



**4-3 ADA BN**  
**“I Yield Not, I Strike”**

Battalion Newsletter  
March 2004



Greetings to Soldiers, Family Members and Friends of the I Strike Battalion,

No sooner had we arrived in Kuwait, and 4-3 ADA soldiers have already made their mark. The Commanding General (CG) Major General John S. Batiste was visiting soldiers from the Division as they underwent some extensive training for our upcoming mission and he had some very positive words of encouragement about our soldiers and their high level of morale and enthusiasm. One soldier, SGT Thomas Oberfoell from 3<sup>rd</sup> Platoon, Alpha Battery, while engaging targets from a guard tower, was awarded a Division Coin for his efforts and accuracy, and was commended for his skill and leadership.

Never in my nineteen years of service have I ever seen a unit as technically and tactically prepared and as motivated for an upcoming mission as now. Once again, our Battalion is setting the standard for the Division. Our soldiers are excited about what they are about to do, and it shows in their level of enthusiasm for the training they have been undergoing. Everywhere I look I see soldiers who are ready to meet the upcoming challenges with every ounce of their strength and fortitude, and who are anxiously awaiting our movement North to Iraq.

We are living on Camp Udairi in the Kuwaiti desert and until we cross the border into Iraq we are training ourselves and preparing our equipment for the long road ahead. The Camp has a large Dining Facility where our soldiers regularly enjoy hot meals, salads, or short-order cuisine, in addition to a Burger King, Subway, and Green Bean Coffee Stand. There is also a PX, Gift Shop, and MWR Facility complete with a gym, phones, internet, and big-screen TV for movies. Our soldiers have been taking advantage of these resources when they are not busy with PT, classes, or training, all of which have kept us very busy these past few weeks.

4-3 ADA recently had the opportunity to conduct some marksmanship qualifications and as usual performed outstanding. Our soldiers underwent intensive training on a number of different skills that they will find helpful during the upcoming year. All of this has served to build their confidence and increase their determination to come back to their families safely.

Although we are living in tents in a place far away from home, I can tell you that your soldiers are thinking of you, and that they are safe. Please continue to communicate with them as often as possible, whether through letters, the telephone, or email. From your strength is the fruit of their capabilities. As their Commander, I will do everything here to ensure that they are safe, and that they will return to you soon.

Take care and God Bless,

LTC James E. Spurrier  
I STRIKE!!!

# Command Sergeant Major's

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Hello " I STRIKE " family. We hope all of you back in Kitzingen are doing fine and all is well. The soldiers here in the 4-3 ADA area of operation are doing great things for the Battalion, the 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division, and the U.S. Army. We have trained very hard, worked long hours, and done the right things to get us where we are today. We will utilize that training and accomplish our mission, which is currently still in its initial phase. All the soldiers are performing an outstanding and safe job during this very important phase of our operation. 4-3 ADA soldiers are highly motivated and will successfully accomplish the mission and head home to their loved ones.

I hope the family members and the rear detachment personnel are planning and engaging in activities that will keep us close as a family while the soldiers are deployed. We highly recommend to soldiers to communicate with their loved ones when the time is available. E-mails, phones, letters, and postcards are the primary means of communication and are accessible to the soldiers day and night. The soldiers are afforded the opportunity to contact their loved ones everyday while we are here in Kuwait.

The leadership welcomes all new unaccompanied and accompanied soldiers with their family members to the 4-3 ADA family. Hopefully, our sponsorship program made your transition to Germany a very successful one and will continue to make this move satisfactory. We also bid farewell to the soldiers and family members who contributed greatly to the success of the battalion; you definitely made a difference, thank you. We wish you all the very best in your future endeavors; our thoughts and wishes are with you always.

Congratulations to the parents of new babies, wedding anniversaries, and all other significant events such as promotions, birthdays, and etc. The same goes to single and unaccompanied married soldiers.

The norm " I STRIKE " family: be safety conscious 24/7. Take care of yourselves and your family members. I wish you all a healthy, happy, and blessed day everyday. "DO the DOs and DON'T DO the DON'Ts.

ROGER A. CHASE  
CSM, USA  
I STRIKE, DUTY FIRST



# Chaplain's Corner



As we train in Kuwait, it is wonderful to see the camaraderie and the sense of unity that the soldiers are displaying. Each one knows that there is a mission at hand and they are up to the task to complete it successfully. A vital part of this success is effective communication between leaders, peers, and subordinates. If we lack this key ingredient then the mission will fall short of its intended goal. However, this is only part of the task of our unit's mission. Every soldier and family member also has a mission to effectively communicate with their loved ones. Sometimes it may be a quick hello on the telephone, an email that says "I love you," or a written letter that says, "I am praying for you." It is amazing what a quick word of encouragement can do for the family unit. However, we must all do our part in effectively communicating with our family members. In doing so, the family unit will be strengthened and the mission will be an overwhelming success.

In keeping with this, I would like to encourage family members to contact the Family Life Chaplain and get involved with their communication and marriage enrichment classes. The classes are strategically created to build upon the marriage and family foundation. You do not need your spouse or significant other with you to take part in these classes. Additionally, these classes are free and include free childcare.

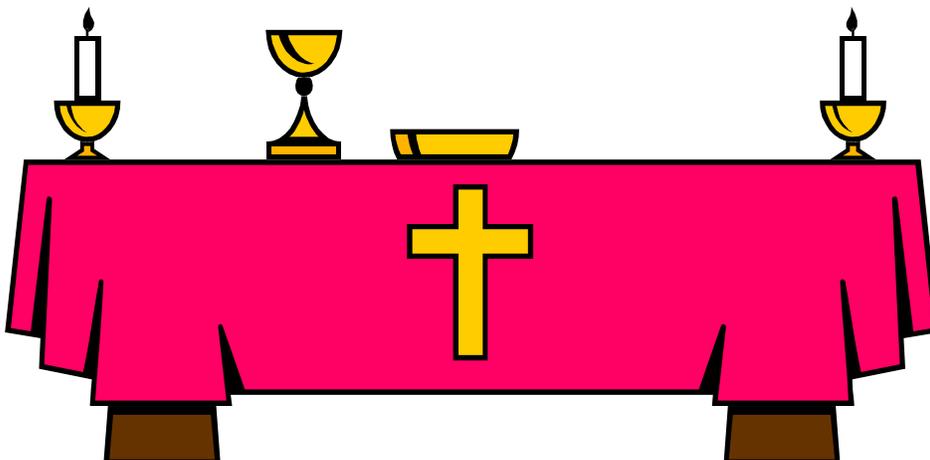
Do not pass up these wonderful opportunities to make your family stronger and more successful during this deployment. (For more information you may contact the Family Life Chaplain (Chaplain {LTC} Stephen Kelley) at 350-6416 or 350-7273).

We thank you for all of your thoughts and prayers. We will continue to pray that God will give you His peace and strength while we are away from you.

May God's richest blessings be upon you,

CH (CPT) Lane J. Creamer.

Psalms 46:1 "God is our refuge and strength, A very present help in our times of trouble."



# ***THE SABER TEAM***

Greetings from the Sabers in Kuwait,

After many long days and nights, and months of anticipation, we have finally arrived in Kuwait. Everyone arrived safely and morale is extremely high. We as a battery have accomplished many things to date. We have successfully deployed 153 Sabers and their equipment to Kuwait, conducted more ranges and fired more rounds than any other unit in the Division, prepared all of our equipment for the approach march to Iraq, trained all soldiers on understanding and utilizing tactics, some for the first time ever and we successfully conducted a Combat live fire exercise. But that is not all, through the initiative of 1LT Shega and SFC Pinion and our team in Kitzingen, we have completed the Yellow Ribbon Room. It is located in my old office and is available to every family member within the battalion. It contains a DSN phone and multiple computers that are connected to the internet and its primary focus is to increase the opportunity for families to have as much contact as possible with their deployed loved ones.

I would also like to take this opportunity to formally welcome the newest member of our command team, 1SG Gerrardo Dominguez and his lovely wife Maria and his two son's Anthony and Aaron and his daughter, Angelica. He has come over from the S-2 section and has made an immediate impact on the increased morale and discipline of the soldiers. He assumed his duties only days before the deployment and he was a vital asset in ensuring that each individual soldier was prepared for movement. Over the last month, he has provided me with some outstanding tactical guidance as well as some great advice on soldier issues. I am confident that he will continue to be an incredible asset to the battery, the soldiers and to me.

Now, I am confident that we are prepared for the mission at hand. Everyone here is ready for the approach march to Iraq and to relieve the great soldiers from the 4ID so they can return home to their families. As always, I would again like to thank each and every Saber for their hard work and continued dedication to the mission, as well as thank each and every family member for supporting the greatest asset America has to offer, "An American soldier, on Duty for my country!"

Sincerely,

CPT Mark Bird  
***SABER 6***

# SABER OF THE MONTH

Congratulations to:

SSG Andrew Miller

SSG Miller has truly been a vital asset to the Sabers and the Battalion as a whole. He was directly responsible for training and licensing all the drivers utilized in Kuwait. This allowed the Battalion freedom of maneuver and multiple training opportunities we would not have had otherwise. He also loaded routes and way points into the battalion Global Positioning Systems that have been and will continue to be incredibly useful. His hard work and dedication is greatly appreciated by all Sabers and all the "I Strike" soldiers.



## IN OUR PRAYERS

SPC David Leetz

A fine young Saber has developed a serious medical condition that has required him to return to the U.S. for treatment.

We would like to ask you to please remember him and his family in your thoughts and prayers while he faces this incredible challenge. His presence in the Battalion TOC will be missed by all.



# *SUPPORT PLATOON*

Hello, Saber Battery! My name is 1LT Elizabeth Bonner, and I am the new Support Platoon Leader. I graduated from Northern Illinois University in August of 2002, with a degree in Community Health. After receiving my commission, I went to the Chemical Officer's Basic Course at Fort Leonard Wood, MO, which I graduated from in March of 2003. I then came to Germany, and was assigned as the Battalion Chemical Officer of 4-3 ADA in April 2003. I have enjoyed working as the Chemical Officer, and will continue to do that job, but now I have the pleasure of being the PL for the Saber Support Platoon.

We arrived at Camp Udairi safely and we are now working hard to get ready for the Approach March into Tikrit. We have done a number of ranges, picked up all of our vehicles and are currently preparing for the Convoy Live Fire Exercise. We are keeping safe down here, and I hope those of you who are at home are doing the same.

1LT Elizabeth Bonner  
Support Platoon Leader  
elizabeth.bonner@us.army.mil

# *EARLY WARNING!*

Greetings from the Early Warning Platoon in Kuwait. The past week has seen continuous operations and late nights in order to get ready for our push into Iraq. Our soldiers have worked diligently and tirelessly, not only to ready the platoon, but the entire Saber battery as well. The Early Warning NCOs have supplied the soldiers of the whole battery with excellent training from their years of experience. My view is that the battery's training, combined with CPT Bird and 1SG Dominguez's guidance, has prepared and instilled confidence in the Sabers for our operations in Iraq.

I would like to take this time to congratulate SPC Hughes in regards to his upcoming promotion to Sergeant. His hard work and leadership potential have been recognized and are greatly appreciated. I also want to say "Happy Birthday!" to SGT Moore, who turned 30 while here in Kuwait. And finally, and heartfelt "Thank You" to all our spouses and families in Germany and State-side for their continuing support for the E-Dub platoon!

Sincerely,  
1LT Williams  
E-Dub Platoon Leader

# HHB FRG NEWS

Hi,

I hope everyone is doing okay. We have almost made it through the first month!! We have a lot of activities planned to keep us all busy, so please come out to the meetings and find out what is going on. Our web site is growing by leaps and bounds. If you signed up at the meeting to join and haven't received your email invitation to the web group, please let me know. Sometimes when I send them out, the email is sent to the junk folder. If you would like to join, please call or email me. We post all important information on this site. It is a great way to keep up with what is going on if you can't make the monthly meetings. Also, we are having trouble with phone numbers. If you have never been called by someone with the FRG, let me know, we may not have your correct phone number!! As always, if you have

any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me or your POC. If you don't know who your POC is, contact me or SFC Pinon(09321-702-2985) and we can give you that information. Take Care and hope to see you soon!

Christa Bird

[Birdchrista@hotmail.com](mailto:Birdchrista@hotmail.com)

09338-980-628

## Upcoming Events

March 2 FRG Meeting 6:30pm BN classroom- POTLUCK

March 12 Book Club 9:15am Book Mart Leighton

March 19 Bowling on Marshall Heights 5pm

March 26 BN Dinner DFAC Larson 5:30pm

March 27 Frankfurt Bus Trip

April 6 FRG Meeting 6:30pm BN classroom-Finger Foods

\*\*If you would like to go on the Frankfurt bus trip, cost is 14 Euro per seat.

Please bring the money to the March 2 meeting or contact me or SFC

Pinon(09321-702-2985)

To make arrangements.

\*\*As always, the CDC centers are offering free childcare on FRG meeting nights.

Call 09321-

305-8364.if you are interested. Reservations must be made 1 week in advance and children must

Be completely CYS registered.



# Archer Battery FRG Newsletter!



Archer Battery Soldiers arrive at Kuwait City International Airport.



Here is an example of the living conditions for Archer Soldiers.



Archer Battery Soldiers conducting live fire M.O.U.T. (Military Operations in Urban Terrain) training on a range near Camp Udari, Kuwait.

Archer Soldiers have also had the opportunity to practice Close Quarters Marksmanship and Entry Control Point Procedures since arriving in Kuwait. A convoy live fire exercise will also be conducted to help rehearse for the road march from Kuwait to Tikrit.

## ARCHER FRG LEADER

Thanks for your support over the past few weeks. I know this has been and will continue to be a difficult Period in all of our lives. Please keep in mind your FRG as we will be providing a number of valuable Services throughout the deployment. Take care and I wish you all the best. Pray for our Archers in Iraq!

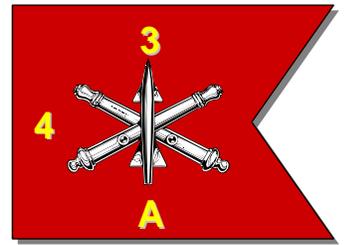
Thank you,  
Valerie Chisolm

## PROMOTIONS

SPC Michael Harbor  
SPC Mark Mullinix  
SPC Curtis Haney  
SPC Steven Bailey  
SPC Cody Bowman  
SPC Erik Martiz  
PFC David Fullington  
PFC Royle Crubel  
PFC William Rivas  
PFC Erik Gurken  
PV2 Mark Rice



# COMMANDER'S CORNER



Warm greetings from Kuwait,

Well the time has finally arrived. The soldiers of Archer Battery are deployed in the sands of Kuwait. On behalf of all the soldiers of the Battery, I would like to extend a warm thank you for the outstanding support during the sendoff for the Battery. I understand the sad expressions on both soldier and family faces. It is always hard to say goodbye, especially for a year. I assure you the men are well taken care of, and are fully prepared for the mission ahead.

The ride over to Kuwait was very smooth. The baggage detail set the standard for the deployment. The NCO from the Airport who was in charge of the soldiers, remarked, the Archer soldiers were the most motivated and dedicated soldiers he had witnessed. Service on the plane was excellent; we were recognized by the flight staff for our service and dedication to our country.

We are currently located on Camp Udari in Kuwait. The Camp is home to the II Marine Expeditionary Group, soldiers from 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division, and an assortment of units from Reserve units. The facilities are excellent with several eateries, and possibilities for soldiers to call home via Morale Welfare Recreation (MWR) phones. There are Internet capabilities here and many soldiers are taking advantage of this great asset. The lines here are very long, so please do not get discouraged if you have not heard from your Archer service member. We will ensure soldiers make contact with family members twice a month.

The men are getting an excellent opportunity to train on the task ahead. We all feel very comfortable with our weapons and how to employ them with the ability to fire just about every two days here. The training the men are receiving, coupled with CMTC is the best we have seen in our military career. There is no doubt that we are fully prepared for the mission.

I hear the Archer Support in Germany is super. Please continue to stay strong and support one another during the entire deployment. Soon we will move North to our temporary home away from home in Tikrit. Please keep all of us in your prayers. Morale is very high; we are off to a great start. We will have a very successful mission. Thanks for all of your support, God Bless!!!

Duty First!!!!!!!  
CPT Ron Lofton





Archer Soldiers enjoy themselves while watching a movie in their temporary home in Camp Udari.



SPC Harbor receives the rank of Specialist in the Kuwaiti Desert.



Archer Battery Soldiers stand in formation in front of their current living quarters.

# A BTRY FRG NEWS

Hello,

We have survived the deployment of our soldiers. With the unity of the battery as well as other batteries we will be able to handle the duration of the deployment. Unity is the key word. We need to come together as a family and your FRG is there to help with any problems or concerns. I would like to send a special thanks to the ladies that stayed and comforted each other after the deployment. If anyone should have any ideas on activities they would like to share with the FRG please feel free to call me or e-mail me with these ideas. I do have planned movie day on the 3rd Sunday of the month at Larson. Depending on what is showing it may be more often. Also a bowling league is being planned. I will have details on this later, as for now every Thursday is family night at the bowling with games costing only \$1 per game. Let's just get out and have fun.

Let's join the Walk to Iraq program. People can log their miles for walking, swimming, biking running, etc. The program runs from 1 Feb through 1 Mar 05. Your miles logged are on the honor system. Walk to Iraq and back 2000 miles to Iraq and 4000 miles back.

## Two Plans

1.Group- 2. Individual-

-300 miles required per individual -Go2000 miles get T-shirt

-Which must be part of specific exercise program

-Qualifiers get T-shirt once group reaches 2000-mile mark

SFC Zackery will be doing minor maintenance on vehicles every 3rd Saturday of the month. Please just call him in advance so the necessary parts or supplies can be purchased.

Don't forget that free childcare is provided by CDC so that you are able to attend the FRG meetings. Call at least one week ahead for reservations and of course you must be registered in CDC. To make reservations or set up appointment to register in CDC call 09321-702-2876/2812.

I truly hope to see all of you at our next and future FRG meetings held the first Tuesday of the month at 18:30 in the battery day room.

Any questions or concerns please call me at 09331-981062-or 01783036961  
E-mail at echisolm@juno.com

Thanks Valerie



## BLACK LIONS B/4-3 ADA



### Commander's Notes

At long last, the battery is deployed. We have begun our one year deployment to the Iraqi Theater of Operations in earnest, ready for the challenges ahead. Since our arrival in Kuwait we've stayed extremely busy, making the most of each day. The soldiers have been repeatedly challenged and have met the challenges well. I want to tell two stories that demonstrate the character of the men who make up this battery.

Shortly after arrival we sent 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Platoon through Urban Operations training, culminating in live fire exercises by teams in simulated buildings. The first day of training was limited due to a truly phenomenal sandstorm that lasted all day, with winds up to 60 knots. Despite the challenges from the weather, the platoons drove on with the training. The next day we were joined by 2<sup>nd</sup> Platoon who were there to conduct an Entry Control Point range, simulating one of our critical missions in Iraq. The weather improved enough to allow us to shoot, which we did with abandon. Each soldier fired their weapons in a myriad of scenarios. At the end of the day, you would be hard pressed to tell the Air Defenders from the Infantrymen, based on the prowess and skill our soldiers demonstrated.

The second story comes from our convoy up from the port to Camp Udairi after our vehicles arrived. We began driving at 10pm, after having been up for almost two days with little sleep. Despite their weariness, our disciplined men got the vehicles ready and were prepared when the command to move out was given. Due to the extremely confusing nature of the route and some communications problems with the front of the convoy, we were spread out over several miles. However, the soldiers remained focused, linked back up with the unit, and kept driving. We even had three vehicles miss a turn, but due to the solid leadership in that group, they recovered from the error and eventually rejoined us. By the time we reached the camp we'd been on the road for over 4.5 hours with no stops in vehicles with no doors, windows, or roofs, in freezing cold wind. Our soldiers completed this mission with no accidents in a convoy of 84 vehicles spread out over 15 miles at times. This is a remarkable achievement!

The soldiers are now in the process of rebuilding our vehicles and restoring our equipment to good fighting order in preparation for the Approach March north. You can all sleep well knowing that your husbands, fathers, and sons are some of the best trained soldiers in the world today, eager to fulfill their mission.

### 1SG Stanley's Corner

What a short, strange trip it has been...so far! The realization of being in a different climate became evident to all immediately when, stepping off the airplane in Kuwait city, the comment was made by someone; "We ain't in Kitzingen anymore Toto." The change of latitude has not caused a change of attitude however. The Black Lions have maintained our focus of readiness and training during the initial period when all we had was what we brought with us on the plane. A three day trip to an even more remote location than Camp Udairi for weapons training had us living like Bedouins and feeling pretty confident in our field craft skills.

Now that our equipment has arrived we are busy prepping for the next leg of our journey where we will occupy our Battery area of operation (dubbed "Black Lion Estates") and begin doing what we have been training for over the last six months. The performance of all of the Black Lions has been magnificent and I am proud of every soldier as we face the next year in service together.



## Desert Reunion

The sands of Kuwait provided a rare opportunity for father and son to meet after almost two years apart. SPC DeLaney managed to spend some time with his father, SSG James DeLaney. SSG DeLaney is also deployed to Kuwait in support of the mission, serving as the fire chief for Camp Doha. In addition to spending time together, SSG DeLaney had the rare privilege of promoting his son to Specialist.



SPC DeLaney speaks after being promoted by his father, SSG DeLaney.



A reunion between father and son after 2 years..



SFC Boone introduces "Mr. Mouth" to the camera.



1LT Gallardo takes a break during Urban Operations training.



## DELTA NEWS LETTER FROM KUWAIT



Greetings Friends and Family of Delta Battery,

First of all, I would like to thank all the families who were there to see Delta's Busses pull out of the battery. Your support is an important factor in our mission accomplishment. Everyone arrived in Kuwait safely and we are currently awaiting the delivery of our equipment from the port. In the meantime, Delta Battery has been busy training on various skills and drills they will need for their mission. Rest assured that the soldiers of Delta Battery are ready for this mission. While awaiting our equipment we have fired more ammo and trained more than any other unit here. The conditions here are not very conducive for communications to the rear due to long lines and limited number of phones and computers but every soldier has had an opportunity to contact family.

Next month we will begin moving forward. This will be a long, tough mission but by the end of the month we should all be settled into our home for the next year. Your soldiers have trained countless hours on procedures for the convoy and are well prepared for the movement forward. Already we have heard of numerous rumors that have already begun to circulate. Don't believe them. Your attendance at the FRG meetings will allow you to be updated with the latest information on the deployment. Ask questions at the FRG meeting if you have any concerns. The most current rumor is that we will be deployed longer than a year. I can tell you, that the orders we deployed with state, the duration will be 365 days and the Army has new policies in effect to prevent deployments of longer durations. I encourage you to support the Rear Detachment and FRG. The meetings will continue and Delta has submitted pictures to be shown at the monthly dinner. The pictures are not of everyone but will give you a good idea of the conditions here and the training your soldiers are receiving. Thank you for your support and sacrifice.

Dawg 6  
CPT Eric Winterrowd

### **HQ Platoon**

Hello, Dawg Pound! Greeting from sandy Kuwait!

Departure was smooth from Nurnberg and reception at Camp Wolverine was great. We arrived around 0500 and by 1600 were setting up our base camp.

Since hitting the ground in Kuwait, your Dawg Pound Soldiers have been working hard refining their skills in preparation for our movement into Iraq. Our training includes scenario training, convoy training, and classes on how to stay healthy and safe during our deployment. Specialists Dison and Lillard have shown great leadership potential during our time here in Kuwait.

The Dawg Pound would like our families to know that we appreciate your support. We are thinking of you always and you'll be hearing from us soon!

2LT Gannon  
Platoon Leader



## **1<sup>st</sup> Platoon**

Greetings from Kuwait, the 1<sup>st</sup> Platoon

Renegades have arrived safely.

Training has continued since our arrival and is only further preparing us for the journey north. The vehicles have been received at the port and work continues on them as you read. I am totally confident in every one of our soldiers and I am positive that all of us will arrive safely at our final destination.

I only ask for your continued prayers and support of your soldiers deployed. I realize that this a difficult time for both the soldiers on the ground and the families they left behind. SSG Burgess and myself will protect and train your loved ones to the best of our ability and ensure their safe return quickly. Again, thank you for you support, please keep in touch with your loved one and as always if there is anything I can do to assist in any matter, please make it known as soon as possible.

LT Berisford  
Platoon Leader

## **2<sup>nd</sup> Platoon**

Dear Family and Friends of the Dirty Dawg Platoon,

Greetings from Camp Udairri, Kuwait!! After a long flight from Nurnberg Airport, we finally landed and arrived in Kuwait.

Since we've arrived the Dirty Dawgs have been keeping busy with First Aid sustainment training and convoy prep operations. The soldiers trained up on how to give IV's and how to treat casualties. It was a great training and learning experience for all.

The weather since landing in Kuwait has been varied. On some days it gets quite hot and very stuffy in the tents. On other days, sand and dust storms pick up and it can be very difficult to see. Oftentimes, the tents fill up with sand and the soldiers must sweep them out to keep them as clean as possible.

In the evening, the temperature cools down a bit and the Dirty Dawgs are given time to relax.

They can buy sandwiches at the Subway or burgers at the Burger King. They can peruse through the PX or use the computers at the Internet café or call home on several AT&T phones or DSN lines. Although some of the lines may be long, the Dirty Dawgs do their best to find the time to call home to loved ones and friends.

We hope you all are doing well back at home and anticipate another brief newsletter from the Dirty Dawgs in the near future!!!



Go ARMY,  
1LT Ro Clemente,  
SFC Markus  
Holloway, & "The  
Dirty Dawg Family"

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Platoon**

Families and Friends,

Hello to all from Kuwait, the “Big Dawgs” have arrived safely. I want to throw out a prayer request for SGT Ressaam. Before we left he lost a close family member and had to return to the states. He will be joining us shortly, either here in Kuwait or up in Iraq. We pray for him to have a safe trip. I would also like to request all of your prayers for the rest of the Platoon and Battery as we begin our movement to our final destination.

Presently the days are filled with lots of training to prepare every soldier for the trip up north. Each soldier must understand his responsibility as a part of the convoy so that we will have a safe trip and all arrive in Iraq together. Even with all of the training going on and the fast pace that we can expect in the next few weeks, it is my goal, and CPT Winterrowd’s intent, to allow the soldiers time to use telephones and internet to keep in contact with family members.

1LT John F. Bierce  
Platoon Leader

### **4<sup>th</sup> Platoon**

Hello Madd Dawg Families. As you read this, we are established safely on Camp Udari in Kuwait. We arrived here on the tenth of February and have kept busy by participating in several ranges. We have also continued to train on various tasks in an effort to keep our skills sharp for the mission ahead. All of the Madd Dawg personal are doing fine and are motivated and in great spirits.

There are several services available here for us to enjoy, such as a shoppette with another one currently being readied for service, a Burger King, Subway, several barbershops, gift shops, and alteration facilities, as well as a small espresso stand. Of course there are also several excellent dining facilities, which are staffed with contract personnel. In addition there is also a free laundry service and several conveniently located shower facilities. We also enjoy the luxuries of several MWR facilities, which provide us with a gym, game room, Internet service and a large phone center. The weather here has cooperated and it has remained mild with highs in the 70’s and the overnight low’s ranging from the 40’s to the 60’s. Life here at Udari has not been bad but we are anxious to begin our mission.

Shortly we will recover our equipment and begin to prepare for our march to Iraq. We have been told that the facilities on FOB Danger are just as good as the facilities here. We are all very focused on the mission ahead and are looking forward to assisting the people of Iraq in establishing a better and more rewarding life. You can look forward to seeing pictures of the Madd Dawgs in the next edition of the newsletter.

SFC Benson  
Madd Dawgs, Platoon Sergeant



## **5<sup>th</sup> Platoon**

Hello Atomic Dawgs, and greetings from warm and sunny Kuwait! It has been pretty busy for us and it's hard to believe we have only been here for a week. We had an uneventful trip into theater and things couldn't have gone better for us. We began training immediately to further prepare ourselves for the mission ahead. The platoon has been able to quickly come together and make up for the short time that we have been together as a unit. We had a great time training at the close quarters marksmanship range over the weekend. Our first day was marred by a sandstorm so we went inside to learn how to clear buildings like SWAT teams do. The next day we were able to get on the range and learn some very unique and useful firing techniques. Retired Delta Force operatives taught us how to shoot and maneuver in close quarters situations. We had a great time and feel that this training was invaluable for the platoon. Soon the boats will arrive and the next few days we will focus on preparing our vehicles and ourselves for the convoy north. We are very excited about getting the mission underway and feel ready and able to do our jobs as we have been trained. Stay involved with FRG to get the most up to date information on the deployment. Take care and God bless.

1LT Scott Tucker  
Platoon Leader, Atomic Dawgs



## ***D BTRY FRG Leader***



Hello everyone,

I hope everybody is doing well. Now that the deployment has started, I'd like to extend another invitation out to everyone to come take part in the Delta FRG. It's a great way to come meet people and get information.

We will be planning plenty of activities to keep us busy. We already have the plans for a few bus trips in the works. Also, we will be having a monthly social night for everyone in the battery. Our first one will be free facials to be held on March 20th. Look for the flyer in your mailboxes. If anyone has ideas for future activities, please come to a meeting and share them or feel free to call me at home. We will also be preparing care packages to send to Iraq for our soldiers. So, as you can see, there is lots going on and we'd love to have more people involved.

I would also like to make sure that everyone in the battery is receiving a monthly phone call from the FRG. If you have not received a phone call since the deployment, please let me know. We want to make sure that everyone's information is correct and we can reach you if we have important news.

Finally, I'd again like to say thanks so much to the people who volunteer their time within the FRG. The time you spend is appreciated more than you will ever know.

Thank you,  
Susan Winterrowd  
09321-923265  
[susanwint@hotmail.com](mailto:susanwint@hotmail.com)

Don't forget about our FRG meetings: every 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the month at 1830 at the  
Delta Dayroom.

Free childcare will be offered from 1815 to 2100; reservations should be made at DSN 355-8364, civ. 09321-305-8364.

Our website address is: [dawg\\_frg@yahoo.com](mailto:dawg_frg@yahoo.com) (dawg underscore frg). Please feel free to contact us! There are a lot of updated information, pictures of the guys downrange and community events!

# TASK FORCE STINGER



To the families of the I STRIKE! Battalion

What a month! We sent our soldiers off with a great attitude and we appreciate all the work our FRGs and FRLs put into it. Thank you, families, for the great support. Now that the Rear Detachment "Task Force Stinger" has officially taken the reigns, we have begun to incorporate many programs designed to assist the deployed soldiers and the families here in Germany. We had a great Commander's DFAC Dinner on Friday, February 27<sup>th</sup>. LTC Kolenda, the Division's Rear Detachment "Task Force Victory" Commander, addressed close to 200 people that came out for the evening. We followed it with some rumors that were floating out there, and finally a great slide-show of our deployed soldiers! It was a superb turn-out. Thanks to the FRGs who paid your fare! We have some changes to make in order to streamline the evening, such as opening both sides of the chow line! We also plan on having more pictures and less talking. The pictures we had are loaded onto the computers at the Yellow Ribbon Room, and each FRL has a copy of the slides. We plan on putting all future pictures on the computers in the Yellow Ribbon Room to empower families. In April, there will be a video-web-cam in the Yellow Ribbon Room that you can use to make videos to send to your soldier. What a great asset! Please feel free 24/7 to use the Yellow Ribbon Room.

The FRGs are working hard to ensure we have fun-filled activities during the month of March and April. Please call your phone POC and attend the meetings on the first Tuesday of the month. Free childcare is available in the Marshall Heights CDC if you are registered and have requested space.

Task Force Stinger can do a lot to help, you only have to ask! We have been busy signing dozens of memorandums to extend vehicle registration, household goods storage, change in COLA rates, Space-A travel for dependants, and much more. Please make sure you call your FRL if you need something in the way of Command Information. Keep up the good work and stay informed!

CPT Ryan Hellerstedt  
SFC Mike Elam

