



# PACEMAKER PRESS



NEWSLETTER OF THE 864TH ENGINEER BATTALION  
JOINT BASE LEWIS-MCCHORD

US ARMY  
SPRING 2014



## What's Happening?

- 864th Engineer Battalion completed RESET from 2013 Deployment
- Fully immersed in training for future missions
- Individual Skills competition—Pacemaker Stakes
- New additions to the Pacemaker Family
- Deploying and Re-deploying units

**RISE TO THE CHALLENGE!**





Greetings Pacemaker Soldiers, Families, and Friends,

Saying that we have been busy doesn't do justice to our Soldier's constant achievements and accomplishments. As always, our Soldiers want, and deserve, to be led well; to train hard; to maintain themselves and their equipment; and to have fun while doing it. Here in the Pacemakers, we seize that opportunity and Set the Pace every day.

This past quarter, I relished the opportunity I was given to witness our Soldiers in action. The Pacemakers completed RESET in style and received rave reviews from the 7th Infantry Division command group for our maintenance program and Campaign on Property Accountability. Now, as the weather starts warming up, you can expect to find Pacemakers dressed in full gear running and crawling around all of JBLM's training areas. From multiple live ranges, to weekly Sergeant's Time Training, and most notably during the week-long Pacemaker Stakes competition, it has been extremely refreshing to conduct hands on training with the Soldiers.



Greetings from the Pacemakers,

It's been great this past quarter overseeing the hard work of your Soldiers! Overall, the missions and projects in the battalion are going extremely well. It has been an overwhelming effort by all the Soldiers working diligently on training throughout the JBLM footprint. The Commander and I are really proud of the accomplishments of our Soldiers as they keep up a positive sense of teamwork and camaraderie.

We are also very proud of each one of our Soldiers who got promoted and reenlisted over the past four months—we had some great Soldiers raise their right hand and recite the oath. Any reenlistment or promotion is special and shows a commitment to our Army and to

## Commander's Corner



Please help me welcome the 22nd Engineer Clearance Company (Hooligans) and the 570th Sapper Company (FIDO) into the Pacemaker Family. The Hooligan Nation will be redeploying before the end of June from their deployment to Afghanistan, while in April we bid farewell to 570th as they deployed to continue the mission in Afghanistan. Please keep the FIDO family in your thoughts and prayers during their deployment. In the coming months, the battalion will continue to grow in numbers as we integrate the 610th Engineer Support Company (Ghostriders) and 571st Sapper Company (Rock) into the battalion in August. Concurrently, our construction

companies continue to prepare for inactivation, starting with the 557th Horizontal Company in October. We are working hard to make the transition as easy as possible for all our Soldiers and Families affected by the restructuring. I encourage you to get involved with your company Family Readiness Group if you have any questions.

As we approach the summer and warm weather, I encourage you to enjoy what the great Pacific Northwest has to offer. The Pacemakers work hard and they deserve to play hard; but always remember to stay safe. Thanks to all of you who dedicate your personal time in support of the unit; you are essential to our success.

Sincerely,

LTC Steven M. Sattinger  
Pacemaker 6

## Command Sergeant Major's Foxhole



the Nation. A reenlistment during this period of time, with our nation at war, is even more distinctive and shows that our Soldiers knowingly and willingly accept the risks and hardships associated with our service. I want to thank all of the supportive Family members of these Soldiers who have reenlisted.

Team Pacemaker continues to operate at a high standard and I am humbled to

be associated with our formation. I consider it a privilege to serve beside our Soldiers each and every day. I cannot tell you "Thanks" enough for what you have done and will continue to do for our Soldiers as we prepare for whatever our nation calls us to do.

Finally, I cannot overstate how important your support has been to us all. I hope that you all safely enjoy the warm Summer that is coming!

Rise to the Challenge!  
CSM Eugene Russell  
Pacemaker 7



## PACEMAKERS in Action!



## A Look Ahead..

### DONSAs

03-04JUL: Independence Day

25JUL: BN DONSA

29AUG & 01SEP: Labor Day

### BN Events

**01MAY-31OCT**

Wildland Fire Fighting

**09-27JUN**

Company Level Squad Training

**01JUN-30NOV**

Severe Weather Response Force

### **MWR Events:**

Jul04: Freedom Fest

Jul18-20: Pacific Beat 3-Day Get-A-Way!

Jul19 : Down & Dirty Mud Run

Aug01: Golf—Payday Scramble

Aug07: Single Service Member Block Party

Checkout more events at:

<http://www.jblmmwr.com/>

**DRUNK and DON'T HAVE A RIDE  
BESIDES YOUR CAR AND  
YOU DRIVING?**

**SAVE A LIFE, CALL BN STAFF DUTY  
THE CAB WILL BE ON US, PLEASE.**

**BN Staff Duty: 253-966-7012**

**Or**

**BOSS Designated Driver Program:**

**253-208-9169**

To get the latest updates from the  
864th Engineer Battalion check us  
out on **Facebook!**

<https://www.facebook.com/864thPacemakers>







## Headquarters & Headquarters Company— “Regulators”

The last 3 months the Regulators have been extremely busy training and events ranging from Pacemaker Stakes to the Company FRG Fun Day. Pacemaker Stakes was an extremely successful event which not only kept our S-3 section busy planning and resourcing but also occupied our Medics, S-6 and Company NBC sections who planned, ran and graded training lanes for the entire week. HHC then compiled 7 teams to compete in the event to include Soldiers from the 22<sup>nd</sup> Engineer Company Rear detachment. Our squads received the second highest score overall in the battalion. Following Pacemaker Stakes we began planning and preparing for both the company bake sale and FRG Fun day. The bake sale successfully helped raise funds for the FRG Fun day at Shoreline Park which was a huge hit among families and service members alike. On June 10<sup>th</sup>, we held a chili cook off which boasted some of the best chili on JBLM. All of the participation was

greatly appreciated as was the fun and competitive spirit.

The Company itself continues to set up systems to support the battalion. The Company has been focusing on its PT and training program as well as developing the long range training calendar. Over the course of the next 3 months we will be conducting company road marches, command post exercise, a Field Training Exercise and a multitude of weapons ranges.

Several Soldiers were recently promoted and we would like to recognize their accomplishments. The following Soldiers were promoted PFC David Ray, SPC Cory Collins, SGT Jonathan Lampman, SGT Joseph Myrum, SSG Anthony Carter and SFC Nicholas Haas.

We also have to say good bye to some of our Regulator brothers and sisters: SFC Villa Ramon, SPC Anthony Ciliano, SFC Michael Keith, SSG Stephen Northrup, SFC Yesenia Perezlopez, SGT Rafael Picon, SSG James Plack and 1LT Joseph Tschudy.

While we lost some old friends, we



### *Regulator Fun Day!*

gained new ones new ones. HHC would like to welcome all the new members to the Regulator Family: SGT Austin Drake, PV2 Amanda Heup, SPC Willaway Hilario, PFC Jeremy Imler, SGT Donald Johnson, SGT James Small SGT Luis Sanchez, SSG Jason Young, SFC David Richerson, 2LT Sofia Gonzalez, 1LT Paul Jackson, 1LT Amy Smith and CPT Andrew Miraldi.

Lastly, HHC would like to congratulate 1LT Paul and Cynthia Jackson and CPT Aaron and Amy Jeanes on their recent marriage as well as offer congratulations to CPT Kathrine Mckenna and Nicholas LaPonte (who is a former Pacemaker and Regulator himself) on their recent engagement. Congratulations and Good Luck!

HHC's third quarter has kicked off full steam ahead and our fourth quarter does not look like it will be any slower. When the Army continues to demand such a rapid pace every day from the Soldiers, it is the families and friends that provide the Soldiers with a steady foundation in such a fluid environment. Thank you from the Regulator family to you and your families for all you do.



### *Regulators during the Pacemaker Stakes*





## Forward Support Company—Providers “First in Support!”

North Fort Soldiers to support the closure of the other DFACs on base. This change has caused them to work some long nights and early mornings but they have truly stepped up to the challenge to embody all that it means to be a Provider!

FSC Families,

We hope that you had an enjoyable last 90 days. Your loved one has been hard at work transitioning the 864<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion from redeployment back to garrison operations. The main focus of our company over the past three months has been on individual soldier training and basic soldier skills which we have been developing weekly during the company's Sergeant's Time Training, to include events like land navigation, combatives, and basic rifle marksmanship which will all be tested during our company field training exercise at the end of June.

Our headquarters and field feeding sections have been the center piece of the company and have been hard at work. Headquarters has planned and supported the majority of our company training to include preparing for the 10 mile road march, Pacemaker Stakes, and the weekly Sergeant's Time Training. It hasn't been all business though, as they supported our organizational day catered by Famous Dave's and multiple company FRG functions held on JBLM. The field feeding section has been tasked with cooking and serving all

The Maintenance Platoon has also been very busy throughout the last 3 months. They have been tasked with aiding in the dissemination of the construction assets by inspecting and fixing equipment to make way for the new route clearance equipment. We have also been active with the typical battalion maintenance needed for keeping the headquarters and forward support company's vehicles rolling. Finally, maintenance has dedicated a large amount of time to Sergeants Time Training where Soldiers have been taught the basic soldiering skills needed to operate in a field environment.

The Distribution Platoon has undergone a lot of changes during the last quarter. With three different Platoon Sergeants and two different Platoon Leaders, it has been hectic supporting the demands of the battalion but Distro has not missed a beat. In fact, they were responsible for handling roughly 500,000 rounds of various caliber for the BN range density week that qualified over 500 Pacemaker Soldiers. Following the range density week, Distro planned and executed the weapons assembly and disassembly lane for Pacemaker Stakes and also had a 10-person team compete in the competition. Distro has also been preparing to support BN field exercises



***SPC Oehring, the company welder, looks to fix a broken pin on a flat rack.***

in June in addition to the movement for our company FTX from 16-20 June 14. Distro additionally serviced the BN and BDE with nearly 10,000 gallons of fuel this quarter.

We are also very excited to welcome two new members to the Provider family, Jade Frazier and Waylon Rainey!

We will continue to work hard over the next quarter. As always, we thank you for your support. We are only able to accomplish our missions because of you!



***PFC Hendry hard at work on a broken LMTV door.***



***Provider Soldiers enjoying themselves during the Company organizational day.***



## Un-Candid Pacemakers— Pacemakers taking a break to smile at the camera!







## 22nd Engineer Clearance Company—Hooligans “So Others May Follow”

### From the Commander

I am happy to report that this will be the last edition of our Hooligan Newsletter for our deployment! Your Soldiers have performed at an exceptionally high level and never ceased to amaze. Everyday, I learned something new from them and it has been an honor and a privilege to lead them through this campaign in the War on Terror. The Hooligan Nation has again proven that they were the right ones for the job, ensuring that the routes were clear “so others may follow.”

For everyone who supported the Hooligan Nation leading up to and during the deployment, I want to send out a heartfelt thank you. From care packages with snacks for missions to a live Christmas tree and everything imaginable in between, you all have truly made a remarkable difference in raising the morale of not only the Hooligan Nation but many Soldiers across our area of operations. To our FRG Team, thank you for your tireless work and your ability to synchronize that support.

Just as one unit returns, inherently another has shown up to pick up the torch and carry on the mission to ensure Coalition forces can maneuver throughout the battlefield safely. I ask that you keep those Soldiers in your thoughts and prayers. On the topic of safety, I also ask that keep in mind good operational

security measures and refrain from discussing dates and times about movements with your Soldiers and especially over public forums and social media. Take care, and we all look forward to our upcoming reunion.

CPT Daniel Brady  
Hooligan 6

### From the First Sergeant

The month of May has been a busy month for the Soldiers of the Hooligan Nation. Earlier this month we welcomed the arrival of the 23rd Sapper Company (Airborne) out of Alaska. The Soldiers of the Hooligan Nation have been busy with relief-in-place training with the 23rd, teaching them everything we know. As the fourth quarter of this deployment comes to an end and we prepare to return home, we remain focused. I have seen a tremendous amount of change in every one of these young men that I proudly serve alongside. Every Soldier exhibits the traits of someone willing to protect America anywhere at anytime. In late May, 11 Soldiers and I ran the “Nashville Music Half Marathon” to remember one of our fallen heroes, SSG Alexander P. Povalitis. Brother, you are never forgotten and to Kim and the boys, you will always hold a special place in the hearts and minds of the Hooligan Nation.

This Company is built on a Solid foundation that I see each and every day working with your fathers, sons, husbands, brothers, nephews, cousins, and friends. I am

very proud and honored to lead this generation of Soldiers. I came up with a few words that best describe a Hooligan Soldier: H=Heart, O-Outspoken, O=Open-minded, L=Loyalty, I=Innovative, G=Grounded, A=Attitude, N=Noble. These are just some of the words that come to mind when I think about the character of the men in the Hooligan Nation. I would like to say thank you to each of our different elements for all of your hard work and support: Headquarters “Rugged,” 1st Platoon “Misfits,” 2nd Platoon “Legendary,” and also with the rear-D. An extra special thank you as well to the Hooligan Nation FRG and all the families and supporters. This has been a challenging year for the Hooligan Nation, but we stand more resilient than ever. I look forward to seeing all of my Soldiers reunited with their loved ones and friends once we return. See you all at the Welcome Home Ceremony and the Great Wolf Lodge!

1SG Jeffrey T. Goodman  
Hooligan 7



*Hooligans Command Team: (L) CPT Daniel Brady, (R) 1SG Jeffrey Goodman*



## 22nd Engineer Clearance Company—Hooligans “So Others May Follow”



*Crouse and Lopez  
working on the Buffalo.*



*SGT Lampman  
trains the new unit.*

### 1st Platoon

During the month of May, First Platoon relocated to FOB Fenty to finish the deployment with the rest of the Company. It was bittersweet seeing Kabul in the rear view mirror, but we are excited because we know the end is within reach.

Our arrival has obviously brought hotter weather and long days of missions, layouts, and continued training for both our Soldiers and those of the 23rd Sapper Company. Our focus though has been on setting our replacements up for success. The Misfits have again stepped up to the challenge and continue to exceed expectations. It has been great to spend some quality time with our brothers from Second Platoon, and we have enjoyed the camaraderie that is built through late night basketball games and occasional cigar smoking.

All of the Misfits are excited to return home and be reunited with their loved ones. We are very thankful for our families and friends for all the support, thoughts, and prayers that have been provided throughout the deployment, and we look forward to seeing you all soon.

1LT Brance Waggoman  
Hooligan 1-6

### 2nd Platoon

The month of May flew by as we stayed busy conducting route clearance operations throughout Afghanistan. With the hot weather comes new challenges and obstacles as we approach our final steps before we are replaced by the 23rd Sapper Company. The RIP is going well. Soldiers conducted training on vehicles, hand-held detectors and other enablers that we use on the battlefield. All Soldiers were called upon to teach, of specific note PFC Lane and PFC Nelferdorf gave exceptional classes on the Gizmo and BALDR respectively. The new unit has been receptive and eager to learn, giving our Soldiers even more motivation to teach and mentor.

All of the Platoon's property will soon be transferred over to the new platoon and the fact that we are leaving soon is becoming more apparent every day. However, our focus is still on our remaining missions, where we continue to show the unit the techniques that made us successful for the last several months of combat operations. Our goal is to set the conditions for the 23rd Sapper to follow in our footsteps and begin their deployment on a legendary note.

1LT Zach Uebele  
Hooligan 2-6



*SGT Moore and SGT Murphy*



*SGT Hollows and SGT Farnsworth*





## 22nd Engineer Clearance Company—Hooligans “So Others May Follow”

### Operations

For a supply section in any unit there are certain times that require much more work than others. For the Hooligan Nation, that time has come again with the arrival of our replacements. The transfer of Army property is a slow and meticulous process that demands long hours from those involved. SSG McElroy and SGT Damiano have kept excellent records throughout the deployment making the transition of property very smooth. The work they put in and the system they established when we first arrived has made it very easy for our replacements to assume responsibility.

Whenever a new unit arrives in theater, personnel want to quickly take ownership of systems and operations. For the maintenance section, SGT Hauck and his team set the conditions for an extremely smooth and efficient transition with the 23rd Sapper mechanics. A very deep, satisfying feeling has been felt by not just maintenance, but all of the HQ sections as each of them relinquish their duties.

Operations continues to do the leg work behind the scenes making certain that awards are processed and ready for presentation. Despite the anticipation of an eventual redeployment, safety and discipline are continually reinforced as well as practicing good OPSEC. I am very thankful for the professionalism of our HQ and am also very proud to have served with every member.

1LT Matthew Shatynski  
Hooligan 5



*A little distress when things don't add up!*

### Sales of artwork, \$20, benefit the 555 Able Soldier and Family Fund

The 555 Able Soldier & Family Fund helps support our Triple Nickel Soldiers and their Families during their times of greatest need, assisting those deployed and Families of our Fallen troops.

The Able Fund recently commissioned world-renowned combat artist Patrick Haskett to create a print titled “Clear-Hold-Build.” This print, shown to the right, depicts the 864th Engineer Battalion constructing a combat outpost in Afghanistan.

This print is being offered at \$20, with proceeds going directly to the Able Fund.

*More information, including how to order, is available at [555Soldierfund.com](http://555Soldierfund.com).*



**CLEAR - HOLD - BUILD**

ARMY ENGINEERS CONSTRUCT A COMBAT OUTPOST IN AFGHANISTAN IN SUPPORT OF COUNTERINSURGENCY OPERATIONS

FROM THE PAINTING BY PATRICK J. HASKETT

**UNITED STATES ARMY  ENGINEER REGIMENT**

## Amidst smoke, mortars, and gunfire, Engineer Soldiers set the pace during Pacemaker Stakes

By U.S. Army Sgt. Jasmine Higgins  
28th Public Affairs Detachment

JBLM — Smoke filled the forest, blinding the Soldiers of the obstacles ahead. Sounds of mortars and gunfire deafened the ears to orders shouted down from the squad. The smell of mud clogged every pore of the land, capturing the senses of the surrounding squad.

As the Soldiers scrambled around onlookers might assume this was an enemy attack, but in fact it was the Soldiers of 864th Engineer “Pacemaker” Battalion conducting a week-long intensive military skills training event, on Joint Base Lewis-McChord North, May 15.

While Soldiers are no stranger to training, the Pacemaker Battalion took it a step further and added a little competition to the mix, thus bringing life to the Pacemaker Stakes competition.

Events like this not only prepare Soldiers, but it does wonderful things for their morale, said Sgt. Steven Cools, a squad leader for the Pacemaker Stakes competition.

The exercise consisted of seven different events ranging from reacting to enemy fire to chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear defense training.

“The competition is a combination of real-world and basic-Soldiering skills,” declared Capt. Katherine McKenna, the battalion



*Soldiers with the 864th Engineer Battalion take cover while reacting to enemy fire on Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Wash., May 15, 2014. The event was designed to*

plans officer.

Each squad was evaluated individually during the event, and the winning squad was recognized and awarded later in the competition.

“It gets the Soldiers

pumped up, and they stay pretty high-spirited throughout the day,” exclaimed McKenna.

According to McKenna, the help of a little friendly competition has positively impacted the morale of the Soldiers during the Pacemaker Stakes exercise.

Unit cohesion, motivation and determination have all been factors contributing to preparing the Soldiers for real-time war situations she stated.

At the beginning of the competition, Soldiers performed an Army Physical Fitness Test which consists of push-ups, sit-ups and a two-mile run, all while wearing full Army Combat Uniforms.

“This is what Soldiers train to do,” said Cools.

Through it all, there has been a lot of hard work and effort from everyone to ensure this exercise was gauged as a successful mission. The noncommissioned and commissioned officers in charge have been working around the clock to ensure everything ran smoothly and effectively, said McKenna as she cheered on the competing Soldiers. The Soldiers throughout the battalion have been taking part in individual-level military training since February in order to prepare for this competition.

“It (Pacemaker Stakes) will make you a better individual and definitely a better Soldier,” said Cools.

Training events such as the Pacemaker Stakes are what shapes the Army and its Soldiers today. Through these intense competitive training scenarios, Soldiers are learning the necessary skills to better prepare themselves for the future.

“It’s an opportunity you should not miss,” said Cools. “Soldier first, train first!”



*Soldiers crawl under barbwire during Pacemaker Stakes, a rigorous, combat-focused weeklong battalion exercise in May.*





## 557th Engineer Company— “Animals Lead the Way!”

“Transition” is all around the 557 Engineer Company. From a new Company Commander to the upcoming inactivation in October, there has been, and will continue to be, a great deal of change for the Animals. The idea of change, however, has not slowed down the Animals one bit in the second quarter of 2014! The past few months have proven to be another highly successful time for the Animals of 557. In this newsletter, we are proud to report on the great things that have been accomplished recently, and how the Animals continue to *Lead the Way!*

### From the Commander

Greetings,

I am CPT Daniel Larson, the new Commander, for 557 EN CO. I must say I am very proud to be working with this company and all of the great Soldiers in it. While 557 EN CO is inactivating October 15<sup>th</sup>, this company still has a lot of good activities coming up in the next few months. The company organizational day was on Friday, June 20<sup>th</sup> and I had a great time enjoying delicious BBQ and having fun with Animal families and friends. In addition, a squad mounted live fire exercise (shooting from on top of vehicles) is planned for the last week in June. An M4 range, land navigation course, confidence obstacle course, and other great individual training events will also be conducted to ensure Soldiers arrive at their new unit well trained. July will start us with about 90 days to go until inactivation. For August, we are still looking for Family Readiness Group (FRG) volunteers to facilitate information flow, but there will be an FRG back to school party planned towards the beginning of the month.

We are still working through 555 EN BDE and the Army Human Resources Command to find out exactly when Soldiers should receive their orders. Until then we continue to train and prepare for inactivation, of which I’m greatly confident our Soldiers will perform at their peak level and be ready to take on future challenges that may come way!

- CPT Daniel Larson  
Animal 6



*CPT Daniel Larson (R) receives the guidon from the their Battalion Commander, LTC Sattinger, during the change of command ceremony on 21 May 2014.*



## 557th Engineer Company— “Animals Lead the Way!”

### 1<sup>st</sup> Platoon

1<sup>st</sup> Platoon, 557<sup>th</sup> Engineer Company hit the ground running after COPA (Campaign on Property Accountability), and got right in to training on Warrior Skill Level 1 Tasks in preparation for Pacemaker Stakes. March was a busy month and platoon training focused on learning how to shoot/maintain, employ, and engage targets with various weapons systems to include the M2 .50 caliber machine gun, M249/M240 machine gun, and M4 Carbine. At the end of March, 1<sup>st</sup> Platoon performed Land Navigation training in TA-2 and convoy training throughout JBLM training areas. Other training for Pacemaker Stakes consisted of movement training, communication training, first aid, CBRN (Chemical/Biological/Radiological/Nuclear), and battle drills. During the month of April, 1<sup>st</sup> Platoon enthusiastically completed change of command inventories for the new Animal Commander, CPT Daniel Larson, and the platoon welcomed him into the Animal family at the end of May participating in the Company Change of Command ceremony.

The Soldiers of 1<sup>st</sup> Platoon performed in an outstanding manner during Pacemaker Stakes proving their mastery of Warrior skill level one tasks and verifying that they are the best platoon in the company. 1<sup>st</sup> Platoon also found the time to complete the CWST (Combat Water Survival Test), to include a 75 m swim with weapon. 1<sup>st</sup> Platoon loved the pool so much that they stayed for an extra hour of physical training after the test, demonstrating their strong commitment to physical excellence.



*1st Platoon Soldiers test their skills on the  
Combat Water Survival Test!*

As the company is preparing to deactivate, 1<sup>st</sup> Platoon will be the first platoon to go. The Soldiers of 1<sup>st</sup> Platoon will be spread throughout the company into 2<sup>nd</sup> Platoon, 3<sup>rd</sup> Platoon, and the new Support Platoon which is being formed by Soldiers of 1<sup>st</sup> Platoon and Maintenance Platoon. As 1<sup>st</sup> Platoon transforms, the Soldiers who make up the new Support Platoon will have the mission of ensuring all the company's equipment is prepared for lateral transfer to remaining units on JBLM.



*SGT Kang disassembling an M9 during  
the Pacemaker Stakes Competition*



*SGT White knocking out pushups during  
the Pacemaker Stakes APFT*





## 557th Engineer Company— “Animals Lead the Way!”

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Platoon

2<sup>nd</sup> Platoon finished up individual Soldier training through Spring and put all their hard work to the test by competing at the 864th Engineer Battalion Pacemaker Stakes. The platoon took a brief respite to allow for the Company Change of Command (Welcome to the Animals, CPT Larson!) and then went right into Squad level convoy training. This training will culminate at the end of June at a large Live Fire Range Exercise.

2nd Platoon Soldiers continued individual training by attending the Warrior Leader Course (Congratulations SPC Briones and SPC B. Johnson!), the Junior Leaders Development Course (Congratulations SPC Harrison, SPC Lewis, SPC Ivey, SPC Sanchez, and SPC R. Smith!) as well as various other schools. We look forward to some well earned leisure time with the upcoming Company and Battalion Organizational Days (hope to see you all there!) as well as block leave. The platoon continues to work toward the Company deactivation and Soldier transitions are just beginning. Finally, ‘Dirty Deuce’ says farewell to SPC Dezelske and SPC R. Smith. Best of luck!



*2nd PLT trains on haul operations in beautiful JBLM Spring weather!*



*2nd PLT Soldiers graduate from the Junior Leaders Development Course*



*1LT Gorham presents a Certificate of Achievement to SPC Avelar.*

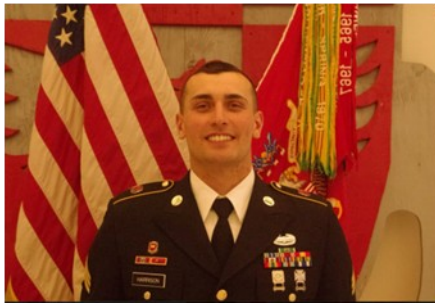


## 557th Engineer Company— “Animals Lead the Way!”

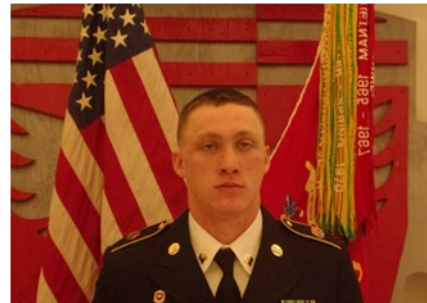
### 3rd Platoon

The 557 Engineer Company Animals may *Lead the Way*, but the Soldiers of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Platoon Wolf pack truly stand out among the best and undoubtedly *Lead the Pack*! 3<sup>rd</sup> Platoon has had an extraordinarily successful past few months and continues to raise the standard for excellence.

Of highest honor, in May, two 3<sup>rd</sup> Platoon individuals displayed great individual ability and discipline by winning both the 555 Engineer Brigade NCO and Soldier of the Year competition. Congratulations to SGT Christopher Harrison and SPC Cole Cetinich for being the top performers in the entire brigade!



*SGT Christopher Harrison  
555 EN BDE NCO of the Year*



*SPC Cole Cetinich  
555 EN BDE Soldier of the Year*

Another Soldier also recently displayed great ability during his performance at the Warrior Leader's Course in April. SPC John Dykema scored the highest APFT score amongst a class of approximately one hundred Soldiers and was awarded a Certificate of Achievement by the course Sergeant Major.

Other Soldiers are excelling in new areas. SGT Jacob Valderrama successfully passed and was selected for the Civil Affairs branch after completing a grueling two week selection tryout in Fort Bragg, NC. SGT Stephen Gidens will also be attending the same selection tryout at the end of June. Good luck!

Beyond individual accomplishments, 3<sup>rd</sup> Platoon as a whole has likewise been very successful. The platoon completed training on Skill Level 1 Warrior Tasks and Battle Drills in early May, just in time for the Wolf pack to turn in a solid performance at the Pacemaker Stakes competition. Led by weapons expert SGT Tyler Budge, 3<sup>rd</sup> Platoon Soldiers put up some of the highest scores in the entire competition at the weapons assembly station.

After the Pacemaker Stakes competition, 3<sup>rd</sup> Platoon moved to training on convoy tasks in preparation for a convoy live fire exercise at the end of June. After the convoy live fire exercise, 3<sup>rd</sup> Platoon will train, and strive to excel on, fundamental Soldier skills such as marksmanship, land navigation, and engineering operator tasks. 3<sup>rd</sup> Platoon has excelled recently and its top notch Soldiers will be well prepared for the transitions that will come to 557 over the next few months! *Lead the Pack!*



*3rd Platoon looking sharp at the May 21st change of command ceremony.*





## Maintenance Platoon

The Field Maintenance Team of 557 has been working extremely hard conducting Change of Command Inventories, completing and closing out COPA operations, reviewing and learning Warrior Tasks, completing technical inspections for vehicles being transferred out of the unit all while preparing for inactivation and continuing regular maintenance operations. Despite being short on manpower because many Soldiers have left to attend schools or PCS/ ETS out of the Army, the Maintenance Platoon has been giving its all to keep Animal vehicles in top shape and mission capable. Each and every Maintenance Soldier has been of great value to the platoon and their hard work and dedication has been both significant and wholly appreciated. Though we are gradually getting smaller and smaller as a platoon, we strive to carry on the highest standards and continue to provide top notch services to the company! Animals Lead the Way!

## 557th Engineer Company— “Animals Lead the Way!”



*Maintenance Platoon Soldiers, SSG Siedzkowski & SPC Valdez, are hard at work in the motor pool, keeping the Animal vehicles in top shape!*

## Pacemaker Babies Announcements



Regulators:  
Reed Moniot  
May 26, 2014



Providers:  
Waylon Dwight  
Rainey  
June 03, 2014



*FSC, 1LT Rainey, with son, Waylon Dwight*



## 570th Sapper Company— “Fido!”

Pacemaker Families and Friends, the 570th Sapper Company is currently deployed in Afghanistan. Please keep the Fido Soldiers and Families in your thoughts and prayers. Here are a couple pictures of the Fido Company working hard in their deployment.



*SPC Ross re-enlistment*



*2nd Platoon—“Hellhounds”*



*3rd Platoon— “Wolf Pack” on a mission*



*Left: 570th Transfer of Authority*



*Promotions*





## 571st Sapper Company— “Rock Hard!”

**From the Commander:** *Happy Summer to all of the Soldiers, families, and friends of The Rock!*

*The gorgeous weather of the Pacific Northwest's best season is upon us which means lots of sunshine. You, your husbands, and sons are some of the finest Soldiers in the Army and I am truly proud and grateful to have the chance to lead them every day. Over the last three months, a lot has changed with the cancelled deployment, but one thing has stayed the same – these men continue to raise their own standards and goals. One example of this is that the 571st Sapper Company is the only company in the brigade to have earned the streamer for PT excellence. And as we refocus our training on traditional skills, I am sure that men like SFC Means, SGT Parrish, and SGT Duff will all continue this trend and graduate from Sapper Leader Course. Thanks for your time! Rock Hard!*



The Rock at the rappel tower following pre-deployment leave.

**“Rock Hard” Update:** From the time the Company learned the deployment was canceled, it's been nonstop training for Rock Soldiers. We began the venture of returning to our Sapper roots by completing an obstacle course and jumping off a rappel tower. A demo range was a last farewell to route clearance tasking, and was followed immediately by a stress shoot, a welcome back to regular Sapper tasks. The Rock changed direction with stoic professionalism, conducting platoon inventories and revving up for the Expert Sapper

Competition. After completion, the Soldiers of “Rock Hard” dove into training and studying for The Expert Sapper Competition. Soldiers were tested on land navigation, demolitions, CLS, communications, mine detection and emplacement, weapons assembly and disassembly, sector sketches, and knot tying. The events concluded with an all inclusive written Sapper Skills test and a 12 mile road march through the hills of TA A west. At the finish, we were proud to recognize SGT Parrish and SGT Powers for achieving the Company's highest overall scores for the Individual Expert Sapper Competition and the only two to earn the title of “Expert Sapper.” A grueling schedule of long distance ruck marches left the unit lean and tough, and saw 100% pass the 12 mile four hour Army ruck standard, and most finish under three hours. Everyone



Rock Soldiers priming charges at the last BIP oriented demo range.

did their part to win the PT Excellence streamer, sporting a 262 average on the most recent company APFT with over 90 percent of the Company's available Soldiers completing the four mile run in under 36 minutes. Fit and well trained, the Rock leans forward into Squad Sapper stakes, ready to set the example among their Pacemaker peers. The Rock does not stop there, as its leaders and Soldiers push to train harder and smarter for Squad Sapper Stakes, an event held by the company to determine the best Sapper Squad. The event will consist of combat patrols to emplace obstacles such as: triple-standard concertina fence, an 11 row anti-vehicular wire obstacle, and both hasty and deliberate road craters. The Squads will also conduct bridge and road reconnaissance, challenging Sappers to develop a technical understanding of



Sappers get their sea legs back during the Company's CWST at Keeler Pool.

route classification.

**1SG's Last Word:** *The training we conducted the past three months was Awesome! We are converting from route clearance tasks back to Sapper task so all the training we have been executing have been Sapper related. The commander and the platoon leadership have covered all the training that was conducted but I wanted to highlight one particular event the commander mentioned. Physical Fitness Streamer! Very few companies in the Army have this streamer and 571st Sapper Company was awarded it!*



The Rock gather one last time for a hike at Mt Rainier to bid farewell to CPT Perkins, walking to an elevation of just over 7,200 feet.





## 585th Engineer Company— “Roughnecks”

The last quarter has been a busy time for the Roughneck family. They have seen a slow transition away from deployment reset and Campaign on Property Accountability (COPA) inventories and toward more vigorous training. Over the last couple months, the Roughnecks have conducted over 10 separate weapons ranges, covering every weapon the company’s arsenal. The company also participated in the battalion’s individual training competition – Pacemaker Stakes – finishing second among the companies in the battalion. Currently the company is conducting squad certification. The training is covering MOUT, Engineer Reconnaissance, and a convoy Live Fire Exercise (LFX). While the company as a whole has accomplished much, the real work and activity has come from the platoons.

During the last few months, the 1<sup>st</sup> Platoon Nomads have been



*1st Platoon at the Field Leader Reaction Course*

busy honing their Soldier skills, both at the individual and group level. They trained hard on skills such as land navigation, First Aid, and weapons assembly/disassembly, in preparation for Pacemaker Stakes. During Pacemaker Stakes, a Battalion competition that pushed the Soldiers to their physical and mental limits, each squad ruck-marched around North Fort completing a variety of Soldier

tasks throughout the day. The Nomad squads performed at a very high level. As a platoon, we also conducted gas chamber training, counter-IED training, and utilized high-tech virtual training simulators for dismounted squad missions and convoys. Near the end of May, we said goodbye to 1LT Warnke and SFC Nys, with 2LT Winfield and SFC Morris assuming responsibility as the new PL and PSG.



*1st Platoon, 585 conducting training during Sergeant’s Time Training: Search Procedures, CBRN, etc.*





## 585th Engineer Company— “Roughnecks”

# HELLHOUNDS

*“Another Quarter, Another Dollar” (2nd PLT, 585)*



The Hellhounds are half way through 2014, and we could not be going at a faster pace. There has been lots of training conducted at the squad level to prepare the squads for certification. As a platoon, the Hellhounds conducted a MK-19 range for the battalion, coordinated and instructed a company level obstacle/confidence course, and recently just finished running an M4/M16 weapon qualification range for the company. The Hellhounds participated in Pacemaker Stakes, a Battalion level squad certification consisting of a grueling day of lanes challenging Soldiers mentally and physically. 2nd Platoon set up the movement under fire lane which was labeled by the Soldiers as “the best lane of the week.”

Currently the Hellhounds are preparing to go to the field for a week. Squads will be participating in a live fire exercise, MOUT training, and an engineer reconnaissance lane. After the field, 2nd Platoon will be rolling into July for a well deserved opportunity for Soldiers to take leave. The Soldiers will need the rest because the training planned for the 3rd quarter will be coming quickly.





## 585th Engineer Company— “Roughnecks”

After coming back from supporting the EFMB 2014 course in April, 3<sup>rd</sup> PLT Titans got back into the swing of company operations. 3<sup>rd</sup> PLT knocked out spring clean up at TA2 and moved on to prep for Pacemaker Stakes. Afterwards, the Titans enjoyed an exciting whitewater rafting trip on the fast flowing Wenatchee River. The Titans then prepped for a squad evaluation FTX in June by conducting counter IED training at TA8 and urban combat training at the North Fort paintball course. The month gave the Titans opportunity to recharge after EFMB and start focusing on individual and squad training.

Headquarters and maintenance have consistently worked to keep the company running smoothly. Headquarters has worked hard to plan and facilitate all the company's training and Maintenance has worked tirelessly to balance training with unscheduled maintenance and

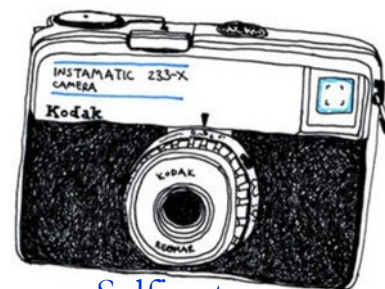
services. Though the platoons have been stretched they continue to re-source the platoons and keep the vehicles running.



*3rd Platoon (Top Left) cleaning the Class IV Yard; (Top Right) working in their parts room; and (Bottom Left) having fun while rafting*

## First, Let me take a Selfie!!!

#PacemakerSelfie



Send in your Selfies to  
[pacemakers864th@gmail.com](mailto:pacemakers864th@gmail.com)

**Caution:** This is a parked car Selfie. Please do not attempt to use any hand-held devices while driving or attempt to distract the driver.





The 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of FY14 found the Ghostrider company mid-stride, preparing our Soldiers for upcoming rotations to NTC and Korea. The company participated in the Junior Leader Seminar, SHARP Stand-Up Day, several NCOPD's, and a week-long Base Camp Development FTX in support of 380<sup>th</sup> Quartermaster. The exercise was accomplished in addition to concurrent training to prepare us for our National Training Center (NTC) rotation in September 2014.

During the FTX the Ghostrider Company spent six days at Training Area 16 running 24-hour operations to develop fuel, water, and living areas for the annual training of 380<sup>th</sup> Quartermaster Battalion, a reserve unit from Evansville, IN. 1<sup>st</sup> Platoon was responsible for preparing the site for a Reverse Osmosis Water Purification Unit (ROWPU) and a Tactical Water Distribution System (TWDS) to purify and distribute water for nearly 900 Soldiers. 2<sup>nd</sup> Platoon developed OBJ SLEEPY, they cleared, grubbed, and leveled nearly 3 acres for a battalion base camp. 3<sup>rd</sup> Platoon built a tactical fuel point, complete with a combat road loop and fueling pad for a new fuel blivet containment and distribution system fielded



by 380<sup>th</sup> Quartermaster (pictured). The 380<sup>th</sup> QM Battalion Commander, LTC Turks, was very impressed by the results. He asked the company to send some of its top Soldiers back out so that he could personally thank them and present them with the commander's coin (pictured). "When we first came out here in September, this area was nothing but woods," LTC Turks recounted, "and in one week, with probably half-done information from us, you made all this happen." The Ghostrider Company maintains its dedication to delivering high quality products.

Supporting the FTX and other training events, Headquarters and Maintenance Platoons started the month of April with CLS and Field Communications training, transitioning into RTO training, Land Navigation, M2 and M9 EST 2000 training. Maintenance kept our fleet at 97 percent of our total inventory of vehicles ready at any given point in time. They worked tirelessly through services on 67 vehicles this quarter. Both platoons facilitated the company's movement, operations, and training during the FTX in support of 380<sup>th</sup> Quartermaster's FTX.

The line platoons while focused on the base camp development project also conducted an impressive amount of training. Throughout the last quarter Ghostrider Soldiers trained on individual and crew served fighting positions, night operations, tactical convoy, job site security, HLZ construction, route and bridge reconnaissance, vehicle recovery training under combat conditions, combat life saver training, and weapons training on the M2/M9/M240B/AT-4 systems at the EST 2000.

As we continue into the next Quarter of training the Company will stay busy with a Change of Command between CPT Wilkins and the incoming commander CPT Yuengert, preparation for NTC 14-10, and transitioning from the 14<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion to the 864<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion. GHOSTRIDERS!







## 617th Engineer Company—Trailblazers “Clear the Way”

The Trailblazers spent the last quarter doing what they do best, they **blazed** the way. Whether it was recovering Strykers for 2-2 Infantry from Yakima Training Center, partying hard at a Company Organizational Day, or taking on knowledge to better themselves during Company quarterly training events, the Trailblazers always put their best foot forward and showed the BN what they were made of... strong, intelligent, hardworking Soldiers.

The Trailblazers started out the quarter in style with a company organizational day on Able Field. The turnout was great and the Soldiers took the opportunity to challenge each other to a bit of tug-a-war. Free food and a bouncy house were the highlights of the event. When it was time to put on their game faces and participate in Pace-maker Stakes they put their fine-



*Trailblazers Training*

tuned individual Soldier skills to the test and absolutely dominated the competition. Eight squads in the company placed in the top 10 out of the 30 squads in the Battalion that participated. SPC Bernosky took first place for individual APFT score and SSG Johnson

took first place in individual overall score which included a combined total for his Ruck, APFT, Land Nav, and Range scores.

They rounded out the quarter by being the first company in the BN to kick off their Squad Certification Field Exercise. They stayed in the field five days and four nights and dug nine ditches, hull and turret defilades, and berms to standard. They also executed tactical lanes giving them all the opportunity to prove themselves as squads.



*617th Fun Day*





## Junior Leader Development Course—June 2014

**Congratulations to the following Non-Commissioned Officers on graduating the Pacemaker Junior Leader Development Course:**

*SGT David Frock*

*SGT Evan Miesch*

*SGT Jeffery Wold*

*SGT Jonathan Lampman*

*SGT Joseph Myrum*

*SGT Lucas Bradfield*

*SPC Christopher Sanchez*

*SPC Christian Rodriguez*

*SPC Curtis Black*

*SPC Calvin White*

*SPC Fernando Caban*

*SPC Jonathan Ivey*

*SPC Kiran Limbu*

*SPC Matthew Lewis*

*SPC Mauricio Harrison*

*SPC Melvin Douglas*

*SPC Noah Gabel*

*SPC Nina Hatch*

*SPC Ryan Smith*

## Thoughts for the Pacemakers—Chaplain's Corner

Who would have thought that 6 months ago, the sun showed its face here on JBLM? Because of our most recent deployment I was spared some of the rainy weather that is so prevalent this side of the mountains. It is very nice to see the Sun come out, usually in the afternoons when all the clouds, mist, fog and what have you burn off. When I wake up I remind myself, that the Sun will indeed come out, that there is some hope for a sunny day. The beginning of the day certainly does not determine how the day is going to end.

Life is much like the weather around here, it's unpredictable at best, but when it is sunny, it is amazingly beautiful. That our days, our schedules, the stress of managing our bills, our families seems to be an unending weather pattern, that we as the "weatherman" of our own lives never seem to get a break. However busy your life may be, those days occur not in isolation but as part of a season. That seasons bring different and various types of days, but you determine the season by not just the sunlight, but also by the temperature and by what grows, or dies.

Having been a Chaplain for nine years, and in the military for 17 years I can

tell you based upon my perspective though the Army has changed quite significantly, and will continue to do so in the next few years, that people haven't changed as much. Our human nature, our habits (good and bad) have relatively stayed the same. Our theology and philosophies might have changed from childhood into adulthood, and certainly what we encounter as an Army, as Army Families, as a Nation and culture has also changed quite significantly. One person has not changed at all. Based upon my theology the God of the Bible has remained the same, unchanging, faithful to His Character.

I find that faith is the one anchor that holds me down, and in the place I need to be, despite the storms that may come and go. Much like our favorite saying when it comes to deployment is, "not if, but when." Storms will come, don't doubt it, don't hope for it to miss the coast of your lives, and don't think putting your head in the sand will keep it at bay, or have it pass you by. If you have a heartbeat, you will have challenges of sorts at various chapters of life, and sometimes may see the same chapter from your past unfolding again.

My challenge to you Pacemakers for this summer is to grow in your faith.

To take time to develop your faith, deepen your understanding of the world around you. Take a spiritual azimuth and find out where the next point should be. Life will not relent, why should you? Take time to smell the roses, or in our case to eat some blackberries when they come out. Make time to connect with your faith, with what you consider sacred and holy. If you have any questions about faith or religion in general, or just want to speak about such things, I would love for you to come by. My door is open! For those who would like to talk about the unrelenting storms of life, I am here too for that! My ears are open! Come by for non-judgmental counseling, for someone (in a confidential setting) to listen and maybe, just maybe give some counsel. Sometimes it is important to speak with someone, even if no answer seems apparent, to just speak, so that you may hear yourself. God Bless you all, and I pray for a safe summer for all. Set the pace! Chappie out! --CH (CPT) Jamie B Freeland

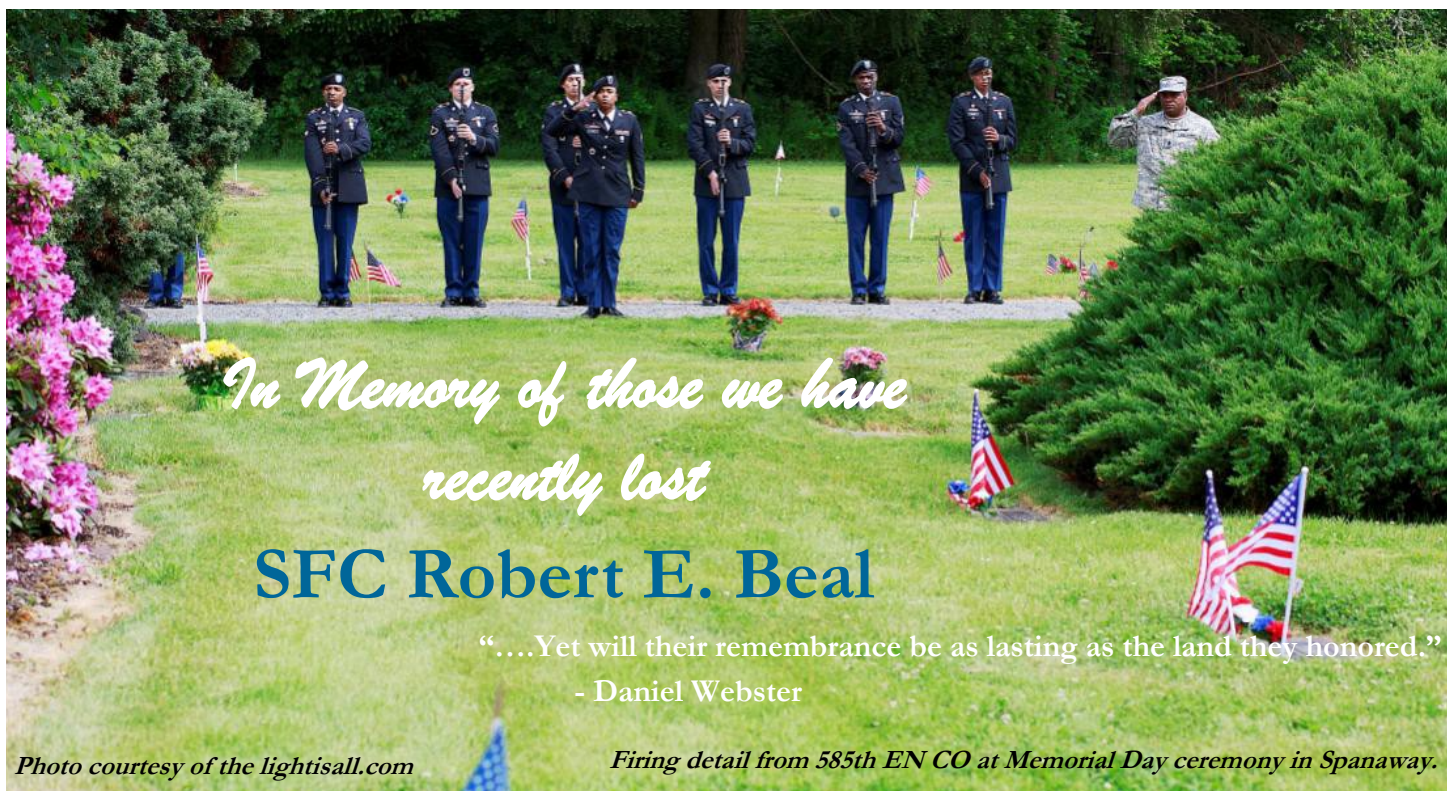


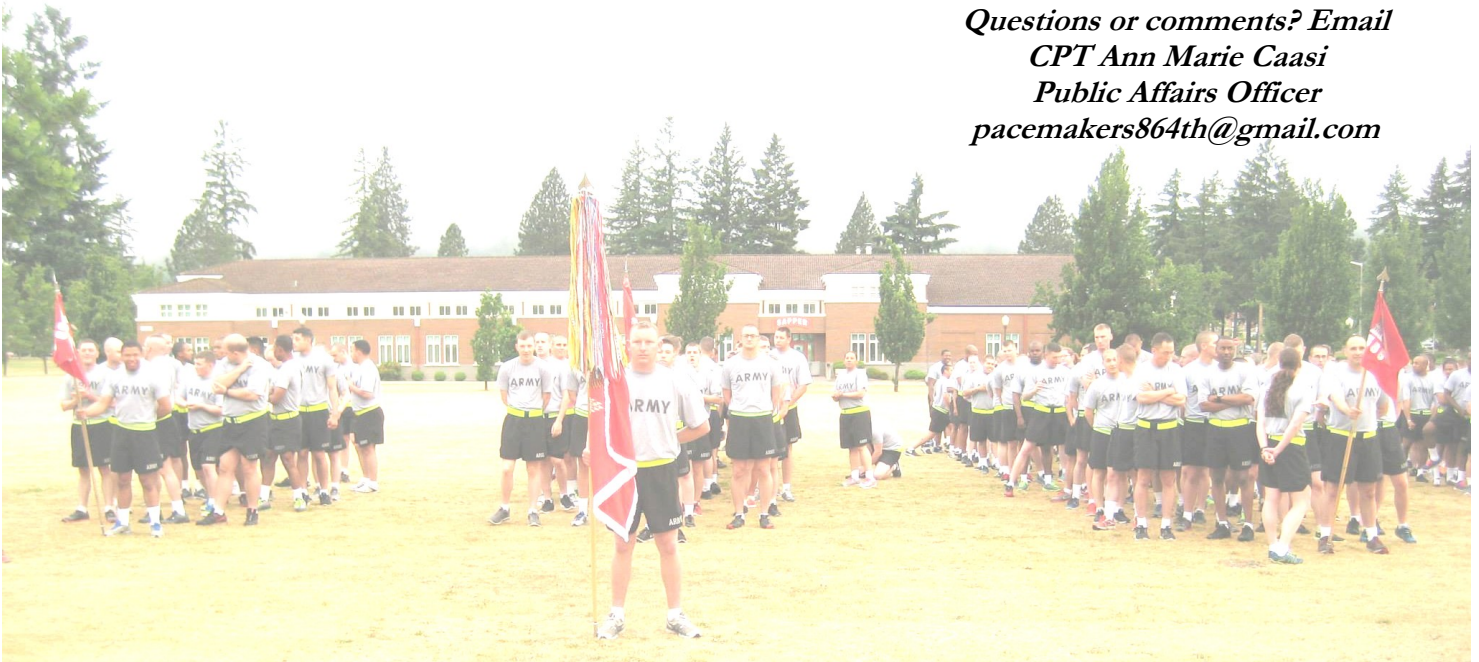
Photo courtesy of the lightisall.com

Firing detail from 585th EN CO at Memorial Day ceremony in Spanaway.





Questions or comments? Email  
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## 555th Engineer Brigade

### Mission

The 555th Engineer Brigade provides technical and tactical expertise and Mission Command to modular formations. The brigade plans, supervises and coordinates combat, general, and geospatial engineering in support of unified land operations.

### Vision

A Disciplined unit, built on Trust,  
Committed to team, Family and Fun.  
Ready, Willing and Able.

### *'Willing and Able'*

### Values

**Trust** – I will always display impeccable character and tell the truth regardless of the outcome.

**Discipline** – I consistently do the right, necessary, and sometimes painful tasks in order to accomplish the mission.

**Family** – I will always be available for my Family to meet their relational, spiritual, and emotional needs.

**Commitment** – I am committed to doing my mission to the highest possible standards; I will never quit on myself, my family, or my unit

**Fun** – I will frequently laugh and always make my job and home enjoyable places to work and live.

### Imperatives

**Leader Development** – Utilize engaged leaders to Teach, Coach, and Mentor in order to develop the next generation of adaptive leaders that possess creative and critical thinking skills; Develop leaders, enabled by Mission Command, that are capable of operating in any Volatile, Uncertain, Complex, and Ambiguous environments.

**Training** – Plan tough, realistic, and well resourced training; focus from the "Basics" to Mission Essential Tasks to develop individuals, teams, and leaders to provide World-Class Engineer Support to Unified Land Operations.

**Maintenance and Logistics** – Treat maintenance and logistics as training by assigning ownership and enforcing accountability of our resources and readiness.

**Health of the Force** – Provide our Soldiers and their Families the BEST (Medical, Sponsorship, Resources, Protection, Resiliency) the Army has to offer.

**Readiness** – Resilient Soldiers and Families, Disciplined Soldiers and systems, Superior Training, Personnel Readiness, and Disciplined Supply and Maintenance Programs.

