

December 2020



GHOST TIMES

NEWSLETTER FOR 'GHOST BRIGADE' SOLDIERS & FAMILIES

1-2 STRYKER BRIGADE COMBAT TEAM | JBLM, WA | 'ARRIVE IN SILENCE'

Fresh off rigorous training at JRTC, focus turns to time with Families as holiday leave approaches...

What Families & Soldiers can expect



A Ghost Brigade Soldier guides a Stryker through a town at the Joint Readiness Training Center in November. The month-long training helped 1-2 SBCT and others test their combat readiness.

More than 2,000 Soldiers from the Ghost Brigade just completed a month of tough, realistic training at the Joint Readiness Training Center in Fort Polk, Louisiana. Explore this newsletter for more details and photos from the exercise. ***And see below for answers to common questions Families may now have:***

What happens now?

To protect each other and limit COVID-19 risks, Soldiers are under a 7-day Restriction of Movement (ROM) policy, which started the day of their flight back to JBLM. During this period, Soldiers remain at home, with limited exceptions like getting groceries. Each Soldier will self-monitor for COVID symptoms. Those on ROM must maintain 6 feet of separation from all persons not part of their travel bubble or household. Following ROM, units

will focus on recovery tasks related to the return from JRTC and maximize use of teleworking and other precautions.

How about Winter Leave?

Ghost Soldiers are authorized to take leave, enjoy a well-deserved break and catch up with loved ones. Due to COVID-19 risks, Soldiers will be counseled on the need for precautions during leave, and will observe a minimum 7-day ROM at their residence after any travel outside of WA, self-monitor for COVID symptoms and avoid contact with anyone outside the household.

What happens after Leave?

More JRTC recovery tasks, then training focused on individual Soldier skills to master the fundamentals while reinforcing lessons learned from JRTC.

Inside this issue...

COMMAND TEAM NOTES	2
FEATURE STORY: TEAMWORK & TOUGH TRAINING AT JRTC	3
HEALTH & SAFETY	4
FAMILY NEWS & RESOURCES	7
BATTALION HIGHLIGHTS	11
CHAPLAIN'S MESSAGE	15
ABOUT GHOST BRIGADE	16



Follow the Ghost Brigade...

Facebook: @GhostSBCT

Twitter: @1SBCT_Ghost

Insta: @ghoststrykerbrigade

Flickr: @Ghost Brigade

Coming in the Next Issue...

More about the Ghost Brigade's 2021 training plans, with more exercises at JBLM and overseas to make our team unbeatable.



Message from the Commander

Colonel Jared Bordwell, "Ghost 6"

Ghost Team,

Thank you for all you did this past month to make our team unbeatable.

As a team, our skills, resiliency, and commitment to win have been tested in the austere environment of the Joint Readiness Training Center. Together, we demonstrated all the readiness gained in the previous months of training at JBLM and Yakima. We proved the Ghost Brigade stands ready to answer the Nation's call, close with the enemy, and accomplish any mission.

This rotation tested not only our capabilities, but also gave 5th SFAB the opportunity to train and validate their capabilities as JRTC's primary training audience. Our units worked with 5th SFAB, replicating the role of a professional allied army, which the SFAB was tasked to advise as they would for real-world partners. It was the first time a brigade combat team partnered with an SFAB in this way. We helped them gain experience as advisors, which will prove essential as they prepare for missions in the Indo-Pacific. For us, the experience offered valuable lessons, helping us see ourselves as we worked to improve our tactics, techniques and procedures. It was all about supporting one another to become unbeatable.

Because of your diligence and care for one another, we also maintained a safe training environment; our brigade saw less accidents, injuries and COVID cases than most training center rotations – a great testament to our first-line supervisors responsible for Soldiers at the ground level. I challenge you to keep that commitment to the safety of Soldiers and Families as we return home and transition to the holidays, when we will make up for lost time with loved ones.

Sincere thanks to all our Ghost Families. You are our strength, and we continue to be inspired by your commitment, support and sacrifices on the home front. Enjoy the holidays, stay safe, and reach out if you have any questions or concerns. *"Arrive In Silence!" -Ghost 6*

"We proved the Ghost Brigade stands ready to answer the Nation's call, close with the enemy, and accomplish any mission."

Command Sergeant Major's Note

CSM Willie Langes, "Ghost 7"

Ghost Team,

Our Soldiers and Families have overcome many challenges over the past month at home and forward at JRTC. Our units showed resilience and the will to win despite added risks from COVID-19 and unpredictable Louisiana weather. Through it all, the Ghost Brigade remained focused on training and improving every day. Our combat medics provided expert medical care during both real-world and simulated casualty evacuations supporting our fighting forces across the battlefield.

The rigorous combat training in "The Box" found our warriors ready and able to fight on any terrain. Over the last 30 days, our Soldiers executed safe Company-level live fires and force-on-force collective training, while sharpening individual Soldier skills. I am proud of the professionalism our Soldiers showed daily and how they represented the Brigade while working side-by-side and helping 5th SFAB build readiness.

As we return home we will focus on reconnecting with Family and friends and prepare for some well-earned down time during block leave. Whether staying local or traveling, stay safe and observe all COVID-19 policies and precautions. It's about protecting yourselves, teammates, and making ourselves unbeatable. *"Arrive In Silence!" -Ghost 7*

About Ghost Times

Ghost Times is the authorized newsletter of 1-2 SBCT. Content is reviewed, edited, and approved by the Brigade Public Affairs Officer (PAO). For questions, comments or submissions, contact the PAO at spencer.g.garrison.mil@mail.mil.

This newsletter belongs to every member of the Ghost Team — Soldiers *and* Families.

Send us your photos and stories to be featured in future editions of *Ghost Times*!



Team of Teams: Ghost Brigade works alongside 5th SFAB, others during rigorous JRTC rotation



Photo by Staff Sgt. Francisco Colon

By Maj. William Leasure
5th Security Forces Assistance Brigade

The 5th Security Force Assistance Brigade completed a first-of-its-kind rotation at the Joint Readiness Training Center's 21-02 Rotation, partnering an SFAB with a real-world brigade, the Joint Base Lewis-McChord-based 1-2 Stryker Brigade Combat Team, "The Ghost Brigade," in a decisive action validation exercise, Nov. 13-26, 2020.

"JRTC 21-02 was the culmination of 5th SFAB's mission since its inception in June 2019 to man, equip, and train the Army's newest combat brigade," Brigade Operations Officer, Maj. Liam Walsh, said. "The training served as a proof of principle as the first SFAB Decisive Action CTC rotation."

The Ghost Brigade closely integrated with SFAB Soldiers from the Brigade down to the Platoon level throughout the exercise.

"Our units worked alongside 5th SFAB, replicating the role of a professional, near-peer Allied army, which the SFAB was tasked to support as they would for a real-world partner force in the Indo-Pacific," said 1-2 SBCT Commander Col. Jared Bordwell. "From the brigade to the individual levels, this rotation was all about supporting one another to make our team unbeatable."

The SFAB is completely comprised of volunteers who were carefully vetted for service in the organization.

"This rotation has demonstrated that specially trained SFAB Soldiers, selected for their tactical expertise and professionalism, organized into small cohesive teams, and equipped with advanced communications systems can provide a decisive advantage to a

threatened but capable foreign partner," 5th SFAB Commanding General Brig. Gen. Curtis Taylor said.

Altogether, seven units participated in the rotation including the 593rd Expeditionary Sustainment Command, 404th Army Field Support Brigade, 16th Combat Aviation Brigade, 2-2 Stryker Brigade Combat Team, and the U.S. Marine Corps' 6th Air Naval Gunfire Liaison Company.

Aviation support proved extremely critical during the rotation.

"The 16th CAB's assets here allowed 5th SFAB to support 1-2 SBCT with a unique aviation capability of Apache and Blackhawk helicopters," Brigade Aviation Officer, Maj. Ryan Hampton said. "Integrating recon, attack and lift assets for 1-2 SBCT's scheme of maneuver allowed them to seamlessly expand their lethal reach across the battlefield."

"Our experience during JRTC 21-02 was a tremendous learning opportunity as it enabled us to visualize our role in the organization," said 3rd Squadron commander, Lt. Col. Timothy Ferguson.

"We gained invaluable experience through live repetition with our partnered

force while forcing us to adapt and develop strategies across the competition, crisis, and conflict phases."

The 5th SFAB is expected to continue sending Teams into the Indo-Pacific region alongside U.S. partners there. future."

"The Ghost Brigade closely integrated with SFAB Soldiers from the Brigade down to the Platoon level throughout the exercise."



HEALTH & SAFETY

Weather Safety: NEED TO KNOW

Inclement weather may happen any day. JBLM is subject to freezing fog, black ice, or snow. If road conditions deteriorate, or if there is an early release or late arrival, the JBLM Watch Office and the JBLM Public Affairs Office will alert service members and Families via:

- JBLM Website – <https://home.army.mil/lewis-mcchord/>
- Weather/Road Conditions – <https://www.lewis-mcchord.army.mil/roadconditions/roadcon.pdf>
- JBLM Facebook page – <https://www.facebook.com/JBLewisMcChord/>
- JBLM Twitter page – https://twitter.com/JBLM_PAO
- JBLM Digital Garrison App “Push Notifications” – Free on Apple App Store and Google Play
- Alert! – Government text, phone & work computer notifications for Soldiers/Families. To sign up: <https://alert.csd.disa.mil/SelfServiceDOD/SelfService/DoDNoticeAndConsent>
- JBLM Alert (Everbridge) – Text & phone notification for non-DOD persons. To sign up: <https://home.army.mil/lewis-mcchord/index.php/my-Joint-Base-Lewis-Mcchord/all-services/jblm-alert>
- Recorded weather message – AM 1500
- Inclement Weather phone message – (253) 967-1733

COVID-19: STAY SAFE and PROTECT OTHERS

✓ Social Distance ✓ Facemask ✓ Hand-washing ✓ Proper Screening

Feeling sick, or worried you were exposed to COVID-19?

First, self-isolate (stay home!) to protect others. Immediately call the Nurse Advice Line, 1-800-TRICARE (press Option 1). Inform your chain of command right after speaking with the Nurse Advice Line. If directed by your healthcare team, get tested. Continue to take direction from healthcare providers and the chain of command, and strictly avoid contact with others.

COVID-19 symptoms may include:

- ♦ Fever or chills
- ♦ Cough
- ♦ Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- ♦ Fatigue
- ♦ Muscle or body aches
- ♦ Headache
- ♦ New loss of taste or smell
- ♦ Sore throat
- ♦ Congestion or runny nose
- ♦ Nausea or vomiting
- ♦ Diarrhea

Next Page: JBLM / I Corps “Blue Hash” which provides latest guidance about COVID-19 precautions/policies on base.

As of Dec 4, 2020

The Primary Sources for Updated and Official Information

JBLM Official Website: <https://home.army.mil/lewis-mcchord/>

JBLM COVID-19 24/7 Hotline: 253-967-3831



General:

- **Wearing face covering indoors is required in all on post buildings (except personal residences) unless alone, AND outdoors if unable to maintain 6 feet physical distance.**
- 8 Dec Town Hall **postponed** pending WA State guidance. However, LTG George will post an update on Social Media on 8 Dec.
- Social gatherings are currently limited by WA State and the I Corps General Order because of the high risk for COVID spread.
- Limit indoor ceremonies to a minimum number to allow for 6 feet social distancing – not to exceed 25 pax. Other work-related in-person gatherings/meetings will be limited to the space that physical distancing allows. Maximize virtual meetings.
- Families should check their school's links for updates and plans for schooling posture (virtual/open/closed).
<https://www.k12.wa.us/about-ospi/about-school-districts/websites-and-contact-info>
- PT as a Fire Team/ Crew or below, outdoor sporting events no more than 5 on 5.
- Formations will be Platoon sized or smaller and will maintain physical distancing.
- Current General Orders on I Corps Portal (CAC required):
https://army.deps.mil/army/cmds/ICORPS/command/per_staff/sqs/SitePages/Home.aspx

Open:

- CDC/CYS and school-age activities no change. Website: <https://jblm.armymwr.com/happenings/school-information>
- Madigan Army Medical Center and Dental Clinics no change. Website: <https://www.facebook.com/MadiganHealth/>
- Waller Hall and in processing procedures will remain the same.
- **Commissary/PX/Shoppette at 50% BLDG capacity.**
- **Library at 25% capacity. Barber Shops at 25% capacity.**
- **Warrior Restaurants inside seating at 25% capacity with physical distancing.**
- **Food courts and JBLM retail food establishments are take-out only.**
- **Warrior Zone open at 25% capacity and take-out food only.**
- **Gyms and Fitness Centers are only open for active duty/activated Guard and Reserve. New Gym Hours starting on 7 Dec 20: Wilson / McVeigh – 0530-2000 (daily), no change to weekends; McChord – 0530-1930 (daily), no change to weekends; Soldier's Field House / Sheridan / Jensen – 1100-1300 in addition to current times (all times effective 7 Dec).**
- **Soldiers Field House Pool open for Active Duty/activated Guard and Reserve (unit training, rehab PT, fitness training). Effective Dec. 7, also open to all ID Card Holders for Lap Swim Only: <https://jblm.armymwr.com/programs/soldiers-field-house>**
- Faith-based activities, including chapel services, will have no more than 25% of the BLDG capacity or 50 people outdoors. Maintain distancing.
- Leisure Travel Services open, Adventure Center equipment rental, Arts & Crafts for pick-up, Fishing, Shotgun Shooting Complex and Range 15 open, Whispering Firs/Eagle's Pride Golf course, Ed Center testing, Solo Point are all open.
- Madigan 2020 Flu Shot Drive-Thru for ages 8 and older, Dec. 1-5. 0900-1400 at the A/DACG BLDG 1327 across from the USO on McChord Field. CYS Flu Shot dates for 6 months and older, Lewis North, Dec. 7 from 1500-1900; McChord, Dec. 9 from 1500-1900, Cascade, Dec. 10 from 1500-1900.

Closed:

- **JBLM Museum, JBLM Bowl Arena Lanes, and JBLM Theaters**

PCS, TDY, Leave, and Travel:

- JBLM leave procedures: Corps CG approves ETP for OCONUS leave with the exception of Alaska and Hawaii. Chain of Command for all others with counseling based on State/County COVID risk – use updated Leave COVID Counseling Form at Encl 1.
- Upon arrival to JBLM following CONUS travel from outside of WA (TDY/Leave), **SMs will undergo a minimum 7-day ROM** at their residence or lodging; O6 CDRs and appointed officers have the authority to grant an ETP for a ROM less than 7 days for mission essential personnel. Mission Essential is a commander's determination - factors for consideration include military training, readiness, courts-martial or necessity to maintain essential services
- **Reception and inprocessing for PCSing personnel are mission essential and excepted from standard ROM; however, arriving SMs will be counseled as soon as possible after signing in to JBLM using the Arrival COVID Counseling Form at Encl 2 and will comply with those specified COVID mitigation measures.**
- Prior to sponsoring any **mission essential** civilian TDY to JBLM, O-6 CDRs of the sponsoring unit are responsible for identifying and implementing appropriate COVID-19 mitigation measures.
- Restriction of Movement and Test Requirements when PCSing to a Foreign Country: **One ROM** is required either before travel or after arrival. **COVID-19 Test is required** prior to departure regardless of ROM requirements.
- OCONUS Travel ETP approved by I Corps Commander. All CONUS Travel is approved at BDE or below.
- Only SMs who are PCSing to and from any Red or Travel Restricted installations require an ETP.
- Find installation statuses and travel restrictions at:
https://army.deps.mil/army/cmds/imcom_G3/CAT/Corona_Virus/SitePages/NewHome.aspx
- All tenant units: DOD Stop Move replaced by ALARACT 054-2020; Lists travel categories as Exempt, Waived, Unrestricted, and Restricted based on installation status. First GO in CoC approves exceptions for restricted locations, JBLM unrestricted.
- Leave in conjunction with PCS to an international location will not be authorized. Soldier may take leave prior to departure from the losing station BUT MUST return to current duty location prior to start of ROM (if required) and COVID Test.

COVID mitigations work but require leader and Soldier engagement at every level. Inspect workspaces, stagger work shifts, promote virtual meetings, enforce mask use policy indoors and out, maintain 6 feet physical distancing, self-isolate if sick, and get tested.



HEALTH & SAFETY



U.S. ARMY COMBAT READINESS CENTER

Holiday Season 2020

After a trying and truly unique year, the holidays are finally upon us. The upcoming block leave period will be the first opportunity for many of you to travel amidst pandemic-related restrictions, and we know you're eager to see family and friends. We thank you for the sacrifices you've made, not only in the Army's fight against COVID-19, but every day on behalf of our Nation.

Dynamic risk management is the Army standard for on-duty missions, meaning that even with a completed deliberate risk assessment worksheet, we continuously reassess the hazards and adjust mitigation strategies as conditions change. With long-distance trips and extended time away from home installations in the near future for many, dynamic risk management off duty will be more important than ever.

The weeks between now and just after New Year's Day are the second-deadliest time of year for Soldiers off duty, trailing only the summer months. If historical patterns hold true, we can expect to lose 11 Soldiers in off-duty mishaps this holiday season. Nine to 10 of those will die in private motor vehicles, and at least a quarter of them will have been drinking. Dynamic risk management is essential when conditions in your original plan change, such as experiencing inclement weather or fatigue while driving, or drinking beyond your limits. Pulling over for the night to rest or wait out poor driving conditions and securing a sober ride are textbook examples of dynamic risk management at work.

First-line supervisors have the greatest impact in helping Soldiers determine when enough is enough. Counseling prior to leave or pass is a proven mitigator of risk, and the U.S. Army Combat Readiness Center has developed a communications campaign that targets the Army's most prevalent off-duty holiday hazards. This toolkit includes a counseling checklist and features articles, posters, public service announcements and talking points perfect for engaging Soldiers on personal risk factors. Also available are the Travel Risk Planning System and Off Duty Safety Awareness Presentation, both tried-and-true tools for counseling and safety briefs. All are online at <https://safety.army.mil/>. Use these tools! They are designed to not only save you time but, more importantly, equip you with timely and relevant information to manage this period of elevated risk!

You have earned this time off. We want you to make great memories this holiday season, but remember that for your families, friends and battle buddies, your continued presence in their lives is the most precious gift you can give. Thank you again for being part of this great Army, and we look forward to seeing you back in 2021. Happy and safe holidays to you and yours.

People First — Winning Matters — Readiness Through Safety!

William L. Gardner II
Command Sergeant Major

Andrew C. Hilmes
Brigadier General, USA
Commanding



Family News

Operation Turkey Drop a savory success

Friends and teammates of the Ghost Brigade gave some 200 turkeys to our Families ahead of Thanksgiving. Special thanks to AUSA -Lacey and St. John the Baptist Catholic Church in Covington, WA!



Photos courtesy of Jennifer Langes and Norma Melo



Honoring Selfless Service:

Congrats to Mrs. Brianna Walker, recipient of the Dr. Mary E. Walker Award for service to Charger Company, the Patriot Battalion, and the Ghost Brigade. Mrs. Walker volunteered as Charger Soldier and Family Readiness Group (SFRG) Leader for over 30 months, planning events, sharing information, and supporting Soldiers and Families. Thank you to Mrs. Walker and all our SFRG leaders for everything you do!

A sweet welcome home from JRTC

Huge thanks to the Ghost Family members and friends who helped prepare cookies and other goodies for Soldiers returning from JRTC! Our friends at AUSA donated cookies, candy, and coffee for all 2,400 Soldiers, and volunteers wrapped them up to add a holiday touch. Grateful for this support from Ghost Families and friends!





1-2 SCBT

Ghost Cookbook

ARROWHEAD SOLDIER & FAMILY FOUNDATION

Only \$10

Purchase Online at:
www.arrowheadfoundation.weebly.com
or contact your SFRG



Family Resources

Looking for Holiday adventures for Soldiers & Families?



[Watch JBLM's December Sound Summit!](#) JBLM and surrounding communities offer many ways to celebrate the holidays. The Sound Summit offers great tips on how you can make the most of this Holiday season, with on-post / virtual events, BOSS activities and popular [destinations in the surrounding area](#), like [Fantasy Lights in Spanaway Park](#) and [Zoolights at Point Defiance Park](#).

Watch on Facebook [HERE](#), or watch on Youtube [HERE](#) (<https://youtu.be/HOr2qTwoX8Q>)
And for more info, visit: <https://jblm.armymwr.com/programs/Sound-Summit>

Have you read FOCUS, JBLM's MWR Magazine? Don't miss out!

Soldiers and Families can stay informed about the latest recreational programs and events around JBLM and the surrounding area. Check it out, and make the most of life in the Pacific Northwest!

Pick up a copy on post or read it [right here](#):
JBLMFocusMag.com (if link blocked, use this one ↓)
<https://jblm.armymwr.com/happenings/focus-magazine>

CONNECT

WITH YOUR COMMUNITY

Get your installation services and post information on the **NEW** Digital Garrison app on your smartphone or tablet



DIGITAL GARRISON

POWERED BY



Download on the
App Store

GET IT ON
Google play





RESILIENT JBLM

SUPPORT FOR THE 2020 HOLIDAY SEASON



DIRECTORATE OF PERSONNEL & FAMILY READINESS (DPFR)

FAMILY ADVOCACY PROGRAM

253-967-5901

2140 Liggett Ave. (Waller Hall) - JBLM Main

Provides prevention & education classes, including workshops to strengthen family relationships using education, information & referral.

NEW PARENT SUPPORT PROGRAM

253-967-5890 / 5950

2140 Liggett Ave. (Waller Hall) - JBLM Main

Community based parenting support and education program which assists both expectant parents and Families with children under the age of 4 years old.

EXCEPTIONAL FAMILY MEMBER PROGRAM (EFMP)

253-966-7166

9059 Gardner Loop (SFAC) - JBLM Main

Systems navigation, assisting with individual education plan (IEP), 504 plans, respite care & non-clinical case management.

FINANCIAL READINESS PROGRAM

253-967-1453

2140 Liggett Ave. (Waller Hall) - JBLM Main

Prevention education, one-on-one counseling sessions & support services. For Army Emergency Relief, contact 253-967-9852, for Air Force Aid Society, call 253-982-2695.

FAMILIES OVERCOMING UNDER STRESS (FOCUS)

253-966-6390

Bldg. 2013-B, North 3rd St. - JBLM Main

Family communication skill building. Resiliency training for Families, children & couples. Skill building groups, workshops, and consultations.

EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

253-732-2214

Bldg. 2008-B, North 3rd St. - JBLM Main

Free, confidential information, referral and counseling services for DACS, Retirees and Family members.

VICTIM ADVOCATE PROGRAM

JBLM SAFELINE (24/7) : 253-966-SAFE (7233)

Services Offered Throughout JBLM

Assists with crisis intervention, legal advocacy referrals, medical advocacy, and information & referral.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT/ASSAULT RESPONSE AND PREVENTION (SHARP)

253-327-3872 • SHARP HOTLINE (24/7): 253-389-8469

2140 Liggett Ave. (Waller Hall) - JBLM Main

Support for victims for sexual abuse and harassment. For Air Force personnel, contact SAPR in Bldg. 100 (Ste. 3024) at 253-982-7272.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

MADIGAN BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline: 800-273-TALK (8255)

-Service members: contact your assigned EBH

-Family members: contact the CAFBHS at 253-968-4843

After Hours/ Crisis: Call 911 or Go to the Madigan Emergency Room

MILITARY & FAMILY LIFE COUNSELORS (MFLC)

253-293-2223 OR 253-293-2266

Services Offered Throughout JBLM

Short term, solution focused behavioral health for adults. If a female MFLC is preferred, please call 253-293-6214.

CHAPLAIN FAMILY LIFE CENTER

253-967-1723

Bldg. 9120, Jackson Ave. (4CMC) - JBLM Main

Individual & marriage counseling deployment counseling, parenting, divorce & spiritual issues.

MILITARY ONE SOURCE

800-342-9647

Phone, Virtual & Face-to-Face Services

Confidential Service to Military Personnel. Non-medical counseling & specialty consultations. Services include Family & relationships, financial, legal, health & wellness, deployment & transition counseling.



Special Events @JBLM

JBLM Religious Support Office
2020 Holidays Program
 As of 1 Dec 2020

Protestant Community		
18 Dec: 1800	Christmas Service	Soldier's Chapel
24 Dec: 1900	Christmas Eve Candlelight Service	Main Post Chapel
1800	Christmas Eve Candlelight Service	Lewis North, 4 CMC, 1 Res. Center, & McChord
Catholic Community		
08 Dec: 1200 & 1800	Immaculate Conception Mass	Main Post Chapel
	(Holy Day of Obligation)	
12 Dec: 1500	Reconciliation Service	Main Post Chapel
1700	Our Lady of Guadalupe Mass	Main Post Chapel
15-23 Dec: 1800	Simbang Gabi Mass	Main Post Chapel
24 Dec: 1500/1700/2100	Christmas Vigil Mass	Main Post Chapel
24 Dec: 1500 & 1700	Christmas Vigil	McChord, Chapel #2
25 Dec: 1030	Christmas Day	Main Post Chapel
01 Jan: 1200	Solemnity of Mary (Holy Day of Obligation)	Main Post Chapel
Jewish Community		
10 Dec: 1400	Menorah Lighting	Madigan Medical Center
13 Dec: 1600	Hanukkah Celebration	Main Post Chapel Fellowship Hall
New Moon Fellowship		
20 Dec: 1400-1600	Yule Celebration Service	Building T6195
Buddhist Community		
25 Feb 2021: 1600	Buddhist Sangha Magha Puja Day	Soldiers Chapel

JBLM RSO Homepage and Facebook Page

*Holiday Happenings from your JBLM MWR:

Now-Jan. 1: Share your holiday lights photos on facebook and Instagram! Show us your inner Clark Griswold! Join us on [facebook](#) and [instagram](#) to share your holiday stories with us using holiday hashtags!

Dec. 1-21: Holiday Buns: Preorder take-and-bake cinnamon roll and hot chocolate kit for \$12! Stop by McChord Club Dec. 23 from 1-3 p.m. to pick up. Order by Dec. 21, 3 p.m. 253-966-4998.

Dec. 1-30: Santa Paws Costume Contest: Post pet photos dressed up in holiday garb at [fb.com/JBLMlibrary](#)! First place gets \$75 and a pet gift basket.

Dec. 1-30: Random Acts of Holiday Kindness: MWR will put out 25 swag bags at random JBLM households. We encourage you to pay it forward.

Dec. 18: Ugly Sweater Contest: Share your ugly sweater with us at [fb.com/JBLMmwr](#) for a chance to win a 40" TV or part of \$150 in Amazon eGift cards!

Dec. 19-20: Drive-In Movie: The Nutcracker and the Four Realms. Free! Dec 19: Noon, 2:30 & 5 p.m. at American Lake Conf. Center. Dec. 20: Noon & 2:30 p.m. at McChord Club.

Dec. 21-23 Skype with Santa: Reserve 15-min. block to have your child chat with Santa, free! Reserve Dec. 1-20 Mon.-Thu. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. 253-967-2539.

***AND MUCH MORE.** For additional events and activities, visit <https://jblm.armymwr.com/happenings/holiday-happenings>

Inviting Ghost Families!

Ghost Family Camp returns in January

The next Ghost Family Camp takes place Friday to Sunday, Jan. 22-24, at Black Diamond Camp in Auburn, WA. GFC is a Strong Bonds Alternative camp with classes and activities to enhance spiritual and emotional resiliency of Soldiers and Families in a COVID-mitigated environment. Marriage and Family relationships are strengthened with participants engaged in a variety of training topics dealing with finances, homeschooling, communication, parenting, stress management, and more. Meals, lodging and childcare provided. 120 slots available. To sign up, call SSG McCray at 912-492- 4596 or jacoby.j.mccray.mil@mail.mil.





GHOST SIGHTINGS

Images from around the Ghost Brigade

1st Squadron, 14th Cavalry Regiment — “Warhorse”



(Above) Soldiers from 1-14 CAV conduct security operations Nov. 13 during the JRTC training exercise in Ft. Polk, Louisiana.

(Right) A Trooper ground-guides a tactical vehicle during operations.



2nd Battalion, 3rd Infantry Regiment — “Patriot”



(Above) Patriot cooks receive a coin from the 404th Army Field Support BDE CSM.

(Right) Soldiers of Charger Company conduct training in urban terrain at JBLM.





GHOST SIGHTINGS

Images from around the Ghost Brigade

5th Battalion, 20th Infantry Regiment — “Syke’s Regulars”



(Left) Soldiers line up for hot chow during Thanksgiving at JRTC.
(Above) A Soldier pulls security with the .50-caliber machine gun.

1st Battalion, 23rd Infantry Regiment — “Tomahawks”



(Above) Tomahawk Soldiers interact with civilian roleplayers as part of security operations during the JRTC training exercise.
(Right) Comanche Company’s SSG Hahn recognized by JRTC leaders as a “Hero of the Battlefield” at the conclusion of the exercise.





GHOST SIGHTINGS

Images from around the Ghost Brigade

23rd Brigade Engineer Battalion — “Spearhead”



(Left) Soldiers of A Co / 23rd BEB move toward an enemy-held town during a Nov. 15 training exercise at JRTC.
(Above) Soldiers of D Co / 23rd BEB prepare an RQ-7B Shadow drone for a Nov. 21 flight at JRTC.

1st Battalion, 37th Field Artillery Regiment — “Red Lion”



(Left) Artillerymen of C Battery, 1-37 FA conduct a live-fire exercise with their 155mm Howitzers, Nov. 14 at JRTC.
(Right) Battalion staff plan for upcoming operations during a large-scale combat training exercise at JRTC.
Artillery and mortars played a key role throughout the Ghost Brigade’s simulated battle against opposing forces.



GHOST SIGHTINGS

Images from around the Ghost Brigade

296th Brigade Support Battalion — “Frontline”



(Left) Soldiers of C/296 BSB practice treating wounds during the JRTC training exercise.

(Above) A Soldier keeps an eye out for enemy forces while pulling security in the Brigade Support Area.

Brigade Headquarters & Headquarters Company (HHC) — “Huron”



(Left) Soldiers receive hot chow on Thanksgiving: turkey, stuffing, mashed potatoes, gravy and more.

(Above) 1st Lt. Peter Leach, an intelligence officer, receives a coin from the 5th SFAB commander after being recognized as a JRTC “Hero of the Battle.”



Chaplain's Message



Chaplain Whitham delivers a Sunday sermon in the field Nov. 22 during JRTC.

“Your engine needs oil!”

Chaplain (Maj.) Nathan Whitham
Brigade Chaplain, 1-2 SBCT

I can safely say without fear of contradiction, that 2020 has been a very different sort of year. As we close it out, I would encourage you to take stock of your life. Is there anything missing? Does your engine need oil?

Do you put oil in your car? How far do you think you could go without oil? You could probably drive for a bit, but then you would start to have serious problems with your engine. Well, that's kind of like life. Each of us is made up of mind, body, and spirit. We often train and take care of the first two but neglect the third. Doing so can cause great harm.

Many of you are driving your lives around like a car without oil. The warning light is flashing, but you're not paying attention. We need to fill our spiritual tank and God is the oil. If you've been neglecting this area of your life, I suggest you get reconnected. If you have questions, need guidance, or are unsure where to start, talk to someone.

Of course that's a conversation I'd love to have with you.

“God made us: invented us as a man invents an engine. A car is made to run on petrol, and it would not run properly on anything else. Now God designed the human machine to run on Himself. He Himself is the fuel our spirits were designed to burn, or the food our spirits were designed to feed on. There is no other. That is why it is just no good asking God to make us happy in our own way without bothering about religion. God cannot give us a happiness and peace apart from Himself, because it is not there.”

— C.S. Lewis, (*Author of Mere Christianity*)

Let me close out the year by wishing you all a very Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays, and Festivus for the Rest of us!

1-2 Stryker Brigade Combat Team



At A Glance...

- ◆ 1ST STRYKER BRIGADE COMBAT TEAM, 2ND INFANTRY DIVISION
- ◆ NICKNAME: "GHOST BRIGADE," FOR THE UNIT'S ABILITY TO SILENTLY APPROACH AND STRIKE THE ENEMY
- ◆ ASSIGNED TO 7TH INFANTRY DIV., I CORPS, AT JOINT BASE LEWIS-McCHORD, WA, WITH A FOCUS ON THE INDO-PACIFIC REGION
- ◆ APPROXIMATELY 4,000 SOLDIERS FROM VARIOUS SPECIALTIES AND COMBINED ARMS CAPABILITIES

Ghost Brigade
Arrive In Silence