

Outlaw Chronicles

Sappers clear the way!



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Outlaw 6 Sends:



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One team's welcome is often another team's goodbye. So let's all give a big Outlaw "Hell Yeah" welcome to the mighty 693rd "Pioneer" Engineers from the great State of New York, and Ft. Drum.

As well as a Outlaw "Hell Yeah and God's speed" to the 182nd "Red Sox" Engineer Company as they return home to Massachusetts. Last week, CSM Raby and I had an opportunity to visit with Captain Morrow and 1SG Behnkendorf (Commander and 1SG for the 693rd) for a couple of days as they were completing the transition of responsibility for Route Clearance between them and the 182nd Engineer Company. The 182nd Engineer Company did great

work, set high standards and built a reputation of effectively clearing routes that has set the ground work for continued excellence by the 693rd Soldiers. I don't think I've seen Captain Bouchard or 1SG Bona (Commander and 1SG for the 182nd) smile as much over the past two months as I did those few days. They have reasons to smile and even more reasons to be proud of their Soldiers! Job well done 182nd and TF Outlaws wish you the best of luck and continued blessings. As the CSM and I spoke with Soldiers from the incoming unit, they seemed highly motivated (quite possibly from the endorsement to grow a "deployment" mustache) and displayed

a professionalism that should only add to the reputation that TF Outlaw has established to date. We're proud to have had the 182nd "Red Sox" as part of the Outlaw team. We're also proud to welcome the 693rd "Pioneers" to the Outlaw team. Stand tall and continue to clear the way! Hell Yeah!

— LTC Jack Ritter



Task Force Outlaw



XO Foxhole

“As Seen Through the Eyes of the XO”

Since we have been in Afghanistan for about 90 days now, I have tried to, somewhat, establish a routine. My routine is L.T.G... wait wait, now I know what you are thinking, “hey old man, you messed it up. It should be G.T.L.”. Not me. My routine is Laundry, Tan, Gym. L.T.G.!! Allow me to explain.

First, I am getting older now and getting up and performing high weight, high impact, high rep, high speed, and high intensity workout, like I do every day, first thing in the morning would be detrimental for someone with a broken-down body like mine.

My daily routine starts with Laundry. I even have a routine within my daily routine. I leave the room in the morning and stop by the ECOLOG laundry facility to either drop off or pickup laundry for the day. My routine is that I drop off my laundry bag of dirty clothes to be laundered by the laundry people, then go in to work. Since we have high speed laundry people, they typically have my laundry ready for pickup the next day. So the next day when I go in to work, I pick up my laundry. After I get home from work, I take my dirty clothes and stuff them in my laundry bag for

drop off the next day.

Tan. Not that I would ever go to a tanning place with those tanning beds and what not, but obviously we don’t have that option here. Our tanning option is more like just getting outside to get some sun. Our buildings here do not have windows, so getting outside to soak up some Vitamin D, daily, is essential to keeping your sanity. I scheduled a daily staff huddle that we conduct sitting outside on the deck where we can get some rays and get away from the work dungeon that can suck the life out of you. For those of you that spend a lot of time in an office, I encourage you to get out and spend a little time in the sun. Even if it is cold outside, just the direct sun shining on your face can do a lot of good. Leaders, I encourage you to make your subordinates get outside and take a break from the grind.

Gym. Like I stated above, mornings are not good for my workout routine. It takes so long for my creaking joints to warm up and stretch out that I have to wait until later in the day to go to the gym. Plus, I have a workout Battle Buddy that does not do mornings well, either. For those of you that have been around LTC Ritter, you know that he doesn’t like to get up early



or workout then, either. So we wait until later in the day to go to the gym, making this the final routine of the day.

So there you have it, L.T.G. And if you know what G.T.L. is then I have concerns about you. Okay, you are asking me how I know what it is. I was watching TV at Fort Bliss and Jersey Shore came on. I was going to the bathroom so I couldn’t change the channel immediately. So I inadvertently heard about G.T.L. Those guys are idiots, but I will give it to them that they have a routine that I can relate too.

— MAJ Brian DeShazo
XO, 120th EN BN



Readers Digest: Humor in Uniform

After being issued basic combat training equipment, we were warned that gas masks were frequently lost, and that we would be charged \$65 for a replacement. Determined not to lose mine, I developed the habit of hitting its case with my elbow as we

marched, to ensure that the mask was safely inside.

Near the end of training, we made a final check of our masks before ascending to the test chamber. I elbowed my gas-mask case and panicked when I realized it was

empty. “Drill Sergeant!” I yelled, jumping out of formation. “I lost my gas mask!”

“Get back in the line!” he bel-lowed. “It’s on your head!”

—Contributed by
Jared T. Garfield

Soldier Spotlight: 584th Engineer Company

SGT Daniel C. Krause

- Hometown: New Wilmington, PA
- Years of service: 7yrs 4mnths
- Married? Engaged
- Kids? None
- Parents? Margaret Graham and Glenn Krause of Butler, PA
- Why did you join? See what the Army does and what it is all about.
- Deployment job: Day Battle NCO/Training NCO/Asst COIST/Jack of all Trades
- What are your thoughts on the deployment?
My thought on this deployment is it has flown by, and I am hoping to finish it up without any incidents.
- Something the deployment has taught you, or you are proud of: This deployment has taught me exactly how much headquarters platoon does.
- How does this deployment compare to others?
This deployment has been a lot different with being in headquarters the whole deployment. I had the privilege to help support the platoons that were on the routes every day.
- Favorite food: Taco Bowl of FOB Walton
- Favorite Sports team: Pittsburgh Steelers
- Vehicle you own: Sold before Deployment
- College? Some
- Plans to do when back home: Getting married the summer after we return from deployment.



Soldier Spotlight: 584th Engineer Company

SPC Charlesdoone R. Castro

- Hometown: Vileo, CA
- Years of service: 3yrs 4mnths
- Married? Not Married
- Kids? No Kids
- Parents? Lyndon Castro and Ellen Castro of Quezon, Manila
- Why did you join? Because Father and Grandfather Served
- Deployment job: Company Communications Specialist
- What are your thoughts on the deployment?
It has been an interesting experience. It was satisfying to be able to do my job in the environment I trained to operate in since I joined.
- Something the deployment has taught you, or you are proud of: Being able to work out challenging complex problems. Being able to handle levels of issues above what I previously thought I could handle.
- How does this deployment compare to others? No experience
- Favorite food: Chinese Food (Orange Chicken)
- Favorite Sports team: L.A. Lakers
- Civilian career? (if not A.D.) After the military Information Technology Network Assistant in San Francisco, CA
- Vehicle you own: 2000 Toyota Celica
- College? 3yrs towards a Computer Programming degree
- Plans to do when back home: Taking time off to relax and spend time with family and friends



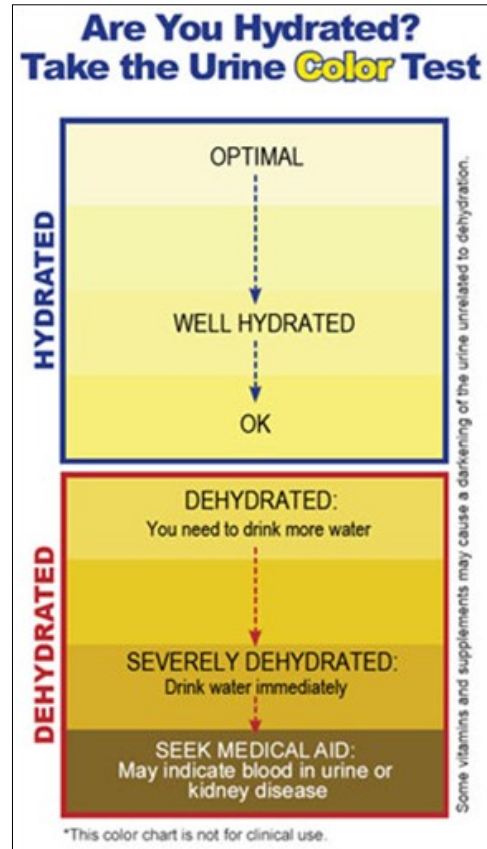
Medical Corner: Dehydration



Keeping hydrated is extremely important even during colder weather because of negative effects that occur to a soldier's body as a result of dehydration. 70% of our bodies are made of water so it is crucial to maintain this percent so our organs and organ systems work properly. Dehydration negatively affects important bodily functions, including toxin elimination, delivery of nutrients and oxygen to the cells of the body, energy production, and joint lubrication. Having an excess of Sodium and potassium can cause decreased muscle function and cause irregular heart rhythm that can be deadly. Dehydration can be caused by shivering, breathing, excessive heat, sweating, low humidity, alcohol intoxication, medication side effects, and high elevation and by not drinking enough water and fluids. Symptoms of mild dehydration include dry lips and tongue, dry skin mild headache, thirst. Symptoms of severe dehydration include change in consciousness or alertness, such as unresponsiveness and lethargy, chest pain or discomfort, or palpitations, confusion, dizziness, inability of an infant to feed and respond normally, lack of tears, muscle cramps and weakness, nausea and vomiting, not urinating or urine that is very dark yellow, brown, or tea colored, seizure, and sunken eyes.



Every soldier should drink eight, 8 oz glasses of water every day to prevent dehydration. If you choose to drink Gatorade, then you should drink 2 bottles of one Gatorade. Canned pops, coffee, and energy drinks are the devil and should be avoided like the plague. The high caffeine and sodium content dehydrate cells. So, drink water, stay hydrated!!



By Medic of the Year
AKA SPC Osterloh



Outlaw Sudoku

							2	9
1	2	3	4					7
				5	6			
						7		5
			1	9	8			
6		2						
			3	4				
4					5	6	7	8
9	5							

Guess the B.A.M.!

See if you can properly Identify the owner of this Task Force Outlaw Engineer's B.A.M.!!!



Leadership Corner

"Leaders who can stay optimistic and upbeat, even under intense pressure, radiate the positive feelings that create resonance. By staying in control of their feelings and

impulses, they craft an environment of trust, comforts and fairness. And that self-management has a trickle down effect from the leader. "

—Daniel Goleman



B.A.M. CONTEST!!!

Howdy Outlaws!

The B.A.M. CONTEST
Is Underway!!!

- Must sign up
- Open to all Soldiers (male and female)
- Before and after pictures (required for units not at KAF)
- Best and worst
- All competitors will have shaved clean on Thanksgiving Day.
- Everyone will have 40 days to grow their BAM
- All competitors will be judged on New Years Day.

**DON'T FORGET TO SEND
IN YOUR BEGINNING
PICS TO OUR JUDGES!!!**

Judges: SPC Osterloh,
SPC Diaz, SPC Churchwell,
SGT Duncan, and SSG
Wilson

Objective: to grow a Full, Thick BAM (within regulation). If you think you have what it takes to grow your BAM, if you have the STONES to play. then you need to be entered into this contest.

OUTLAWS! HELL YEAH!

Command Highlight: 1433rd Engineer Co.

CPT Todd Falor

- Hometown: Dewitt, MI
- Years of service: 9 years Guard, 20 years total
- Married? Yes
- Kids? 12yr old son, and one due March 5th
- Parents? Dad, 2 years Navy
- Why did you join? Patriotism. And I've always wanted to be a Green Beret.
- Deployment Job: Commander
- What are your thoughts on the deployment?
Its gone very well, long road to get here- with re-classing and preparation...
I've been full time focused on this for 2&1/2 years now.

- Something the deployment has taught you, or you are proud of:

Most rewarding thing I've done in my Military Career.

Achieving the training level we achieved and performing under these conditions.

- Dogs, or cats? Dogs
- How does this deployment compare to others?

Whole different scenario... I was always S.F. before.

- Favorite food: Pizza
- Favorite Sports team: Detroit Lions
- Vehicle you own: Jeep Commander
- Civilian job: Attorney
- College: Campbell University, NC; Thomas M. Cooley Law School
- Plans to do when back home? Go on vacation, then find a new job.



Hey Everyone!

**If you want to see
more photos and
awesome events and
happenings, check
out the Task Force
Outlaw Facebook
Page!!!**

**[www.facebook.com/
TaskForceOutlaw](http://www.facebook.com/TaskForceOutlaw)**



1039th Engineer Company Ding-Dongs

SPC McCarty (left) and SPC Barboza (right), affectionately nicknamed: Ding-Dongs by 1SG Siebert, are the communications specialists for the 1039th Engineering Company. Each of them serve as a vital asset to the mission on hand here in Afghanistan. Not only do they maintain the company's communications equipment, they have troubleshot and fixed multiple radio systems from the Afghanistan Army, Australian Army and the U.S. Air Force. With their tireless efforts the communications asset has been a success. Their dedication to duty maintains with the finest traditions of the US Army and the 1039th Engineering Company.

— 1SG Siebert

BA Guard Unit Shares Thanksgiving Greetings



About 200 members of the 120th Engineer Battalion of the Oklahoma National Guard, based in Broken Arrow, will have their own celebrations halfway around the world Thursday and will be sure to contact their families back in the states.

"We encourage them to make an extra effort over the holiday season," said Lt. Col. Jackie Ritter, commander of the 120th Engineer Battalion Task Force Outlaw, in an interview with the Tulsa World last week from Afghanistan. "We make an extra effort to plan holiday events here to the extent that we can. Just to keep the holiday spirit alive."



The 120th Engineer Battalion began their nine-month Afghanistan deployment in August. The 120th is providing command and control for about 10 engineer route clearance companies and are trained to provide support for forward combat elements.

Ritter said that during the holi-

days, personal contact back home makes the separation easier. He said he is encouraging his soldiers to sit down and write their loved ones an actual letter, and for the families back home to do the same.

"Email can be quick, but a handwritten letter or card takes thought," Ritter said. "And everybody likes a handwritten letter."

But beyond the holidays, the support the soldiers get from back home throughout the deployment helps immensely, he said.

"I've said time and time again that the support we get from Oklahoma means a lot," Ritter said. "The support has not stopped. That, in itself, helps a soldier get up in the morning and put on their gear and make that walk or make that drive."

The unit's missions have been as the unit expected and generally what the training prepared the unit for, Ritter said.

[...]

"I think we're doing a little more than the unit that was here before," Ritter said. "No surprises have made for an easy transition into taking the lead from the guys before us."

[...]

The unit's missions have continued with a few adjustments after a rash of so-called insider attacks by Afghan security forces or insurgents posing as such. More than 50 coalition forces have been killed by Afghan military, police or people wearing the uniforms of the units.

Ritter said the unit has stepped up its precautions when dealing with Afghan forces - like all coalition forces have done in the past few months - but it hasn't affected their mission.



"We certainly have a heightened awareness when we have forward operations," he said. "We have things to help mitigate some of those risks that are inherent with forward operations. I wouldn't say our mission has changed."

Ritter said the soldiers will stay vigilant and do their best to stay safe and complete the mission so they can spend the next holiday with their families.

"We certainly wish everybody back there the best of holidays, given the circumstances for our loved ones," Ritter said. "We want them to enjoy the season and holidays and carry on the best they can, and we'll be there next year."

—By Jerry Wofford,
World Staff Writer, Tulsa World



Command Highlight: 1433rd Engineer Company

1SG David Rye

- Home: Kingsford, MI
- Years in Service: 20+
- Married? Yes.
- Kids? 8 Children
- Why joined? For school originally in '79. Then in 1990-2004 with my daughter and because of 9/11
- Deployment Job: First Sergeant
- What are your thoughts on the deployment:
Very proud of our Soldiers; we've come a long way through total preparation process and for exceeding my expectations.
- Something this deployment has taught you, or that you are proud of:
Proud of the Patience our soldiers have learned, of our ANA Soldiers that we have partnered with, our Soldiers good use of equipment, and humility that I have learned.
- How does this deployment compare to others? They're all different. This one's a lot more technically challenging due to advancements in technology. Also working in a much smaller area... so there's a challenge with complacency as we see the same routes all the time— need to stay vigilant.
- Favorite Sports team: Green Bay Packers
- Civilian career: Retired contractor
- Vehicle you own: Dodge Trucks
- College? University of Wisconsin
- Plans when you go back home: Spend time with wife and kids... And travel



Chaplain Brown: Approaching Christmas

Now that Thanksgiving is over and we begin our approach to Christmas I'm reminded of what these holidays have in common. Thanksgiving involves "giving" as well as Christmas. So what is "giving?" It is being a servant and being selfless. See we live in a culture where leadership and power is looked upon as the thing to do. We all would rather be a General than a Private but in order to be a great leader we must learn to serve others and "give." This is what Christ did when He was on this earth. See, a person can have all the power in the world but not have the respect of his/her employees, friends, and loved ones. So I would ask that you not think about yourself this Christmas but you show others that you care and give beyond measure so that you can live a fruitful life.



History of the 1432nd & 1433rd Engineer Companies

The 1432nd EN Co falls under the 107th EN BN which has a lineage that reaches back to 1881. The first unit mustered into service was Company B, 2d Battalion of Infantry of the Calumet Light Guard as part of the Michigan State Troops. In 1898, they fought in the Spanish-American War. They remained an Infantry unit 1 June 1906, when they converted, reorganized, and were redesignated as Company A, Michigan Engineer Corps. As Engineers, they mustered into service in 1916 in support of World War I. Their service during World War I ended as they demobilized 25-28 May 1919 at Camp Custer, Michigan. During their activation during World War I, they had been redesignated as 1st Battalion, 107th Engineers, an element of the 32d Division (later became the 32nd IN Division).

The Michigan National Guard's history of coming together to fit the mission and get the job done is highlighted during this time. In December 1939, the 107th prepared for battle in support of World War II with a new Headquarters in Detroit. They were activated for fed-

CAMPAIGN PARTICIPATION

War with Spain

Santiago

World War I

Aisne-Marne

Oise-Aisne

Meuse-Argonne

Alsace 1918

Champagne 1918

World War II

Normandy (with arrowhead)

Northern France

Rhineland

Ardennes-Alsace

Central Europe

War on Terrorism

Iraq:

Iraqi Surge

Afghanistan:

2011-2012

eral service on 15 October 1940. To meet the mission requirements of the war, they reorganized, losing 2nd BN and becoming known as the 107th Engineer Combat Battalion. The split designated 2nd BN as the 131st Engineers. The Soldiers fought through June 1942 until they were deactivated in Northern Ireland. As they were deactivated in Ireland, Soldiers transferred to 2nd BN, 112th Engineers and were activated in place. Much like today's Soldiers of the 1432nd and 1433rd were

combined and joined each other to take on today's mission, the Soldiers during World War II who had transferred were reorganized and redesignated as the 254th Engineer Combat Battalion to continue the fight. From September through October of 1943, the 254th (old 107th) was busily engaged along with some support from other units in constructing an assault training center in the sand dunes on the west Atlantic coast of Cornwall at Barnstable and one on the east coast at Slapton Sands. They constructed exact duplicates of German positions at Normandy. They were assigned the additional task of the removal of 6,000 British mines on the Thurstone beaches. During this time, they experienced their first casualties in the European Theater. Morale was very high, in spite of the fact



History of the 1432nd & 1433rd, Cont...

that 50 percent of the men had been overseas for two years or longer.¹ By June 8, 1944, they were ashore at Normandy as part of Operation Overlord and engaged in general combat engineer work under sniper fire. Blowing obstacles, repairing vital roads and breaching clearing minefields were only a few of the varied tasks performed by the Battalion during this difficult period. During the Battle of the Bulge, the unit defended against the elite 9th Parachute Division and 1st SS Panzer Division. One of the most admirable feats in the unit's history was the bridging of the Rhine in 1945.

The Battalion performed admirably, bridging the Rhine at Niedersbrseig (Honningen) in under 14 hours and in the process constructed the world's longest tactical floating bridge at 1370ft. It is boasted that the bridging actually only took 12 hours, but they waited 2 hours for supplies! They were deactivated in December 1945. Vetted by war, the two experienced battalions, the 107th and 254th, were consolidated and federally

recognized as the 107th Engineer Combat Battalion with Headquarters at Ishpeming. Their designation would finally change in 1953 to the 107th EN BN.

Elements of the 107th were once again activated for federal service in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom

have been in their leadership positions since December 2009 and February 2010, respectively. In January 2011, the two units were officially combined as one for training purposes. "In April of 2011 the 1433/1432 combined Engineer Clearance Company did a NTC rotation and solidi-

fied its cohesion as one Unit," according to 1SG Rye. When asked about the unit's history, 1SG Rye emphasizes the fact that they are making history together, here in Afghanistan. The leadership of the 1433rd are proud of what their Soldiers have accomplished and rightfully so. With 95 explosive devices removed from what is arguably the most kinetic area in Af-



First Lt. Mitchell, Executive Officer of the 1433 being awarded a Combat Action Badge on 18 November 2012, for being engaged by the enemy during the current deployment.

ghanistan since they arrived on 21 June 2012, they have earned respect as professionals in their field.

— By 2LT Lee Stauss

from October 2004 – July 2006. They also fought during the surge of 2007 during their deployment from July 2007 – August 2008. The 1433rd EN Co gained federal recognition on 17 December 2009 making it the younger of the two units. The unit's home is Augusta, Michigan. While this is the 1433rd's first deployment, the company's commander (CPT Falor) and First Sergeant (1SG Rye),

Soldier Spotlight: 23rd Engineer Company

CPT Alex Veiga

- Hometown: Orange Park, FL
- Years of service: 4
- Married? No
- Kids? No
- Why did you join? To serve my country and to see new places
- Deployment job: 23rd En Co. (XO and Plans Officer), 120th En Bn (S-2)
- What are your thoughts on the deployment?
In the Army you need be flexible, things change every day
- Something the deployment has taught you, or you are proud of: Patience
- Dogs or Cats? A two year-old Black Lab
- How does this deployment compare to others?
Its my first deployment
- Favorite food: Steak
- Favorite Sports team: Florida State Seminoles and Jacksonville Jaguars
- Vehicle you own: 2008 Toyota Tundra
- College: Florida State Unity
- Plans to do when back home?
PCS to Missouri for the Engineer Captains' Career Course



23rd Engineer Company; Holidays

November has come and gone faster than we could have imagined. Thanksgiving provided each Soldier with the opportunity to get a good hot meal that the dining facility worked tirelessly to cook for us. Captain Billmann and I were elated to be able to roll up our sleeves, don the chef's hat they gave us, and serve that good holiday meal to the Soldiers. We have many things to be thankful for here in Afghanistan and we are constantly reminded of the caring and loving support we have from all of the friends and family back home. Each week we receive so many care packages and so much mail from back home; your never ending support is much appreciated. Without a store to shop at, or other conveniences we are extremely thankful for such a wonderful support network back home. I know I can say with all confidence that we are grateful to be surrounded by the high quality Soldiers that make up our company here. Each one of them has truly

earned the admiration of both our fellow route clearance companies and our high headquarters here. The end of this month signals our time to start packing up and get ready to start shipping some equipment home. It is strange to be doing all the same tasks we did last spring to deploy; only now we are doing those tasks so that we can head home. We are starting equipment inventories, container packing, and preparation to receive the incoming unit (our replacements) to ensure we have a seamless transition. Your loved ones are true professionals who are working tirelessly to ensure this company is successful.

This upcoming month will bring the Holidays and New Years. I personally wish all of you a wonderful holiday season and wish you safe travels as you visit friends and family. This also marks the days with shortest sunlight of the year and the winter solstice, so please use extra caution when driving in the icy conditions. Whether in Alaska for the holidays or not, the weather during this



month can be unpredictable and conditions outside can change very rapidly. A safety kit in your car, a warm blanket in the truck, or even some of the hand warmer packets can truly save a life during winter in the event of an emergency. As you sit there each day and worry about us over here, we do the exact same thing here; please stay safe and enjoy the Holidays!

1SG Keith Nordlof



Shoulder to Shoulder, Giving ‘Em the “Birds”



When asked about ideas for a title for a news article about the work the Oklahoma Air National Guard's 219th Engineer Installation Squadron (EIS) was doing, the response was “Give ‘em the birds!” This statement is in reference to two of the major patches worn by Oklahoma Troops: The Scissor-tail Flycatcher (Oklahoma State Bird) worn by the 219th Air Guard, and the Famous Thunderbird worn by the 120th Engineer Battalion. For this tour, the 219th EIS is part of a larger team that includes the 205th and the 277th EIS; the team is spread across RC South.



The 219th EIS is currently providing communications support for the 120th En Bn by helping

out with the re-routing and installation of cables during re-modeling of the Valhalla Command Compound, where the 120th has based their operations. The work that the 219th is providing allows the 120th to more efficiently carry out their operations and communicate more effectively; thus accomplishing the mission with greater ease.

“It’s great to work with other Oklahomans” said Air Guard Staff Sergeant David Wintrich in a recent interview. Wintrich went on to say his favorite thing about working with other Oklahomans across service branches is, “the camaraderie; the understanding of the lingo and just the way we all work together. The bond that we already have between people that live just minutes from each other.” Feelings continued to remain as more Airmen spoke about the mission and the work across service branches. When asked about working with other Oklahomans, Senior Airman Garrett Davis said, “I love it. It’s kind of inspiring, because we’re helping out fellow Oklahomans, ya know, just people from back home. We have similar interests, football rivalries and other stuff.” “I’ve acquainted myself with Sergeant Major Raby, I went to school at Oklahoma State University in Stillwater with his son. When I found out who the Sergeant Major was, I

had to introduce myself. It’s a small world.”



The Airmen from the 219th will continue working with the 120th En Bn for a little while longer before moving on throughout RC South to aid other in their missions as well. It’s not very often that units from the same State, much less neighboring towns, get to work together. Both the Soldiers and Airmen working side by side on this project are sure to carry a few extra memories from working together as well as make a few new acquaintances to carry with them back home. For now, these Troops stand



“Shoulder to Shoulder, Givin’ ‘Em the Birds.”

— SPC J. Alex Klein

Moving Towards a New Beginning



“What are the U.S. and Coalition Forces doing, in association with the Afghan National Army (ANA), to affect the future of Afghanistan?” This is a question that the public is bringing to the table. The local population’s reaction to some of the previous missions and operations has not been so favorable: malicious rumors have been spread and the local population has been wary of trusting Coalition Forces. As of recently, one of the main ANA support teams, the 1433rd Engineer Company (a detachment of Task Force Outlaw), has been training and working with a strong Route Clearance Company (RCC) of the ANA. The ANA RCC that the 1433rd is working with is the 3rd of the 205th Corps. According to



Sergeant Joshua Rose, one of the ANA Team Leads, no rumors of U.S. troops sabotaging roadways or being malicious to the local people have even reached their forward operating base (FOB). Sergeant Rose says that this is a good thing as it allows their teams, along with the ANA RCC, to work under less stress and accomplish their mission with more ease.



Recently the ANA RCC and 2nd Platoon, 1433rd, conducted a live-fire operation. The operation was originally a Route Clearance and Explosive Ordinance Disposal training. The operations they conducted ended up being to shoot and train on the M16 rifles and 240B machine guns that the ANA RCC has. Command Sergeant Major Richard Raby was on site for this operation. This operation was made possible by the strong ongoing trust the 1433rd has built with the ANA RCC.

The local communities in Regional Command (RC) South have



been much more receptive to the aid and support that U.S. and Coalition Forces have been offering. There are reports of Locals even aiding troops to accomplish their mission in certain areas by pointing out where suspected explosives were.

The outlook is promising and pro-



gress is being made. As always we look and move forward to a more promising future and hopefully to a new and better beginning in Afghanistan.

-SPC J. Alex Klein

693rd Engineers Take Charge



Having assumed authority for clearing routes in the Maiwand District, the Soldiers of the 693rd Engineer Company (Sapper) are quickly learning just how different this area is from their respective homes in the U.S. When out on patrol, you never know what you are going to see. Donkeys and goats, poppies and marijuana, mud huts and mountains: all of these things are common sites along routes. Commenting on the bountiful marijuana fields found throughout the AO, 1st Platoon Medic, SPC Cole Wells, said, "Man I spent a couple of years living in San Francisco, and even I've never seen that much weed in one place before."

And you never know what you are going to hear out on patrol. "Even after we blew out a shop keeper's windows with a MI-

CLIC, he was still very happy to invite me in for chai," explained MICLIC NCOIC, SFC Neal Feldman. "I thought he was going to be pissed off, but instead he was just happy we got rid of the bombs in his road." After having removed a substantial number of IEDs from one section of a route, an elated farmer approached 1st Platoon Leader, 1LT Patrick Herold, thanking him for making his area safe for farming and inviting to "...come back in spring and see my beautiful poppy field."

And you never know where you are going to have to sleep either. Coincidentally, one night the lead platoon of the company's patrol set up their assembly area within just a few hundred meters of the Battle of Maiwand from the 2nd Anglo-Afghan War, sleeping on the

same ground that is the final resting place for nearly 1000 British Soldiers. "I'm glad CPT Morrow didn't tell me where we were until the morning after," said 2nd Platoon RG-31 driver, PV2 Jordan Cookson, "because that really creeped me out when I found out I was sleeping on top of a bunch of dead British guys."

So far, the Pioneers of the 693rd have really enjoyed the plethora of the absurd and bizarre that is the Maiwand District. They are hoping to encounter more interesting things to add to their collections of stories they can tell the person on the bar stool next to them when they redeploy next year.

Written by PFC Brett Mack

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!!



1433rd:

SPC Ryan Stapanski 12/01
PFC Roberto Morales 12/05
SPC Trent Larm 12/14
PFC Justin Steppig 12/14

1039th:

SPC Joseph Myer 12/05
SPC Dalton Saint 12/10

584th:

SFC Raul Saucedo 12/11

120th HHC:

MAJ Alan Ali 12/01
CW2 Douglas Bueoy 12/06
PFC Blake Craddock 12/09
CPT Matthew Brown 12/14

120th FSC:

SPC Cody Wilson 12/04
SGT David Bullard 12/12

1138th:

PFC Joseph Graham 12/02
SPC Brian Kramer 12/02
PFC David Vaughn 12/14

Words From the TOP: History of the NCO Corps

America's NCO corps just didn't happen. It evolved over the years, tapping ideas and innovations from many different sources.

The first NCOs or relatives of the breed were probably those exceptional legionaries serving Rome's empire. They commanded 10 soldiers while assisting their commander in handling his 100 men. The legionaries supervised training, performing administrative and logistical support tasks as they arose.

Long after the Roman Empire fell, standing armies of France's Charles VII contained regiments and companies. Senior NCOs in the 15th Century were called "corporals" or "lance corporals." By the first quarter of the 18th century, other nations had copied this organization.

The origin of the NCO in America's fledgling Continental Army came about through a combination of factors. The American Army blended traditions of the British, French and Prussian armies into a configuration which became a staunch and effective American institution.

The British military system served as a model for our Army. British Pilgrims from the Massachusetts Bay Colony created the first "militias." In December 1636 they had formed the first three regiments of a permanently organized militia. These units; the north, south, and east regiment, still exist today in the form of the 181st and 182nd Infantry, the 101st Field Artillery, and 101st Engineer Battalion, Massachusetts National Guard. They are the oldest units in the U.S. Army.

America's first inspector general, Baron Von Steuben, strongly influenced the shaping of the NCO corps in the Continental Army. He instituted the Regulations for the Order and Discipline of the Troops of the United States, commonly called the "Blue Book." Von Steuben's opus officially established the structure of the NCO Corps within the American Army.

The Blue Book set down duties and responsibilities for corporals, sergeants, first sergeants, quartermaster sergeants, and sergeants major, effectively encompassing the NCO ranks of that day. The book also established the qualities a soldier must have to serve in demanding positions. For 30 years, the Blue Book served as the American Army's regulatory bible.

Many changes in the NCO command structure occurred over the years but perhaps none were so momentous as when the Army became an all-volunteer force in 1973. The intent was to build a modern Army upon the principles of personnel management, leadership, motivation and training. Two years earlier, in 1971, the Army took steps to ease the transition by establishing the Basic NCO course (BNCOC), the Advanced NCO Course (ANCOC) and the Sergeants Major Course.

Highly crafted training would now continue throughout a soldier's career, enabling him to hone professional skills while utilizing the latest technological innovations.

Baron Von Steuben would've been proud.

— 1SG Scott Catlett





1138th Soldier Takes Buffalo by the Horns

SPC Patrick A. Feldmann, the son of Jim and Nancy Feldman was born in June 1990 in their hometown of Washington, Missouri. As Patrick grew to the age of 10, he developed an interest of becoming a Soldier, playing army and looking up to those who were currently serving or were veterans of our Armed Forces. On the 10th of June 2008, Patrick finally fulfilled his

dream by given is oath to support and defend the Constitution of United States through the Missouri National Guard. Since his enlistment, Patrick has given four of years service and has been promoted to the rank of Specialist. On June 2012, Patrick received his first deployment orders with his unit, the 1138th Sapper Company of Farmington, Missouri to Afghanistan. Patrick received the assigned duty as Buffalo Driver in a route clearance unit responsible for removing Improvised Explosives Devices (IED's.)



Patrick's assigned Buffalo Truck a the vehicle valued more than million dollars, weighing approximately 48,000 pounds and stretches over 27 feet in length without additional IED and mine interrogation or detection assets commonly attached. The Buffalo was designed to protect 2-4 occupants with windows measuring 6 inches in thickness, including a very heavy outer armor and attached cage armor for additional protection against anti-tank rounds known as the RPG-7. The Buffalo is a 6 by 6 wheeled all terrain vehicle with run-flat tires capable of traveling over 65 miles per hour. The Buffalo also combines ballistic and blast protection with infrared technology to detect the presence of dangerous ordnance and a robotic arm to disable the explosive ordnance. Patrick may operate the Buffalo's 30-foot robotic arm and claw from within the armored hull using a mounted camera and sensory equipment, to safely dispose of mines and IEDs.



Some thoughts and experiences Patrick expresses are his common bond with the leadership and the Soldiers with which he performs missions. "We have great teamwork, we can't do our assignments on our own and working together everything turns out good." Patrick also stated he and his platoon have made amazing achievements to include locating and destroying 15 IED's within ten weeks. Patrick is a fine example of his units ability accomplish any task set before them, he is dedicated to his unit, service to country as well as the

Soldier to the right or left of him. At home he has many favorites to include a nice juicy cheeseburger, watching Missouri State University Football and Baseball, as well as hunting with friends or family. Upon return home, Patrick plans to continue his college education at East Central Community College located in Union, Missouri and receive a degree in Business Marketing. — By CPT David Goetzinger

1138th Engineer Company Tacking

LTC Jackie R. Ritter "tacks" a combat patch on CPT Jason Davis, 1138th Engineer Company Commander, and 1SG Richard Parks, 1138th Engineer Company First Sergeant, officially recognizing their wartime service here in Afghanistan during a "tacking" ceremony held 13 November 2012, at a Forward Operating Base in Southern Afghanistan. Soldiers from the 1138th Engineer Com-

pany, Missouri Army National Guard, are members of the 1148th Engineer Battalion, 35th Engineer Brigade, both also from the Missouri Army National Guard. About half of the 1138th Engineer Company consists of combat veterans, making this deployment the first for many. The 1138th Engineer Company is conducting route clearance missions as a member of Task

Forces Outlaw within RC(S) through the spring of next year.

— CPT Paul A. Wyckoff



...The Last Word: Welcoming the 693rd



I want to welcome the 693rd Engineer Company (active duty from Ft. Drum, New York) to Task Force Outlaw. They have recently replaced the 182nd Engineer Company.

The 693rd Engineer Company was constituted on 12 August, 1943 and activated on 14 August, 1943 at Camp Claiborne, LA. It was re-organized and re-designated as the 693rd Engineer Base Equipment Company in November 1943 and inactivated at Camp Kilmer, New Jersey in February 1946. In March 1951 it was re-designated as the 693rd Engineer Depot Company, allotted to the Regular Army, and activated at Camp Carson, Colorado. It was again re-organized and re-designated in January 1952 as the 693rd Engineer Company. Inactivated in Germany in June 1975 and again activated in October 2009 at Fort Drum, New York.

During World War II it earned Campaign Participation Credit for: Northern France, Rhineland, Ardennes-Alsace, and Central Europe and was awarded the Meritorious Unit Commendation (Army) for the EUROPEAN THEATER.

The present Commander is Captain John Morrow and the First Sergeant is Michael Behnkendorf.

— CSM Richard Raby





COMING SOON!!!

**MORE EXCITING
NEWS AND
EVENTS!!!**



Remember Everyone:

While here in Afghanistan, there are a few safety and Internet Security Notes to consider.

- 1.) Be Very Cautious of what you post on Social Media Platforms such as Facebook, Youtube, Twitter, etc.
- 2.) Don't post or say anything that could be considered offensive to any race, gender, religion, or anything of that kind.
- 3.) Don't plug any Unauthorized device(s) into any government computer.
- 4.) If you have anything that you think is questionable, check with the S-6 before you do anything with it.
- 5.) Any pictures or video of personnel, equipment, vehicles, etc. must be cleared for release by Battalion Public Affairs Office.

DO YOU LIKE WHAT YOU SEE IN THE NEWSLETTER???
DO YOU HAVE A STORY THAT NEEDS TO BE TOLD???
ANYTHING YOU'D LIKE TO SEE IN A LATER ISSUE???
IF SO, CONTACT US THROUGH YOUR COMPANY 1SG!!!

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!!!!

