



841st Maritime Movement Journal



May 2008, Volume 1, Number 4 - Editor: Capt. Chris LeCron, PAO



Photo by Master Sgt. Kevin Young

Charleston Coast Guard Patrol Boat conducts waterside security at strategic Charleston seaport during army seaport operations, Apr 2008. The commercial TOTE cargo vessel loaded OIF cargo for shipment to CENTCOM.

Command Philosophy

By Lt. Col. Haufe

- The supported unit (soldier, sailor, marine, airman) comes first – always.
- Make the transportation system “user friendly”.
 - Provide “value added” support.
 - Don’t be a “middle man”.
- Conserve resources in everything we do – the warfighter needs them more than we do (think time, money and equipment).
- Offer solutions – use the MDP.
- Adhere to the Army values (loyalty, duty, respect, selfless-service, honor, integrity, personal courage).
- Cross-train – need to be more than one deep in all areas.
- Counsel your subordinates – let them know the good as well as the bad.

The contents of this newsletter are unofficial. The contents are not to be considered an official view of the Department of Defense, the U.S. Government, Department of the Army, or SDDC.

The 841st Maritime Movement Journal is an unofficial publication authorized by Army Regulation AR 360-1. It is written by Public Affairs Office, 841st Transportation Battalion, SDDC, BLDG 3852, 1050 Remount Road, North Charleston, SC 29406: telephone # 843-743-0546/843-296-4229.

The Army public affairs mission is to promote awareness, understanding, and support of Army activities and programs. One of the main functional areas of the public affairs mission is command information. The 841st MMJ is primarily focused on the release of command information, promoting overall knowledge of 841st operations, and increasing morale through shared stories and command highlights. See NDTA website www.ndtahq.com for updated versions of 841st MMJ.



Photo by Master Sgt. Kevin Young
AMC CSM Mellinger visits SS El Faro crew.

AMC Senior Leader Visit

By SPC. Mark Flynn

CSM Mellinger, the AMC Command Sgt. Maj., visited the 841st in Charleston, April 2008. Mellinger was the former Multi-National Force Iraq CSM in 2007.

The 841st laid out all the stops in the seaport logistics process for the CSM. These stops included a Cooper River / TC Dock inspection via Coast Guard patrol boat, visit on the El Faro ship, staging area visits, and work area visits.

AMC is currently the higher HQ of the 841st Trans BN and is attempting to integrate and spread the command intent down to all of its subordinate commands.

A photo slideshow on the AMC CSM visit can be found at:

<http://www.army.mil/mediaplayer/armyslideshows/>
(search for Mellinger)

also see:

<http://www.amc.army.mil/pa/EyeOnAMC.as>



Photo by Master Sgt. Kevin Young
1174th TTB sets up 841st RF-ITV kit.

NYC Reservists Support 841st

By SPC. Mark Flynn & MSG Kevin Young

The 1174th Trans Terminal Battalion, out of Fort Totten, NY, recently completed their annual reserve training period in March with the 841st in Charleston.

The 1174th came at an excellent time for mission support due to the high optempo. The unit provided mission support in MRAP sealift operations, up-armored humvee sealift, several port call unit deployments, and one OIF redeployment vessel.

The group was one of the best to support and train with the 841st. They added value in multiple areas and set up the 841st early entry deployment radio frequency tracking kit as pictured above. This RF kit allows real-time visibility of cargo on the pier.

Maj. Damon Taylor, 1174th OPS Officer, completed situation reports for the 841st vessel OPS. Lt. Col. Abreu, the 1174th commander, also attended the training to supervise his unit's operations.

Contributions to the 841st MMJ are welcome. Story ideas as well as written articles and photos should be submitted for consideration to Capt. Chris LeCron or Master Sgt. Kevin Young, 841st Public Affairs at: Christopher.LeCron@sddc.army.mil, Kevin.young4@sddc.army.mil (843) 743-0546 ext 18 / 37

Special thanks to the assistance of Bram de Jong, 598th PAO, Scott Bassett, NWS PAO, and Karen Schmitt, NDTA, in the start-up and publication of this 841st newsletter.

The 841st Maritime Movement Journal is an authorized unofficial publication for members of the 841st Transportation Battalion. The editorial content is prepared, edited, and provided by the Public Affairs Office of 841st Trans BN. Final approval is made by the Public Affairs Office of the Charleston NWS, SDDC PAO, and, ultimately, the 841st commander.



Photo by Master Sgt. Kevin Young
Staff Sgt. Hough and Mr. John Wood discuss safety and security operations.

Force Protection Focus

The 841st recently welcomed two new members to its team that will focus on force protection, security, and safety.

Mr. John Wood is the new safety officer and Staff Sgt. Hough is the new force protection officer.

Mr. Wood comes to us from 143rd ESC, Orlando Florida. He has a varied background in Safety and brings a wealth of knowledge and expertise to the 841st.

His presence is already being felt and is greatly appreciated. His goal is to continue doing everything necessary to maintain an already outstanding safety record.

He expresses to all that there is one thing safety doesn't do....." Take a day off".

Hough intends to integrate force protection and security in all we do. This will be accomplished through force protection plans, and meetings. He brings port security experience from Kuwait and Sunnv Point.



Photo by Master Sgt. Kevin Young
UAHs loaded onto a cargo ship in Charleston.

OSHA Safety Tip – Vessel Ramp – 29 CFR

By Mr. John Wood

Safety is a very integral part of everyday operations. The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) dictate that Pedestrian traffic on ramps will meet the following standard. Bow, stern and side port ramps also used for pedestrian access shall meet the requirements of 1918.25. Such ramps shall provide a physical separation between pedestrian and vehicular routes. ***When the design of the ramp prevents physical separation, a positive means shall be established to prevent simultaneous use of the ramp by vehicles and pedestrians.***

That positive means in most cases is flagmen and ground guides. Following this simple standard will mitigate an incident from happening. Remember, ***“Safety isn't expensive, it's priceless”.***

“No organization so directly concerned with the public interest can hope to escape the effects of popular opinion, nor can personnel do their best work without adequate knowledge of where they fit in.” -----
General Omar Bradley



Photo by Master Sgt. Kevin Young
Savannah Marines (reserve) support 841st OPS.

Savannah Marines PSA

By MAJ. John Sattely, CDR

The "Savannah Marines" have supported 841st seaport operations in Charleston and Savannah since September 2007. The unit sends a landing support detachment of marines to support any major 841st operation.

The unit has supported multiple MRAP sealift operations, 3ID deployments, and several 82nd Airborne "Task Force All-America" deployments and re-deployments.

The true unit name is 2nd Beach and Terminal Operations Company, 4th Landing Support Battalion, Hunter Army Airfield, Georgia. It is commanded by an active duty officer and gunnery sergeant. The rest of the unit is reserve component.

This partnership has been a win-win situation as it supports real-time missions and trains the marines for near-term future logistic port operations in Africa and Iraq.



Photo by Master Sgt. Kevin Young
OIF MRAPs loaded onto commercial ship.

841st Ships 3000th MRAP

By Master SGT. Kevin Young

In April, the 841st shipped the 3,000 mine resistant ambush protected vehicle (MRAP) to Central Command in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom.

All of these MRAPs were shipped by sealift out of the strategic seaport of Charleston by commercial charter or military cargo vessel.

Due to the outstanding achievement, the 841st was able to ship more by sealift in 4 months than the Air Force was able to ship by airlift in over one year.

"This is truly an achievement of all the military and commercial partners in this venture," Air Force Gen. Norton A. Schwartz, TransCom commander, said.

"These lifesaving vehicles are proving their value every day in protecting our warfighters and keeping them safe while in harm's way."

"We need to start taking the same risks in public affairs that we do on the battlefield. It is acceptable for a commander to lose soldiers during a legitimate combat mission. However, the perception is that it is unacceptable for a commander to make any mistakes at a press conference" -----Gen. Casey, Army Chief of Staff



Photo by Master Sgt. Kevin Young
Charleston Coast Guard provides waterside security for army seaport Charleston OPS.

Coast Guard Port Security

By CWO Robyn Kapperman

On 25 April 2008, Rear Admiral Daniel R. May, Director of the Coast Guard Reserve & Training, attended the ribbon cutting ceremony for USCG Sector Charleston's Military Outload (MOL) Operations Division's new location at NWS-Charleston.

Read Admiral May praised the Military Outload Reserve Personnel for their dedication and service to their country and mission. Due to operational commitment, not all MOL personnel were able to attend.

As the ceremony commenced, we were diligently providing waterside security and cargo oversight in the Strategic Port of Charleston. This ensures the military essential waterway was safe and secure for current and future MOL operations.



Photo by Capt. Chris LeCron
Marine Terminals Corp. longshoremen receive a safety brief prior to vessel load.

Superior Labor Force -MTC

By Capt. Chris LeCron

Marine Terminals Corporation-East continues to provide an outstanding and superior labor force to the stevedoring and terminal mission of the 841st.

Without MTC, the 841st would require a full-time or rotating team of qualified soldiers here at the port. Due to the current high volume of deployments, this scenario would not be wanted or welcomed by the army.

Since MTC works with the 841st daily and Charleston is such a busy military cargo port, the MTC longshoremen are qualified on any type of unique military cargo to include mine resistant vehicles and humvees.

Roger Haines and Eddie Murray are in constant communication and daily planning meetings with the 841st to prepare for late notice and constantly changing missions and ship arrivals.

“Telling the Army story includes the risk of putting soldiers in front of the press in blogs and on the internet so they can tell their own stories.” -----Sec. of the Army, Mr. Pete Geren



Photo by Master Sgt. Kevin Young

841st OPS personnel meet with SPAWAR and AFSBN regarding MRAP future missions.

MRAP Sealift Vanguard

The 841st continues to ship MRAP vehicles, the highly successful mine resistant protected vehicles, by sealift out of Charleston, SC.

The 841st was chosen as the sole seaport shipment managers of this top-priority DOD program. The success of the MRAP program is a historic event and all 841st team members should be proud of their contributions.

Much of the hard work done by the 841st members is under the radar.

DA civilians such as Craig Messervy, Kristine Sports, Bob Silver, and Allison Duncan have created sealift shipment plans from scratch for these vehicles.

Due to changing dimensions, armor, size, and late receipt of vehicles, these civilians ensure the MRAP cargo is properly labeled with military shipping labels and is properly loaded onto the cargo vessel



Photo by 1182nd TTB PAO.

SDDC CDR, Maj. Gen. Gainey poses for a photo with Sgt. 1st Class Simmons in Kuwait.

SDDC SWA Container Management Mission

There are more than 60,000 containers in the Kuwait and Iraq theaters of operation. If placed end to end, these containers would stretch more than 225 miles, roughly the distance from New York City to Washington, D.C.

The recent Operation Iraqi Freedom "surge" represented the largest modern day military move in history. The Military Surface Deployment Distribution Command was responsible for moving more than 14,315 containers during that period.

The SDDC Container Management mission is to investigate the container crisis, assess the contributing factors, and craft solutions that would provide the best support to the Warfighter and reduce detention costs.



SDDC PAO photo

Sgt. Washington creates shipping labels.

Cargo Reconciliation

By Capt. Chris LeCron

One of the major jobs of the 841st is to reconcile and correct cargo documentation errors and deficiencies.

The deploying unit is tasked with multiple deployment tasks that are spelled out in the seaport call message. However, due to operational constraints and high turnover in unit movement officers at the deploying unit, often the cargo documentation is wrong.

The cargo documentation section of the 841st, know as TMD or traffic management directorate, is tasked with coordinating the incoming and outgoing traffic and correcting or adjusting deployment cargo documentation.

These tasks include such changes as proper weights of the cargo, proper transportation control number, missing radio frequency tag, hazardous material paperwork, and sensitive cargo. The cargo documentation team fixes the deficiencies to ensure all cargo is able to be shipped in time to meet its unit.



Photo by Master Sgt. Young

The 841st receives an award from PM-LTV

Up-Armored Humvee Award

By Capt. Carlos Lago, PM-LTV

In the past four years more than 20,000 brand new Up-Armored HMMWVs made their way to their last stop in the U.S., where the Surface Deployment and Distribution Command's 841st Transportation Battalion has ensured their safe and speedy shipment to Soldiers in Iraq and Afghanistan.

The 841st Transportation Battalion is responsible for the sealift shipment of all military cargo in Charleston. On April 17 the 841st Transportation Battalion's milestone was recognized by the Product Manager Light Tactical Vehicles.

"I wanted to recognize the professionalism and dedication of the 841st Transportation unit in the safe, secure and efficient shipment of over 20,000 of these life-saving vehicles, said Lt. Col. Samuel Homsy, PM LTV Commander.



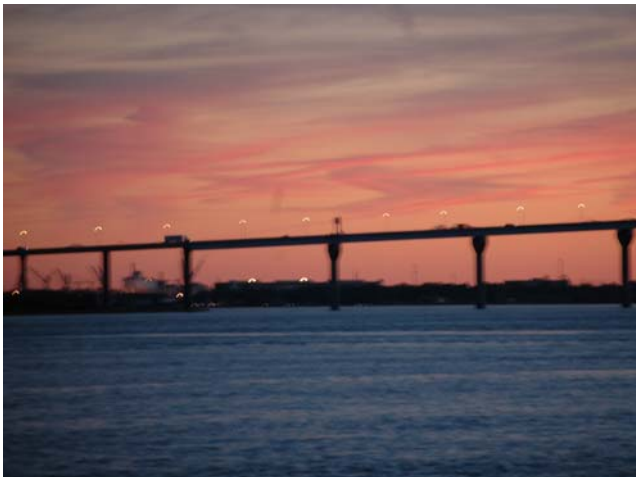
Aerial view of staging area Charleston.

<http://www.dvidshub.net/units/841TB>



Kim Green verifies the stow plan.

<http://www.dvidshub.net/units/841TB>



Night skyline of Cooper River Bridge.



MRAPs staged on an MSC vessel.



KFOR helicopters staged for sealift.

<http://www.dvidshub.net/units/841TB>



KFOR Black Hawk flies into Charleston seaport near staged MRAPs.

<http://www.dvidshub.net/units/841TB>



Humanitarian cargo headed to Peru loads.



III. NG aviators disembark after landing in Charleston seaport.



MRAP sealift onto commercial cargo vessel.

<http://www.dvidshub.net/units/841TB>



A SSG Jones (421st TST) completes a cargo inspection.

<http://www.dvidshub.net/units/841TB>



The 841st and MTC are presented with award.



Charleston Coast Guard Petty Officers brief sealift container inspections.



MRAPs staged near the ship elevator.

<http://www.dvidshub.net/units/841TB>



Military Sealift vessel loads Peru cargo.

<http://www.dvidshub.net/units/841TB>



MRAPs staged for load on Alliance NY.



Roger Haines, MTC, views the staging yard.