

THE Dog Face Daily

Volume 1, Issue 307

www.taskforcemarne.com

March 21, 2008

Serving Task Force Marne

3ID completes re-up goal in unprecedented time

MND-C PAO

CAMP VICTORY – For two deployments a junior Soldier longed to join combat arms troops as they rolled outside of base confinements. As a re-enlistment incentive, the former mechanic will one day get that chance as a cavalry scout.

Spc. Cody Wilkins, a native of Nashville, Tenn., with 2nd Brigade Combat Team, re-enlisted March 19 and helped the 3rd Infantry Division, headquartered at Fort Stewart, Ga., reach its fiscal year 2008 retention goal in less than six months.

This is unprecedented according to the division's retention sergeant major. "I've been in this career field for 16 years, and I've never known of a division to meet its goal in such a short time," said Sgt. Maj. Kelvin Raibon, the 3rd Infantry

Division Retention sergeant major.

Wilkins is one of about 4,000 Soldiers who chose to renew his commitment to the Army and his country. "Soldiers want to do more for their country – I know I do," Wilkins said. "We re-enlist because of our patriotism."

There are three traditional retention categories – initial term, mid-career and careerist. Wilkins was a mid-career Soldier, meaning that he had already re-enlisted once before. Now on his second deployment, Wilkins said he was planning on ending his time in the Army after serving for five years, all with the 3rd Infantry Division.

"Soldiers want to do more for their country – I know I do. We re-enlist because of our patriotism."

– Spc. Cody Wilkins
2nd BCT



Sgt. Luis Delgadillo

Capt. Matthew J. Martinson (foreground), of Jacksonville, Ark., mortar platoon leader, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, re-enlists Sgt. Guyarry Noel Russ, of Augusta, Ga., an infantryman with Company A, both of the 1st Battalion, 30th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division, at Patrol Base Gator in southern Arab Jabour March 20. Russ's re-enlistment helped the Marne Division meet its fiscal year 2008 retention goal in less than six months.

"I was going to get out, but my NCOs (noncommissioned officers) told me that without a plan for my future I wasn't ready," said Wilkins who is married with a daughter, age 5, and a 2-year-old son. "I love the Army and I'm happy that I'll get the chance to stay in as a scout."

Leaders who take the time to listen to Soldiers' wishes and circumstances make the biggest difference on retaining quality Soldiers, said Sgt. 1st Class Treyton Lock, the battalion career counselor with 1st Battalion, 30th Infantry Regiment, 2nd BCT. People want to feel like they're being taken care of and their concerns matter, he

added.

The 3rd Infantry Division, which is the headquarters for Multi-National Division – Center, has conducted more than 12 mass re-enlistment ceremonies with visits from senior military leadership. All state that they know it's not the monetary bonuses that retain Soldiers, but their leaders and the support from their families.

Back at Fort Stewart waiting on Wilkins is his wife Melissa. "She worries about me," Wilkins said, "but she supports me and enjoys the structured life that the military provides for her and my kids. She's pleased with the decision I made."

Knighthawk pilot overcomes injury to succeed in career

Spc. Emily J. Wilsoncroft
3RD CAB, 3RD INF. DIV.

CAMP STRIKER — When Chief Warrant Officer Fred White sits down at the controls of a Black Hawk helicopter, he looks just like any other pilot in his battalion. He wears the same flight suit, the same helmet and the same air of confidence — the only difference is that at the end of the day, his wrist might be a bit sorer.

The victim of a roadside bomb attack during Operation Iraqi Freedom I, White sustained injuries that led to the loss of the first two fingers on his right hand.

White, an aviator and communications officer with 2nd Battalion, 3rd Aviation Regiment, 3rd Combat Aviation Brigade, 3rd Infantry Division, was not always a pilot. He enlisted in the Army in 2001 as a cavalry scout.

"I always wanted to be in the Army," he said. "Cav. scout seemed like a cool job. I knew I didn't want to be infantry, but I did want to be in combat arms."

During the second year of his enlistment, White's unit became attached to 3rd Infantry Division for the initial push up to Baghdad from Kuwait in the beginning of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

"There was a lot of fear and uncertainty when we originally crossed the berm," he said, "but after that it became more of a daily routine."

The routine included route clearance, convoy security, vehicle security, observation post setup and maintenance — "pretty much anything that needed to be done in Sadr City," as White put it.

On Sep. 5, 2003, the routine was disrupted.

"We were pulling security for the engineers that day," White recalled. "We were on our way to the site, going down Highway 5."

As the convoy passed under an overpass, it was hit by a remote-detonated 120 mm mortar round.

"It blew up my truck," he said. "I was the gunner, and the blast threw me against the back of the turret ... my driver took shrapnel in the side of his neck; the (vehicle commander) lost his left thumb and his right eye."

White, who was hit by shrapnel in both his hands and legs, as well as his face and buttocks, lost his fingers as a result of the attack.

For many Soldiers, that would have been the end of the road, as far as a military career was concerned. But White, who fully recovered from his injuries after less than a year, decided he wanted to be a pilot.

White said even though the doctor had cleared him medically, the Reserve Officer Training Corps medic said he wasn't fit for the Army. "So I (turned in) my warrant officer packet and was picked up for flight school."

Although there were some who tried to tell White he wouldn't make it through flight training, he said his injury didn't hold him back at all.

"Flying is more of a mental thing," he said. "You have to be physically co-



Spc. Emily J. Wilsoncroft

Chief Warrant Officer Fred White, Black Hawk pilot, 2nd Bn., 3rd Avn. Regt., 3rd CAB, 3rd Inf. Div., demonstrates the preparations he makes before a flight March 18 at the 3rd CAB flight line in Baghdad.

ordinated, but a lot of it's in your mind. You have to think three-dimensionally to maintain control."

One of the controls in the helicopter resembles a joystick, he explained,

See PILOT, page 3

THE Dog Face Daily

The Dog Face Daily is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. Army. Contents of *The Dog Face Daily* are not necessarily official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, Department of Defense, Department of the Army or the 3rd Infantry Division. All editorial content of *The Dog Face Daily* is prepared, edited, provided and approved by the Task Force Marne Public Affairs Office.

TASK FORCE MARNE PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE

www.taskforcemarne.com

Commanding General - MAJ. GEN. RICK LYNCH

Command Sergeant Major - COMMAND SGT. MAJ. JESSE L. ANDREWS JR.

Editorial Staff

TF Marne PAO — Lt. Col. Randy Martin
Managing Editor — Master Sgt. Marcia Triggs
Editor/Design — Spc. Jennifer L. Sierra

Contributing Units

2nd Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division
3rd Heavy Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division
3rd Brigade Combat Team, 101st Abn. Division (Assault)
4th Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division
3rd Combat Aviation Brigade, 3rd Infantry Division
214th Fires Brigade
7th Sustainment Brigade
720th Military Police Battalion
302nd Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

PILOT

From previous page

on the front of which is a radio control that functions via a trigger-type mechanism.

"I just sewed up the first two fingers on my glove and changed my hand position," White said, demonstrating how he wraps his wrist around the control. "I was set on proving the people who doubted me wrong and I adapted so I could succeed."

White's battalion commander, Lt. Col. Alex Covert, was quick to note the young warrant officer's success.



"Fred is an above average UH-60L Black Hawk pilot," Covert said. "He has flown over 150 hours in combat under the harshest conditions flawlessly."

Aside from White's skill as a pilot, Covert also lauded his perseverance and devotion to his military career.

"I cannot describe in words what it takes for a young Soldier, ... wounded in combat, to not only continue to serve his country, but to take the initiative, become a warrant officer, an outstanding Army aviator and serve as a Battalion (communications officer) in combat," he said. "His selfless service is clearly an example for others to follow."

White plans to stay in 2-3rd Avn. Regt., based at Hunter Army Airfield, Ga., for at least the near future.


"All the experiences I've had in the Army have led me to where I am right now," he said. "I have no regrets, no resentments. I know I'm lucky to still be here and I appreciate that."


MND-C
EQUAL OPPORTUNITY OFFICE
PRESENTS

Women's History Month Observance

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH



"Contributions of Female Soldiers on today's Battlefield"



Location
AL FAW Palace (ROTUNDA)

When
Wednesday, March 26, 2008
From
7:30PM to 8:30PM

POC: MND-C EO OFFICE
DSN: 822-7654/ 53/ 9088
SIPR: 243-4128

Safety Thought of the Day

Hydration Measures

Signs & Symptoms:

- Dry, sticky mouth.
- Thirst.
- Muscle weakness or cramps.
- Headache.
- Dizziness or lightheadedness.
- Irritability and confusion.
- Lack of sweating.
- Little to no urination (dark yellow color).

Preventative Actions:

- Do not wait until you are thirsty to drink, it may be too late.
- Drink enough water, less than 1 quart

hourly and no more than 12 quarts a day. Overhydration can be just as fatal.

- Examine your urine (Should be clear to light yellow).
- Eat meals to replace salt that have evaporated through sweating. Sports drinks can also replace electrolytes.
- Don't drink too much coffee, sodas, or fruit juices. (They can be high in sugar and can slow fluid absorption.)
- Do drink even more fluids when working out and taking dietary supplements.
- Remind your buddy to hydrate.

Headline Highlights

Taco theft; up-armored Jeep; anti-terror unit plans found

Man gets jail time for taco theft

LOS ANGELES (AP) – A man who pretended to be a CEO complaining about his fast-food order in a taco scam was sentenced to 30 days in jail after authorities saw the prank in an online video.

Rialto police said it was an easy case to crack because the video, called “How to Scam Del Taco” and posted on YouTube.com, shows Robert Echeverria, 32, calling the restaurant about 50 miles east of Los Angeles on Feb. 19.

In a friendly tone he claims to be a CEO named “Robert Kennedy” who has already spoken to the store’s manager and corporate office about some unwanted sour cream and the lack of a receipt in a previous order.

“I love your guys’ tacos,” he said.

One of his two 18-year-old co-stars is later shown walking into the restaurant and claiming the food. The video ends with the three men feasting and laughing.

Echeverria even provided a pair of personal phone numbers in the video, Rialto police Lt. Joe Cirilo said.

A Rialto resident saw the video online last month and called police, authorities said.

On Tuesday, Echeverria pleaded guilty to misdemeanor burglary and received a sentence of 30 days in jail, three years’ probation and one special condition: a ban from the Rialto Del Taco.

“I tried to get him to stay away from

all Del Tacos, but the judge said just the one,” Deputy District Attorney Doug Schaller said.

Schaller said the two teens can expect a similar plea deal, most likely minus the jail time.

Truck with movie worthy ‘extras’ confiscated in Mexico

MEXICO CITY (Reuters) – Mexican soldiers battling a violent drug gang and corrupt local police confiscated a sport utility vehicle decked out with extras worthy of a James Bond movie.

Cartel members rammed their SUV into a military truck patrolling in the state of Tamaulipas and threw a hand grenade before making their escape with the help of local police, the army said in a statement late Tuesday.

Following a shootout with the gang, soldiers said they arrested four municipal police and confiscated an armored Jeep Grand Cherokee equipped with a smoke machine and spike sprayer meant to deter pursuers.

Soldiers also confiscated dozens of rifles, pistols and hand grenades, 3,000 of rounds of ammunition and \$20,000 in cash, the army said.

President Felipe Calderon has deployed thousands of soldiers and federal police to hot-spots across Mexico, where cartel violence has killed more than 300 people so far this year and left more than 2,500 dead in 2007.

Soldiers busting drug smugglers in Mexico often uncover federal police

uniforms, sophisticated radio equipment and even gold-plated pistols and assault rifles.

Tuesday, police arrested a woman on suspicion of overseeing a network of spies that tracked police for the powerful Gulf drug cartel.

Plans for anti-terror unit found in garbage

OTTAWA (Reuters) – Canada will probe how blueprints for the new headquarters of an elite military counter-terrorism unit ended up in a pile of garbage, Public Safety Minister Stockwell Day said Thursday.

The Canadian Joint Incident Response Unit, housed inside an armed forces base in Trenton, Ontario, is designed to cope with the aftermath of an attack using weapons of mass destruction.

The 26 blueprints were contained in one of seven defense ministry files that a passer-by found on top of garbage bags on an Ottawa street. The other six files are still missing.

“We take this very seriously. So I want to hear first exactly what went on,” Day told reporters, saying he had ordered his officials to examine the incident.

The plans – which the passer-by handed to the Ottawa Citizen newspaper – contain detailed drawings of the building’s floor plan, electrical grid and the storage bay for robots designed to detect chemical and biological agents.

Sudoku

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

from Sudoku Easy Presented by Will Shortz

Solution to yesterday’s puzzle:

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

ARABIC WORD OF THE DAY

bad

moo-zee-en