



DEUCE LIGHTNING



2D SIGNAL BRIGADE NEWSLETTER

"BRIGADE OF EXCELLENCE"



CSM Brooks conducts 2d Signal Brigade enlisted run on 25 March 2010, in Mannheim, Germany

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2D SIGNAL BRIGADE

Brigade Commander	COL Gerald Miller
Brigade Command Sergeant Major	CSM Patrick Brooks
Deputy Brigade Commander / Managing Editor	LTCP Harry Friberg
Civilian Deputy Brigade Commander	Mr John Baltich
Editor	CPT Hans Lokodi
Assistant Editor	SPC William Biggerstaff
Graphics Manager	SPC William Biggerstaff

UPCOMING EVENTS	
Training Holiday	April 9
Training Holiday	April 12
DODDS Spring Break	April 9-18
Austere Challenge	April 26-May 8

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MESSAGE FROM THE BRIGADE COMMAND TEAM



COL Miller

CSM Brooks

Dear Soldiers, Civilians, Friends and Family,

March was a busy month with many opportunities for service. I am astounded at the generosity displayed by the brigade and its battalions in helping fellow Soldiers and their Families when in need. This generosity is evident as the Army Emergency Relief Campaign goes on. For those not familiar with the AER fund, it is a voluntary fund that is supported by the donations of Soldiers so that in times of unforeseen hardships, Soldiers have a place to go to seek relief. It is literally Soldiers taking care of Soldiers.

On a similar note, it is with great pride that I announce that the Brigade and all Detachments, Companies and Battalions are now qualified for award of the Army Safety Excellence Streamer. The criterion for this streamer are for Brigade: no Class A or B accidents in the preceding 12 months, for Battalions: no Class A or B Accidents in the preceding 12 Months; completion of the ARAP Survey and 100% completion of the Composite Risk Management training within past 24 months, for Detachment and Company: no Class A or B Accidents in the preceding 12 Months and 100% completion of the Composite Risk Management training within the past 24 months.

Also, the Chief of Staff Army Deployment Excellence Award Evaluation Board Selected NETCOM's 72nd Expeditionary Signal Battalion, located in Mannheim, Germany; is the DEA large deploying unit winner in the 2010 competition. A heartfelt congratulations on a job well done. Winning this competition is quite an accomplishment. You are a truly amazing group of HOOAHs and should be VERY proud of your accomplishment.

CSM Brooks and I are proud of you all.

In March, we had the pleasure of witnessing the Women's Equality Celebration. It was an inspirational and reflective celebration featuring outstanding speakers.

These events are a great opportunity to come out and get to know others in the community. Keep up the good work!

HOOAH!
COL Gerald Miller



“the Brigade and all Detachments, Companies and Battalions are now qualified for award of the Army Safety Excellence Streamer”

- COL Miller



COL Miller presents guest speaker Ms. Toni Hattlett a certificate of appreciation on behalf of the Brigade.

COL Miller presents PFC Kiyon Mitchell with a certificate of appreciation for his performance at the Women's Equality Celebration.



MESSAGE FROM THE 6981ST CIVILIAN SUPPORT GROUP



Dear Members, Friends, and Family of the 6981st:

During the last few weeks we faced several challenges in support of our customers. A short notice, high priority exercise support request for the USAFE at Einsiedlerhof, the preparation for a CDS/ICDS upgrade at Camp Bondsteel (CBS), and the installation of removable cables for a containerized EWSD-switch at Furnari Barracks besides the already planned and started projects required a

good day by day schedule for all involved. Additionally we had a successful unit training day to refresh safety, maintenance and installation work related topics which keeps our unit up to speed for the daily work to be accomplished. Another highlight was the DA Army Award for Maintenance Excellence (AAME) on site evaluation on Monday 22 March for the FY09 competition by the Department of the Army. Around the end of April the runner up and the winner of this competition at DA level will be announced.

We connect!

Gerd Drechsler

“During the last few weeks we faced several challenges in support of our customers.”

- Gerd Drechsler

THE 6981ST CIVILIAN SUPPORT GROUP TRAINING HIGHLIGHTS



The 6981st Civilian Support Group conducts unit training day to refresh safety, maintenance and installation work related topics. Left and Above are some highlights.



MESSAGE FROM THE 39TH SIGNAL BATTALION COMMAND TEAM



LTC Mark R. Schonberg CSM Charles Miller

Dear Soldiers, Civilians, Friends and Family,

March has been an active month for the 39th, with inspections, field exercises, and more than usual training. This newsletter starts off with the Benelux basketball championship game played by S.H.A.P.E. Battalion and the 39th Signal Battalion at the end of February. The game was very close with the 39th winning by 1 point. The final score was 38 to 39, with that score it was meant to be!!

The 650th MI Battalion had their biannual MRX training in which all units in the Benelux are invited. The 39th uses this field exercise to focus on training that we otherwise would not be able to complete due to our limited number of

personnel and facilities. The MRX starts with five days of Warrior Skills and Battle Drills, and then culminates with two days of actual training missions in a tactical environment. Training included Tactical Check Points, MASCAL and MEDEVAC, IED detection, MOUNT training, assault on the objective, and securing the objective – this names only a few. The Company Commanders will use the information on the exercise to create the training plan for the upcoming months.

In addition to the training, we had the 128th Company change of command. (Photos on the next page).

LTC Mark R. Schonberg

CSM Charles Miller





39TH SIGNAL BATTALION EVENTS

128th Company Change of Command

The 128th Company Change of Command occurred on the 12th of March which saw the passing of the Gideon from Captain Garrick Minor to Captain Timothy Lawrence. CPT Lawrence takes over the 128th Signal Company and at the same time becomes the Battalion Safety Officer. CPT Minor moves to the Battalion S3 section and will remain until he deploys to Afghanistan in the summer.



LTC Schonberg takes the Company guidon from CPT Minor (outgoing 128th Signal Company Commander).



CPT Lawrence speaks for the first time as the Commander of the 128th Signal Company.

Battlefield and Basilicas

Battlefield and Basilicas event was held in the town of Gent (also known as Ghent). The Soldiers of the 39th visited the Saint Bavo where ground was broken for the church in the 10th century and was then completed in the 13th century; named after the Patron Saint of Saint Bavo who gave away all his belongings and entered the monastery. The church is considered one of the most beautiful in the whole country. During this event the 39th also visited Gravensteen castle, which means "the Castle of the Count". Originally build of wood more than 1000 years ago, the current stone structure is one of the only intact castles left in its original condition. The castle was used over the centuries as a prison, home for

the count, and a textile mill. Today it is a museum with medieval armor, weapons, and torture devices on display.



CPT Minor gives his farewell speech to the Soldiers and Civilians of the 128th Signal Company.



Chaplain Grimenstein giving a brief history of the Saint Bavo church.



The Soldiers of the 128th Signal Company take commands from 1SG Greene.



MESSAGE FROM THE 43D SIGNAL BATTALION COMMAND TEAM



LTC Laroy Peyton CSM Ricky Wallace

Greetings from the Soldiers and Civilians of the "Always Professional" 43d Signal Battalion.

The month of March has been an eventful kickoff to spring for the 43d Signal Battalion. We continue to carry on with business as usual with our regular pay day activities and training. However we had the opportunity to host events with NETCOM and the Department of the Army.

The 43d was visited by MG Lawrence, NETCOM Commander, at the beginning of the month. MG Lawrence was given an updated mission briefing and had chance to interact with the battalion leadership over

lunch in Heidelberg. The Battalion's NSI program was inspected by the Department of the Army and received a no deficiencies evaluation, congratulations to the 11th Signal detachment, Mr. Ed Landry and all members of the NSI team.

The weather in Heidelberg is beginning to warm up and we have taken full advantage of it by getting the Soldiers and Officers out to experience the local culture. The Soldiers took part in the first 43d Chaplains "Steeple Chase". This event was led by Chaplain Frese and a volunteer spouse, Mrs. Denise Josey. The Soldiers learned how to use the Heidelberg Strassenbahn to navigate their way to Heilingenberg Hill. At the top of the hill the Soldiers were given a tour of the Thingstätte and its significance to WWII Heidelberg.

The Officers of the 43d were led on an afternoon OPD by Chaplain Frese to the city of Worms. The Chaplain instructed on the historical significance

of the city and its relationship to Martin Luther and the Holy Roman Empire. They also had a chance to visit the oldest Jewish cemetery in Europe.

I would like to take the opportunity to recognize all of our Soldiers who tested for and were awarded the German Schutzenschnur badge; SFC Esguerra, SGT Cervantes, SPC Calvo, SPC Handy and SPC Colbert. The host nation events, like this one, are what makes our time in Europe special and fosters the relationship nations.

We hope everyone is enjoying the arrival of spring as much as the 43d. We can't wait to see what April has in store for us.

"Always Professional"

LTC Laroy Peyton, Battalion Commander

43D SIGNAL BATTALION NEWS

Awards

- | | |
|---------------------------|--|
| SPC Johnson | Army Commendation Medal |
| SFC Esguerra | Meritorious Service Medal |
| SFC Esguerra | SPORTS BADGE/GOLD SCHUTZENSCHNUR |
| SGT Cervantes | SILVER SCHUTZENSCHNUR |
| SPC Calvo | GOLD SCHUTZENSCHNUR |
| SPC Handy | BRONZE SCHUTZENSCHNUR |
| SPC Colbert | GOLD SCHUTZENSCHNUR |
| Mr. Michael Seither, | Commanders Award for Civilian Service |
| Mr. Thomas Colantuono, | Commander's Award for Civilian Service |
| Mr. Nicholas Carbone, | DAC Civilian of the 1st Quarter, 2010 |
| Mr. Hans-Dieter Hartmann, | LN Civilian of the 1st Quarter, 2010 |
| Mr. William Smith, DAC, | 30 Years Length of Service |
| Mr. Brian Cosgrove, DAC, | 25 Years Length of Service |
| Mrs. Raina Foreman, DAC, | 10 Years Length of Service |

Promotions- March

- PV2 David Parker to PFC
- PV2 Matthew Booth to PFC
- Lessire, Jordan from Supply Technician YB-2005-01 to Supply Technician YB-2005-02



SPC Calvo receives his Schutzenschnur Medal



43D SIGNAL BATTALION PICTURES



Mrs. Denise Josey guides 43d Soldiers through Heilingenberg during the Chaplains Steeple Chase.



Chaplain Frese points out the highlights of the Lutherdenkmal, monument to Martin Luther, during their OPD in Worms.



Steeple Chase group photo in front of the *Thingstätte*, Heidelberg.



43d Officers in front of the Dom of St. Peters, Worms.



MESSAGE FROM THE 44TH EXPEDITIONARY COMMAND TEAM



LTC Dwayne A. Dickens CSM Demetrius R. Steel

March is a milestone month in the history of the Battalion. Within the next week Bravo Company will be deploying in support of OEF. Just three short months ago this company was a work in progress. Today, it's a trained and ready, Tactical Signal Company ready to provide communications in support to our Warfighters, on the front lines of the War on Terror in Afghanistan.

Just three months ago, Bravo Company was completing its Reset from OIF 07-09 and it had just completed settling into their new home here on Ledward Barracks. The amount of training the company has successfully completed since that time is a true testament to their leadership and individual motivation.

It's also a testament to the efforts of the Staff AND the Battalions Companies that pulled out all the stops to assist Bravo Company in preparing for this deployment. This has truly been a team effort.

The "Road to War" has been a long one. It began with a formal notification in January progressed through the validation of all WINT equipment, crew certifications, ranges, SRP/PDP, Theater Specific Training, equipment pack out, barracks clearing and FRG Town hall meetings just to name a few significant events. On the 26th of March we recognized this hard work with a deployment ceremony. We recognized the hard work that has been done in getting B Company ready to deploy and we recognize the challenges that still lay ahead for the Company and their families.

The best and brightest of this Battalion are embarking on this mission. For most of these soldiers, this is their first deployment. With this, they are joining a long line of our fellow Soldiers who have carried forward the defense of our nation's freedom to the far corners of the earth.

We all owe a big "Thank You" to the Bravo Company family, for the service they are providing to our Army and Nation. They have truly formed the bonds of a strongly knit "Family" over the last three months. We are proud of them and the sacrifices they are about to make as their loved ones leave Germany, cross a continent to a foreign land to do the work of our Army.

OUTSTANDING!

DWAYNE A. DICKENS, LTC, Commanding



SPC Nieves prepares the B Co Guidon.

44TH EXPEDITIONARY SIGNAL BATTALION NEWS

Bravo Company, 44th ESB Completes Final SRP/PDP!

1LT Duncan, BN S1

Bravo Company moved yet another step closer to their deployment with their successful PDP on 18 March 2010. Beginning at 0800, 121 Bravo company Soldiers attended the final Pre-deployment Program which consisted of ANAM, also known as Traumatic Brain Injury Testing; the completion of over 15 SRP stations ranging from Housing to Legal; and the most thorough (dreaded) portion of the PDP; Medical, where all deploying Soldiers were vaccinated against Anthrax and Small Pox amongst others. An additional 25 new Soldiers from the Battalions other line companies also attended the SRP portion

of this event-filled day. A total of 146 Soldiers completed SRP in all.

In the interest of always being prepared to deploy at a moment's notice, LTC Dickens opted to have the entire Battalion participate in the ANAM Testing, which is a new deployment requirement for all units. The test is valid for one year and establishes a baseline prior to deployment that the Army uses to pinpoint those Soldiers who may need additional assistance with such issues as PTSD once they return home if they were to experience a Traumatic Brain Injury while deployed or during training. Over 350 44th Soldiers participated in the testing which spanned two days. The 82% of the Battalion that was

available (in processing and deployed soldiers were exempt) successfully completing the test.

The "Fighting" 44th continually strives to prepare its Soldiers for any eventuality and insists that all Soldiers slated to deploy are prepared to do so in a timely and efficient manner. As a result, Bravo Company was brought to 93% compliance with their PDP requirements. The remaining 7% were scheduled for a make-up day on 24 March when they return from Theater Specific Training at Grafenwoehr.

Truly Outstanding!



44TH SIGNAL BATTALION PICTURES



Signing into the SRP/PDP on 18 Mar



The BN Color Guard practices for the Deployment Ceremony

44TH SIGNAL BATTALION NEWS

Charlie Rock Conducts Commander's Week Training

CPT Brennan, Company Commander

From 15-18 March "Charlie Rock" headed to Camp Robertson to conduct team building a hone individual soldier skill during the "Spring Commander's Week". The company deployed its forty Soldiers, most of which were new additions to the team and conducted three ranges, STX Lanes and a much needed Driver training course that is required for Soldiers to drive a tactical vehicle.

The soldiers of Charlie conducted an M16 range, a M249 range as well as a situational training exercise (STX) lane that covered everything from interacting with a multinational peacekeeping force to being ambushed and calling in a MEDEVAC for

injured personnel. In addition to participation in the ranges, newly assigned personnel were road tested for their driver's licenses for the various vehicles with trailers that are part of the Charlie Company arsenal.

The week ended with a safe return to the Ledward Barracks on Thursday and was marked by cleaning the vehicles of all the dirt and grime that was built up during the week. During drivers training there was a rule to "Never take the same route twice." How else are we going to learn the area in which we operate? With technology installed in the Companies' vehicle like the Blue Force Tracker, Soldiers were able to take "alternate" routes around the training area, which included lesser travel "roads". With the recent snow fall and rain, some of these alternate routes were less than clear and travelable without the

use of four-wheel drive. It was obvious by the end of the week that Charlie Company had some valuable lessons with the off road capabilities of the tactical vehicles. One week in the field to a signal line company leadership is.....Priceless! That was the result of the Spring Commander's

We train like we fight, so the goal was to make the conditions resemble the difficult terrain a Soldier would encounter down range. The week was a fast paced, action packed an left Charlie members a little tired but one step closer to being proficient to handle any mission, anywhere. The Company enjoyed a well deserved four day weekend, and is now ready to jump back in to garrison and focus on our specific Signal Mission with both feet hitting the ground at full speed.



MESSAGE FROM THE 52D SIGNAL BATTALION COMMAND TEAM



LTC James E. Pugh

CSM Mark A. George

Soldiers, Civilians, Family Members, and friends of the 52d Signal Battalion:

Spring is knocking at the front door!! Greetings from the 52nd Signal Battalion located in Stuttgart Germany.

Our unit is unique in its mission and constantly evolving to meet the demands of future. The 52nd Signal Battalion is currently in the process of growing the

mission set of the battalion. The new mission involves both Combatant Commands (Africa Command and EUCOM) located in the 52nd Signal Battalion's Area of Responsibility. As we plan for the transition of Information Technology oversight, this mission will test the battalion from the lowest ranking private to the Battalion Commander. I am confident that this battalion will succeed!!

With spring upon us and spring break around the corner, we are preparing for family vacations and have begun the planning for summer transition of soldiers and command leadership. The battalion change of command is scheduled for 9 July 2010 at Washington Square, Patch Barrack Stuttgart Germany. On behalf of CSM George, we are

truly proud of our team and want to wish everyone a Happy Easter and want everyone to have safe Spring Break.

LTC James E. Pugh

CSM Mark A. George

52D SIGNAL BATTALION NEWS



Name	Grade	Birthday
RUIZ HARRY A	SGT	3-Mar
JOYNER JOSHUA A	PFC	3-Mar
KIRCHOFNER KODI T	SPC	11-Mar
CAREY DARNEL A	SGTP	13-Mar
STRACKE AARON M	SPC	13-Mar
EDWARDS DANNY W	SGT	18-Mar
ORMISTON MICHAEL C	SGT	22-Mar
MOONEY JASON R	SPC	23-Mar
BAGGETT ADAM T	SPC	28-Mar
DERHAM ADAM M	PFC	30-Mar
TENNANT ROSS C	PV2	31-Mar



MESSAGE FROM THE 69TH SIGNAL BATTALION COMMAND TEAM



LTC Earl S. Nakata

CSM Kristine A. Purnell

The month of March has been very hectic for the 69th Signal Battalion. The four major events were the continuation of the installation of BICES into APC-G, the 2nd Stryker Cavalry Regiment (2SCR) Mission Rehearsal Exercise (MRE) support, the Austere Challenge 10 Joint Master Scenario Events List (JMSEL) Conference and AC10 Final Planning Conference. The priority mission was to support the 2nd Stryker Cavalry Regiment (2SCR) during their Mission Rehearsal Exercise (MRE) at Hohenfels. The OC Hohenfels team along with a four-man Soldier team worked tirelessly from the

last two weeks in February until the start of the exercise in March to prepare for the mission. OC Bamberg and OC Schweinfurt stepped up to support the Hohenfels team by sending 3 DA Civilians to augment the under-manned Mission Support Element (MSE) team during the 2SCR rotation. OC Chief, Julio Hernandez was the focal point, along with support from the MSE team, the E-TNOSC, and Southwest Asia TNOSC in installing and configuring the Afghanistan Mission Network (AMN) Point of Presence at Hohenfels. The exercise was a huge success and the first time, Army wide, whereby the unit moving into theater trained and is configured to operate on the existing network in theater. While all of this was on-going in Hohenfels, the APC-G team and the HHD Soldiers at Grafenwoehr played a vital role in providing communications support to the JMSEL Conference and the Final Planning Conference to the biggest EUCOM led exercise, Austere Challenge 10. From 8-12 March, Mr. David Hicks, the Battalion COMSEC Specialist re-

ceived a "SATISFACTORY" during the Command COMSEC Inspection of the Battalion COMSEC Account. The inspection was conducted by Mr. Bob Langley (5th SIG CMD)

The following individuals were commended for the outstanding manner in which they perform the COMSEC Hand Receipt Holder duties in their organization; no deficiencies/concerns were noted at their activity: Mr. Michael Hammond (OC Ansbach), Mr. Alex Rosado (OC Hohenfels), and Mr. William Jerome (OC Hohenfels). On behalf of COL Miller and CSM Brooks, Mr. David Hicks, Mr. Michael Hammond, Mr. Alex Rosado, and Mr. William Jerome received a 2nd Signal Brigade Coin of Excellence. Through all of this, OCs Bamberg, Ansbach, Schweinfurt, and ROC Grafenwoehr continued to provide outstanding Operational Base support to our customers. The CSM and I would like to "Thank Everyone" for all their hard work in making this a very successful month for the 69th Signal Battalion.

"Voice of Command"

69TH SIGNAL BATTALION NEWS

March Birthdays:

- 6-SFC James Nejelski, S3
6-David Breeden, OC Hohenfels
8-SSG Marcelino Villali, S3
9-Rob Lunden, OC Hohenfels
15-SSG Antonio Frazier, HHD
15-Harold Gilliam, S4
21-Adam McBride, OC Bamberg
21-Aurelio Pineiro, OC Romania
22-Thomas Zschokke, LWNSO
23-Josef Hermann, ROC
23-Chris Sweney, OC Bamberg
26-SPC Carlos Muniz, HHD

Length of Service Recognition (Jan thru Mar 10):

- Johann Schuller, 30 years, ROC
Sigrid Herold, 30 years, S4
Bernd Specht, 25 years, ROC
Guido Fausel, 20 years, OC Ansbach
Stefan Lindemann, 25 years, OC Schweinfurt
Peter Mulla, 15 years, APC

April Upcoming Events:

- 6-7 SSLD
Austere Challenge 10

New 69th Signal Battalion Family Members:

Louis Gregory McBride born 5 March 2010 to Adam & Andrea McBride, OC Bamberg



69TH SIGNAL BATTALION NEWS

OPVAL II

The 69th Signal Battalion will participate in the second iteration of the Operation and Validation Exercise (OPVAL II). This is a global effort which requires interaction from entities within NETCOM, 7th & 5th Signal Command TNOSCs, local units and APC - Grafenwoehr. As we advance through the various phases of OPVAL II, the necessity of a global information infrastructure becomes evident; now and for future support to the Warfighter. This event will validate the seamless redistribution of a deploying unit's data and services while transitioning to a forward based location. With the initial validation exercise completed in 2009, we have taken the lessons learned and developed tactics, techniques, and procedures (TTPs) to augment the validation process for 2010.

As in 2009, APC - Grafenwoehr 's Virtual Mware Infrastructure Administrators will manage the Virtual Infrastructure; a major part of the transitioning process. This virtual infrastructure sanctions the movement of servers, while reducing the dependence of physical servers in a global environment. Users will have the ability to access their mail and data during the transitioning period while their physical devices have been shutdown. APC - Grafenwoehr Virtual Mware Infrastructure Administrators and the E-TNOSC Administrators were recognized for their outstanding support throughout the OPVAL I exercise. LTG Sorenson awarded

**69TH SIGNAL BATTALION
NCO/SOLDIER OF THE QUARTER**



SSG Marcelino N. Villali



SPC Abrice W. Barnes

2ND QUARTER FY10

Mr. Michael Graham and Mr. Andre Clay Coins of Excellence for their hard work. This year's expectations are no less challenging as Mr. Chad Bean and Mr. Peter Mulla are tasked with the responsibilities of the Mware's Virtual Infrastructure Administrators.

As we move through the various phases of OPVAL II, there will be challenges. These challenges will be overcome and processes modified to accommodate an ever-changing environment. Mr. Chad Bean and Mr. Peter Mulla have been instrumental in testing, validating, and modifying scripts that automate the management processes. These scripts will reduce the dependence of vendor delivered products which require additional modifications to support our environment. The primary mission switches from CONUS to OCONUS and the role of the APC Virtual Mware Infrastructure Administrator becomes more intense because

emphasis is now placed on coordination. We are working directly with the unit to ensure all data is stable and all servers and services are accessible. APC-G is the primary provider of the Unit's services as they deploy their equipment and then our role transitions as we become the co-site of those services.

At the completion of OPVAL II, we will have participated in a process that will be a main stay in the support of the Warfighter during future deployments. We will have recognized a joint global team's effort in the development of a process that makes data and service movements less complicated and intrusive but most of all we will have acknowledged that the 69th Battalion's APC-Grafenwoehr personnel have met the challenge and completed it in a manner that has been expected of the signal community.



69TH SIGNAL SOLDIERS WIN BOARDS

**2D SIGNAL BRIGADE
SOLDIER OF THE QUARTER**



Specialist Alrice W. Barnes



Congratulations!

**2D SIGNAL BRIGADE
NCO OF THE QUARTER**



Sergeant Edwin R. Hunt





MESSAGE FROM THE 72D-REAR SIGNAL COMPANY COMMAND TEAM



CPT Rob C. Leicht

1SG Brian K. Cantrell

72D ESB Soldiers and Families,

Happy Spring. Eight months down and four to go! We are working the final pieces for the redeployment and what redeployment day will look like. Please understand that this information is subject to change and we will keep everyone informed as critical information changes. Once the plan is finalized we will conduct a Family Update brief to update all the Family members. All redeploying Soldiers are required to complete reintegration training upon redeployment. The training is usually seven to ten half days and will start the morning after the Soldiers return (weekends/holidays included).

Last weekend we conducted the 72D ESB Easter Party at the Community Center. It was a huge success and thanks to everyone that came out to support it. Although the weather wasn't the best we still have over 45 Families and a special guest attend. Thank you to everyone involved in putting this great event together. We are working a few more battalion events before your spouse's return so please come out and join us. The Company FRGs are still busy conducting bake sales to raise funds for the redeployment. If you have time to bake or

assist at the bake sale please contact your FRG leader. They would love the support/assistance at the events.

Mrs Tawanda Carter, our FRSA, has a wealth of knowledge and can provide you with the resources to assist you. All FRG's could use more volunteers. Please continue to support your FRG and remember the FRG is a command program for the Soldiers and Family members. If nothing else it is a great support group to assist with issues or concerns. If you are interested please contact your FRG Leaders. Any time you could spare would be helpful.

The Soldiers on Rear-Detachment continue to impress us with their motivation, drive, flexibility, and support they provide to all Family members while conducting our day to day operations. We are all prepared to assist as needed. Please let us know if you need assistance...sooner than later. We continue to welcome new Soldiers and their Families to the Battalion. Over the next several months we have about 70 more projected to arrive.

Finally, we have completed the move from Taylor Barracks to Sullivan Barracks. Now that the move is complete we are focusing on the return of the Battalion this summer and preparing the new battalion area. The Battalion Headquarters is in Bldg 238 Sullivan Brks (across from CMR 437). As we finish set-up the offices I ask for your patience. Please allow a few extra days when requesting assistance from us.

Also always remember safety. Before you travel...check the weather, look over your vehicle, check out the news for the area you are traveling, and make sure someone has your contact information if

we need to contact you.

Finally, thank you for what you do everyday! Let us know if we can assist you with anything! My phone number is 0162-296-2851 and 1SG Cantrell number is 0162-273-1041. We don't know all the answers but we are willing to assist and point you in the right direction.

CPT Rob C. Leicht

"The Soldiers on Rear-Detachment continue to impress us with their motivation, drive, flexibility, and support they provide to all Family members."

- CPT Leicht



72D-REAR FAMILY READINESS GROUP OUTING IN LADENBURG



The 72d Rear Det enjoys the Easter Holiday with an Easter Egg Hunt and Children's Activity.



MESSAGE FROM THE 102D SIGNAL BATTALION COMMAND TEAM



LTC Van D. Jarrell



CSM Robert A. Daniel, Jr.

HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY FROM THE 102D SIGNAL BATTALION

On 17 March 2010, the 102d Signal Battalion hosted a prayer breakfast to honor those with Irish Heritage and their Patron Saint, St. Patrick. Although St. Patrick was not originally born in Ireland, he had a

heart for ministry and a heart for the Irish people. He was sent there by the Roman Catholic Church to assist in the conversion of the Irish people to Christianity. While in many cases the celebration of St. Patrick's dedicated holiday is ripe with indulging in green eggs and ham, or perhaps a glass of Guinness, the Soldiers of the 102d Signal Battalion celebrated this nostalgic holiday a little differently this year.

Soldiers joined together in fellowship and had a breakfast of eggs and ham, minus the "green", but they added a lot of prayer, something Patrick would be very proud of. The Soldiers were led in an observance of the significance of St. Patrick's life by SGM Pamela Neal of the [USAREUR](#) Chaplain Office. SGM Neal

reflected on the extreme courage that Patrick had in returning to evangelize in a land where he had previously been held captive. She also reflected on the significance of Patrick as a saint to the Church, as well as one of the more recent Saints of the Catholic Church, Mother Teresa. SGM Neal came full circle in relating the importance of staying true to our faith as both St. Patrick and Mother Teresa did. Remarkably, SGM Neal tied together, both our daily observance of St. Patrick with our Monthly Observance and Theme: "Writing Women Back into History."

To conclude the breakfast the Soldiers were led in a prayer asking for the continued protection and guidance of our Soldiers who are scattered worldwide. Soldiers were called to remember the sacrifices that families make to ensure their service and gave thanks to God for the support received from our families. It was a wonderful time of fellowship and prayer for all.

102D SIGNAL BATTALION EVENTS AND PICTURES



SGM Neal giving a prayer breakfast reflection on 17 March 10.



CPT Billingsley and Newly promoted SSG Marshall speak about promotion potential during 102D awards and promotion ceremony.



LTC Jarrell giving a COA to chaplain assistant SGM Neal, after the prayer breakfast on 17 March 10.



102D SIGNAL BATTALION PICTURES

On 18 March 2010, SGT Williams and SPC Whitfield volunteered their off-duty time to teach combative to Boy Scouts from a local Wiesbaden Scout Troop. Everyone had a great time and the Boy Scouts are already asking for an encore training session



102D SIGNAL BATTALION NEWS AND EVENTS

102D SIGNAL BATTALION EVENTS

- 03 March 10 - 102nd Promotion Board
- 11-13 Mar 10 - Singles Retreat
- 13 March 10 - USAREUR Basketball Championship
- 17 March 10 - Prayers Breakfast
- 18 March 10 - Combative with Boys scouts
- 19 March 10 - FRG BBQ and Bake Sale
- 25 March 10 - 5th SIG BDE Run
- 25 - 26 March 10 - 102nd M16 and M9 Range

BIRTHDAYS MARCH

- Mr Branco
- Mr Carlucci
- SFC Juarez
- Mr Schenderlein
- MAJ Thompson
- Mr Martin
- Ms O'Neal
- Mr Shubin
- SGT Combs
- SFC Uestuenele
- PFC Reyna

DATE

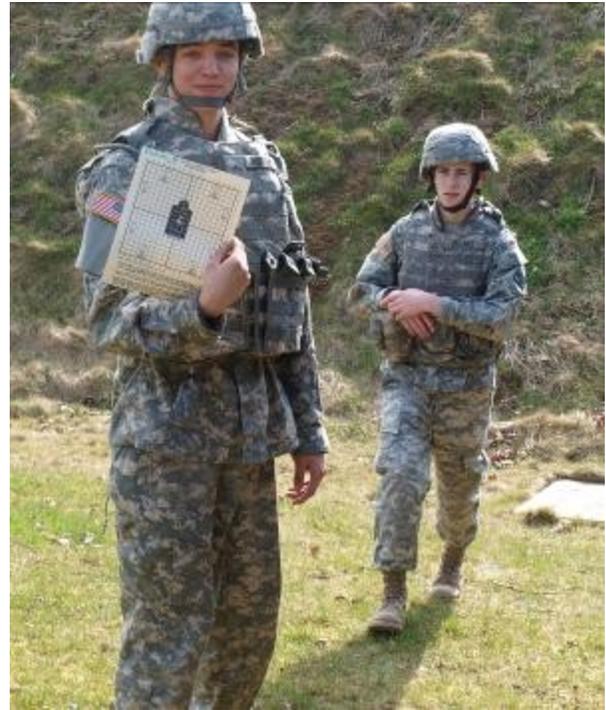
- 05 Mar 10
- 06 Mar 10
- 09 Mar 10
- 13 Mar 10
- 14 Mar 10
- 19 Mar 10
- 21 Mar 10
- 23 Mar 10
- 25 Mar 10
- 25 Mar 10
- 28 Mar 10



102D SIGNAL BATTALION CONDUCTS M16 RANGE



Range Safety Officers and Safety Lanes taking care of the soldier at the M16 Qualification Range.



PV2 Pletcher showing her zero card after finish.



Range Safety Officers and Safety Lanes taking care of the Soldier at the Zeroing Range.



SSG Etcitty with no clue of what PFC Carr is doing at the Zeroing Range.



MESSAGE FROM THE BATTALION 509TH COMMAND TEAM



LTC G. Shawn Wells



CSM Chester D. Grelock

On 05 March 2010, the 509th Signal Battalion said farewell to the Battalion Command Sergeant Major, CSM 'Chet' Grelock. The event was held in a rustic Italian restaurant deep in the Berico hills and was supported by a tremendous turnout from the Battalion as well as COL Miller and CSM Brooks.

CSM Grelock joined the Army in 1984 as a Communications (O5C) Radio Teletype Operator. He held numerous assignments over the last 26 years of service. Highlights include: SOCA Team Chief, 112th Signal Battalion; Company

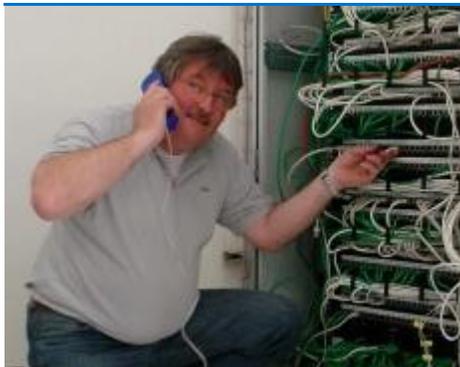
Commo Chief, 2d Bn, 75th Ranger Regt; Team Chief, 51st Long Range Surveillance (ABN); Regimental Commo Chief, 75th Ranger Regt; and, a Team Sergeant and Commo Sergeant Major, Flight Concepts Division, Ft. Eustis, Virginia. His military and civilian education includes Basic Airborne Course, Ranger School, Static line Jumpmaster Course, SERE level III Course, Long Range Surveillance Course (LRSC), Pathfinder Course, Military Freefall Parachutist and Jumpmaster Courses, the Basic Noncommissioned Officers Course, Advanced Noncommissioned Officers Course, USASMA First Sergeants Course, and USASMA Non-residents Sergeant Major Course Class 32.

His awards and decorations include Defense Meritorious Service Medal (10LC), Joint Commendation Medal (20LC), Army Commendation Medal (40LC), Joint Service Achievement Medal (30LC), Army Achievement Medal (50LC), Good Conduct Medal (seventh award), National Defense Service Medal, Iraqi Campaign Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal,

Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, NATO ribbon, Noncommissioned Officer Development Ribbon (4), Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon, Senior Aviation Crew member badge, and Bronze German jump wings. His major contributions to the 509th Signal Battalion included: The development of the Battalion's Advanced Network Training Course (ANTC), a course designed to provide new Soldiers OJT with the Operations Center and NEC to build a foundation in network management, IA, Tier II, and system administration; the development of the Expeditionary Signal Team (EST) concept, structure and manning; special invitational school slots for the Special Operations Radio Operator's Course (SOROC) at Ft. Bragg, NC; and, an intense CSM battle-focused PT program.

CSM Grelock departed on 18 March 2010 and is assigned as the Battalion CSM for 112th Signal Battalion, FT. Bragg, NC.

509TH SIGNAL BATTALION NEWS



Mr. Massimo Teodori, Operations Center – Vicenza DSN section

Vicenza Defense Switch Network (DSN) Team

The mission of the Operations Center (OC) in Vicenza Italy is to provide C4IM capabilities to joint services stationed at Caserma Ederle. However, installation capacity has been stressed and construction efforts are underway to meet rapidly growing customer requirements.

U.S. Army Africa, Naval Facility Engineers and USAG recapitalization efforts have led to significant increases in work orders for movement of voice and data services in Vicenza.

As facility projects reach completion the work of the Defense Switched Network (DSN) inside/ outside plant technician begins. Our teams of Host Nation employees have relocated 12 organizations in the span of 90 days and are scheduled to move an additional three units in April. The USAG Department of Public Works (DPW) has projected an additional 13 organizational moves prior to October 2010. The Operations Center has experienced heavy demand and continues to meet the challenges of daily operations with resounding success. Mr. McMann (Vicenza DSN Su-



CSM Grelock receives his PCS award from LTC Wells during his Farewell Dinner at

pervisor) stated; "the Vicenza military community operations tempo is extremely high, however our team of technology professionals is up to the task. 509th Signal Battalion Host Nation employees add great value to our customers and positively affect motivation of every organizational employee."



MESSAGE FROM THE HHC COMMAND TEAM



CPT Sirena Sias



1SG Joseph

Message from the Command Team:

We are astounded by the generosity of the members of the HHC team. Whenever there is a family in need, you seem to pull together and do what needs to be done, and for that I commend you. Your spirit of giving also shined through with the AER campaign. Continue the stellar performance as we go into Spring Break followed immediately by Austere Challenge 2010. I know this group can do it.

Awards and Farewells

During March we presented a retirement award to SPC Ashburn who worked in the command group, was in charge of raising for the AER and CFC last fiscal year. Chief Weller received an (ARCOM) Impact award. CPT Labo received an MSM for his ETS Award. Congratulations to these deserving Soldiers and we wish them all best!

CPT Sias

HHC NEWS AND PICTURES

(Right) CSM Brooks, SPC Ashburn, COL Miller, and 1SG Williams farewelling SPC Ashburn.



"Place your selector lever on fire and engage the target." - HHC conducts M16 Range 10 March.

