

# Indianhead

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## Rippers roar at range

Story and photos by  
Spc. Timothy Dinneen  
Assistant Editor

BOAR 1 RANGE, Republic of Korea – Soldiers with 1st Battalion, 38th Field Artillery Regiment, transformed a serene saddle hidden among tall and jagged mountains into a “thunder alley” as rockets screamed overhead March 21.

The annual field exercise, held every six months at the lone rocket firing range in theater, certified crew members and launchers while validating the effectiveness of the Fires Brigade unit in case of any hostile aggression.

“Our goal is to suppress enemy artillery with an area of fire within a 600 x 600 meter zone,” said Lt. Col. Keith Bean, battalion commander.

Although this is the solitary range for the unit to train in a war situation, 1-38 FA has sectors of fire and designated firing areas in times of war. They would move the battalion to those points of fire.

“The training that we do is how we would react in a war situation in Korea,” said Sgt. 1st Class Roberto Valencia.

The M270 A-1 launchers fired ripper rockets at pre-determined impact zones. Although these were practice rockets they had the



The M270 A-1 Launcher “Buttercup” was one of the vehicles used by 1st Bn., 38th FA to launch the reduced range rockets or “Rippers” at Boar 1 Range March 21.

same effect to fire as normal rockets. However, unlike rockets used in actual combat, the ripper rockets did not create explosions.

The firing at the impact point was evaluated by radar and observers while three batteries competed against each other. The terrain also posed an obstacle to overcome for the communications teams.

“The biggest challenge is to keep our communications operational because of all the mountains interrupting the digital frequencies,” Valencia said.

The week and a half long exercise consisted of 18 crew members and 19 launchers according to Valencia. He said that the entire

battalion was able to fire in a single day for the first time instead of a battery per day.

“We’re doing excellent. Everything is going the way we planned it,” Valencia said.

There were KATUSAs attached to the unit available to interpret between Korean nationals living in the area and with the ROK Soldiers who also fired at the range.

“There is a good relationship between the U.S. and ROK Soldiers because we are all working toward one goal. The neighbors are very understanding and are used to the training,” said Pvt. Kim, K.H.

See, *Live-Fire*, page 3

## Soldiers convicted in separate attacks

2nd Infantry Division Public Affairs Office

CAMP CASEY – Alcohol and uncontrolled tempers led to recent general court-martial convictions and sentencing of two Soldiers from Area I who chose to attack fellow Soldiers with knives. Both court-martial resulted in punitive discharges and significant jail sentences.

Pfc. Amanda Freeland of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 501st Corps Support Group was convicted on Feb. 24 of underage drinking, assault consummated by battery, and assault with a dangerous weapon.

Freeland admitted during her guilty plea that on Oct. 18, 2005, she had been drinking when she engaged in a verbal altercation with another Soldier from her company.

Freeland then went to her room, retrieved a steak knife and returned to the balcony of her barracks where she twice stabbed the Soldier in the back.

The military judge sentenced Freeland to be reduced to the grade of E-1, to forfeit all pay and allowances, to receive a bad-conduct discharge and be confined for 15 months.

Pvt. Justin Walker of B Co., 2nd Battalion, 9th Infantry Regiment, was convicted on March 16 of violating General Order #1 by drinking during Warpath I, and assault with a dangerous weapon.

Walker admitted during his guilty plea that he had been drinking when he got into a verbal altercation with another Soldier from his company. Walker then picked up a knife and cut the fellow Soldier on the throat.

The military judge sentenced Walker to forfeit all pay and allowances, to receive a bad-conduct discharge and to be confined for 16 months.

Both Freeland and Walker faced a maximum punishment of dishonorable discharge and confinement for three years solely for the knife assault offenses.

Fortunately, the injuries sustained by the victims in these cases did not require hospitalization.



**ROK/U.S. Marines conduct joint-training**

See story, Page 3




**KTA integrates Soldiers into U.S. Army**

See story, Page 4




**Soldiers go for knockout punch**

See story, Page 11




## VOICE OF THE WARRIOR:

What celebrity would you like to meet the most?




**Edward Norton.**  
*He's a great actor.*

Pfc. Kim, Yong Soon  
55th MP Co.




**Charles Barkley.** *He speaks his mind and is straight forward.*

Master Sgt. Pablo Santana  
HHB, Fires Bde.




**Craig David.** *I want to hear him sing live.*

Pfc. Kyung, Hyun  
1st Bn., 38th FA




**Ethan Embry.** *He's funny and cute.*

Spc. Nicole Marrero  
177th Finance Bn.



**Tom Cruise.** *He's acted in great movies.*

Spc. Monique Morrison  
702nd Main Support Bn.



**Jamie Foxx.** *He's a very versatile comedian and actor.*

Sgt. 1st Class David Shannon  
USAG-Casey

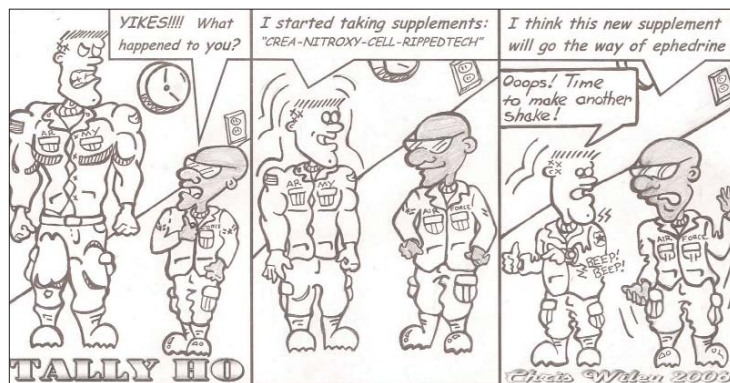


Photo Illustration by Staff Sgt. Chris Wiley

## Be safe during exercise

By Gen. B.B. Bell  
Commander, UNC/CFC/USFK

The RSOI/FOAL Eagle '06 exercise presents a great opportunity for our entire USFK team to assess our mission essential tasks and operating procedures for supporting receiving, staging, onward movement and integration of on and off shore forces into the fight.

I know that everyone in USFK will work hard to gain the maximum training benefit from this exercise. Should war come, our success will be largely determined by our ability to execute RSOI to standard.

During RSOI/FOAL Eagle '06, we will see our formations executing high risk training.

I accept this risk, but only with the high risk management procedures and the mitigation of all risk factors to not more than moderate with senior supervision, and preferably low.

In all this, it is essential that commanders and leaders at all echelons engage with their outfits to ensure

safe execution.

As exercise play progresses, the potential for accidents increases. To exercise safely, we have to defeat complacency, overconfidence and indeed fatigue.

It is important to review lessons learned from previous training exercises to ensure we understand the challenges facing our forces and work to mitigate those factors.

In order to ensure we set conditions for safe execution of RSOI and FOAL Eagle, we must all aggressively embrace composite risk management and risk mitigation.

Commanders are responsible and first-line leaders are the decisive point in this effort.

I want commanders to empower subordinates, while holding them accountable for the safety of their servicemembers, crews, teams and squads.

I expect leaders and servicemembers to be thoroughly familiar with the risk assessment and risk mitigation guidance regarding air, ground, sea and port

operations.

Success of this risk exercise will be measured against

our execution of battle tasks, management of tactical risks for changing situations, and importantly, how safely we conduct the operation.

I am deeply committed to the achievement of our RSOI and FOAL Eagle training objectives. I am also equally insistent that we execute the training safely.

No serious injury or loss of life is absolutely achievable in this upcoming exercise domain.

Commanders and leaders, take charge of your units. Servicemembers, I want you to train and exercise safely.

Thanks to all for your commitment to our great ROK ally and the security of this magnificent land. I greatly appreciate what you do and the professionalism you exhibit in doing it. We go together!



## Indianhead

Maj. Gen. George A. Higgins  
Commander, 2nd Infantry Division

Command Sgt. Maj. James A. Benedict  
Command Sergeant Major,  
2nd Infantry Division

Maj. Karl S. Ivey  
Public Affairs Officer  
karl.ivey@korea.army.mil

Sgt. 1st Class Kanessa R. Trent  
Chief Public Affairs NCO  
kanessa.trent@korea.army.mil

## Newspaper staff

Spc. Chris Stephens  
Editor

chris.stephens@korea.army.mil  
Spc. Timothy Dinnene

Assistant Editor  
timothy.dinneen@korea.army.mil

Cpl. Yoo, Je Hoon  
KATUSA Editor

Pfc. Amanda Merfeld  
Pfc. Lee, Seung Hyub

Pfc. Lee, Yoon Joo  
Pfc. Kim, Sang Pil

Staff Writers  
Mr. Yu, Hu Son

Staff Photographer  
Mr. Kim, Pyong Hyon

Public Information Specialist

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# ROK, U.S. Marines train together

Story and photos by  
**Pfc. Amanda Merfeld**  
Staff Writer

RODRIGUEZ RANGE – The smell of decaying bodies and hot apple pie, mixed with the sounds of war, guns firing and Iraqi music playing in a deserted town was just what these Marines needed to properly prepare for war.

For five days of the Korean Integration Training Program, U.S. Marines and ROK Marines trained side-by-side, feeding off each others tactical knowledge and thirst for action.

The Marines participated in artillery live-fires, light armored reconnaissance, Military Operations on Urban

Terrain training and other exercises, concluded with a game day: U.S. Marines vs. ROK Marines.

During the KITP, U.S. and ROK Marines showed each other what they were made of.

"It gives them an opportunity to see how our skills are and then we get to learn a few things from them," said Marine Sgt. Javier Jimenez, 3rd Light Armored Reconnaissance.

MOUT training focuses on clearing and securing buildings, taking the advantage from opposing forces, capturing the enemy and doing it all without casualties. It is important for today's urban war zones, as an estimated 75 percent of all the world's pop-



ROK Marines go through weapons handling drills with U.S. Marines at Rodriguez Range.

ulation will live in an urban area by 2010.

The U.S. Marines came to Korea from Japan to participate in this annual training event at "MOUT town," taking over and successfully securing the area in a matter of minutes because swiftness is key to tactical advantage.

Buildings in cities not only represent tactical opportunities, but more importantly they represent success and power a country or city has, and to take that away from the enemy is a great psychological advantage.

The U.S. Marines helped the ROK Marines with drills, showing them their techniques for entering and clearing buildings, weapons handling and team communications.

"I feel very confident that they would do well in com-

bat," Jimenez said. "They tend to pick up what's going on really quick, and we're picking up their techniques as well."

"Of course there is a language barrier, but there are hand signals and drawings that help us communicate," Jimenez said.

"The way they go inside buildings, the way they handle their weapons, they're pretty much exactly the same as we are, just different language," Jimenez said.

The Marines didn't let the language barrier get in the way of learning from each other.

"This is a once in a lifetime opportunity to work with a different type of Marine Corps," said Marine Sgt. Hector Cortez, 3rd LAR.

The ROK Marines had front row seats on top of the

hollowed out buildings as U.S. Marines swarmed through the town, observing them as they quickly went from building to building clearing the rooms and capturing or killing the oppositional forces.

After the MOUT training was complete, the U.S. Marines had the chance to blow some doors off their hinges, literally, demonstrating different ways to enter a building.

MOUT town's buildings are equipped with video surveillance for review after exercises, showing whoever enters and leaves a room, giving more accurate information for after action reviews.

"Nothing beats the real thing but this is the closest you're going to get without actually going overseas and fighting," Cortez said.



U.S. Marines stack on the corner of a building as part of the MOUT exercise observed by the ROK Marines.

## LIVE-FIRE

from page 1

There were a lot of non-commissioned officers participating in the exercise with younger Soldiers who enjoyed the display of rockets flying overhead. However, as always, safety played an important part in the training.

"The most important part of the training is the safety. To make sure that we shoot the rockets safely without injuring anyone and the rockets hit the correct impact area," Valencia said.

For many of the younger Soldiers, this was the first opportunity to let the

rippers fly in a field environment and determine how accurate they fire.

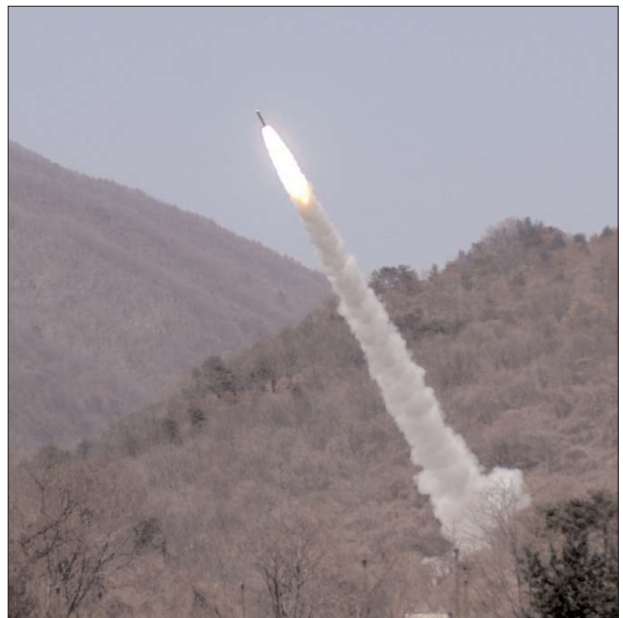
"This is the first time putting rounds down range and it's a rush. It's one thing digital but things change putting rounds in a launcher," said Spc. Martin Rischer.

"I feel a lot more prepared to do my job during live missions because of the things that can happen out here that are not in simulations like fires and all kinds of contingencies," said Pvt. Josh Thomas.

"The best part is watching the Soldiers eyes light up when they're firing and seeing them take pride in what they do," said Staff Sgt. Samuel Duncan.

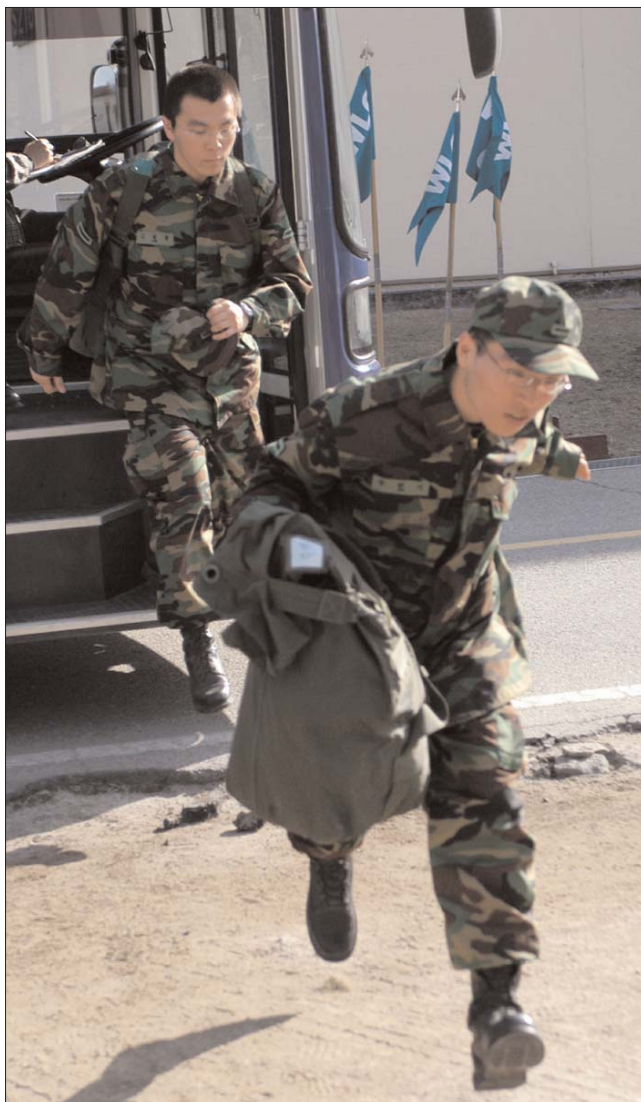


The ripper rocket is an 800 lb. practice rocket used in the live-fire.



The rockets fire at a predetermined impact zone and are tracked by radar.

## KTA integrates Soldiers into U.S. Army



Spec. Chris Stephens

ROK Army Soldiers sprint off of the bus into the Bubble Gym as they begin their transformation into KATUSA Soldiers.



Spec. Chris Stephens

Soldiers wait on their next instructions during the shakedown portion of day one at the KATUSA Training Academy on Camp Jackson.

By Spec. Chris Stephens &  
Pfc. Kim, Sang Pil

2nd Infantry Division Public Affairs Office

*This is the first story in a four-part series on the training Korean Soldiers receive at the KATUSA Training Academy after leaving ROK Army basic training. This series will follow Soldiers as they get accustomed to living and working with U.S. Soldiers.*

CAMP JACKSON – The Republic of Korea/U.S. alliance has stood strong for more than 50 years. One of the elements that help the alliance stay strong is the Korean Augmentee to the U.S. Army program. These Korean Soldiers live and work with U.S. Soldiers to continue to deter aggression on the Korean Peninsula.

But what does a KATUSA Soldier go through before they join their units?

“While at Camp Jackson, the Soldiers will receive all types of training to successfully integrate them into life in the U.S. Army,” said Sgt. Hwang, Joon, 8th Army NCO Academy. “This training includes extensive English language training, weapons training and other common tasks training.”

As day one hits and the Soldiers of KTA Class 06-06 arrive at Camp Jackson for the first time, they wonder what they’ll go through during the three-week course.

“I’ve heard a lot of things about the KATUSA program and now it’s time for me to do the same thing,” said Pvt. Kim, Yoon Ho, fourth platoon.

For Pvt. Lee, Jong Hyun, third platoon, his toughest challenge will be improving his English skills.

“I’m very nervous about all of this,” he said. “My experience of living in Australia for a couple months a few years ago helped me with a little English. But I still have a long way to go. I see this as a chance to not only improve my abilities as a person, but to also improve my English language skills.”

Pvt. Park, Kwang Hoon, third platoon, is on the opposite side of the spectrum.

Spending all 23 years of his life living in London, Park barely knows the Korean language. In fact, on the bus ride to Camp Jackson, the Soldiers were asked if they had any problems, which Park immediately raised his hand and said he only understands a few things in Korean.

“The language barrier was tough for me in basic training,” he said. “But my battle buddies translated

for me and helped me through the process.”

Park didn’t have to serve in the ROK Army however, but felt it was something he just had to do.

“I wanted to give up an easy life in England,” he said. “I’m a physical person and I hate sitting around. I also wanted to have a better understanding of the Army, and find out more about myself and what I’m made of.”

As far as what Park expects from his leaders – “point me in the right direction and I’ll fire,” he said.

Running off the bus in their ROK Army BDUs and into the Bubble Gym, the Soldiers are immediately required to dump out their duffel bags and get rid of any items that aren’t needed, such as soaps used during basic training and any types of snacks or beverages.

After getting rid of all unnecessary items, KTA ROKA staff personnel collected cash the Soldiers had on them, which will be given back to them at the end of the training. The Soldiers were also given a quick medical screening.

“The Soldiers are given a shake-down because we provide them with all of the necessary items they will need,” Hwang said. “They don’t need some of the stuff they come here with.”

Once the doctor was finished, the Soldiers were able to put everything back into their duffel bags before heading to their barracks to put their stuff down.

The Soldiers were then issued their necessary items, PTs and linen.

From there the Soldier start getting used to what life is going to be like as a KATUSA Soldier.

“The majority of the Soldiers easily adjust to their new environment and are extremely motivated,” said Staff Sgt. Santia Campbell, cadre.

Campbell said each night he sits down with his Soldiers to learn more about them.

“That’s the best part of this whole process,” he said. “Getting to know who they are, where they come from and what their interests are.”

The rest of day one goes relatively smooth for the Soldiers and the process of integration into the U.S. Army begins. The changes the Soldiers will make during the three weeks will be very noticeable to the cadre.

“We see the changes they make during this process,” said Sgt. 1st Class Choi, Jung Hoon, cadre. “By the time they graduate we will see a lot of improvement in both their English skills and physical training.”



## Soldiers establish sisterhood

Stories and photo by  
Pfc. Lee, Yoon Joo  
Staff Writer

UIJONGBU, Republic of Korea – The Special Troops Battalion established a sisterhood with Ganeung Elementary School leading to a new phase in 2nd Infantry Division's "Good Neighbor Program" March 24.

STB Commander, Lt. Col. Bridget Rourke and STB ROKA Staff officer, Capt. Choi, Sun Taea visited the school to talk with the principal, Lee, Jong Sun and share concrete thoughts on the English classes to be held later on.

"Our school used to exchange with 2ID's 102nd Signal Battalion but it was no longer possible because they inactivated," Lee said. "We were looking for a new partner and luckily found and contacted the STB, and now we are sisters."

"STB used to exchange with Nok-yang Elementary School which could not continue the exchange and we looked for another school," Choi said. "We found Ganeung Elementary School which was good both in its location and some other conditions as to making the relationship. That led us to propel the exchange. We originally planned to give just English classes but since the school is



2ID's STB will begin teaching English classes at Ganeung Elementary School March 31.

so active, we came to establish this relationship."

STB will be conducting weekly English classes starting Mar. 31 with 10 U.S. and KATUSA Soldiers visiting each Friday. There will be 10 classes for the kids and two classes for school teachers. The ones for the teachers were proposed by the school so that teachers can improve their English abilities as well.

"I felt the need for our faculty members to improve their English in today's global world, and I thought it will be a good idea for them to take the class," Lee said. "I hope this will be a big help to the teachers."

"This English class not only provides the students with a better environment for English education, but also gives them the positive attitude towards U.S. Soldiers," Choi said, explaining the sig-

nificance of the program.

At the end of the conversation Rourke and Choi presented the school with the shield of gratitude and had a photo session with vice principals.

The school will also be visiting the battalion in the final week of April during KATUSA Friendship Week, to present the shield of gratitude and show "Fan-Dance," a ballet performed by the students.

"This is a very heart moving thing for the school, and I think very high of this kind of exchange," Lee said. "I hope both sides do their best to keep up the good relationship."

"The Soldiers love to be around kids," Rourke said. "That is probably because kids here remind them of their children back in the states. I hope that the Soldiers and kids have fun with the program."

## Are your children protected under SGLI?

By Capt. Patrick  
Gregory  
Casey Legal Center

Attention all spouses! If you are covered under the Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance Family Coverage as the spouse of an active-duty servicemember, you cannot choose your beneficiary.

The way the coverage is designed, the servicemember is the only option available when it comes to naming a beneficiary of the insurance coverage. Servicemembers who have children from a previous marriage need to be very careful when designating their beneficiaries.

Your beneficiary is the person or persons who receive the proceeds from your insurance policy in the event of your death.

Since the military automatically appoints the servicemember as the beneficiary for SGLI Family Coverage, the spouse cannot name the children from his/her previous marriage as beneficiaries.

Remember, servicemembers are allowed to name their beneficiaries. Thus, if both spouses are in the same fatal accident, the children

from the second marriage may not receive the proceeds necessary to provide for their needs.

Also, when there are two sets of children involved, the second wife should seriously consider whether SGLI Family Coverage is the appropriate choice for her or whether she should purchase a different policy.

Or, if the spouse wants to name a beneficiary other than the servicemember, he/she should purchase insurance from another organization.

To avoid a bad result, the servicemember must name the children from the second marriage as contingent beneficiaries and clearly state that in the event of the death of the principal beneficiary number one, her portion shall pass to contingent beneficiary number one rather than to principal beneficiary number two.

For more information or advice on this and other issues related to trusts, wills, and taking care of your family's needs, call 730-1885 for Camp Casey legal assistance, 732-6099 for Camp Red Cloud legal assistance or 753-3170 for Camp Humphreys legal assistance.

## 1st BTB Soldiers train with ROK Army counterparts

Story and photo by  
Capt. Yukio Kuniyuki  
1st BTB

CAMP HOVEY – Many Soldiers assigned in Korea lack the opportunity to train side by side with their ROK Army counterparts on a mission. Fewer still get to do such training on the Demilitarized Zone.

The Assassins of A Company, 1st Brigade Troops Battalion got to do both when they executed three week-long missions at two ROK surveillance sites along the DMZ.

These Soldiers were from the Prophet section of the company's Ground Collection platoon.

The Prophet is a humvee-mounted Signals Intelligence collection system that can intercept and direction-find radio communications for analysis.

The missions the Prophet teams executed focused on building coalition relationships with the 146th ROKA Military Intelligence Bn.

For some of the newly arrived Soldiers, this was the first time they had a chance to execute a Prophet mission in a realistic training environment since Advanced Individual Training.

"It tested our ability to communicate with ROKA MI assets and helped us to improve our relationship for future combined training events," said 2nd Lt. Vivian Chiu, platoon leader.

During each mission iteration, the U.S. and KATUSA Soldiers lived and worked on a ROKA compound where they got a first-hand appreciation of the hardships and austerity of being stationed on the DMZ.

"The U.S. Soldiers developed a greater appreciation for what ROKA Soldiers experience. They realized that we take a lot of things for granted and developed a greater respect for our Korean counterparts," Chiu said.

"Conducting daily logistics packages helped allowed us to train on sustainment operations for missions when the Prophet is forward deployed. It was

also a great opportunity to get driver's training in for many of our Soldiers," said Sgt. 1st Class Steven Harlan.

Moreover, the platoon had an opportunity to exercise its command, control communications, computers, surveillance and intelligence capabilities using a Combined Intelligence Very Small Aperture Network-Korea satellite link to send information to a 2nd Infantry Division Analysis Control Element.

Their ability to send reports via satellite demonstrated the range at which the Prophet could conduct operations and send information back to the 1st Heavy Brigade Combat Team for analysis.

Overall the training helped lay the foundation for the following weeks of training and mission execution. With the groundwork laid, the U.S. Soldiers executed their first combined SIGINT missions during the second week as a ramp up for their third and final week of mission execution.



The Prophet collects data for analysis for the 1st BTB Soldiers.

# Buying a home – the American Dream

By Spc. Chris Stephens  
Editor

*This is the sixth story in a seven-part series on financial health.*

Owning a home is the American dream. Nobody wants to pay a mortgage for the rest of their life. Owning your own home is a feeling of accomplishment for most people.

But buying a home can become somewhat troublesome for some people, and if put in the wrong situation could end up disastrous for the buyer.

According to Dave Ramsey, creator of Financial Peace University, home ownership is a great investment for a few reasons.

"It's a forced savings plan," he says in his video. "It forces you to save money so you can pay it off. Plus, it grows virtually tax free. You can have a gain of \$250,000 if you're single and \$500,000 if you're married and pay zero

tax on your personal residence if you hold it for at least two years."

When you're searching for the right house, Ramsey suggests overlooking bad landscaping, ugly carpet, ugly wallpaper and the Elvis print in the master bedroom.

"Always buy a home that is, or can be attractive from the street and one that has a good basic floor plan. You have to do this to get great deals," he says in his video. "Think about things in terms of structure that aren't fixable. And always have the home inspected mechanically and structurally by a certified home inspector."

"If the home has a bad floor plan and is bad structurally, then don't feel pressured to buy it because you want a home so desperately," he says.

Ramsey warns of one mistake many people make when they buy a home.

"The 30-year mortgage is the worst thing you can do," he says. "You're going to pay

almost three times as much for your house over 30 years than if you just paid cash."

Ramsey also wants to know who came up with the 30-year plan.

"Why can't you have a 23-year plan or an 18-year plan? Why does it have to be a 30-year plan? It just doesn't make sense," he says.

"For a \$100,000 house, if you have to take out a loan, your best bet if you have to take out a loan is a 15-year fixed-rate loan. The difference between monthly payments will be around \$150-200," he says in his video. Now, would you rather pay that extra \$150-200 a month for 15 years or pay that extra \$100,000 plus over a 30-year period?"

But Ramsey likes the 100 percent down plan better than anything else.

"There's nothing like saving for a house and paying for it in cash," he says in his video. "You can't beat that."

Example of this thought is a \$95,000 house on a 15 and

30-year loan on an eight percent annual percentage rate. After 10 years the 15-year loan has a balance of \$44,000 while the 30-year loan has a balance of \$83,000.

"During those 10 years you paid more than \$83,600, but only paid down the loan by less than \$12,000," Ramsey says in his video. "Now which would you rather do – pay a little extra each month for 15 years or get taken for a ride for 30 years."

Now when it comes to financing a home, there are four basic ways to do so.

The first is the conventional way usually through the Federal National Mortgage Association. Down payments range from five to 20 percent or more.

The second is through the Federal Housing Administration. But FHA charges a Mortgage Insurance Premium that never drops off no matter how far down you pay the loan. Down payments are as low as three percent and are used on lower priced homes.

"These loans are currently more expensive than conventional financing and should be avoided," Ramsey says in his video.

The third way is a VA loan which is insured by the Veterans Administration. It is designed to benefit the veteran. The seller pays everything allowing a true zero-down purchase.

Owner financing is the fourth way. It's when you pay time the owner over time making him the mortgage holder.

"This is a great way to finance because you can be creative in the structure of the loan," Ramsey says in his video.

Being smart about buying home is key, Ramsey says.

"You have to do your research and go into it knowing exactly what you want. Don't let other people pressure you into a decision and then take you for a ride for all of your money at the end," Ramsey says.

## Warrior News Briefs

### DA Journalist Winner

Spc. Timothy Dinneen, Indianhead Assistant Editor, recently won two awards at the DA Keith L. Ware Journalism Competition, which recognizes the top journalists in the Army.

Dinneen placed second in the news category for his story on a 21D Soldier receiving a Bronze Star for actions in Iraq, and received an honorable mention in the sports category for his story on the Harlem Globetrotters visit to Camp Casey.

### EFMB on the DMZ

The Expert Field Medical Badge testing will be making a return trip to Warrior Base for a new round of testing.

Standardization will be from May 9-13 with the testing scheduled to be from May 14-19. Packet submissions are due to the Division Surgeon's Office by April 14.

For more information, call 730-2709.

### Tax Assistance

The 2nd Infantry Division will be offering a Tax Assistance

Program for the 2005 tax year until June 15.

The TAP provides free federal income tax preparation and electronic filing services to all active-duty servicemembers, military retirees, dependents and eligible civilian employees in Warrior Country.

For more information, call Capt. Erin Delevan at 730-1885.

### Sgt. Audie Murphy Club

If you're interested in becoming a member of the Sgt. Audie Murphy Club or are currently a member looking for activities to get involved in with the club, call Master Sgt. Chris Patterson at 732-7999.

### USFK Conference

The annual U.S. Forces Korea Information Assurance Conference will be held from April 25-28 at the Osan Air Base Officer's Club.

The conference will address information and issues to include USFK CIO Strategic Vision, NetOps, Information Operations, assessments, policy, training, cyber crime and forensics, and IA solutions.

For more information, call 725-8213.

## Battle buddies make difference between good time, jail time

By Capt. Richard Gorini

Camp Red Cloud Legal Center

Your battle buddy can make the difference between a good time and jail time. Recently, two 21D Soldiers found this out the hard way.

After spending the last year on international hold status, flagged and extended past their DEROS and ETS, the Soldiers will begin serving prison sentences in a Korean detention facility.

On March 11, 2005, the Soldiers were out drinking in the Uijongbu area. Neither battle buddy was sober. At one of the Uijongbu clubs, they spotted an antique pistol.

Drunk, one of the Soldiers decided it was a "good idea" to take the pistol. He took the pistol from the bar and tried to sneak it out of the club. The club owner confronted them as they were leaving.

Had one of the battle buddies been sober, the two might be back in the US moving on with their lives. Someone thinking straight would have given the pistol back, and the club owner may have been satisfied with a simple apology. But the alcohol kicked in and the Soldiers tried to force their way out of the bar.

Without a real battle buddy, what had started off as a normal Friday night turned into disaster. One of the

Soldiers punched the club owner and broke his nose. The other pushed a female Korean National to the ground and injured her shoulder.

The Soldiers found themselves at the National Police Agency (NPA) station and in Korean custody. Then the Military Police came and brought them back to post. Finally, their chain of command had to pick them up from the MP Station.

Over the course of the next few weeks, the Soldiers had to return to the NPA station for questioning. They were put on international hold and flagged.

No promotion. No mid-tour leave back home to the U.S. Now they both have a criminal record. One soldier will spend 18 months in prison, while the other will serve an 8 month sentence.

Following USFK regulations, both Soldiers will have separation actions initiated against them. All of this over a replica antique pistol that neither Soldier really wanted.

Picking a battle buddy that will stay sober could be the most important choice you make. One bad decision, especially while drunk, can lead to serious consequences.

Is a \$300 replica gun worth 18 months of your life? A good battle buddy would tell you no.



## AER serving Soldiers, families

Story and photo by  
Pfc. Amanda Merfeld  
Staff Writer

**M**arch 16 was the kick-off for the Army Emergency Relief Annual Fund Campaign.

The AER is a nonprofit organization founded in 1942 by the Secretary of War and the Army Chief of Staff. AER's mission is to provide emergency financial assistance to Soldiers.

AER is supported by volunteer contributions from Soldiers (active and retired) solicited during the Army's annual fund campaign for AER.

Contributions are also accepted at any time from Army or civilian individuals or organizations.

Contributions may also be made in the form of memorials honoring deceased Soldiers or family members.

AER assists Soldiers and their families with money for utilities, food, rent, emergency transportation, funeral expenses, medical and dental expenses, and give scholarships to children of Soldiers.

"If you had a battle buddy who was hurt, or

whose mother had died, would you help them go home with money? That's what AER does," said Brig. Gen. William Forrester, Jr., assistant division commander for support.

What AER does not do is pay for a Soldier's debt, bad checks, ordinary or vacation expenses, home purchases or improvement, vehicle purchases or anything else that is non-essential.

"More than 450 people on this peninsula were helped out with AER last year, to the tune of about \$23,000," Forrester said.

If you are eligible for AER assistance and have a valid emergency need, AER will help you.

"If you contribute to AER, you're helping your battle buddy out," Forrester said.

To benefit from AER you don't have to make donations, but you do have to have a legitimate need. If you do need the support, you must have a valid military ID card, leave or PCS orders, your LES and substantiating documents such as a car repair estimate, rental agreement or utility bill.

If you qualify, the



**Command Sgt. Maj. James A. Benedict cuts the cake at AER's annual fund-raising meeting aimed at motivating NCO's to get Soldiers to donate to AER.**

money given to you is yours, but if you get a loan from AER, it is interest free and sometimes only a part of it needs to be paid back, depending on the financial situation.

The largest inflow of operating cash is from loan repayments and investments that the program generates from interest and dividends.

"Since 1943, AER has contributed to more than 2.9 million people, to the tune of about \$83 million," Forrester said.

If you want to help out AER, ensure your spouse knows about AER and give him/her a power of attorney for emergency use. Remind fellow Soldiers about AER when they have financial emergencies and support AER with a contribution and encourage others to contribute.

"Get the word out there," Forrester said. "I always look at a good Soldier as a good human being, and this is about being good human beings," Forrester said.

## Army prayer breakfast has long history

By Pfc. Lee, Yoon Joo  
Staff Writer

**T**he history of the Army is long and the prayer breakfast has always been associated with it.

Army chaplains have historically provided the prayer breakfast as a means to communicate with the Soldiers.

There is no specific origin of the Army prayer breakfast. However, there is a guess that it was adopted from the national level prayer breakfast.

In 1942, the peak of World War II, the members of the United States Senate and House of Representatives inaugurated the first national prayer breakfast.

The beginning of the prayer breakfast was an informal gathering of the senators and the congressional representatives. They

had the meeting annually for 10 years, giving spiritual and personal supports to one another.

In 1953, with President Dwight Eisenhower in the leadership, the members of the congressional prayer breakfast groups established the first presidential prayer breakfast.

The basic concept of the prayer breakfast is to recognize the need for prayers and fellowship, as well as spiritual needs, and the Army prayer breakfast plays this role to the Soldiers.

"By planning the prayer breakfasts, we ensure the opportunity to stay spiritually fit, whatever a Soldier's faith may be," said Lt. Col. Kathryn Burba, 302nd Brigade Support Battalion. "We have plenty of events like physical training every morning and sergeants time training weekly to ensure that we stay physically and

mentally fit. I ensure that the prayer breakfast is included monthly on the training calendar because a good Soldier is a well rounded Soldier that is mentally, physically and spiritually fit."

The attendance of the Army prayer breakfast is always voluntary. The chaplains welcome the Soldiers from backgrounds of all faiths. Even if the Soldier is not a Christian, their beliefs are respected.

The prayer breakfast usually includes involves a brief Bible message followed by prayers. The Army prayer breakfast is basically designed to enhance the Soldier's morals, deepening their spiritual commitment.

The prayer breakfast offers the commander the opportunity to see the Soldiers on a more personal level and reassure their commitment to them and the Army values.

## Movies

### Camp Red Cloud

**Show times:** Fri.-Sat. 7 & 9 p.m., Sun. 6 & 8 p.m., Mon.-Tue. & Thur. 7p.m.

March 31... *Shaggy Dog*  
April 1 ... *Underworld: Evolution*  
April 2 ... *Big Momma's House 2*  
April 3 ... *Glory Road*  
April 4 ... *Tristan & Isolde*  
April 6-7 ... *V For Vendetta*  
April 8... *Annapolis*  
April 9 ... *Nanny McPhee*  
April 10 ... *Big Momma's House 2*  
April 11 ... *Annapolis*  
April 13 ... *Inside Man*

### Camp Casey

**Show times:** Fri.-Sat. 6:30 & 8:30 p.m., Sun. 6:30 & 8:30 p.m., Mon.-Thur. 7:30 p.m.

March 31 ... *Tristan & Isolde*  
April 1 ... *Underworld: Evolution*  
April 2-3 ... *The Shaggy Dog*  
April 4 ... *Underworld: Evolution*  
April 5-6 ... *Big Momma's House*  
April 7-8 ... *Annapolis*  
April 9-10 ... *V For Vendetta*  
April 11-12 ... *Nanny McPhee*  
April 13 ... *Something New*

### Camp Hovey

**Show times:** Mon.-Fri. 7 p.m., Sat.-Sun. 3 & 7 p.m.

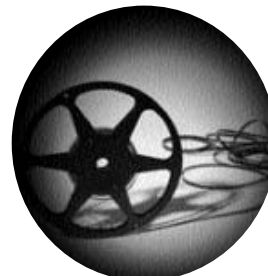
March 31 ... *Glory Road*  
April 1 ... *Cheaper by the Dozen 2: The Shaggy Dog*  
April 2 ... *Rumor Has It*  
April 2-3 ... *Big Momma's House 2*  
April 4 ... *The Shaggy Dog*  
April 5-6 ... *Underworld: Evolution*  
April 7 ... *Nanny McPhee*  
April 8 ... *Munich; V For Vendetta*  
April 9 ... *The Ringer; Nanny McPhee*  
April 10 ... *Annapolis*  
April 11 ... *V For Vendetta*  
April 12 ... *Annapolis*  
April 13 ... *When a Stranger Calls*

### Camp Humphreys

**Show times:** Mon.-Fri. 6:30 & 9 p.m., Sat.-Sun. 3:30, 6:30 & 9 p.m.

March 31 ... *The Shaggy Dog*  
April 1 ... *Wallace & Gromit: The Curse of the Were Rabbit*  
April 1-2 ... *The Shaggy Dog; Underworld: Evolution*  
April 3 ... *Walk the Line*  
April 3-4 ... *Hostel*  
April 5 ... *Syrianna*  
April 5-6 ... *Annapolis*  
April 7-9 ... *V For Vendetta*  
April 8 ... *The Chronicles of Narnia*  
April 9-11 ... *Nanny McPhee*  
April 12-13 ... *Final Destination 3*

For more information on movie schedules or to see if there are any changes, visit [www.aafes.net](http://www.aafes.net).



# **Storied treasure makes return to 2ID**

By Spc. Chris Stephens  
Editor

One of the most storied treasures of the 9th Infantry Regiment has made its return to the 2nd Infantry Division after a two year absence.

No, the Manchus' Liscum Bowl wasn't really missing in action – it was taken to be restored to its original condition.

"It was falling on itself," said William Alexander, 2ID Museum director and historian. "If it didn't get restored, then it would have fallen apart beyond repair."

The history of the treasured icon dates back to the American Relief Expedition to China in 1900. Shortly after arriving on Chinese shores in July 1900, the Manchus, along with a battalion of Marines, found themselves as the only American forces engaged in the conquest of the walled-city of Tienstin. In the course of the assault on the walls, Col. Emerson H. Liscum, regimental commander, was hit by Chinese fire. Shortly after telling his men to "Keep up the Fire," on the walls of the city, Liscum died.

After the fall of the city the regiment discovered the ruins of a storehouse containing silver bars and coins and turned it over to the Chinese Government. As a token of their appreciation, Prince Li Hung Chang presented the

regiment with melted silver from the mint fire.

After many meetings of the officers, it was decided to have the melted silver made into a trophy similar to the already existing Liscum Bowl. Once the regiment returned to the Philippines in 1902, they shipped the silver to Japan with detailed instructions on how they wanted the bowl to look. It was an ornate bowl of large dimensions; the four handles insisted upon by the regiment consisted of the torsos of four imperial dragons peering over the edge of the bowl. There was a ladle and a tray. After eight months of work, the bowl was completed and returned to the Manchus.

Since that time, the bowl has continued to be a symbol of the Manchus. Liscum's name was the first to be engraved on the bowl. Throughout history other names were engraved on the bowl to perpetuate the memory of the commissioned leaders who served during World Wars I and II and the Korean War.

"The Liscum Bowl is the most treasured icon of the 9th Infantry Regiment," Alexander said.

One hundred years after its creation, the bowl was sent to Michael Schwartz in Kensington, Md., for some badly needed repairs. The bowl was dented, crushed, battered and full of solder



Pfc. Kim, Sang Pil

The newly restored Liscum Bowl is back at its' home at the 2nd Infantry Division Museum.

from poorly executed prior repairs. There were also missing talons and other segments on the ornate dragons.

"Throughout the project, the integrity of the bowl was maintained," Alexander said.

Weighing in at more than 90 lbs, the bowl looks like one giant piece, but is actually two pieces.

"You can't tell by the design of the bowl that it's two pieces," Alexander said.

So, as the Liscum Bowl sits in its' rightful home - the 2nd Infantry Division, all Manchus can breathe easy.

"The spirit of the Manchus has returned home," Alexander said.



Courtesy photo

Originally the five-toed dragon handles were lead soldered to the vessel with split posts and washers. The dragons were removed to enable their restoration.



Spc. Chris Stephens

Maj. Gen. George A. Higgins, 2ID Commanding General receives the division colors from Lt. Gen. Charles Campbell, 8th U.S. Army Commander during the Division Change of Command Ceremony in September 2004. Higgins will hand over command of the division to Maj. Gen. James A. Coggin at a date yet to be determined.

## **Approved Change of Command Dates**

<u>Unit:</u>	<u>Date:</u>	<u>Location:</u>
302nd BSB	May 18	Camp Casey
2-2 Aviation	June 6	Camp Humphreys
1-72 Armor	June 8	Camp Casey
164th ATS	June 9	Camp Humphreys
3-6 Cavalry	June 15	Camp Casey
1-15 FA	June 20	Camp Casey
2-9 Infantry	June 22	Camp Casey
2nd CAB	June 23	Camp Humphreys
1st HBCT	June 29	Camp Casey
STB	July 9	Camp Red Cloud



# Soldiers compete for fastest time

Story and photo by  
Pfc. Amanda Merfeld

Staff Writer

INGMAN RANGE – Soldiers from the Special Troops Battalion competed against each other for the best time during a Close-Quarters Marksmanship training competition.

"It was fun, the little competition we had because we were signal guys going against infantry and we out-shot them," said Christopher Franzell, B Co.

The purpose of the training competition was to enhance marksmanship skills within the battalion.

"The more training you get, the better you are later on in the field," Franzell said.

The first day the Soldiers got a chance to walk through the firing range, firing blank rounds while getting used to the course as a group. The dry-fire provided the repetition that Soldiers needed to engage targets quickly and accurately, but the next day

would be a test of individual skill.

The competition included running up a steep hill to an ammo point to collect 12 rounds of ammunition for their M4s.

"That hill was killer," Franzell said.

The Soldiers would then go to a marked area to fire at one of the six targets while standing. Five seconds was added to the final time for each miss.

"You must know how to shoot and how to properly position yourself, especially when you pull the trigger," said Pvt. Daniel Villon, Headquarters and Headquarters Service Co., who took first place with a time of three minutes and 20 seconds.

With the sound of weapons firing in the background, the competitors would then run to the next shooting location, a mock doorway. Seconds would be added to the final time if the Soldiers paused in the door-



Soldiers practice going through the lanes at Ingman Range. On the first day of the exercise, they went together as a group for dry-runs and range familiarization.

way, exposing themselves as targets.

From there the Soldiers high-crawled to the next position, firing from around a low wall, then high-crawled to another low wall, firing from over the top.

"You're not going to shoot in a flat area, you're going to go into buildings and all that so you got to get

adjusted to different types of environment," Franzell said. "All last night I was going through it in my head, visualizing it. Knowing the area really helped."

To finish the course, the Soldiers were required to low-crawl to another area and fire from the window hole and then run to be rodded and cleared off the range.

The Soldiers wearily walked off the course, breathing hard, muddy and adrenaline still pumping from the competitive rush.

"It's important for all Soldiers because everybody has to know what to do when they are in close range of the enemy, especially if they go to war," Villon said.

## 2ID retention effort 'Second to None'

By Spc. Timothy Dinneen

Assistant Editor

Should I stay or should I go? The lyrics from Clash are something Soldiers may not be singing everyday but those words are a recurring theme in the minds of every Soldier advancing in their careers.

As the War on Terrorism rages to an uncertain length of time, Soldiers are conducting an internal debate. The talking points are whether their current military-occupational specialties suit them, where they would like to ideally be stationed and are continual deployments overseas something they want to do for the unforeseen future.

To the credit of Soldiers and career counselors working with them on these important issues, the retention trend has been a positive one. According to the Army recruiting and retention Web site, the Army is sustaining the number of troops turning their backs on civilian life.

The Web site states that the active-duty Army closed the 2005 fiscal year at 108 percent of its retention mission. The goal was to reenlist 64,162 Soldiers and 69,512 Soldiers reenlisted. The Army Reserve and Army National Guard finished with similar results. Along with strong recruiting

numbers the size of the active-duty Army has grown by 13,000 Soldiers since Sept. 11, 2001. The size of the active-duty Army at the time of the report was 492,600 with Reserve strength roughly at 189,000 and the National Guard at 333,200.

"The state of retention in the Second Infantry Division is strong. We're doing pretty well," said Master Sgt. Kelly Luker, Camp Red Cloud and Special Troops Battalion senior career counselor.

Luker said his mission is to retain the force in 2ID. He not only is charged with encouraging Soldiers to reenlist but to maintain the force alignment so that when Soldiers want to change MOS fields there remains a balance in those specialties. He tracks the balance of the MOS fields by analyzing "In and Out" calls that can be found on the Army Knowledge Online Web site.

"We can look to tell what the strengths of the MOSs are, whether they're balanced, under strength or over strength. We don't want to have Soldiers from combat MOSs filling support roles disproportionately because it would tip the scales too heavily in one direction," Luker said.

The target audience counselors such as Luker concentrate on are initial term, mid-career, career, FY 2006

ETS and FY 2007 ETS Soldiers. Halfway through the 2006 cycle, the retention for 2ID looks solid. The division already has met 73 percent of the initial term reenlistments and 65 percent of FY 2007 ETS Soldiers. Every category is above 50 percent at the mid-way point in the cycle that runs Oct. 1, 2005 – Sept. 30, 2006.

Luker points to the tools the Army provides that makes his job easier such as repetitive counseling, the ability to provide Soldiers the jobs and duty locations desired, the Assignment Incentive Pay program and the money involved with the Selective Reenlistment Bonus.

"Overall, our retention stats are good, but we have a long way to go," Luker said.

Luker said that the numbers would be even higher; however, many Soldiers who have time left after they leave before making a decision will wait until they arrive at their new duty station in the U.S. before making a final decision. He said that although many Soldiers decide to reenlist, 2ID will not receive the credit for their decisions.

"We're finding one of the concerns we have in the retention community is the amount of turnover in Korea. We may lose 30 Soldiers and get 30 privates fresh from AIT who won't get a

chance to reenlist for another two or three years," Luker said.

Luker said that's where the AIP program is a big benefit because it provides an incentive for Soldiers to remain in Korea beyond their 12 months in country. According to Luker, this helps the Soldier and the unit because it provides continuity, security and stability while saving the Army money in travel expenses.

However, the AIP program has changed recently with a new directive coming down from Human Resource Command. The Department of the Army will not approve Foreign Service Tour Extensions or AIP opportunities that will keep Soldiers in Korea for more than five years.

"I know Soldiers who have been here for eight years and that will no longer be the case," Luker said.

The new life-cycle manning program that will marry Soldiers to certain units for three years will not impact reenlistment numbers, according to Luker.

"The amount of units of action aren't great enough to effect the forces in Korea. Overall, the retention percentages in 2ID are very competitive with other divisions because we do everything we can to provide every Soldier with their needs, wants and desires," Luker said.



Courtesy photo

## NANTA cooks up good time

By Capt. Stacy Ouellette

Future Operations, 8th U.S. Army

SEOUL – What do you get when you mix three chefs, their boss' pesky nephew, and a musical kitchen? Nanta, of course!

Similar to the Broadway hit *Stomp*, Nanta, also known as *Cookin'*, will amaze you with its unique style.

As one of the best shows offered in South Korea, Nanta is heating up the stage with a cut above performance not to be missed.

Debuted in 1997, this was the first non-verbal performance in South Korea. The show incorporates traditional Korean Samulnori tempo with a western performance style. Samulnori means playing with four instruments.

The key ingredient to this show is the intense rhythms being poured out through drums, knives, and cutting boards.

Nanta tells a story of three chefs who must prepare an enormous wedding banquet within the hour.

Adding to the mix, is the boss' nephew, who causes some mischief while trying to become a chef.

Challenged not only by time, these four must find a way to work together to accomplish what seems like the impossible.

During the show, members of the audience get to participate.



Courtesy photo

**The NANTA performance shows viewers a new and interesting way to have fun while cooking.**

Some were chosen to go on the stage and partake in a dumpling making competition.

It truly was a Kodak moment, but unfortunately, photography is not permitted in the theater.

In Hangul, the word "nanta" means to strike relentlessly, which is truly the essence of this show.

The performance literally explodes

with music, fun and is a great way to experience part of the culture in our host country.

The Nanta Theater is accessible via subway line no. 5 to Seodaemun Station and then take exit 5. The theater is a 5-10 minute walk from the station.

Performances run Tuesday through Saturday at 4 p.m. and 8

p.m. Sunday and holiday shows are 3 and 6 p.m. There are no performances on Mondays at this theater.

Prices for tickets range from 30,000 to 60,000 won.

Reservations are recommended to ensure you get the tickets of your choice.

For more information, visit [www.nanta.co.kr](http://www.nanta.co.kr).



## Soldiers go for knockout punch

**Story and photos by  
Spc. Chris Stephens**  
*Editor*

CAMP CASEY — Boxers from across Area I descended on Hanson Field House March 25 to see who could “float like a butterfly and sting like a bee.”

In a night that saw seven high-impact matches, nobody left the gym disappointed.

Jeremy T. Wood, B Battery, 1st Battalion, 15th Field Artillery Regiment, got the night kicked off by beating Justin Jollota, 177th Finance Battalion, in one of the novice Middleweight bouts.

With a flurry of punches and Jollota unable to protect himself from his opponent, the referee stopped the match 1:24 into the first round.

The excitement didn't end there.

In the fourth match of the evening Teddy Dane, B Bat., 1st Bn., 15th FA, used the backing of his unit to beat Allen Hall, C Troop, 4th Squadron, 7th Cavalry Regt.

“I heard my unit chanting for me the whole match,” Dane said. “I knew as long as they had my back and kept me motivated, I wouldn't lose.”

But Dane said there's always room to improve.

“You can always find something you need to work on in boxing,” he said. “That's the only way you get better.”

The final match of the evening featured Michael Hutchison, 177th Finance Bn., against Mario Creamer, E Co., 2nd Bn., 9th Inf. Regt.

Back and forth the two fighters went, not giving each other any breathing room. As one would go

on the offensive, the other would dodge and duck the flurry of punches.

For Creamer, the cardio training he did in the weeks prior to his match paid huge dividends in the end.

“I trained with a lot of cardio before this match so that I could be ready for whatever came my way,” he said. “Once I caught my second wind, I knew I would be alright.”

In what was a mixed reaction to the decision, Creamer defeated Hutchison.

As far as what's up next for Creamer — “bring on the next fight.”

**Results:**

Novice Middleweight Match 1: Jeremy Wood, B Bat., 1st Bn., 15th FA defeated Justin Jollota, 177th Finance Bn.

Novice Middleweight Match 2: Joseph Beaver, B Co., 302nd BSB defeated Steven Bullock, A Bat., 6th Bn., 37th FA.

Novice Heavyweight Match 1: Kerry Freeman, HQ, 2ID, defeated Mark O'Neill HNB, 6th Bn., 37th FA.

Novice Heavyweight Match 2: Teddy Dane, B Bat., 1st Bn., 15th FA defeated Allen Hall, C Trp., 4th Sqdm., 7th Cav. Regt.

Novice Heavyweight Match 3: Vincent Matheny, 1st Replacement Co. defeated Randy Martinez, B Bat., 1st Bn., 38th FA.

Novice Super-Heavyweight Match 1: Idris Gant, HHC, 1st Bn., 72nd Armor Regt. defeated John Dalton, C Trp., 4th Sqdm., 7th Cav. Regt.

Novice Super-Heavyweight Match 2: Mario Creamer, E Co., 2nd Bn., 9th Inf. Regt. defeated Michael Hutchison, 177th Finance Bn.



Teddy Dane, right, backs Allen Hall into a corner with a flurry of punches.



Michael Hutchison, right, connects with a right hand against Mario Creamer.



Kerry Freeman, left, misses with the left hook against Mark O'Neill.

## Thunder DFAC hosts Korean Cuisine Day

By Pfc. Lee, Seung Hyub  
Staff Writer

CAMP CASEY – Korean Cuisine Day was held at the Thunder Inn dining facility March 23.

"From now on, we will be able to eat Korean food every day at our dining facility," said Col. Matt Merrick, Fires Brigade commander.

"We are very thankful to the U.S. Army's consideration and concerns," said Col. Lee, Yong Il, senior ROKA Staff officer. "Now it's time for us to show our love back."

Following a short ceremony, Lee presented the DFAC

*"I am more than happy to hear that I can enjoy Korean food in our DFAC as well as at outside restaurants and the KATUSA Snack Bar."*

Staff Sgt. Jeff Martin

NCOs with a shield of gratitude for their effort in making the event possible.

Following the ceremony, the eating commenced. The participants of the event were able to taste various types of Korean dishes for lunch. The menu of the day included dakbokeum, bulko-gi, ssamjang, kochujang, and ramyun.

After the meal, Lee talked about his meal.

"It was a very good meal," he said. "No Korean would have felt the difference and the kimchi was as good as any Korean restaurant."

"I would like to credit Colonel Merrick for the effort in making today possible for KATUSA Soldiers," Lee said.

"I love most of the Korean food," said Staff Sgt. Jeff Martin. "I am more than happy to hear that I can enjoy Korean food in our DFAC as well as at outside restaurants and the KATUSA Snack Bar."

"I hope events like this one will expand to all USFK bases," Kim said.



Yu, Hu Son

U.S. and KATUSA Soldiers sit down to enjoy Korean Cuisine Day at the Thunder DFAC.



Yu, Hu Son

Soldiers receive their Korean meal from the cooks at the Thunder DFAC.

## Will the Cinderella slipper stay on for George Mason?

By Spc. Chris Stephens  
Editor

This year's men's NCAA Tournament has been one where all I can say is "Wow!" There are no words to describe it.

Four improbable teams made it to the Final Four with very few expectations to do so.

And the last time no number one seeds made it to the Final Four was 1980. So this year's tournament has been one to remember.

Starting from the Atlanta region, LSU defeated the Duke Blue Devils in the Sweet 16 and the Texas Longhorns in the Elite 8 to earn their trip to Indianapolis.

Leaning on the back of center Glen "Big Baby" Davis, the Tigers have continually fed the ball inside to their big man.

The matchups against the big men from Texas and Duke proved no match for Davis.

In the Oakland region, UCLA used a late comeback to defeat the Gonzaga Bulldogs in the Sweet 16 and overpowered the Memphis Tigers in the Elite 8 to earn their trip to Indy.

Losing by eight against Memphis earlier in the season, the Bruins wouldn't let the same thing happen again winning in the lowest scoring regional final since the beginning of the shot clock era.

From the Minneapolis Region, the Florida Gators used the size of their big man Joakim Noah and the speed of the their point guard Taurean Green to sprint past the Villanova Wildcats, who used a four-guard lineup all season.

And this year's true Cinderella team, the George Mason Patriots, have upset every team they have played in the tournament thus far.

Defeating the sixth-ranked Michigan State Spartans in the first round, the third-ranked North Carolina Tar Heels in the second round, the seventh-ranked Wichita State Shockers in the Sweet 16 and the number one-ranked UCONN Huskies in the Elite 8, the Patriots have put on the slipper for all of America to see.

The Patriots are led by forward Jai Lewis, and guards Tony Skinn and Lamar Butler.

So the question is, will the Cinderella slipper continue to stay on the foot of George Mason?

Let's start with the LSU-UCLA matchup.

Both teams have good guard play and have been good in the clutch. But I'd like to employ the 'Shaq Factor' in this game. "Big Baby" will play as good as LSU's former big man Shaquille O'Neal and show his dominance inside.

But don't be surprised if the Bruins' guards make it tough for the Tigers. Guard Arron Afflalo and Jordan Farmar can create their own shots off the dribble and will keep the LSU guards running the whole game.

But the "Shaq Factor" is too much and the Tigers will defeat the Bruins on the back of "Big Baby."

In the other National Semifinal, George Mason and Florida presents an interesting matchup. On one hand you have Noah for the Gators and on the other hand you have Lewis for the Patriots. Both have proved their worth during the tournament by not allowing any of their opponents much inside.

But what might hurt the Patriots is the poor free-throw shooting of their big men. The Florida big men have a good percentage from behind the stripe.

So it looks like the Patriots have their backs against the wall against the Gators. Then again, they've had their backs against the wall the whole tournament. So why not? George Mason wins in their fifth straight stunner. Yeah I said it!

Now for the championship game. George Mason against LSU. This is a matchup that nobody thought they would see and many people still think won't happen.

The cards are again stacked against the Patriots. The "Shaq Factor" will test the Patriots for the full 40 minutes. The Patriots are going to have to be as flawless as possible to have a chance in this game.

Can they do it? Maybe. They have to keep their turnovers at a minimum and hustle for all 40 minutes to do so.

But you know what? They can do it and they will do it! George Mason will win the championship in dramatic fashion and truly be called a Cinderella team for the ages.

