

*39th TRANSPORTATION BN.
FRG NEWSLETTER*

AUGUST

2004



COMMANDER'S CORNER



As your new Acting Battalion Commander, I want to take this opportunity to introduce myself, and my family. I am Major Craig Jorgenson and my wife, Linn and I, have four children: Michael, Todd, Riley and Joey. We are coming from Fort Leavenworth, Kansas where we were for the last year. Previous to that, we have had transportation assignments at Fort Eustis, Virginia; Oakland, California; Fort Carson, Colorado; and even spent three years here in Kaiserslautern, from 1995-1998. We are very excited about being stationed again in the KMC and especially excited about our assignment with the 39th Transportation Battalion.

In the few short weeks that I have been here, I am very impressed with the efforts of the Family Readiness Group. Already there has been a monthly meeting, monthly luncheon, volunteer award winner, and a summer picnic. Additionally, I have met with your volunteer leader and our FRG staff representative to hear more about what the organization has accomplished over the last several months – well done FRG!

As our deployed organizations continue to get accolades from the senior leaders with whom they are serving, you too deserve many thanks for a job well done. You are taking care of one another while remaining strong throughout the deployment of your husbands and wives, moms and dads, sons and daughters. Our thoughts are with you and your soldiers each and every day.

I would like to add a warm welcome to our new battalion Command Sergeant Major, CSM Rodriguez. He is coming to us from Beaumont, Texas. His wife and children will join him at a later date.

If there is anything you need from the 39th Transportation Battalion, please do not hesitate to call our Rear Detachment Commander, CPT Kirsten Smith at DSN 483-6325 CIV 0631-411-6325 or our FRG Staff Representative, Mr. Mark Simpson at DSN 483-6450 CIV 0631-411-6450. They are here for you.

Battalion (MC)

Thank you all for the warm welcome you have shown my family as we get reacquainted with the Kaiserslautern area.

MAJ Craig Jorgenson

FRG FAMILY PICNIC

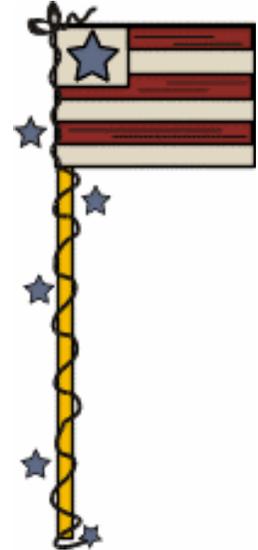




CONGRATULATIONS! SPC NOFSINGER



*COL Hatch, JLC
Commander, and CSM
Seals, JLC Command
Sergeant Major are seen
here presenting SPC
Nofsinger with a
commander's coin from
General B.B. Bell,
USAEUR Commanding
General. Congratulations,
SPC Nofsinger, on being
one of the few chosen to
receive this award!*



There comes a time in the Army when we must say "farewell". This month our Family Readiness Group (FRG) will be going through a transition by saying, "Good-bye" to the HHD Commander, CPT Leslie DeSander. Leslie has been a great asset in providing support and funding to our FRG. Leslie, please know that you will be missed, and we wish you the best in your future endeavors.



In keeping with Army tradition... when saying our farewells, we always say "Welcome" to a replacement.

The FRG says, welcome to the incoming HHD, Commander, CPT Brian Smith. We look forward to CPT Smith and his wife, Barbara, becoming part of our FRG family.

This month the FRG has been successful in making sure the deployed units within the battalion received phone cards. The FRG owes a big "thank you" to the Kaiserslautern Military Community's USO for helping us help our soldiers. Continue to look for news of our next FRG meeting during the month of September.

As always, thanks to each of you for making our FRG such a great success!

*Angela Bellamy
FRG Leader*



Are we entertained?

So what do we do when we are not working 13 to 14 hours a day? Well I'm glad you asked. To begin, there really isn't a lot to do here in Bagram except work, eat and sleep but when we do have free time we find a way to fill those hours.

I guess to start we can look at what the MWR facility has to offer. It normally hosts all kinds of movies, dances, spades competition and an assortment of other games or events. Every week they have a Salsa Night, R&B Night and Country Music Night where people come, dance and hang out. I don't go to these events, but I am sure some people enjoy this time off from work to socialize, dance and eat popcorn. They always have popcorn.

Then there are the MWR events, where we get semi-famous actors, singers or groups who come and perform or sign autographs. So far we have had Vince Vaughn (from the movie Dodgeball), Toby Keith, Ted Nugent, and the Hooters Girls come and visit. I saw the Hooters Girls, they really just stood there and waived, one of them sang a song, and then they gave away pictures. I was thoroughly satisfied.

So what else is there to do on base? Well recently they opened some new stores, a food court, and an educational center. At the food court you can get Burger King, pizza or Thai Food. So far only a couple people have gotten sick and the Thai restaurant was only shut down once. The prices are a little ridiculous but all in all it's not too bad. I still prefer the all you can eat free food they offer at the dining facility, but that's just me. The educational center has free Internet use and offers anyone a chance to take college courses. And the shops offer all kinds of unique gifts. One shop has old Soviet Union Era hats, helmets, posters and artifacts; another has these really cool robes that have imitation tiger or leopard fur (yes I plan on getting one).



CPT Newman & Toby Keith



*SGT Sagram (Germany), SGT Hernado (HI),
SMA Preston, SPC Nofsinger (Germany),
TSgt Cunningham (VA), SGT Henderson (Reserve, TX)*

Then there is always the opportunity to get in shape. Here on Bagram we have one main Gym where they have all kinds of weights, machines and equipment. There is a smaller Gym located near our neighboring unit that many of us use, and shortly they will finish our very own facility that they are building in our parking lot. I just don't know where we are gonna park now. But the opportunity to get in shape is there and many have taken advantage. I know for a fact that several different soldiers have lost 10, 15 and even 30 pounds; I even lost 10 pounds myself, but I have a feeling that was due to the lack of certain beverages then working out.

So there is a lot one can do here on Bagram when you are not at work, and by far everyone's favorite activity is to go to the Bazaar. The bazaar is held every Friday, where local nationals come on base and sell all kinds of jewelry, rugs, blankets, clothes, old weapons and movies.

There are a myriad of things to buy from over 20 different vendors; you can even get your picture taken on a camel (though I don't think he enjoys it). So how much is this merchandise? Well that depends on how well you bargain. The most popular purchase is the pirated movies. You can get all kinds of movies, TV shows and new brand new releases. Just yesterday I bought Alien Vs Predator, not a bad movie; I might have enjoyed it more if this guys head didn't get in the way. See they copy the movie in the theatre with a digital video recorder and sometimes other moviegoers get in the way. Sometimes the movies don't work at all, but considering they are only \$3 a piece, and can get up to 5 movies on one dvd, it not a bad deal.

That is the basic entertainment we are offered here while deployed in the CJOA. Oh they did run AFN cable to all the huts, so now we can watch the Olympics, pre-season football and Days of our Lives from are very own beds.

39TH TRANS. BN



618TH



AFGHANISTAN

Welcome

On 09 August we welcomed the 268th CargoTransfer Company (CTC) from Ft. Buchanan, Puerto Rico. The 268th will have 44 soldiers stationed in Bagram Airfield, and will work the Surface mission as well as the Inbound and Outbound Air Cargo Yards. Their professionalism showed in the speedy way they took control of operations, ensuring a smooth transition for the departure on 24 August of the 453rd CTC.



Operations

For the month of August we have planned and executed over 668 missions, moved 9,115 passengers and close to 2,600 s-tons of cargo by air. We have brought in and manage an excess of 800 sustainment containers, the life of the base and its supported Forward Operating Bases (FOBs).



We also redeployed TF1-501st, out of Salerno and TF Phoenix, out of Kabul, with their redeployment. This entailed the proper documentation and movement of over 350 pieces of containerized and equipment on flat racks within a very tight timeline.



We assisted these units with paperwork, container and site prep and management, loading and offloading equipment as well as escorts to carrier assets. And finally, CPT Rivera and SSG McDonough, 453rd CTC, were recognized by the Czech Special Operations Forces commander for the air movement support provided to their SOF teams during their tenure here OEF IV and V. On 05 August we celebrated the return of SSG Givan from Arefjan, Kuwait where he was conducting redistribution operations of 25th ID equipment to Afghanistan.

CONGRATULATIONS!



*We welcomed a new addition to the 618th family.
Her name is Lilyanna Flores and she was born
12 August 04 at Landstuhl Medical Center.
She tipped the scale at 6 lbs and
measured 19-3/4 inches.
Congratulations to SPC Hector Flores,
his wife Rosa and little Daisy.*

39TH TRANS. BN



612TH



KUWAIT/ IRAQ

Greetings from Kuwait! Average daily temperature is a cool 115 degrees with humidity (yikes!!). Next month we will have the heat, more sand storms and desert flies to look forward to. The soldiers from the 612th MCT are on day #227 of providing movement control and customs clearance support for all US/Coalition Forces and US State Dept personnel transiting the Kuwait/Iraq Coalition Military Border.



612th soldiers stand in the newly erected tower "Firebase Brownie" on the Coalition Military Border



CW2 Rhodes provides an operations brief to CFLCC DCG, MG Speers, and the CENTCOM Chief of Staff, MG Castilla.



Soldiers that have been on R&R leave
SFC Davis, PFC McGuire, PFC Williams, CPT Aubert, SGT Stevenson, SPC Wagner, SPC Kramer, CPT Mashack, SGT Clavijo



On 31 July 2004, the 612th MCT received an additional asset to assist in providing customs inspection support. A new 1.5 million dollar Mobile Vehicle Cargo Inspection System will be used to detect contra-band entering the Kuwait border from Iraq.



CONGRATULATIONS!



SGT Carlos Clavijo recently married Diana Alvarez on 7 AUG '04 in California while on R&R leave.

COMMUNICATION??????

ONE REASON OUR ARMED SERVICES HAVE TROUBLE OPERATING JOINTLY IS THAT WE DON'T SPEAK THE SAME LANGUAGE. FOR INSTANCE, IF YOU TOLD NAVY PERSONNEL TO "SECURE A BUILDING," THEY WOULD TURN OFF THE LIGHTS AND LOCK THE DOORS. ARMY PERSONNEL WOULD OCCUPY THE BUILDING SO NO ONE COULD ENTER. MARINES WOULD ASSAULT THE BUILDING, CAPTURE IT, AND DEFEND IT WITH SUPPRESSIVE FIRE AND CLOSE COMBAT. THE AIR FORCE, ON THE OTHER HAND, WOULD TAKE OUT A THREE-YEAR LEASE WITH AN OPTION TO BUY.

ANOTHER PROBLEM IS A LACK OF UNIFORMITY IN OUR ACRONYMS. DID YOU KNOW THERE ARE 18 DIFFERENT MILITARY ACRONYMS FOR THE LETTERS SEA (MOST OF WHICH ARE USED BY THE NAVY). THERE ARE OTHER ACRONYMS USED BY BUSINESS MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS THAT GET INTEGRATED INTO OUR LINGO (IN SOME BRANCHES, THAT'S LINGUISTIC GRAMMARS ONLINE). HERE ARE A FEW HELPFUL ONES THAT I'VE COME ACROSS.

PICNIC, PROBLEM IN CHAIR NOT COMPUTER

BEER, BEHAVIOR, EFFECTS, EXPECTATION, RESULTS

IWI, HUSBAND IS VILLAGE IDIOT (ACTUAL ACRONYM USED BY SOME NURSING PERSONNEL TO DESCRIBE A PATIENT'S HUSBAND WHO ACTS IRRATIONALLY)

PLOTTA, PRESS LOTS OF NEWS TO ABORT

GOD, GOD ONLY KNOWS

ADON DDD, APOPLEXY, EPILEPSY, INJURY, OPIUM OR OTHER DRUGS, URACEMIA, DEAD DRUNK AND DIABETES - ACRONYM USED BY MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS TO ACCESS UNCONSCIOUS PATIENT

TINA, THERE IS NO ALTERNATIVE

TOBASH, TAKE OUT BACK AND SHOOT

WTFM, WHAT THE F*CK ARE YOU SAYING

MILITARY BRAT

I AM A MILITARY BRAT. MY HOMETOWN IS NOWHERE...MY FRIENDS ARE EVERYWHERE. I GREW UP WITH THE KNOWLEDGE THAT HOME IS WHERE THE HEART AND FAMILY ARE...WITH NO DEPENDENCE ON THE DWELLING. MOBILITY IS MY WAY OF LIFE. SOME WOULD WONDER ABOUT MY ROOTS. YET THEY ARE AS DEEP AND STRONG AS THE MIGHTY OARS. I SINK THEM QUICKLY ABSORBING ALL AN AREA OFFERS...HOPEFULLY GIVING ENRICHMENT IN RETURN. TRAVEL HAS TAUGHT ME TO BE OPEN...SHARING HANDS WITH THE UNIVERSE. I FIND BROTHERHOOD IN ALL MEN. FAREWELLS ARE NEVER EASY. YET EVEN IN SORROW COMES STRENGTH AND ABILITY TO FACE TOMORROW WITH ANTICIPATION...IF I LEAVE ONE PLACE FEELING THAT HALF MY WORLD HAS BEEN LEFT BEHIND. I ALSO KNOW THAT THE OTHER HALF IS STILL WAITING TO BE WITH ME. FRIENDSHIPS

Everyone from the 612th would like to thank our Family Readiness Group for its outstanding support. All of the care packages, phone cards and sunscreen are truly appreciated. Your contributions directly affect improvements in our quality of life.



THOUGHTS FROM OUR CHILDREN

I love you and
miss you daddy!

Your little girl,
Mariah



If you would like your child's picture in the next newsletter, please email photo/message to: DrueAnna Newman firenicegarden@yahoo.com. Please, put 39th Trans. in subject. Parents please continue to send pictures and messages in for the newsletter. I am sure your loved one that is deployed enjoys seeing pictures from home. There is no limit to how many times you can post your child's picture/message. Send in a new picture/message each month, your deployed loved one will thank you for it.

Lets not forget that the message does not have to go to just your child's loved one, there are many single soldiers out there that would love the support as well.

MONTHLY VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Josh Brunson

Jacob Bellamy

Holly Bellamy

These teenagers faithfully and cheerfully provide child care for FRG meetings and functions monthly. We truly appreciate all you do for the FRG!



The month of July was the Kaiserslautern Army Community Volunteer of the Quarter Luncheon. Mrs. Newman was recognized as one of the volunteer's of the Quarter. The pictures show the great support Mrs. Newman received from the command at the luncheon.



You can now view the newsletter on the following website:

www.21tsc.army.mil/1_tmca/bn/thirtynine/thirtyninetrans.htm

It is a little slow pulling the newsletter up right now, but we are working on the problem. Please have patience with us.

Thank you,
DrueAnna Newman

CARROT CAKE RECIPE

2 cups flour
2 cups sugar
1 teaspoon baking powder
1 teaspoon baking soda
1 teaspoon cinnamon
3 cups finely shredded carrot
1 cup cooking oil
4 eggs

CREAM CHEESE FROSTING

2 3-ounce packages cream cheese
½ cup softened butter
2 teaspoons vanilla
4 ½ to 4 ¾ cups powdered sugar

415TH BSB ARMY FAMILY ACTION PLAN “A CHANCE TO CHANGE TOMORROW”

The Army Family Action Plan (AFAP) provides member of the community the opportunity to raise issues that affect and impact their quality of life.

AFAP issues from the field provide a snapshot in time, pinpointing the well-being concerns of Soldiers and families.

AFAP continues to improve standards of living for soldiers, families, all military personnel and DoD employees.

The 415th BSB will hold it's annual Army Family Action Plan Conference October 19th & 20th at Armstrong's, 0800-1600

There are several ways to participate in the 2004 AFAP Conference.

- Be a delegate. Attend the conference and share your issues with your community. Work with other community members to better the KMC.
- Submit an issue at an area issue box. Issue boxes are located throughout the community
- Assist the focus groups by volunteering to be a facilitator or recorder

Active duty and retired military personnel, DoD/DA civilians, National Guard, Reserve Component and their family members are welcome to submit issues and participate in the conference.

There will be several focus groups. Possible focus groups are: Teens (composes entirely of teens), Health/Dental Care, Community Support, Children & Youth, Housing & Public Works, Consumer Services, DoD/DA Civilians and Soldier Support

If you are interested in letting your voice be heard, contact the Army Family Action Plan Program Coordinator or the Army Family Action Plan Action Officer at Army Community Resources:

DSN: 489-7521

COM: 0631-536-7521

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