battle carrying "something," the chaplain said. It's not that they are no longer able to cope, "but something has happened, there's something about just being in that environment a while, (and) you come back a little different," he said.

Rev. Robert J. McCarthy, pastor of Black River United Methodist and a retired Army war veteran, agreed.

"All Soldiers bear the scars of war," he said. "Some are visible, some are not. But they all do."

McCarthy, who served as a combat engi-



PAUL STEVEN GHIRINGHELLI

Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Daesoo Lee, 3rd Brigade Combat Team rear detachment chaplain, speaks with a Soldier in his office. Lee said he believes Soldiers boost their resilience by asking God and others for support.

neer in Iraq, said Soldiers returning from battle worry about such things as "How will I be seen by my congregation?"

"We really stress in welcoming them back that we've been praying for (them) while they were gone," he said. "We (say), 'Welcome back to us. Thank you for your duty. (We) thank God for your service.'"

The pastor said one of the Soldiers' biggest concerns while they are deployed is that their Families are cared for, especially with practical things, such as getting a driveway cleared of snow in the winter or keeping up with the lawn in the summer.

"It's just so much better for the Soldiers if they know that their friends and neighbors are taking care of (them) – somebody to let them know that spring will come. Don't worry. You're going to make it," McCarthy explained.

Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Daesoo Lee, 3rd Brigade Combat Team rear detachment chaplain, said he believes Soldiers boost their resilience by asking God and others for support.

"We are somehow created weak and vulnerable from our nature, and we need help from each other," Lee said. "Resiliency is a part of humility, and admission of weakness shows courage and creates potential to get better. By asking for help from others, we achieve our goals, dreams and hopes. Without any help from others, we cannot progress or become better than we are now."

Lee should know. As a child growing up in post-war Korea, he lost six siblings to disease and hunger. In his teens, he lost his father to cancer and another brother in an accident.

"Even in my Army career, I was passed over several times for promotions," Lee said. "(But) I feel I have grown from those painful experiences. I wish that they never happened to me, but now I am thankful for what I went through."

"I can understand the pains of others and can better relate with those whom I minister to," he added.

Since 9/11, the demand for chaplaincy

services across the Army has jumped. In 2004, officials took a fledgling pre-9/11 Army program called Strong Bonds and provided commanders with direct funding to use it as a tool for instilling individual resiliency in units by building and maintaining strong Families.

The program, which is unit-based and chaplain-led, grew exponentially. More and more, Army leaders believed that strong relationships contributed to the maintenance of a healthy Army and a secure future force.

"The Army changed (after 9/11)," Dudley said. "We're in a pattern where the Soldiers are always (deploying). They come back, and then they go back again. It's hard."

In 2009 alone, more than 160,000 Soldiers and Family Members participated in over 2,600 Strong Bonds events, according to the program's official website. Thousands more have taken place since.

Today, the Strong Bonds Program targets four areas for its resiliency-building efforts:

See SPIRITUAL, Page 25

CIVILIANS, from Page 11

well. Everyone assigned to Fort Drum is touched at some point by the DOL, whether it's household goods movements, commercial travel, equipment issue at the (Central Issue Facility) or a meal at one of the dining facilities."

Army Force Generation, or ARFORGEN, support is a DOL mission that has come about since 9/11. This includes refurbishing military equipment and ensuring Soldiers have the most current gear available, Sterner added. The organization also stepped up to complete missions previously completed by deploying units.

"Modularization resulted in changes in the way tactical units are organized putting the DOL in the role of being the primary backup to the brigade combat teams and separate logistics units," he said.

In addition, the increase in deployments and Soldiers here has affected other directorates on post, Wallace explained. Civilians are responsible for performing Soldier readiness checks before deployments, which include the Medical Department Activity, Dental Activity, Army Substance Abuse Program, legal and human resources.

"When the mission grew and all the deployments started, a civilian workforce that is very dedicated and works very, very hard (stepped up) to support. Civilians work around the clock to (get the mission done)."

Denise Wallace

"Supporting deploying Soldiers and social work services (for wounded Soldiers) was a mission we really didn't have before," she said.

"Every office on Fort Drum has grown," Wallace continued. "There are more Soldiers, Family Members and civilians to service. When the mission grew and all the deployments started, a civilian workforce that is very dedicated and works very, very hard (stepped up) to support. Civilians work around the clock to (get the mission done)." □

SPIRITUAL, from Page 24

single Soldiers, marriages, Families and deployment cycles. Much of the program's format takes place at offsite retreats designed to maximize relationship training.

Program officials call the retreat a fun and safe "getaway," where participants can discuss the impact of relocations, deployments and military lifestyle stressors.

"This is a chance to get away and (reintegrate)," Dudley said. "(It) was a good Army move."

He noted that young Army couples typically have the same communication troubles as civilian couples. But add to that the stress of a deployed spouse possibly going out into harm's way, and it makes relationships even more difficult.

In addition, he said, a long separation has the potential to cause considerable conflict among Family Members. Dudley gave a young, take-charge Soldier redeploying to Fort Drum as an example.

"He gets back and he starts calling the shots," he explained. "But the wife's been used to calling the shots now for the last year."

During a retreat, Dudley said such a scenario is important for couples to talk out.

"We just try to (reveal) the obvious," he said. "Maybe they don't want to talk about it. But we'll talk about it. And hopefully it will assist them in their reunion."

As Soldiers or Family Members ask for help, chaplains from various denominations and backgrounds offer the same "bread-and-butter" counsel, Dudley said.

"God is available, and He cares about you," he said. "That is what we are about, primarily. There is hope in God."

In addition to the Strong Bonds program, the Main Post Chapel offers religious services, individual and Family counseling, and monthly remembrance ceremonies to honor the lives of fallen Soldiers.

"I wish we didn't have to do them, (but) there's a very important sense of closure (with the ceremonies)," Dudley said.

In recent years, the chapel also developed a strong relationship with and training for local clergy, since many Families live and attend religious services off post. Dudley, who helped spearhead the network with dozens of North Country pastors, said the purpose is to show civilian clergy how they might better minister to the Soldiers in their congregations.

"They serve the same people we do," he said. "We thought it would be a good idea to dialogue with them to see if they needed some support."

By getting to know military clergy, local pastors also gain a good resource and referral system when determining if a Soldier has a personal issue or is struggling with the reintegration process.

McCarthy said Army chaplains offer ex-

CHILDREN, from Page 9

temely beneficial training to help off-post clergy better understand military stressors. He said certain conditions, such as PTSD, are not military-specific, since pastors traditionally console anyone dealing with the stressors of traumatic experiences.

He also pointed out that civilian clergy new to the area benefit from the network.

"There's this ad hoc group that they can plug into and the learning curve isn't quite so steep," he said.

Dudley emphasized that continuing to dialogue with all elements of the religious community in the area is a positive measure and mutual support.

"We live in a world where we need each other," he said. "We can't say: 'I'm over here, you're over there.' We serve the same people. We can serve them much better if we collaborate and we're talking among ourselves."

"Pro Deo Et Patria," reads a plaque in chaplain's office at the Main Post Chapel. "For God and country," Dudley said. It's the Army motto for chaplains, stating succinctly what motivates them to do what they do.

Yet chaplains admittedly can only do so much, said Dudley, who will retire in November after 30 years of Army service.

"It's kind of like one beggar telling another beggar where he can get some bread," he said of a chaplain's duty.

Chaplains' work, however, along with the

about (the deployment) at all, so I don't let it get to me a lot."

Her father usually calls home at least once a week, but Ruth said she also chats with her dad on Facebook. While he doesn't talk about work much, they have plenty of lighthearted topics to discuss.

"I don't think he likes to (talk about what goes on in Afghanistan), but he started a little goat farm. I always ask him how his goats are doing," she said with a laugh.

Ruth doesn't watch the news much, except for when her father and his unit were featured on CBS news recently.

"We got really excited when we saw him on CBS news," she said. "Just seeing him talk about what he does was exciting. A lot of the other stuff (on the news) isn't that great because all they talk about is bad stuff."

Ruth said she believes the best way to get through a long separation is to stay positive.

"You can't linger on it," she said. "My mom (stays positive) too. You can't tell that there's anything wrong. She's always positive, and I'm the same way."

"I like the military because it teaches Families how to be stronger and not have to rely on one person so much," Ruth said. □

tireless efforts of clergy in the civilian sectors, has helped countless Americans find the peace and solace so many have sought since 9/11. Communities across the country have not only endured, but also have been made stronger.

McCarthy said although fear possibly drove many in the North Country to fill their local churches, a new strength defines those who remained.

"After 10 years of being a nation at war, particularly for the congregations around Fort Drum who are so intimately involved with the Soldiers and their Families, their faith has strengthened, and it's become more practical," McCarthy said.

"Surely from the 9/11 tragedies, this nation somehow became a united and stronger country than before," Lee added. "That's the way (it is) when life's sufferings and pains are over. We become more resilient from those painful experiences. We become stronger to face other life challenges."

"I would say it is possible for those of us who have experienced 9/11 to have the opportunity to grow (and) become more spiritually resilient by exposing vulnerabilities (like) fear or a sense of invincibility," Dudley concluded.

"(These are things) we might not have seen before, and we (now) came to the understanding that we are in need of spiritual strength." □

Fort Drum honors those who made the ultimate sacrifice

10th Mountain Division (LI)

Headquarters and Headquarters Battalion

Pfc. Patrick W. May, 2008, OIF
Lt. Col. Paul R. Bartz, 2010, OEF
Lt. Col. Thomas P. Belkofer, 2010, OEF

1st Brigade Combat Team Headquarters and Headquarters Company

Capt. Roselle M. Hoffmaster, 2007, OIF
Staff Sgt. John D. Linde, 2007, OIF
Spc. Derek T. Stenroos, 2007, OIF
Pfc. Adam J. Muller, 2007, OIF

1st Battalion, 87th Infantry Regiment

Pvt. Giovanni Maria, 2001, OEF
Spc. Chad E. Fuller, 2003, OEF
Pfc. Adam L. Thomas, 2003, OEF
Pfc. Evan W. O'Neill, 2003, OEF
Pvt. George J. Howell, 2007, OIF
Sgt. Shane P. Duffy, 2008, OIF
Spc. Jonathan D. A. Emard, 2008, OIF

Sgt. Cody R. Legg, 2008, OIF
Spc. Brian M. Anderson, 2010, OEF
Sgt. 1st Class Todd M. Harris, 2010, OEF
Spc. Andrew P. Wade, 2011, OEF

1st Squadron, 71st Cavalry Regiment

Sgt. 1st Class James S. Moudy, 2005, OIF
Spc. Armer N. Burkart, 2006, OIF
Spc. Clay P. Farr, 2006, OIF
Spc. Joshua U. Humble, 2006, OIF
Pfc. Benjamin J. Garrison, 2007, OIF
Pvt. Isaac T. Cortes, 2007, OIF
1st Lt. Joseph J. Theinert, 2010, OEF
Sgt. 1st Class Charles M. Sadell, 2010, OEF
Staff Sgt. Jesse W. Ainsworth, 2010, OEF
Staff Sgt. Christopher F. Cabacoy, 2010, OEF

Sgt. Donald R. Edgerton, 2010, OEF
Sgt. Michael F. Paranzino, 2010, OEF
Pfc. Edwin C. Wood, 2010, OEF

2nd Battalion, 22nd Infantry Regiment

Staff Sgt. Anthony S. Lagman, 2004, OEF

Sgt. Michael J. Esposito Jr., 2004, OEF
1st Lt. Robert A. Seidel III, 2006, OIF
Staff Sgt. Dwayne P. R. Lewis, 2006, OIF
Sgt. Lonnie C. Allen Jr., 2006, OIF
Pfc. Nicholas R. Cournoyer, 2006, OIF
Pvt. Nathan Z. Thacker, 2007, OIF
Staff Sgt. Tyler E. Pickett, 2008, OIF
Sgt. Timothy R. VanOrman, 2008, OIF
Pvt. Jack T. Sweet, 2008, OIF
Pfc. Clinton E. Springer II, 2010, OEF

3rd Battalion, 6th Field Artillery Regiment

Pfc. Eric D. Clark, 2006, OIF
Pfc. Stephen P. Snowberger III, 2006, OIF
Sgt. Michael D. Kirspeel Jr., 2010, OEF
Cpl. Joshua A. Harton, 2010, OEF

1st Brigade Special Troops Battalion

Spc. J. Adan Garcia, 2006, OIF

10th Brigade Support Battalion

Sgt. Carletta S. Davis, 2007, OIF
Spc. Arturo Huerta-Cruz, 2008, OIF

2nd Brigade Combat Team

1st Squadron, 89th Cavalry Regiment

Pvt. Thomas J. Hewett, 2006, OIF
1st Lt. Neale M. Shank, 2007, OIF
Sgt. Shawn M. Dunkin, 2007, OIF
Pfc. Matthew C. Bove, 2007, OIF
Pfc. Adare W. Cleveland, 2007, OIF

2nd Brigade Special Troops Battalion

Staff Sgt. David A. Mejias, 2007, OIF
Sgt. Eric R. Vick, 2007, OIF
Spc. William G. Bowling, 2007, OIF
Spc. Jonathan D. Cadaverro, 2007, OIF
Spc. Lorne E. Henry Jr., 2007, OIF
Spc. Robert M. McDowell, 2007, OIF
Spc. Richard A. Soukenka, 2007, OIF

2nd Battalion, 14th Infantry Regiment

Sgt. Glenn R. Allison, 2003, OIF
Spc. John K. Klinessmith Jr., 2003, OIF
Spc. Brian K. Baker, 2004, OIF
Spc. Brandon T. Titus, 2004, OIF
Pfc. Henry C. Risner, 2004, OIF
Pvt. David L. Waters, 2004, OIF
Sgt. Lindsey T. James, 2005, OIF
Cpl. Kurt D. Schamberg, 2005, OIF
Spc. Darren A. DeBlanc, 2005, OIF
Pfc. Charles S. Cooper Jr., 2005, OIF
Sgt. Jason C. Denfrund, 2006, OIF
Pfc. Keith J. Moore, 2006, OIF
Staff Sgt. Jason R. Arnette, 2007, OIF
Staff Sgt. Travis W. Atkins, 2007, OIF
Staff Sgt. Joseph M. Weiglein, 2007, OIF
Sgt. Richard V. Correa, 2007, OIF
Sgt. Steven M. Packer, 2007, OIF
Spc. Wilfred Flores Jr., 2007, OIF
Spc. Thomas L. Latham, 2007, OIF
Pfc. Raymond N. Mitchell III, 2007, OIF
Spc. Brushaun X. Anderson, 2010, OIF

2nd Battalion, 15th Field Artillery Regiment

Spc. Jeff Lebrun, 2005, OIF
Spc. Dwayne J. McFarlane Jr., 2005, OIF
1st Lt. Kevin C. Landeck, 2007, OIF
CWO2 Dwayne L. Moore, 2007, OIF
Sgt. Justin D. Wisniewski, 2007, OIF
Pfc. Matthew A. Bean, 2007, OIF
Spc. Robert M. Rieckhoff, 2010, OIF

4th Battalion, 31st Infantry Regiment

1st Lt. Adam M. Malson, 2005, OIF
Spc. Bobby T. Callahan, 2006, OIF
Pfc. Nathaniel A. Given, 2006, OIF
Pfc. Satieon V. Greenlee, 2006, OIF
Sgt. 1st Class James D. Connell Jr., 2007, OIF

Sgt. Nathan S. Barnes, 2007, OIF
Spc. Ryan A. Bishop, 2007, OIF
Pfc. Joseph J. Anzack Jr., 2007, OIF
Pfc. Ray M. Bevel, 2007, OIF
Pfc. Brian A. Browning, 2007, OIF
Pfc. Daniel W. Courneya, 2007, OIF
Staff Sgt. Alex R. Jimenez, 2008, OIF
Spc. Byron W. Fouty, 2008, OIF

210th Brigade Support Battalion

Spc. Curtis L. Norris, 2006, OIF
Staff Sgt. Steven R. Tudor, 2007, OIF
Pfc. Michael A. Rogers, 2009, OIF

3rd Brigade Combat Team

1st Battalion, 32nd Infantry Regiment

2nd Lt. Richard Torres, 2003, OIF
Sgt. Kerry D. Scott, 2003, OIF
Sgt. Brandon E. Adams, 2004, OIF
Sgt. Dale T. Lloyd, 2004, OIF
Pfc. Charles C. Persing, 2004, OIF
Maj. Douglas E. Sloan, 2006, OEF
1st Lt. Forrest P. Ewens, 2006, OEF
Sgt. Russell M. Durgin, 2006, OEF
Sgt. David M. Hierholzer, 2006, OEF
Sgt. Ian T. Sanchez, 2006, OEF
Spc. Jeremy E. DePottay, 2006, OEF
Spc. Rogelio R. Garza Jr., 2006, OEF
Spc. Fernando D. Robinson, 2006, OEF
Pfc. Robert E. Drawl Jr., 2006, OEF
Pfc. Alex Ocegueda, 2006, OEF
Pfc. Andrew T. Small, 2006, OEF
Spc. Angelo J. Vaccaro, 2006, OEF
Pfc. James P. White Jr., 2006, OEF
Pvt. Joseph R. Blake, 2006, OEF
Pvt. Justin R. Davis, 2006, OEF
Sgt. Edelman L. Hernandez, 2007, OEF
Spc. Christopher M. Wilson, 2007, OEF
Staff Sgt. Dennis J. Hansen, 2009, OEF
Staff Sgt. Eric J. Lindstrom, 2009, OEF
Cpl. Darby V. Morin, 2009, OEF
Spc. Justin D. Coleman, 2009, OEF
Spc. Alexander J. Miller, 2009, OEF
Pfc. Brian M. Wolverton, 2009, OEF
Sgt. Edward J. Frank II, 2011, OEF
Sgt. Jameel T. Freeman, 2011, OEF
Spc. Paul J. Atim, 2011, OEF
Spc. Preston J. Dennis, 2011, OEF
Spc. Mark J. Downer, 2011, OEF
Spc. Patrick L. Lay II, 2011, OEF
Spc. Jordan M. Morris, 2011, OEF
Spc. James A. Waters, 2011, OEF
Spc. Charles J. Wren, 2011, OEF
Pfc. John C. Johnson, 2011, OEF
Pfc. John F. Kihm, 2011, OEF
Pfc. Rueben J. Lopez, 2011, OEF
Pfc. Joel A. Ramirez, 2011, OEF

4th Battalion, 25th Field Artillery Regiment

Pvt. Michael V. Bailey, 2006, OEF
Sgt. Gregory Owens Jr., 2009, OEF
Spc. Andrew J. Roughton, 2009, OEF
Pfc. Anthony M. Lightfoot, 2009, OEF

710th Brigade Support Battalion

Spc. Wakkuna A. Jackson, 2006, OEF
Spc. Christopher F. Sitton, 2006, OEF
Spc. Derek A. Stanley, 2006, OEF
Spc. Rodrigo A. Munguiarivas, 2009, OEF

4th Brigade Combat Team 2nd Battalion, 4th Infantry Regiment

Staff Sgt. Robert J. Chiomento II, 2006, OEF
Sgt. Robert P. Kassin, 2006, OEF
Sgt. Austin D. Pratt, 2007, OIF
Sgt. Matthew D. Hermanson, 2011, OEF
Spc. Richard C. Emmons III, 2011, OEF
Spc. Omar Soltero, 2011, OEF
Pfc. Jonathan M. Villanueva, 2011, OEF
Pvt. Brandon T. Pickering, 2011, OEF
Spc. Dennis James Jr., 2011, OEF

2nd Battalion, 87th Infantry Regiment

Sgt. Maj. Phillip R. Albert, 2003, OEF
Staff Sgt. Shawn M. Clemens, 2004, OEF
Sgt. Nicholes D. Golding, 2004, OEF
Spc. Robert J. Cook, 2004, OEF
Spc. Justin A. Scott, 2004, OEF

Cpl. Jeremiah S. Cole, 2006, OEF
Spc. Aaron M. Griner, 2006, OEF
Pfc. Kevin F. Edgin, 2006, OEF
Spc. Jeremy R. Greene, 2007, OEF
Staff Sgt. Nekl B. Allen, 2009, OEF
Staff Sgt. Esau I. De La Pena-Hernandez, 2009, OEF
Staff Sgt. Jeffrey A. Hall, 2009, OEF
Sgt. Jerry R. Evans Jr. 2009, OEF
Sgt. Carlie M. Lee III, 2009, OEF
Sgt. Jasper K. Obakrairur, 2009, OEF
Sgt. Aaron M. Smith, 2009, OEF
Cpl. Daniel L. Cox, 2009, OEF
Spc. Robert K. Charlton, 2009, OEF
Spc. Joshua R. Farris, 2009, OEF
Spc. Justin R. Pellerin, 2009, OEF
Pfc. Adam J. Hardt, 2009, OEF
Pfc. Peter K. Cross, 2009, OEF
Pfc. Matthew D. Ogden, 2009, OEF
Pfc. Matthew W. Wilson, 2009, OEF
1st Lt. Timothy J. Steele, 2011, OEF
Sgt. Andrew R. Tobin, 2011, OEF
Pfc. Brian J. Backus, 2011, OEF
Pfc. Jesse W. Dietrich, 2011, OEF

3rd Brigade Special Troops Battalion

Cpl. Charles J. McClain, 2006, OEF
Spc. Matthew K. S. Swanson, 2009, OEF

3rd Squadron, 71st Cavalry Regiment

Lt. Col. Joseph J. Fenty Jr., 2006, OEF
1st Lt. Benjamin D. Keating, 2006, OEF
Spc. Justin L. O'Donohoe, 2006, OEF
Spc. David N. Timmons Jr., 2006, OEF
Pfc. Brian J. Bradbury, 2006, OEF
Pfc. Brian M. Moquin Jr. 2006, OEF
Sgt. Terry J. Lynch, 2009, OEF
Spc. Abraham S. Wheeler III, 2009, OEF

2nd Battalion, 25th Field Artillery Regiment

Pfc. Dennis J. Pratt, 2011, OEF

2nd Battalion, 30th Infantry Regiment

Spc. Jason A. Lucas, 2006, OEF
Sgt. 1st Class David R. Hurst, 2008, OIF
Staff Sgt. Matthew J. Taylor, 2008, OIF
1st Lt. Scott F. Milley, 2010, OEF
Sgt. Edward H. Bolen, 2010, OEF
Sgt. Christopher P. Soderlund, 2011, OEF
Spc. Nicholas P. Bernier, 2011, OEF
Spc. Keith T. Buzinski, 2011, OEF
Spc. Ethan C. Hardin, 2011, OEF
Spc. Rudolph R. Hizon, 2011, OEF
Pfc. Cody G. Baker, 2011, OEF
Pfc. Gil I. Morales Del Valle, 2011, OEF
Pfc. Ira B. Laningham IV, 2011, OEF

3rd Squadron, 89th Cavalry Regiment

Sgt. Jason A. Schumann, 2007, OIF
Pvt. Daren A. Smith, 2007, OIF
Spc. Jeffrey F. Nichols, 2008, OIF

4th Brigade Special Troops Battalion

Sgt. Joseph A. Richard III, 2008, OIF
Sgt. Timothy M. Smith, 2008, OIF
Pvt. Devon J. Harris, 2010, OEF
Sgt. Travis M. Tompkins, 2011, OEF

94th Brigade Support Battalion

Sgt. Mark A. Stone, 2008, OIF
Spc. Marcus C. Mathes, 2008, OIF

519th Military Police Battalion

Sgt. Andres J. Contreras, 2006, OIF

10th Combat Aviation Brigade 1st Battalion, 10th Aviation Regiment

Sgt. Christopher A. Wagener, 2004, OIF
CWO3 Mitchell K. Carver Jr., 2006, OIF
CWO2 Christopher B. Donaldson, 2006, OEF
CWO2 Kyle E. Jackson, 2006, OIF
Staff Sgt. Christopher T. Howick, 2006, OEF
Sgt. Bryan A. Brewster, 2006, OEF
CWO3 Kenneth R. White, 2011, OEF
CWO2 Terry L. Varnadore II, 2011, OEF

2nd Battalion, 10th Aviation Regiment

Command Sgt. Maj. Dennis Jallah Jr. 2004, OEF

3rd Battalion, 10th Aviation Regiment

CWO2 Eric W. Totten, 2006, OEF
Sgt. John C. Griffith, 2006, OEF
Sgt. Jeffery S. Wiekamp, 2006, OEF

3rd Squadron, 17th Cavalry Regiment

1st Lt. Adam G. Mooney, 2004, OIF
CWO3 Patrick D. Dorff, 2004, OIF
CWO2 Brian D. Hazelgrove, 2004, OIF

6th Squadron, 6th Cavalry Regiment

CWO3 Philip E. Windorski Jr., 2009, OIF
CWO2 Matthew G. Kelley, 2009, OIF
CWO2 Joshua M. Tillery, 2009, OIF
CWO2 Benjamin H. Todd, 2009, OIF
CWO2 Bradley J. Gaudet, 2011, OEF

277th Aviation Support Battalion

Spc. Marko M. Samson, 2009, OIF

10th Sustainment Brigade 7th Engineer Battalion

Spc. Joshua D. Sheppard, 2006, OIF
Pfc. Jeremiah J. Monroe, 2009, OEF
Spc. Alan N. Dikcis, 2010, OEF
Spc. Blake D. Whipple, 2010, OEF
Sgt. Omar Aceves, 2011, OEF
Spc. Jarrid L. King, 2011, OEF
Pfc. Benjamin G. Moore, 2011, OEF

10th Sustainment Brigade Special Troops Battalion

Spc. Roger P. Pena Jr., 2006, OEF

57th Transportation Company

Sgt. James D. Stewart, 2005, OIF
Spc. Toccara R. Green, 2005, OIF

63rd Ordnance Battalion

Sgt. Terrence D. Dunn, 2007, OIF

91st Military Police Battalion

Spc. Kasper A. C. Dudkiewicz, 2006, OIF
Sgt. Mickel D. Garrigus, 2007, OIF
Sgt. Paul T. Sanchez, 2007, OIF
Sgt. Raul Moncada, 2009, OIF

Separate Battalions

1st Battalion, 314th Infantry Regiment

Sgt. 1st Class Michael A. Benson, 2005, OIF

3rd Battalion, 62nd Air Defense Artillery Regiment

2nd Lt. Seth J. Dvorin, 2004, OIF
Pfc. James P. Lambert, 2004, OIF
Pfc. Richard H. Rosas, 2004, OIF

3rd Battalion, 314th Field Artillery Regiment

Lt. Col. Leon G. James II, 2005, OIF
Sgt. 1st Class Tulsa T. Tuliau, 2005, OIF
Staff Sgt. Casey E. Howe, 2005, OIF

41st Engineer Battalion

Sgt. Benjamin L. Gilman, 2004, OEF

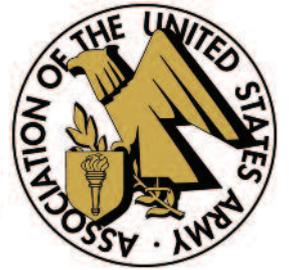


SGT JOEL GUERRA

Soldiers from 1st Battalion, 32nd Infantry Regiment pay their respects to five fallen comrades during a memorial service Aug. 20 in Afghanistan.



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