



Indianhead



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www.2id.korea.army.mil

February 27, 2009

1st HBCT - Live, Virtual, Constructive and Combat Ready

By Spc. Christen Best

1st HBCT Public Affairs

The explosions and gunfire lit up the Korean Training Center Feb. 4-13 during Warrior Focus 09-01, and the Soldiers of 1st Heavy Brigade Combat Team fought and executed a unique brigade-level operation by employing high-end technology and inventive training techniques.

Warrior Focus, a 2nd Infantry Division training exercise, enabled the brigades of 2ID the opportunity to have training focused at the battalion levels of command. 1st HBCT focused primarily on training 1-72nd Armor Regiment and 302nd Brigade Support Battalion, while the remaining battalions acted as opposing forces, observer controllers, and also provided administrative and logistic support to the exercise.

The exercise enhanced the brigade's ability to prepare for combat operations by incorporating real and simulated operations, with some Soldiers conducting boots on the ground training at the KTC and others conducting training in a virtual world.

"We're doing operations between the live and the virtual world," said Maj. Jaren K. Price, the brigade

See FOCUS page 3



Sgt. Scott Kim

M1A1 Abrams from 1-72nd Armor Regiment line up in preparation to assault a town during Warrior Focus, a training exercise involving the entire 1st HBCT, Feb. 10 at the Combined Arms Collective Training Facility at Rodriguez Live Fire Complex.

2ID celebrates Black History Month

Story & photo by

Sgt. Bo Park

Staff Writer

An events-packed ceremony commemorated National Black History Month for the 2nd Infantry Division at the CG's Mess, Camp Red Cloud, Feb. 20. Soldiers and guests from in and out of the Division gathered to honor the black heroes and people who made history throughout the U.S.

"(The black history month) honors struggles, triumphs and achievements of millions of American people who fought through slavery, poverty and prejudice. Also we celebrate the great things that those who came before us have done for our nation's history," said Col. Leana Fox, deputy commander for Nursing, U.S. Army Medical Department Activities (MEDDAC)-Korea, the guest speaker of the day.

Before the guest speaker was introduced, several acts were put together in this year's black history month commemorating the theme of "The quest for black citizenship in America."



Col. Leana Fox, deputy commander for Nursing, US Army MEDDAC-Korea, the guest speaker of the Black History Month Ceremony, gives an inspirational speech at the CG's Mess, Camp Red Cloud, Feb. 20.

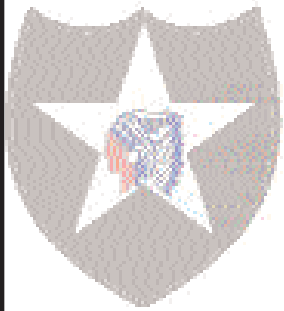
Sergeant Maj. Janice Glaze, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, Division Special Troops

Battalion, began the ceremony by reading from the official Black History Month Proclamation signed by the first African American President of the United States, Barack Obama.

"The belief that those dreams might one day be realized by all of our citizens gave African American men and women the same sense of duty and love of country that led them to shed blood in every war we have ever fought, to invest hard-earned resources in their communities with the hope of self empowerment, and to pass the ideals of this great land down to their children and grandchildren," read Glaze.

The ceremony made a great impression to the standing-room-only audience to develop and take pride in history and the making of it.

"It was a very powerful message," said Sgt. 1st Class Marcus Johnson, Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 6th Battalion, 37th Field Artillery Regiment, who was a member of the inspirational gospel choir that performed during the event. "She delivered the message very well and it made an impact on Soldiers, including myself, to remain strong in faith, to keep the drive when you are faced with challenges."



VOICE OF THE WARRIOR: Why are NCOs important to the Army?

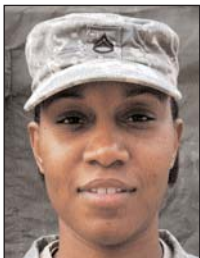


*"They help us to develop
as Soldiers and make us
believe in the Army
Values."*

Pfc. Steven Rocha
HHSC, DSTB

*"We're the gears that
drive the Army."*

**Sgt. 1st Class
Sylvester Powell,**
HHC, 302nd BSB

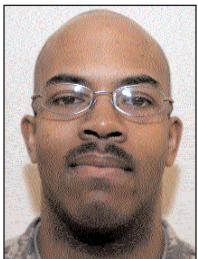


*"NCOs are important
because we make stuff
happen. We get the
mission accomplished."*

Staff Sgt. Tomaeshia Brown,
HHC, 1st BSTB

*"We teach Soldiers the
right thing and how to
become good NCOs."*

Sgt. Nathaniel Ellison,
HHC, 1st HBCT



*"Because we are
guaranteed to get the
mission accomplished."*

Staff Sgt. Stephanie Jones
HHC, DSTB

*"Because we are the
bridge between officers
and junior enlisted
Soldiers."*

Sgt. Sohn, Joon Hyng
HHC, DSTB



FROM THE TOP 2009: Year of the NCO

**By Command Sgt. Maj.
Peter D. Burrowes**

Second Infantry Division Command Sergeant Major

When Kipling coined the phrase the "Backbone of the Army" in describing the Army Sergeant over a hundred years ago, the Concept, Function, and Quality of our NCO corps far exceeded any in existence. One hundred and thirteen years later the fundamental concept has not changed; take care of the Soldiers by developing them to master their craft and provide for their well being. Their Function has evolved to encompass the role of NCO Leader; vital to every unit's success. And the Quality has earned them the title Professional. If the NCO was the "Backbone" of the Army in 1896, today they are by far so much more.

The Noncommissioned Officer corps is often described as being "the best it has ever been - better trained, better educated, and better engaged," and even "the best of all the rest." These accolades are one hundred percent on-target, but truly they fail to communicate true substance. What is "better" beyond just improvement? What is "Best" apart from the standards of "all the rest?" In 2009 the Army aims to reveal exactly that. The Secretary of the Army and the Sergeant Major of the Army announced 2009 as the Year of the Noncommissioned Officer with a robust agenda to present the proud contributions of the men and women who wear chevrons on their uniform.

The Second Infantry Division is rich with the strong caliber Noncommissioned Officers whose stories of contribution are the pride of the Corps. They've trained, developed, and cared for our Warriors in the true "serviens" gusto of "one who serves." Their education and skill sets reach to the heights of Doctorate degrees and Published authors. Their experience spans the range from "wet behind the ears" to seasoned combat vets, and accomplished military strategist. And their accomplishments rate Medal of Honors, and Silver Stars. This is the substance that our Warrior Division Noncommissioned Officers and NCOs across our Army, past and present are made of.

The history of the NCO is a proud one. Every military era and conflict of our nation, from the American Revolution to the varied and unpredictable ones today, has had the influence of the greatest NCO Corps. Great Thinkers and Doers of the past like General von Steuben, Sergeant Major of the Army Bainbridge, Sergeant York, and Sergeant Audie Murphy help elevate the NCO Corps to the heights it is today. And dynamic leaders like Gen. Walter Sharp, Lt. Gen. Lloyd J. Austin III, Major Gen. John W. Morgan III, Command Sgt. Maj. Bob Winzenreid, Command Sgt. Maj. Marvin Hill, and Sgt. Maj. William Hayes continue to feed tremendous energy in the growth and shaping of our NCO Corps.

Our NCO Corps is the envy of armies all over the world. They continue to carry the traditions of those NCOs who fought and led in the bitter cold at Valley Forge, in the rice paddies and hills of Korea, and in the scorching heat of the Iraq desert. NCOs have taken care of Soldiers and their Families. They have provided sound counsel and guidance to our officers. They came from an unfamiliar concept, travelled through the hard trails of time, and today stand strong, ready, and capable to face our Army's unknown challenges.

The Year of the NCO is unique only in that it shines a light that will show who our Warrior Leaders who wear chevrons are. There is no doubt that throughout this year they will continue to perform and grow as they have for two centuries. They will continue to train and develop our Warriors, and continue to build the outstanding legacy of the "Second To None" NCO Corps.

A proud NCO heritage of valor, honor, professionalism, and a reputation as the "backbone" of the Army, rests with every Noncommissioned Officer today. I venture to say that they will not forget, nor will they allow anyone to forget that they are professionals, Noncommissioned Officers, and most of all, Leaders who are "Second to None"!



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FOCUS

from Page 1

intelligence officer. "So it really works on combining all those individual tasks that we work on in the day-to-day basis. In the training we're using what we call a LVC; a Live, Virtual and Constructive exercise."

Applying LVC to the operation equipped 1st HBCT with an increased capability to train, despite the land and space limitations.

"There's not a lot of (training) maneuver land here, so trying to put a whole brigade out here is difficult," said Price. "The LVC allows us to train the brigade by having Soldiers actually on the ground, in the virtual and in the constructive. They all report in just like they would in real life, so the command post has to deal with information from all their subordinate units."

The Soldiers involved in the Live portion spent their days and nights in the field, working with other 2ID and ROK units, dealing with the enemy, and the daily aspects of combat operations.

"The troops are doing pretty good," said Cpt. Pace Brown, the commander of Company B, 302nd BSB. "Once the first day was over, they were rocking and rolling. Everyone knew what they had to do. They knew to attack their work, whether they would be on the ECP (entry control point) gate or supporting the battalion."

The scope of the exercise allowed Soldiers' the opportunity to realize the value of the training they received.

"In the training exercise, I learned that you have to be prepared," said Pfc. Powell Jerron, water treatment specialist from Co. A, 302nd BSB. "It's easy to take training for granted, but it's good to be prepared no matter who you are, because you never know what will be expected of you or what you'll have to do."

As Soldiers from 1-72nd and 302nd maneuvered their vehicles and engaged in combat operations at the KTC, others in the Close Combat Tactical Training building at Camp Casey were fighting alongside them in the computer-simulated Virtual aspect of the training.



Sgt. Scott Kim

Medics from 1st Battalion, 72nd Armor Regiment and 302nd Brigade Support Battalion load a "casualty" on a UH-60 Blackhawk during Warrior Focus, a training exercise involving the entire 1st Heavy Brigade Combat Team, Feb. 9 at Rodriguez Live Fire Complex.

"The virtual side of the exercise is real Soldiers on simulated equipment," said Maj. Judson C. Strom, the brigade plans officer. "Soldiers from 1-72 Armor Regiment are sitting inside the simulators at the CCTT building and, because they're linked using the MILES system, they can see the exercise on their screens. They'll be able to see the vehicles from their sister companies training right next to them. They move as one with the rest of the battalion."

The Virtual portion offers more to the exercise than just impressive technology, it also maximizes the number of Soldiers that are able to be trained.

"When you walk into CCTT, it looks like a warehouse full of tan cubes, but when you go in one of them you see all the controls," said Strom. "The inside of that box looks exactly like a Bradley or a tank. The Soldiers get to practice on their equipment and participate in the exercise, despite the KTC being so small. This way all four companies get to participate at one time."

While the Soldiers in the Live and Virtual actually drive their vehicles during the exercise, the Soldiers in the Constructive perform a different role.

They use a computer, containing a map of the operation and icons representing vehicles and units, to plan maneuvers.

"The Constructive part is like a board game or a war game," said Price. "They're not actually driving vehicles, but they plan how to move their forces and they move them in a computer-simulated map that allows them to fight inside that same simulation"

The Constructive portion creates a vivid battle image for command and, at the same time, gives the Soldiers involved the responsibility of acting as battle commanders within the exercise.

Even though the primary training audience was only two battalions within the brigade, the unique exercise provided training for Soldiers, staffs, and leadership at all levels.

"It requires an event like this to train the brigade and battalions war fighting capabilities," said Maj. Roger Darrell Osteen Jr., the brigade S-3 operations officer, "and even though this exercise was complex and had many moving parts, I think the training that we conducted, both live and virtual, was nothing less than superb."

In Memoriam



Pfc. Joseph A. Applegate, 34, of Jackson, Mich., died Feb. 10. He was the Chaplains Assistant assigned to Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2-2 Aviation Battalion, at K-16 Army Airfield. Applegate enlisted in the Army in July, 2008, and was assigned to 2-2 Avn. Bn. in January, 2009. He is survived by his wife and two children.



**Tune in to
"Warrior Wednesdays"
with CSM Peter D.
Burrowes,
2ID Command
Sergeant Major**

**Tune in every second Wednesday
of the Month,
3:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.**

**on AFN The Eagle at FM 88.3/5
Listen to what CSM Burrowes has to
put out to the Division.**

Send questions to : warrior.radio@yahoo.com

Remembering the Battle at Chipyeong-ni

Story & photo by
Sgt. Bo Park

Staff Writer

One of the most important battles of the Korean War took place at a little village called Chipyeong-ni, Youngpyung-gun, Gyeonggi-do, February 1951. On a stormy rainy day, hundreds of people stood on the same ground where American and French Soldiers shed their blood to commemorate the fallen Soldiers who fought for the freedom and democracy of Korea 58 years ago.

Soldiers, South Korean war veterans and locals joined Brig. Gen. Walter Golden, the assistant division commander (maneuver) for 2nd Infantry Division, Maj. Gen. Im, Guk Sun, ROK 20th Mechanized Infantry Division commander and Col. Alain Nass, Defense Attache from the French Embassy.

The victory at Chipyeong-ni is a battle to remember because of the Allied Forces' extraordinary fight in spite of the overwhelming number of the Chinese Communist Forces. Winning at Chipyeong-ni turned around the overall picture of the Korean War because the location was at a critical point in the war at the time and the victory exemplified the superior morale and tactics of the friendly forces. The 23rd Regiment Combat Team of 2ID and the attached French Army battalion brought the first defeat of the CCF since fighting began in Korea. This victory allowed the United Nations forces to push CCF to the 38th parallel.

"This fight resulted in staggering casualties of enemy forces and relatively light casualties on friendly forces," said Golden during his remarks.



Soldiers from ROK 20th Mechanized Infantry Division hold national flags of US and France in front of the Jipyung-ri memorial monument during the memorial ceremony held at Jipyung-ri (formerly Chipyeong-ni), Youngpyung-gun, Gyeonggi province Feb. 13.

Only four battalions worth of forces annihilated more than a division's size of units.

"We thank our American and French friends for their sacrifice," said Im. "As a result, (Korea) shares the values of democracy, freedom and economic prosperity."

The victory is also of great importance to the French. According to Nass, it is the very first battle that French and Korean military relations initiated,

during which two Korean Soldiers were sent to the French military academy to train.

"We feel indebted to American Soldiers who died in the battle in my town," said Kim, Jung Hyun, a local resident who lived in Chipyeong-ni for more than 30 years. "Every year, we have this ceremony. It is the least we can do to honor the foreign Soldiers who died in my country. Some of us are still here and guard this monument."

2ID spouses learn to use subway system

Story & photo by
Sgt. Kim, Hyo Joong

Staff Writer

A lot of 2nd Infantry Division Soldiers who have Families on the Korean peninsula are often separated because of work requirements. That's why the buses heading to or coming from Yongsan Garrison are always filled with Family Members and Soldiers who miss their Families, especially on weekends and holidays.

Even though the commercial inter-post bus may be costly, it is not easy for them to go off post to use Korean mass transportation. This situation led to a transportation class for 2ID spouses, which taught them how to ride the subway from Yongsan to Camp Casey.

"We have the transportation class every third Thursday of the month," said Katy Sloniker, relocation readiness program manager at Army Community Services Yongsan, who taught the class.

"However, this is the first time we prepared the class for 2ID spouses. I think it's cost-saving for them to take mass transportation. Also, it's faster



Katy Sloniker pointing, relocation readiness program manger, ACS Yongsan, explains how to transfer the subway at Dongmyo station during the transportation class for 2ID spouses.

than the post buses."

The class happened thanks to the coordination of Joann Golden, the wife of Brig. Gen. Walter M. Golden, Assistant Division Commander (Maneuver), with ACS Yongsan.

"I asked Mrs. Sloniker to have a class for 2ID spouses after I went to one of the usual classes," said Golden. "It is really nice that she is willing to do that for us."

Transportation students converged on Gate 12 of Yongsan Garrison to take the trip to Camp Casey Feb.12, while the classroom portion took place the night of Feb.11. The trip started as the group walked over to the closest subway station to Gate 12, the Noksapyeong station. Sloniker led the group to the bus stop and explained to them how they could use the bus system before they entered into the sta-

tion. She briefed the participants about the subway system, including how to find out which gate to exit, how to get on the right train and how to add money to a T-money card, which is a Korean public transportation card.

"It was my first time taking Korean mass transportation," said one of the participants, Annie Castellano-Rios, the wife of Lt. Col. Willie Rios III, 70th Brigade Support Battalion Commander, "It was really helpful for me. I learned many things about the subway system during this class. I think it would be much easier if I could read Hangul."

As the group arrived at the Bosan train station, which is near to Camp Casey's front gate, they went to a restaurant to eat lunch, where Camp Casey ACS members were waiting for the 2ID spouses.

Golden also gave a word of advice for the people who were afraid of going off-post and using mass transportation.

"I suggested they get their friends, take the class and learn together how to use it first," said Golden. "They'll feel more comfortable too, if they tried and helped each other."

WARRIOR NEWS BRIEFS

ESL Class Available

Army Community Service is offering an English as a second language class at the Casey ACS classroom.

Classes are available every Tuesday and Thursday 11:30 a.m - 1:30 p.m.

Also volunteers would be appreciated for teaching Korean as a second language at ACS - Casey and Red Cloud.

For more information contact Joseph Lee at 730-3032.

Annual Aviation Birthday Ball

The Second Combat Aviation Brigade and The Morning Calm Chapter of the Army Aviation Association of America will sponsor the Annual Aviation Birthday Ball on Friday, April 17, 2009 at the Grand Hyatt Hotel in Seoul, South Korea.

The attire is Mess Dress, Dress Blues or Class As, or Formal Civilian Dress.

The event is open to all military service members and their Families.

It begins at 5:15 p.m. and the dinner begins at 6:15 p.m. Tickets are \$45 and for more information, contact Capt. Laura McKenna at 753-5863 or 010-5846-1581.

Yung Joc Concert

Southern rap artist Yung Joc will

perform at the Gateway Club on Camp Casey Feb. 27 at 7 p.m.

The Navy Entertainment and Armed Forces Entertainment present the the free concert in support of Yung Joc's latest release entitled "Mr. Robinson's Neighborhood."

African Culture Center Tour

The Camp Casey USO is sponsoring a trip to the Africa Culture Center on Mar.7.

The tickets cost \$32 and include transportation and tickets to the Culture Center. The tour consists of the African Culture Center tour, a trip to Home Plus, and dinner at Outback Steakhouse.

It is recommended that each person bring extra spending money.

Deadline for signing up is Mar. 5. For more information contact Sophia Lim at 730-4813.

Pool Tournament

Care for a few games of eight-ball? How about nine-ball? The choice is yours.

The Camp Red Cloud Community Activity Center has pool tables set aside for you and your friends to participate in weekly tournaments, free of charge.

The event is held Sundays at 1 p.m. at the CRC CAC.

Free snacks will be provided for the participants as well as

prizes for the winners.

For more information contact the CRC CAC at 732-6246.

Ping Pong Tournament

The Camp Stanley Community Activity Center holds a ping pong tournament every Sunday at 2 p.m.

Free refreshments will be provided and prizes will be awarded to the winners.

For more information contact the Camp Stanley CAC at 732-5366.

GED Review Class

Volunteers assist Family members preparing for a GED test.

Reviews are conducted on four courses of study: Science, Mathematics, Social Studies and English (reading and writing).

For more information, call 730-4602.

Passport, SOFA Visa, Report Birth Abroad Processing

Army Community Service offers passport, SOFA visa, report birth abroad processing.

Hours are Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday 8 a.m - 5 p.m.

For more information, call ACS office at:

730-3107 Camp Casey
732-7779 Camp Red Cloud
732-5883 Camp Stanley

Movies

Camp Casey

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

February 27...Friday the 13th, Valkyrie
February 28...Friday the 13th, Valkyrie
March 1...Seven Pounds, Valkyrie
March 2...Friday the 13th
March 3...No Showing
March 4...Marley and Me
March 5...No Showing
March 6...Fired Up, Doubt
March 7...The Unborn, Fired Up
March 8...The Spirit, The Unborn
March 9...Fired Up
March 10...No Showing
March 11...The Spirit
March 12...No Showing

Camp Red Cloud

Show times: Fri. 7 & 9 p.m., Sat.- Thu. 7 p.m.

February 27...He's Just Not That Into You
Cadillac Records
February 28...Nothing Like Holidays
March 1...Valkyrie
March 2...Yes Man
March 3...Marley and Me
March 4...No Showing
March 5...Friday the 13th
March 6...Friday the 13th
March 7...The Unborn
March 8...The Spirit
March 9...Bedtime Stories
March 10...Seven Pounds
March 11...No Showing
March 12...Fired Up

Camp Hovey

Show times: Mon.-Sun. 7 p.m.

February 27...Seven Pounds
February 28...Valkyrie
March 1...Friday the 13th
March 2...No Showing
March 3...Valkyrie
March 4...No Showing
March 5...Fired Up
March 6...Marley and Me
March 7...Seven Pounds
March 8...Fired Up
March 9...No Showing
March 10...Doubt
March 11...No Showing

Camp Stanley

Show times: Sun- Mon. & Thu. 7 p.m., Sat., Wed. & Fri. 7 & 9 p.m.

February 27...Valkyrie
Marley and Me
February 28...He's Just Not That Into You
Cadillac Records
March 1...He's Just Not That Into You
March 2...Valkyrie
March 3...No Showing
March 4...Fired Up, Fired Up
March 5...Transporter 3
March 6...Punisher: War Zone, Valkyrie
March 7...Friday the 13th, Cadillac Records
March 8...Friday the 13th
March 9...Seven Pounds
March 10...No Showing
March 11...Street Fighter

Camp Humphreys

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

February 27...Friday the 13th
February 28...Marley and Me,
Friday the 13th
March 1...Marley and Me, Friday the 13th
March 2...Valkyrie
March 3...Valkyrie
March 4...Doubt
March 5...Doubt
March 6...Fired Up
March 7...Delgo, Fired Up
March 8...Delgo, Fired Up
March 9...The Spirit
March 10...The Spirit
March 11...The Unborn
March 12...The Unborn
March 13...Street Fighter

CHAPEL SERVICE TIMES

Camp Red Cloud

Protestant:
11 a.m. Sunday
Catholic:
11:30 a.m. M-F
9 a.m. Sunday
KATUSA
7 p.m. Sunday
COGIC
12:30 p.m. Sunday

Camp Casey

Stone Chapel
Protestant:
10 a.m. Sunday
KATUSA:
6:30 p.m. Tuesday

Memorial Chapel
Gospel:
11 a.m. Sunday
KATUSA:
6:30 p.m. Tuesday

West Casey Chapel

Protestant:
10:30 a.m. Sunday
Catholic:
12 p.m. Sunday
KATUSA:
6:30 p.m. Thursday
LDS:
2 p.m. Sunday
Jewish:
6:30 p.m. Friday

Camp Hovey

Hovey Chapel
Catholic:
9:30 a.m. Sunday
Protestant:
11 a.m. Sunday

Old Hovey Chapel
Bldg. 3592
Orthodox:
10 a.m 1st and 2nd
Sunday

KATUSA:
6 p.m. Tuesday

Crusader Chapel

Protestant:
11 a.m. Sunday

Camp Stanley

Protestant:
10 a.m. Sunday
Gospel:
12:30 a.m. Sunday
Catholic:
11:30 a.m. Sunday
KATUSA:
7 p.m. Tuesday

Camp Castle

Protestant:
10 a.m. Sunday
KATUSA:
6 p.m. Tuesday

Camp Jackson Auditorium

KATUSA:
9 a.m. Sunday

Points of Contact:
USAG-Red Cloud:
732-6073/6706

CRC Catholic:
732-6016

Hovey Chapel:
730-5119

Memorial Chapel:
730-2594

West Casey:
730-3014

Stanley:
732-5238

Humphreys:
753-7952

Castle: 730-6889
LDS: 730-5682

1775-1840: Revolutionary War & early US

The history of the American Noncommissioned Officer (NCO) began in 1775 with the birth of the US Army. The US NCO did not copy the British. He, like the US Army itself, blended traditions of the French, British and Prussian armies into a uniquely American institution. As the years progressed, the American political system, disdain for the aristocracy, social attitudes, and the vast westward expanses further removed the US NCO from his European counterparts and created a truly American NCO.



1861-1885: Civil & Indian Wars

During the Civil War, NCOs led the lines of skirmishers, which preceded a regiment. NCOs also carried the national and regimental colors of their units. This deadly task was crucial to maintaining regimental alignment and aiding commanders in locating units on the battlefield.



1902-1909: Early 20th Century

The duties of the NCO were further defined during the early 20th Century. The five or six pages of instructions that von Steuben's Regulations had provided in 1778 grew to 417 pages when the NCOs Manual was written in 1909, reflecting the greater complexity and bureaucratization of a modern army.



1930-1948: Post-WW I & the Interwar Years

Since the Army had given little thought to raising a wartime cadre of NCOs during World War I, it had to default to its traditional method in which officers identified potential NCOs in the ranks. Training for these men after their selection was completely on-the-job. While this practice worked well in the small Regular Army and the National Guard where officers had sufficient time to know their men, it could not work as well in the press of organizing, training, and deploying new units, particularly when so many of the junior officers had themselves only recently received their commissions. Thus, many units suffered from inadequate NCO leadership until commanders learned how to identify men who would perform well or Soldiers demonstrated a talent for leadership on the battlefield.

Warrior NCO Spotlight: Culinary crusader crafts cuisine

Story & photo by
Master Sgt. Donald Sparks

Public Affairs Chief

Sgt. September Dowling's passion for her craft is evident as she prepares one of her signature desserts - homemade banana pudding. The life of an Army chef is hard work - balancing the Soldier skills and preparing meals to feed hundreds of Soldiers, but for Dowling, it's a job she truly enjoys.

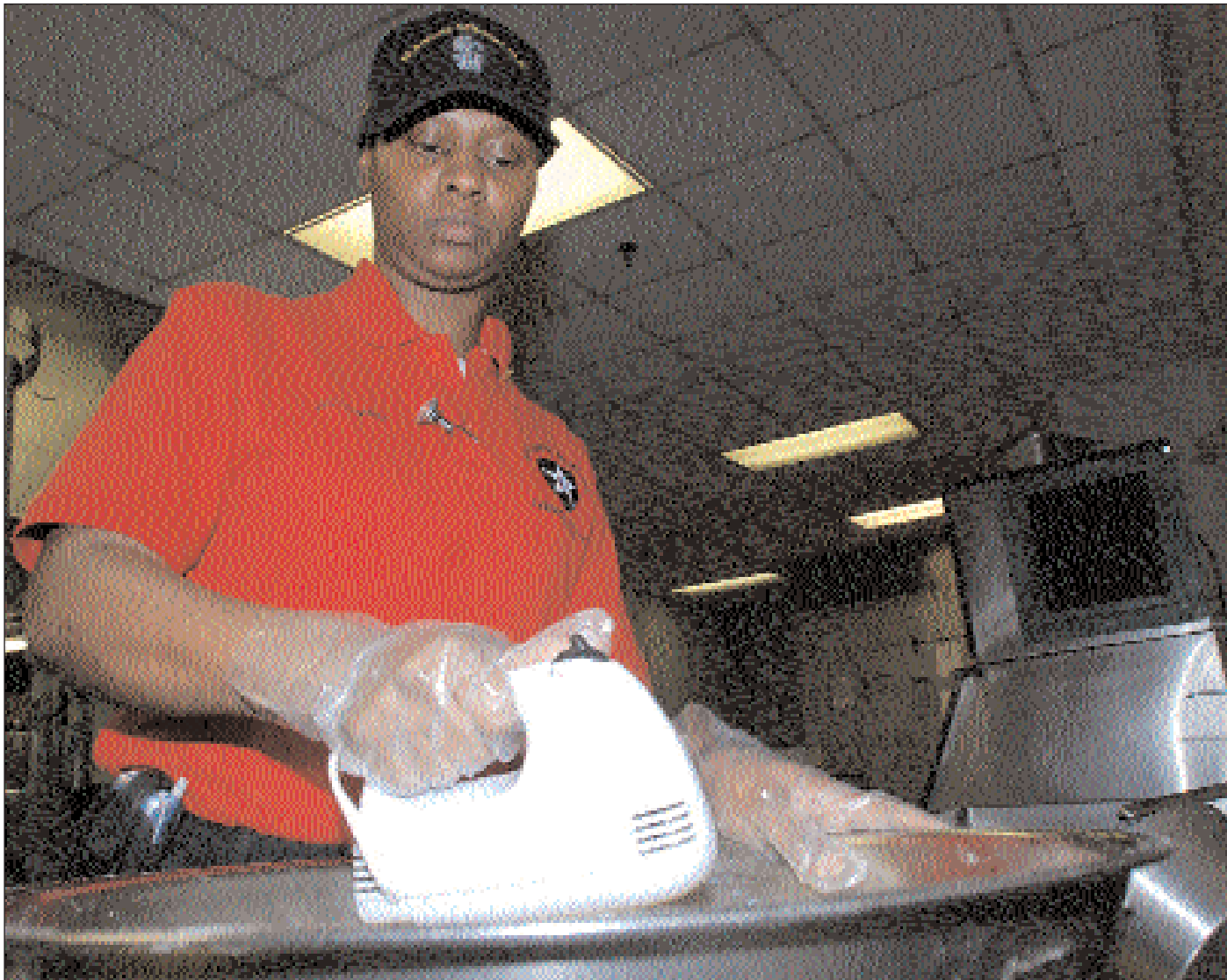
Dowling, assigned to Headquarters, Headquarters Support Company, Division Special Troops Battalion, joined the US Army for leadership and educational opportunities. Currently a shift leader at the Kilbourne Dining Facility on Camp Red Cloud, the 34-year-old Boston native is pursuing her educational goals while enrolled at the University of Phoenix seeking a degree in biology.

Her leadership goals were met recently as she won the Area I NCO Chef of the Quarter in her first board competition. Despite the personal accolades she garnered, Dowling admitted the accomplishment meant more for the four Soldiers under her charge whom she motivates on a daily basis.

"I think it was a positive example for me to set for my Soldiers," Dowling said. "It shows that if you study hard and dedicate yourself to excellence, you can accomplish anything."

Dowling, who has been in 2nd Infantry Division for nearly four months, said the best part of being a chef is the social interaction of meeting troops on a daily basis.

"It makes me happy to serve a meal



Sgt. September Dowling, a cook with HHSC, DSTB, 2ID, prepares dessert for Soldiers inside Kilbourne DFAC, Feb. 19.

the Soldiers enjoy," she said. "Food is a morale booster and if the food isn't good, then the Soldiers aren't happy. So I'm proud of the part I play in taking care of the Soldiers' morale."

One of the Soldiers at the Kilbourne

Dining Facility who thinks highly of Dowling is Pfc. Aeishya Grant. Dowling assisted and studied with her as she competed and won the Area I Junior Chef of the Quarter.

"She is a good NCO, she looks out

for her Soldiers best interest and she's always there when we need her and willing to help in any way she can," Grant said. "She is my mentor and a strong female in my eyes. She is the type of sergeant I hope to be one day."

1949-1959: WW II

The Army's experience with NCOs during WW II was much like its experience during WW I. One important difference was that while NCO training was still on-the-job, many wartime units had a lengthy period of training in the US before deploying overseas, giving many new NCOs invaluable leadership experience. On the other hand, many units spent much more time in combat than during the earlier war. Casualties and other losses forced commanders to watch for potential new NCOs among their men, and these men usually had only their natural leadership talent and combat experience to guide them once promoted.

1951-1970 Korean War & Pre-Vietnam era

During the Korean War, the massive expansion of the active Army combined with the decision not to keep draftees and mobilized reserve component Soldiers on active duty for the duration created serious personnel turbulence. By late 1951, many NCO positions were filled by enlisted men with less than two years of service; this situation would only worsen as the war continued. Some of these men did reveal a natural talent for their duties, but while most were diligent, they lacked the expertise provided by lengthy experience and extensive training.



Mentoring passed down from one NCO to another

Commentary by Master Sgt. Donald Sparks

Public Affairs Chief

It was several years ago as a young staff sergeant, a sergeant major told me, "You can choose your mentor, but your mentor can't choose you." We were having a conversation and as he shared his knowledge and wisdom on how he advanced through the ranks to wear a star in between his chevrons and rockers, I realized the importance of that statement.

I began to recall and remember the NCOs who were part of my professional and personal development. Some years later, as the US Army celebrates 2009 as the Year of the NCO, I still have fond and not so fond recollections of the mentors I chose to pattern my military career.

Although everyone who went to basic training can recall their drill sergeants, it was my first duty station in 1988 that I tapped my first mentor - Staff Sgt. Johnson. At 6 feet, 5 inches, he towered over me when he conducted our morning in-ranks inspections. I heard he was a former All-Army boxer in the days of his youth, and truth be told he still carried the swagger of a title fighter the way he entered a room.

He was a no-nonsense leader and quietly conducted his day-to-day missions, but always had a word when it came to teaching me the skills of my craft as a Soldier. He insisted that anyone can come to work each day and do their job, but what do you do when you're off the clock is important as well. He encouraged me to join the color guard, take college classes, learn chess and read a book every now and then.

I remember the proud smile he had after I marched as a member of the color guard during a change of command ceremony for our brigade commander. After the ceremony he praised me for looking like a Soldier. Shortly afterwards, the entire color guard was recommended for Army Achievement Medals for our outstanding performance - this would be my very first award in my Army career.

1970-2000 Vietnam, post-Vietnam & Desert Storm

Vietnam was a junior leaders' war, and much of the burden of combat leadership fell on the NCO. The active Army expanded rapidly to meet the demands of the new war, greatly increasing the need for NCOs. The Army had planned to meet this need in large part by mobilizing large numbers of experienced NCOs from the reserve components, but President Lyndon B. Johnson prohibited this action. This decision, along with the high personnel turbulence caused by the two-year active duty limit on draftees, led the Army to create the NCO Officers Candidate Course to train promising recruits to assume NCO leadership positions. Modeled on the officer candidate course, NCO candidate schools were established at Fort Benning, Fort Knox and Fort Sill. After a 10-week course, most graduates were promoted to sergeant; the top five percent in each class were promoted to staff sergeant. After ten weeks of practical experience in a stateside unit, the new NCOs were sent to Vietnam. Senior NCOs viewed the program's graduates (whom they nicknamed "Shake 'n' Bake NCOs) with mixed feelings -- many felt it undermined the prestige of the NCO Corps, but few of these senior NCOs could say they actually knew an unqualified graduate of this course.

2001-Present: Sept. 11, 2001 to the Present

On September 11, 2001, members of the al-Qaeda terrorist network attacked the World Trade Center and the Pentagon; these acts plunged the United States into a war with Islamic fundamentalists. Seeking to destroy one haven for the terrorists, the United States launched attacks on Afghanistan. Afghanistan's government, a radical Islamic fundamentalist group known as the Taliban, openly supported the terrorist al-Qaeda organization. They wrongly assumed that their landlocked Central Asian country was impenetrable to attack by the United States and its allies.

Commo critical to coordination of commands

Story & Photo by
Sgt. 1st Class Krishna M. Gamble

2nd CAB Public Affairs

They are alone and unafraid on the battlefield. They work, eat and sleep in isolated areas with limited access. Mother Nature is their greatest challenge, but the signal systems support and multichannel radio systems Soldiers of Company C, 602nd Aviation Support Battalion, 2nd Combat Aviation Brigade had to endure because without them, the critical information flow from company to battalion and battalion to brigade would be lost.

These fearless communications gurus are the Soldiers responsible for keeping the lines of communication open for 2nd CAB assets during the 2nd Infantry Division Warrior Focus Battalion Training Density exercise Feb 4-12. The military occupational specialties are two of those critical skills that are the hallmarks of battlefield and training exercise success. One of the key systems used by these signal specialists is the Retransmission station, or RETRANS.

"Commanders can't command without communications," said Capt. Benjamin Van Meter, commander, Co. C. "RETRANS allows for communication between units for a distance of 20-30 kilometers depending on elevations and barriers."

Van Meter said this is the first time in more than a year that this particular system has been set and used in a training exercise. RETRANS stations have become critical communications assets as it offers the commander a valuable alternative when multichannel equipment is in short supply or absent.

So, how does it work? Radio systems capable of transmitting data, such as the Enhanced Position Location Reporting System (EPLRS) radio, are



Pfc. DeAndre Sample, a signal systems support specialist from Virginia currently assigned to Co. C, 602nd ASB, 2nd CAB, checks the radio of an HUMVEE as he performs a systems check for the RETRANS at the Tactical Training Area Tom located near Chung Ju, South Korea Feb. 8.

cross connected so that either radio can act as the receiver. Whichever radio receives a signal first allows other radios to operate and/or talk directly to each other through the RETRANS station. For example, if a brigade command post is moving to a certain location at 4 p.m., the RETRANS station provides a constant communications link back to the division tactical operation center.

"Once we set up the antennas, we monitor the communication channels for clarity. We make adjustments as needed until all transmissions are clear and then we periodically monitor all transmissions to make sure they remain clear," said Pfc. Frank Martin, Co. C, signal systems support specialist from Washington.

"The radios can't be more than four seconds off," said Pfc. DeAndre Sample, Co. C, signal systems support specialist from Virginia. "If they are, they have to be reset. We can't have a break in communications."

"The RETRANS system is an FM communications platform that is under used by units and greatly increases the overall ability of units to communicate and better perform their missions," wrote Master Sgt. Craig Williams in a 2004 Technology Industry article. Williams served with the 1-508th Infantry Battalion based out of Vicenza, Italy as a part of the Northern Front in Iraq.

Company C 602nd ASB Soldiers support all 2nd CAB field training exercises across the peninsula.

Nightmare Soldiers learn importance of perimeter security

By Sgt. M. Benjamin Gable

2nd CAB Public Affairs

Soldiers of 3rd Battalion, 2nd Aviation Regiment (General Support Aviation Battalion), 2nd Combat Aviation Brigade, pride themselves on thriving as a medical evacuation company, a heavy lift company and a forward support battalion, among other attributes. But it was their skill on the front line that was tested Feb. 8 when a cluster of local nationals approached the fortified base searching for answers.

A local youth was allegedly shot and killed by a Soldier during demonstrations days prior. As morning gave way to noon, the group of nationals approached peacefully, but they wanted answers; and they wanted them immediately.

As they waited for a mediator who would speak to the locals and address their concerns, Nightmare Soldiers stood firm in their positions behind barbs of razor wire and barriers, in foxholes and atop military vehicles with their weapons fixed on the perimeter to ensure the safety and integrity of their forward positioning. But before the media-

tor could arrive, the once peaceful crowd turned hostile.

The crowd dispersed into small groups of two and three persons, pulling at and attempting to penetrate the concertina wire separating them from what they believe to be their resolutions. The group threw rocks, knocked over signs and advanced on a military vehicle filled with fresh water approaching the forward deployed base. Hostilities continued as Soldiers with 3-2 GSAB moved outside of their positions to approach the rioters and quell the uprising. The Soldiers banded together in small groups to attempt to calm the situation.

While Nightmare Soldiers busied themselves with the group outside the perimeter, one of their senior leaders, 1st Sgt. Casey Jones, Company D first sergeant, was shot from an unknown sniper. As Jones lay on the ground, Soldiers called for medics. He was quickly recovered from the battlefield and taken to an aide station where he was treated for his injuries.

Following the orders of Command Sgt. Major Scott Campbell, 3-2GSAB command ser-

geant major, Nightmare Soldiers regained control and brought the rioting to an end. Two rioters were detained and the others were congregated into a safe area where they spoke with a mediator and their concerns addressed; a peaceful resolution after an aggressive demonstration.

This was, in fact, a training exercise, pitting Soldiers from 3-2 GSAB and the 602nd Aviation Support Battalion against real-world scenarios. It was the culminating exercise for the 2nd CAB following War fighter. Called the Talon focus Battalion Training Density, Soldiers hone in on critical tasks and tactical movements as battalion commanders evaluate their war-fighting and battle command capabilities.

According to Capt. Kenneth Ferguson, Co. D commander, the three dimensional training helps Soldiers attain a level of proficiency to better defend the US and its allies. Soldiers must act decisively on the battlefield and react quickly to every situation.

"It's important to train in a tactical environment during peacetime to prepare Soldiers for events during war time," he said.



Pvt Ju Ho Ma

Sgt. John Avila, Company D, 3-2 GSAB, 2nd CAB, call for a medic for an injured Korean citizen during a mock riot held at Tactical Training Area Tom Feb.8. During the battalion's exercise evaluation, KATUSA Soldiers acted as rioters an attempted to receive help from US Army Soldiers after an alleged death of a local Korean male. The rioters tested the ability of the Soldiers to handle heated verbal and physical confrontations.