



PACEMAKER PRESS



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

US ARMY
JANUARY • FEBRUARY • MARCH 2015



What's Happening?

- 617 EN CO Inactivates
- Fully immersed in training for future missions
- Construction Missions
- Command Team Changes



Commander's Corner



Greetings Pacemaker Soldiers,
Families, and Friends,

Once again, the 864th Engineer Battalion is setting the pace as we start off the new year and head into spring, as busy as ever. Our Leaders and Soldiers have spent the last few months planning and preparing for all the training and exercises to come these next few months. I am eagerly anticipating the execution and success of our upcoming missions!

The Pacemakers have already begun one of the more anticipated training events this year has to offer with Headquarters and Headquarters Company and the Forward Support Company on their way to the National Training Center (NTC) in California. This exercise joins the staff and members of HHC and FSC with other units to train and certify our capabilities. Along the same line, 22nd Engineer Clearance Company and 571st Sapper Company head to Yakima Training Center to provide engineer support to other JBLM units conducting training exercises, in preparation for their own NTC rotation in July. Not to be left behind, 585th Engineer Company and 610th Engineer Support Company are taking on the construction missions that truly contribute to leaving a lasting legacy for the Pacemaker Battalion. This includes a campsite at Mud Mountain Dam, work at McChord, and continued work at Solo Point.



One of the highlights of the year so far has been exercises with our coalition partners. 571st Sapper Company recently completed a successful training exercise with a Canadian Engineer Regiment, the culminating event for the unit exchange program. Special thanks to Pacemaker Alum Rich Searle for the baked goods offered during our convoy to Yakima! 570th Sapper Company held their own while demonstrating engineer capabilities such as mine clearing to delegates from the Indian Army. These opportunities for outside cooperation proved vital in enhancing our training and improving our abilities. I am always proud to see our Leaders and Soldiers interact and learn from each other, various units and foreign countries.

As the battalion has continued developing and evolving, the Pacemaker team has also had to stand down a great company. 617th Engineer Company inactivated in early March with Soldiers and Leaders dispersing amongst the ranks of the battalion, ending their time in the Army or moving to their next duty stations. Thanks for all your hard work; great job, Trailblazers! Next up: the 585th, which will be inactivated in September.

I would like to also take this time to thank all the Leaders and Families who made it to our Chinese New Year's Reception! The Army is full of customs and traditions, and hosting a New Year's Reception was one that Stephanie and I truly enjoyed. We were honored to invite our Senior Leaders and their spouses into our home, to ring in a Happy and Prosperous New Year. Additionally, I thank all those that made it to the 555th Engineer Brigade Ball, another time honored tradition essential in building Esprit-de-Corps, morale, and, most importantly, memories. We hope to see more of the Pacemaker families at upcoming Hail and Farewells, FRG events, and Organizational Days!

In closing, I would like to reiterate my appreciation for all the sacrifices that the Pacemaker and their families make to our mission. We are all contributing members of this team and the Army community. With this membership comes countless resources available at any time; there are many people, organizations and assets both in the battalion and across JBLM to support this team – just ask!

Set the Pace...Pacemakers Rise to the Challenge

LTC Steven M. Sattinger



Command Sergeant Major's Foxhole



Greetings Pacemakers and Families,

First and foremost I would like to thank all of the FRGs and family members for your undaunted support of our Soldiers. We could not do what we do without your love and encouragement at home. The holidays ended on a high note—taking time to reconnect with family and remember what we train and fight for. It has been a great start to the beginning of 2015 with many exciting training events underway and many more to come.

Training is beginning to pick up momentum and overall the missions and projects at the Battalion are going very well. Soldiers have put forth meticulous efforts around the JBLM footprint and local Washington community as well as the Yakima Training Center and the National Training Center in California. We have conducted some exceptional joint training with our neighbors in the Canadian Army which gave our Soldiers the opportunity to see a different perspective on leadership and tactics.

The commander and I are extremely proud of the Pacemaker Soldiers and their accomplishments as they continue to “Rise to the



Challenge”. FSC and HHC are doing outstanding as they become certified at the National Training Center and the companies are doing well preparing for rapidly approaching Yakima rotations and future NTC missions. The battalion has been training at an extremely swift pace since the holiday season and confidence is growing. The camaraderie and teamwork that our Soldiers display is something to be emulated by all. The professionalism and expertise of this battalion is evident every single day. This goes way beyond the tactical and technical proficiency of our formation. It requires stamina, discipline and ethical values that go beyond the average person. It requires unwavering ethics to not only do what is right when someone

is watching, but to do right when nobody is watching. This describes our Pacemaker Family.

I challenge you all to continue to keep doing what you do to make this battalion great. Take care of your Families, plan time off, and work on your self-development. Finding the balance between work and family can give you the boost to tackle the demands and challenges of life. Showing that we care exemplifies the very spirit of being part of the Army Family.

It is great to serve as your Command Sergeant Major and endure training with you every day. Things will continue to move quickly in the upcoming spring season, so please be safe and deliberate in all you do.

Set the Pace...Pacemakers Rise to the Challenge

CSM Eugene Russell

Pacemaker 7



PACEMAKERS in Action!



A Look Ahead..

DONSAs

03APR: Easter

22-25MAY: Memorial Day

12JUN: BN Donsa

BN Events

**10 APR: FSC/HHC Redeployment
from NTC**

23 April: Hail and Farewell

21 May: Safety Stand Down

28 May: Hail and Farewell

To get the latest updates from the
864th Engineer Battalion check us
out on [Facebook!](https://www.facebook.com/864thPacemakers)

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



MWR Events:

April 5: Easter Dash—Cowan Stadium

April 22-23: Earth Day Cleanup

May 30: JBLM Half Marathon/5k

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





Chinese New Year Reception hosted by LTC and Mrs. Sattinger



585 Working at McChord AFB on a Skills Trainer for the McChord Fire Department



Soldiers from 571st Sapper CO and 22nd ECC work together with Soldiers from the Canadian Army at the Yakima Training Center.



585 working to improve the volunteer center at Mud Mountain Dam, WA



Egg hunt at the BN Spring Festival 28MAR15



Headquarters & Headquarters Company— “Regulators”

From the Commander's Desk:

REGULATORS,

It has been an honor to serve with each of you over the past 11 months. During our time together, HHC has come a long way, all thanks to the hard work of the Soldiers, NCOs and Officers that make up this Company. We have executed qualification ranges on every weapons system, two live fire exercises, and three iterations of night driver's training to highlight a few training events. All while continuing to provide support to our sister companies within the Battalion and fulfilling staff requirements from higher commands. Additionally, I would be remiss if I didn't recognize the accomplishments of our FRG leadership team. Mrs. Kristie Merrill and Mrs. T Jae Ingoglia have kept our FRG going strong over the past year by planning meetings, fundraisers and Family Fun Days. Thank you ladies for all your support! Over the next month, our deployment readiness will be tested at the National Training Center, Fort Irwin, CA. I am supremely confident that you will return as better Soldiers individually and a better team collectively and I know that you will provide CPT Axenov with an even higher level of support as he comes on board to lead the Regulators into the future. REGULATORS!

REGULATOR 6 – CPT Lennox G. Morris

From the First Sergeant's Desk:

The past quarter has been pretty busy for the Regulators with our main focus being training and preparing for the upcoming rotation to the National Training Center in Ft Irwin, CA. During this time, we will get an honest assessment of our abilities to complete our mission. I am sure that everyone is looking forward to this training mission just as much as I.

We have had a lot of change over the past month, saying goodbye to both our company XO, 1LT Winslow, who moved to S3 Plans and our company operations sergeant, SFC Merrill, who moved over to 617th EN CO to assist before PCSing to Ft Hood. We also said good bye to our FRG Leader, Mrs. Merrill, who left a big pair of shoes to be filled and our FRG Treasurer, Mrs. Ingoglia. With all of these losses of course come new faces to the team, and we would like to welcome the following to the Regulator team: 1LT Sackmann is our new company XO, SFC Fierro will be taking on the duties as company operations sergeant, Mrs. Ramsey has graciously volunteered to lead the FRG and Mrs. Ash will be serving as FRG treasurer.

One final loss this quarter to the team will be when we change out the Company Commander which is tentatively scheduled for the 6th of March. We are thinking if we could push off change of command just a little more, then CPT Morris could lead us through NTC. CPT Morris has been a positive asset and led the company admirably for the past year accomplishing more than even I thought was possible at times. His leadership will truly be missed, especially by the lieutenants in the company. With CPT Morris' departure comes CPT Axenov's arrival. We are excited to see where CPT Axenov will lead us in the coming months. He will hit the ground running as he will be taking the company to the NTC just a week or two after taking command. CPT Axenov comes to us from the 593rd Sustainment Brigade where he was serving as the Facilities Engineer.

Regulator 7– 1SG William Ash

Headquarters & Headquarters Company— “Regulators”

This past quarter has been another busy one for the Regulators, in preparation for their deployment to the National Training Center (NTC). Soldiers trained on everything from weapons qualification, CBRN, and setting up Tactical Operations Centers. The Regulators have also been attending several classes in pursuing excellence for the company. Soldiers have participated in driver's training, combat life saver, combatives levels 1/2, equal opportunity, and many more. In addition to unit level training, Regulators have been preparing for the arrival of the new HHC Commander, Captain Lev Axenov, who's change of command ceremony is scheduled for 06 March at the Battalion Classroom. As always, the Regulators have also made sure to set aside time for family and fun. The FRG hosted several events for Soldiers, to include Informational meetings, bowling, and a pie in the face fundraiser.



Soldiers from the 28th EN DET assisting Tent set –up in TOC Exercise.



Regulators participating in the FRG Pie in the Face Fundraiser.

REGULATOR OF THE QUARTER



Congratulations to CPL Ramsey and SPC Squires for winning the BN NCO and Soldier of the Quarter Boards respectively. We are proud to have Regulators dominating at every level. CPL Ramsey is a team leader with the 28th Engineer Detachment (Concrete) and has been a high achiever since his arrival in August 2014. Due to the unit's deactivation, he has plans to re-class to 15R (Apache Repairman).

SPC Squires has been a medic with HHC since July 2012 and deployed with the unit from February to October of 2013. Aside from carrying out administrative duties and patient care at the Aid Station, she also employed medical treatment in Malaysia with the 585th Engineer Company. The Soldiers have exemplified strong character and work ethic needed to exceed the standard and set the bar high for the rest of the battalion.



Forward Support Company—Providers “First in Support!”

From the Commander's Desk:

Greetings Provider Soldiers, Families, and Friends! FSC has done an outstanding job completing the mission for the battalion and brigade. The hard work our Soldiers put in with maintenance, transportation, supply, ammo and fuel makes the FSC proud to complete all missions for the 864th Engineer Battalion each day. As a highlight from this quarter, Soldiers in the Allied Trades Section, SGT Nino and SPC Hendry, designed and fabricated a pivoting mortar tube and a simulated rocket stand for 3rd EOD. The project consisted of 24 hours of direct labor that included processes such as arc welding precise measuring, cutting, and grinding. This project was started and completed while the Allied Trade section simultaneously getting ready for an upcoming NTC Rotation. Soldiers down in Distribution Platoon have continued to push out TMRs for logistical support to keep the battalion rolling with logistics. The Soldiers in the Dining Facility continue to show JBLM who is the best with outstanding cooking and showing great work on every meal with a short staff on hand. The Soldiers in Headquarters Platoon continue to show they are the best in admin, operation and training in the battalion. FSC is ready to continue leading from the front for all logistics over the next quarter.

CPT Arron M. Edmonds

From the First Sergeant's Desk:

Greetings Provider Soldiers, Families, and Friends,
The Forward Support Company, 864th Engineer Battalion has accomplished numerous tasks this quarter along with performing their day to day mission. As their First Sergeant I am truly proud to be part of the Provider team as they work effortlessly to accomplish all that the command and staff has tasked to the Company. The maintenance team conducted a successful range qualifying 37 of 39 firers, performed scheduled and unscheduled maintenance, and our specialty shops performed radio, NVG and weapons maintenance. The 92Gs, DISTRO PLT, HQ PLT, and maintenance all have been hard at work preparing for the NTC rotation conducting OCIE inspections for all equipment, rail load operations, and night drivers training. The Provider Team has without a doubt exceeded the expectations of how a support company should perform. As Soldiers and family members prepare for the NTC rotation the command team thanks them for their patience and completing all the difficult challenges.



MSG Bernal changing responsibility of the company to 1SG Bell

Providers!
1SG Talmige Bell



SPC Hendry welding for a project for 3rd EOD



The Provider leadership at the BC's house for the Chinese New Year Reception



CW2 Valdez with his family receiving the Samuel Sharpe award from Brigadier General Haley

PROVIDER OF THE QUARTER



SPC Eavey has greatly displayed her expertise this quarter as the communications representative for FSC.



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

From the Commander's Desk:

Over the past several months the Hooligans of the 22nd ECC have built the foundation that will lead to successful future training events. Members of the Hooligan Nation were called upon for their expertise to serve other units across the Army and pass on their knowledge at locations including the National Training Center, Yakima Training Center, Camp Atterbury, IN, and Kansas City, MO. At home, the company focused on individual warrior tasks that paved the way for an outstanding company field training exercise on JBLM in February. In the coming months the company will press forward and continue to set the standard at training events supporting 3-2 SBCT at the Yakima Training Center in April, and National Tainting Center in July. It is an honor to come to work daily and lead such an amazing group of Soldiers. I look forward to the challenges to come and know that the Hooligan Nation will surpass all expectations. “So Others May Follow” HOOLIGANS!

Hooligan 6 – CPT Brian C. Martin

From the First Sergeant's Desk:

Throughout the last few months, despite maintaining a rigorous training schedule, the Soldiers and NCOs of the Hooligan Nation have continued to work hard, maintain motivation, and exceed the standard in everything we have accomplished. The company completed a grueling Hooligan Stakes individual skills competition and a successful field training exercise.

We had six of our Soldiers graduate from Warrior Leader Course (WLC); SGT Lawson, SPC Carter, SPC Jacobs, SPC Lopez, SPC McElroy, and SPC Sanchez. SPC Chavez is also currently in WLC. Four of our NCOs have completed the Advanced Leader Course (ALC); SGT Lemire, SGT Moore, SGT Murphy, and SGT Schultz. SGT Hauck is also currently in ALC. Additionally, we currently have SFC Linton, SFC Yost, and SSG McElroy in the Senior Leader Course (SLC). We are proud of all our Soldiers who have either completed school or are currently in school, and are excited about the knowledge they will bring back to the company.

As we look forward to the coming months, we know they will be challenging but I am certain we will continue to perform above standard. It is an honor to lead such an outstanding group of Soldiers.

Hooligan 7 – 1SG Joseph R. Ingle



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



Soldiers from the Equipment Platoon working on a project for the JBLM Fire Department



A Buffalo conducts an interrogation during the Company FTX in February



SPC Lopez of 1st Platoon trains with the First Look robot

HOOLIGAN OF THE QUARTER



SGT Evatt (right) served as a Platoon Sergeant for the majority of the quarter. He also reenlisted and was assigned two additional duties for the company. Finally, he will become a father of twins in the coming weeks.



570th Sapper Company— “Fido!”

From the Commander's Desk:

FIDO is almost complete with the post deployment RESET phase. While accounting for all equipment we took downrange and re-accounting for everything we left here with the rear detachment, platoons continued to train. We celebrated our redeployment with a winter holiday party, and enjoyed a chili cook-off in the last week of February. I want to thank all the families that participated! I want to welcome 1LT Schott, 1LT Chang, and 2LT Nelson, who are our new First Platoon Leader, Third Platoon Leader, and Maintenance OIC. I also want to welcome CPT Harpen, who will be replacing me next quarter, and 1LT Wright, who will be replacing 1LT Duncan as Executive Officer next quarter.

—FIDO 6

From the First Sergeant's Desk:

Well-rested after a well deserved block leave, FIDO has hit training hard. All the platoons have hit Sergeants' Time Training with enthusiasm and challenging, relevant training. In particular, the training focuses on a shift in mission from strictly route clearance, which we conducted on the last deployment, to the broader requirements of a Corps level Wheeled Sapper Asset—and all the mobility, counter mobility, and survivability tasks that come with it.

—FIDO 7



2PLT “Hellhound” Soldiers don MOPP gear during training. FIDO is prepared to deploy in all environments.



3PLT Soldiers practice knots and maneuvering with equipment through austere terrain.



3PLT Soldiers prepare a Mine Clearing Line Charge, which they fired in demonstration for visiting Indian Army leaders.

FIDO SAPPER OF THE QUARTER

The FIDO Sapper of the Quarter from January through March is SPC Eyestone. A Sapper in 1st Squad, 2nd Platoon “Hellhounds,” SPC Eyestone has been a consistently high performer, achieving the highest APFT score in the squad—a remarkable accomplishment, given that his was also the most improved score.

He is dependable, always among the first to finish anything his team leader asks of him. SPC Eyestone is also the go-to guy in the squad for difficult tasks: he has a special knack for moving trucks and trailers into impossibly impeccable order. Well done SPC Eyestone, and keep up the great work!



571st Sapper Company— “Rock Hard!”

From the Commander's Desk:

Greetings Pacemakers! The Rock has just finished executing a fast-paced and explosion-filled training exercise with the Canadian 1st Combat Engineer Regiment (1CER). Our Sappers integrated platoons with the Canadians and executed a ton of great training from live MICLIC line charges at YTC to tackling obstacle courses here at JBLM. Our company needs to thank our brothers and sisters across the battalion (570th, 610, 22nd, 585, FSC, HHC) who helped us in every way possible, from cooking great chow to delivering ammunition and explosives to the field to running the STX lanes. We also need to thank all the families for all the support they gave us — we definitely couldn't run a such a high level and accomplish as much as we did without all of your support! In March we take the pedal off the gas for a brief few weeks while we service our equipment and do maintenance, but we pick it right back up by training with 3/2 Stryker Brigade in April and executing our platoon validation exercise in May. There's a lot on the plate, but it's always a great time training here. It's truly an honor and a privilege to have such stellar Soldiers as we do here in 571st who are always ready to conquer the next challenge! Rock Hard! -CPT Jason Shinar “ROCK 6”

From the First Sergeant's Desk:

Over the past few months after the block leave we began our preparation for RUE 2 doing nonstop training. We began the venture of returning to our sapper roots, training with our Canadian brothers. We then conducted MICLIC training, Volcano, APOBS, a Marksmanship Range and numerous other tasks here on JBLM. All this training in preparation for our movement and training in the Yakima Training Center.

After completion of these events the Rock Soldiers dove into training and building a friendship with our Canadian counterparts. The Rock and Canadian Soldiers joined forces to continue and complete awesome training at the training center. Such training as live MICLIC range, live Bangalore breaches, live craters and shape charges. It has been ten years since I've last seen such incredible training! As First Sergeant, it makes me proud to be part of such a great organization.

Keep up the great work Sappers! Sappers Lead the Way! Rock Hard! .

—1SG Keith Johnson “ROCK 7”



Top: The RUE's Second Platoon (comprised of a mix of American and Canadian Soldiers) poses for a photo at American Lake during the BBQ after Squad Sapper Stakes

Above: American and Canadian Sappers fire and detonate an APOBS line charge in YTC.

Below: Sappers breach an 11-row wire-obstacle obscured by smoke.

SAPPER OF THE QUARTER



Congrats to SGT Jeffrey Powers and PFC Lucas Tucker for not only being the Rock Soldiers of the Quarter but also being the winners of the JBLM Best Sapper Competition! We wish them the best of luck in their train up as they prepare to compete at the Army-wide competition in Fort Leonard Wood, MO this April. ROCK HARD!





585th Engineer Company— “Roughnecks”

From the Commander's Desk:

The last three months have flown by and the Roughnecks have made some outstanding achievements. The entire company had a great Christmas break, I would like to especially thank 1LT Johnson and SFC Morris for handling the company while most were away, and all the Roughnecks for behaving responsibly and returning safe. All three platoons have utilized some of the great training simulators that the Army has to offer in January. All platoons used the Dismounted Soldier Training System that is an exoskeleton the Soldier wears that mimics body movements in a virtual simulator. The Engagement Skills Trainer is a virtual rifle range, the Call for Fire Trainer lets one practice calling artillery support, the roll over trainer simulates evacuating HMMWV that have flipped, and the Virtual Battle Space2 simulates vehicles that drive in a virtual world that is customizable. Overall, a lot of fun plus plenty of real life training as well. In February, the platoons did a great job servicing all their equipment and tools. In addition to making sure all items were sharp, rust free, and oiled the platoons re-inventoried the equipment, documented the conditions, and consolidated extra equipment for COPA. This is a great timing because we expect all three platoons to execute projects in March. 1st PLT will help build a concrete pad on Army property, 2nd is building a fire fighting skills trainer that simulates roof entry, and 3rd PLT is helping to renovate a building on north fort.

From the First Sergeant's Desk:

This quarter has been very exciting as we ramp up to conduct several missions. The soldiers of the 585th Engineer Company has risen to the challenge completing all tasks assigned. The company has focused on the execution of Sergeants Time Training (STT) while supporting the Brigade and the Battalion, providing eight Soldiers and five NCO's on borrowed man power in support of I Corps and various units across JBLM. The platoons have conducted technical inspections (TI's) on all assigned equipment in preparation for the turn-in for inactivation while relocating all pieces of equipment into a new motor pool. Congratulations to SGT Jacobs, SGT Arocho, SPC Franklin, and SPC Bagley who competed and won the company soldier of the month boards with SGT Jacobs going on to win the Battalion soldier of the month board. As second and third platoon prepare to conduct the Mud Mountain dam and Fire Fighter construction projects our soldiers remain motivated and ready to set the pace. I would like to say thank you for the great support of our family readiness group for the wonderful bowling event. This gives our soldiers time to relax from their busy schedules and allows them the time to bond with their fellow team mates on a different level.. Thanks for all that you do “Roughnecks”.

“DEPEND ON US!!”

1SG TERRENCE M. BROWN



585th Engineer Company— “Roughnecks”



SPC Casasola puts the final touches on a 10,000 lb concrete wall during a Yakima Training Center Mission supporting 2-75 Ranger BN.



WO1 Smith takes charge of lifting operations which requires maneuvering twelve 10,000 lb walls into 3' support ditches.

ROUGHNECK OF THE QUARTER



SGT Jacobs is 585th Soldier of the quarter. He distinguished himself by winning the company NCO of the month board and moving on to win the Battalion NCO of the month board.



610th Engineer Support Company “Ghostriders”

From the Commander's Desk:

Pacemakers, it has been an outstanding quarter for the GhostRiders. The company successfully returned from Holiday Leave prepared to tackle and embrace the opportunities of 2015. The end of 2014 was spent establishing systems to ensure long-term success, and we have spent the first few months of the year returning to the basics by focusing on Warrior Tasks and Drills. It has been rewarding to see Soldiers return to their basic Soldier skills, to include voice communications, dismounted movements, and CBRN tasks. We will continue to build off of this solid foundation by shifting our focus to individual operator skills and collective construction tasks. We are very fortunate to be in a Brigade that seeks construction missions for the GhostRiders to complete. A few upcoming missions include constructing a concrete pad at Mud Mountain Dam Campsite and completing the running trail at Solo Point. These missions serve dual purposes; they foster good relations between the Army and community and allow our systems to be tested in a functional capacity. I am honored to command such a versatile and skilled Company, and am looking forward to the future!

GhostRider 6-CPT Michael B. Yuengert

“Dig Deep!”

From the First Sergeant's Desk:

GhostRider Family,

Wow!!! It's time for First Sergeant's corner again. I must say the company has been through a fast roller coaster ride. With the ramping up of a possible deployment to Africa, gas chamber, and planning of summer construction projects. Good news is that the Ebola crisis was resolved in Africa and our assistance in building up infrastructure was canceled and allowed for our families to plan summer vacations and gateways with their service member. Yeah!!! Family time what a great feeling!!!!

As the company faced many challenging schedules, tasks, demands, and especially leadership challenges; as the platoon leaders begin to leave and new platoon leaders begin to come in. Platoon sergeants and Soldiers have to do inventories and start building rapport with their new platoon leader. Maintenance even received a new platoon leader to help assist them in the ongoing world of repairing our vehicle fleet and keeping up with the administrative side of the house too.

Our Soldiers continually raise the bar and set the standards. The 610th Engineer Company participated in running battalion ranges, assisted 571st Sapper Company Reciprocal Unit Exchange, and Mud Mountain Dam Project. Several Soldiers have attended the company board and one of our NCOs, SGT Polk, and will participant in the Brigade Quarter Board. As great NCOs do, we set the example for others to follow. As always I like to thank all the Families and Soldiers near and far away of 610th ESC, Happy Easter, Memorial Day, and enjoy your summer. Wishing and blessing all of you the very best during spring and summer break with the family!!!

Dig Deep,

1SG Crittendon, 'GhostRider 7'



610th Engineer Support Company “Ghostriders”

DIG DEEP !



1LT Elliott of 2nd PLT takes a break from the Company CBRN training.

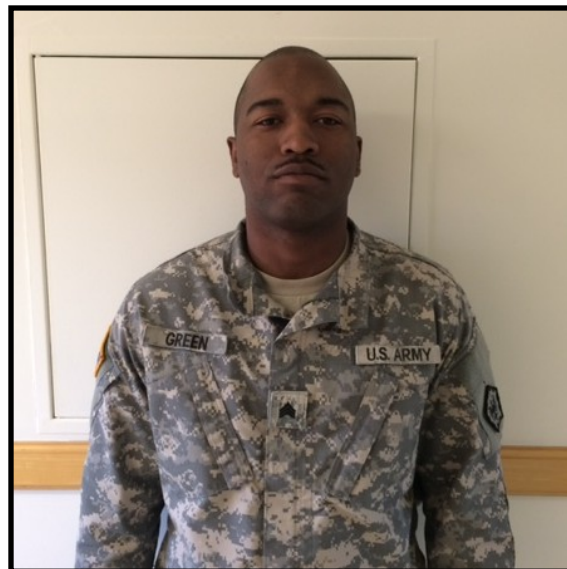


A GhostRider from 1st Platoon is evaluated by PFC Wilson, one of the Company Medics, during Combat Life Saver Training.



A GhostRider from 3rd Platoon learns the proper methods of communicating with a military radio system.

GHOSTRIDER OF THE QUARTER



SGT Green is recognized as the GhostRider of the Quarter for his outstanding work ethic and dedication to duty. He has set the example for his fellow Soldiers. Keep up the good work !!



617th Engineer Company—Trailblazers “Clear the Way”

From the Commander's Desk:

Soldiers and Families of the Trailblazers, thank you so much for an amazing unit. 617th Engineer Company inactivated on March 3rd, 2015, initiating the bittersweet process of the Army losing a great unit and other companies gaining outstanding Soldiers and leaders. The Trailblazers have a history of reputable service to the nation. Since the War on Terror began, the Trailblazers have deployed five times, three to Afghanistan and two to Iraq. They also fought in multiple campaigns throughout Vietnam and World War Two.

More recently, we have completed an immense amount of training including 23 ranges and six construction projects. The Trailblazers have led the way in the 864th EN BN in both the number of ranges and construction projects. I am very proud to have been your final commander and it will always be the highlight of my Army career.

Trailblazers Out.

From the First Sergeant's Desk:

As we get close upon our inactivation date the Soldiers of 617th continue to train and prepare for their next assignment. Whether it be an intra-battalion transfer or a PCS to a different duty station, the Soldiers are ready. Those staying within the battalion have set their sights on not only winning Pacemakers stakes again but improving their scores from last years competition. The trailblazers have begun to fill key positions within the battalion, greatly improving productivity and raising the rest of the company's PT scores. This will be our last newsletter.

"Once a Trailblazer, always a Trailblazer."



617th Engineer Company—Trailblazers “Clear the Way”



SGT Williams and SPC Webb gaze nostalgically at a LET as it leaves the motorpool.



SGT Philip Simmons saying “deuces” to the 621B Earth Scraper as the Army bids farewell to the 617th .



“Bailey” at a Company Event

TRAILBLAZERS OF THE QUARTER



SGT Glenn Negretti and SPC Rashad Hailey were named as the Trailblazers NCO and Soldier of the Quarter for their dependability, maturity and work ethic throughout inactivation.

Junior Leader Development Course—March 2015

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

PFC Estrada, Erick

SPC Cardenas, Sayra

SPC Ferrand, David

SPC Guad, Israel

SPC Horiuchi, Kyle

SPC Kunkle, Garrett

SPC Manners, Stephan

SPC Matheny, Corey

SPC Meade, Christopher

SPC Miguel, Glenn

SPC Onsat, Zachary

SPC Salas, Elijah

SPC Valdez, Joerolf

SGT Fjellman, Levi

Thoughts for the Pacemakers—Chaplain's Corner

Good Day Pacemakers, Families, and Friends!

During this time of Lent and as Easter is fast approaching, I wanted to share this small thought about Proverbs 4 that I heard from CH Chang last week that blessed me, and as I now share with you.

Proverbs 4:23-27

How do you respond in "unguarded moments" which can be best test of your character. Unexpected temptation can be shocking. You may think you have a holy life, but when the tests come, you may be unprepared and soon discover the true nature of your heart. So, be mindful of the wise advice that the book of Proverbs offers, "**Above all else, guard your heart...for it is the wellspring of life.**"(v.23) How God is going to use you is dependent on the quality and the state of your heart. We need to keep our heart from becoming dishonest or corrupt. How do we keep our hearts from being influenced by this world?

v.24 says, "put away perversity from your mouth; keep corrupt talk far from your lips."

It means to be careful with whom you hang out. Be careful with what you are watching and whom you are listening to. Be aware of when and with whom you share your frustration or complaints with. Your mouth has a bearing on your heart. You will become what you talk about. The Psalmist said: "How can a young man keep his way pure? By living according to your word. I seek you with all my heart; do not let me stray from your commands. I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you." (Psalm 119:9-11)

Store and fill you mind and heart with God's word.

Second, v.25 says, "Let your eyes look straight ahead, fix your gaze directly before you."

In other words, set your moral compass correctly. I'm sure we all have been lost before, we just never admit it.

You only typed the street name and did not pay attention to the city. So, you end up in a totally different location. What do you do, during your Land Navigation, when you realize that you were following a wrong map all along? Where you set your rudder determines the direction of where the ship will go. Where you set your eyes... what you value most...affects the course of your heart. Your values determine your actions and will, eventually, affect the course of your life. Are your values the same as God's? Is what's important to God also important to you? Is your agenda equal with God's? The values we hold will strongly influence what we do and what we become.

v.26-27 says, "Make level paths for your feet and take only ways that are firm. Do not swerve to the right or the left; keep your foot from evil."

We call good habits "disciplines" such as regular exercise and daily devotions, which are good for us.

We also call bad habits "addictions" such as overeating, obsession of work, or too much dependency of technology. Observe your daily routines; you will soon discover what is most important in your life.

Good habits will build a noble heart.

A. W. Tozer said, "The widest thing in the universe is not space; it is the potential capacity of the human heart. Being made in the image of God, it is capable of almost unlimited extension in all directions. But one of the world's greatest tragedies is when our hearts shrink and have no other room but ourselves."

May the Lord bless our hearts and extend them to reach its full capacity.

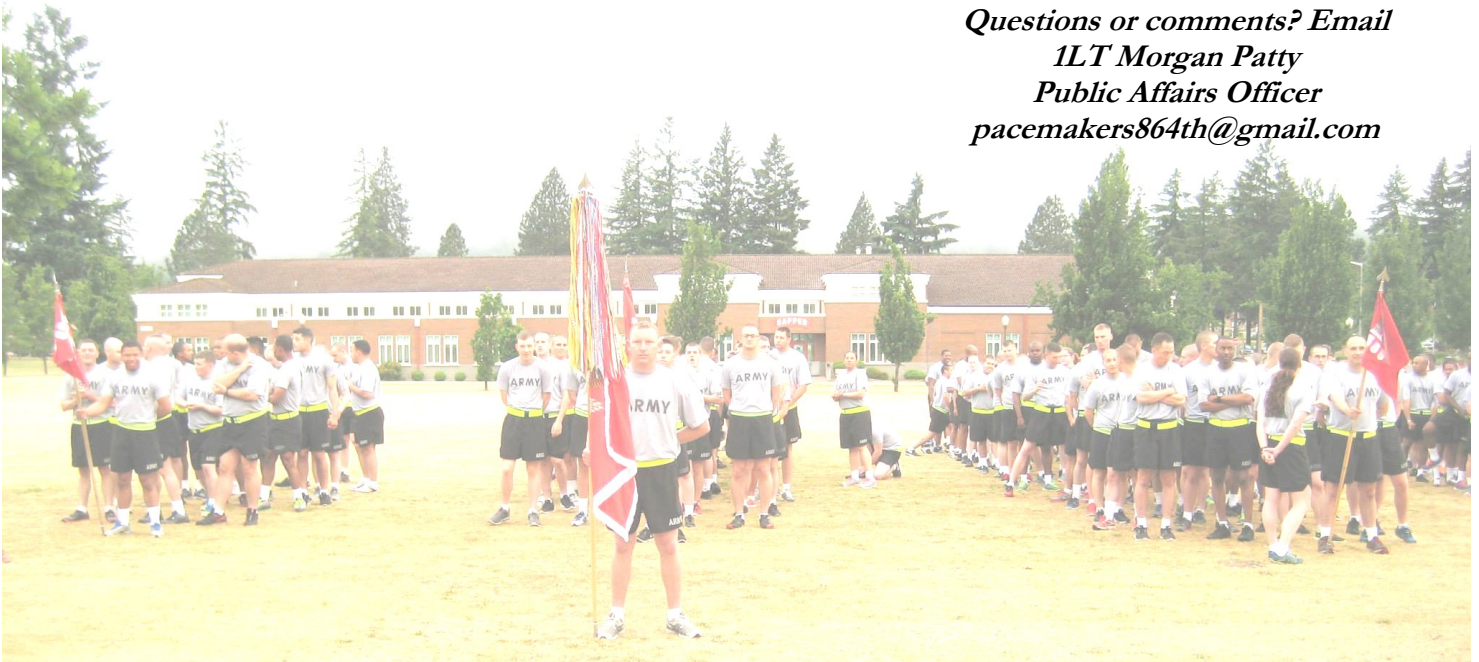
God Bless!

CH Freeland





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.



