



4-3 ADA BN

“I Yield Not, I Strike”

Battalion Newsletter
August 2004

You can view the 4-3 ADA Battalion Newsletter as well as photographs from the deployment online at - <http://www.4-3adairaq.com>



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

It’s been another hot month, and we are anxiously awaiting the onset of fall with an intensity we never thought possible. Although it has been quite hot recently, you can be proud that your soldiers are upholding themselves with the discipline and integrity “I Strike” soldiers have come to embody. One soldier in particular has set the standard for combat patrol briefings lately – SSG Louis Davis of Alpha Battery.

I recently had the privilege of joining a combat patrol led by SSG Davis and was very impressed by his thorough attention to detail and his great situational awareness and comprehension of his environment. Thankfully, SSG Davis’ actions are not the exception, but the norm for 4-3 ADA, and I will continue to encourage the kind of leadership demonstrated by this exceptional Section Sergeant.

The beginning of this month marked a very important holiday for America, and for its Armed Forces especially – Independence Day. We celebrated here with an enormous fireworks display that lasted about thirty minutes and was witnessed by all of Tikrit. Many Iraqis attended the festivities here on the FOB, in an effort to demonstrate America’s pride in her history, and share our thankfulness for our democracy with them. They were generally amazed by our celebration and our hope is that they can take those feelings to their own people in an effort to spread our ideas of patriotism. These ideas should help foster feelings of pride in their new nation and support the unity of the new Iraq.

With the transfer of power complete, the Iraqis are on their way to establishing a new democracy of their own, and now our mission changes to one of supporting the new government in its efforts at nation-building. The “I Strike” Battalion is playing an integral part of that mission and every day we are here, Iraq becomes safer. Every day we are here is also one day closer to our homecoming, a time to which all our soldiers look forward.

R&R and FMPP have also entered full swing and we are striving to send more and more of your soldiers home for a two-week break, or on a four-day pass to the mountains of Northern Iraq or the island of Qatar. If you have any questions about how these programs are working, please do not hesitate to contact my Rear Detachment Commander, 1LT Travis Schega, back in Kitzingen.

Please continue to communicate with your soldiers. They look forward to receiving mail, packages, and emails. By supporting them, you help support America’s mission and help ease the burden of this deployment.

Take care and God Bless,

LTC James E. Spurrier
I STRIKE!!!

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Command Sergeant Major's

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Hello "I STRIKE" family. We hope you all are enjoying your summer wherever you may be located during this season. We ask that you all be safe at all times and always be vigilant of your surroundings. I hear that Germany has not reached its summer potential at the present time. The soldiers here do not mind at all if "Mother Nature" sends some of the unwanted weather in Germany and other cool places to OIF II. The soldiers are doing a great job under extremely hot conditions. We will continue to perform to the very best of our abilities 24 hours a day.

The rear detachment personnel have been constantly making good things happen while the soldiers are deployed. We appreciate the outstanding commitment by the "I STRIKE" leaders and community support at all levels. Don't stop; continue to drive on with the fact that we will be back! We are pushing pass the halfway point and looking ahead to the Autumn season beginning in September. The family members will be in school and the soldiers continually performing in an outstanding manner. The entire FOB personnel to include civilians feel safe knowing 4-3 ADA is doing what we do best.

We welcome the new members to the "I STRIKE" Battalion and wish the departing soldiers and their family members the very best in their future endeavors. Thank you all for being a valuable member of 4-3 ADA Battalion and part of history. Your achievements made this battalion one of the best Air Defense Artillery units in the United States Army. You definitely made a difference.

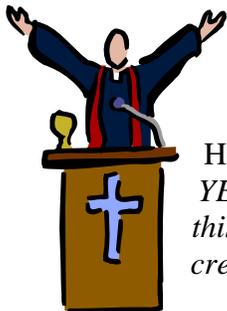
Congratulations to all the parents of newborns, anniversaries, birthdays, and other special occasions. Also, congratulations to all soldiers and family members who were promoted and recommended for promotion in the future. We wish the speedy recovery of sick family members and also pass our condolences to members of the battalion for loss of their loved ones.

Take care of yourselves and your family members 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. I wish you all a happy, healthy, safe, and bless day everyday. Take that precious day one day at a time. Have a safe and happy summer season. "DO the DOs and DON'T DO the DON'Ts.

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

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“Shaken”



Hebrews 12:26-28 states, *“And His voice shook the earth then, but now He has promised, saying, YET ONCE MORE I WILL SHAKE NOT ONLY THE EARTH, BUT ALSO THE HEAVEN.”* And this expression, *“Yet once more,”* denotes the removing of those things which can be shaken, as of created things, in order that those things which cannot be shaken may remain.

Everywhere we look in society we see that the world is being shaken. We look at the natural and there are earthquakes, tornadoes and hurricanes. We look at our own lives and see the trials and storms that we go through. Sometimes we wonder, “why is this happening to me?”

A lot of times we attribute the cause of these things as part of nature or maybe “happenstance”, but sometimes God is the one doing the shaking.

I told the story in our church service about an eventful flight in Mali, Africa. We had been sent there to help give immunizations to the children as well as see the many patients who were suffering from diseases. My friend and I arrived a day earlier than the rest of the crew. So, we took advantage of this time and asked how we could go to Timbuktu, Mali. One gentleman told us that it was no problem. He quickly directed us to the pilot who could take us there. After negotiating on a price we followed him out to the so-called “flight line”. As we drew near to the aircraft, I said, this really couldn’t be the aircraft we are taking. It was a single engine Cessna that had tape over the propeller. The tires were almost completely bald. By this, I mean that there was actually almost no rubber tread on the tires. As I moved around the plane there were wires hanging out from everywhere. And by the way, we found out that the pilot was not instrument rated. So, if we encountered a storm we were really in trouble. It took almost an hour to start the plane. Needless to say, I was wondering what have we gotten ourselves into. After the hour, the plane finally started and we were up in the air. Throughout the flight the engine started to sound like it was going to give out at any moment, but thankfully it did not. We arrived in Timbuktu safely, but the plane would not make the trip back.

During this time, I know that my faith was tested and shaken. I am sure that if the pilot did not know I was a Christian prior to the flight, he certainly did by the end of it. It was during this flight that I was seeking God and asking for His angels to carry this plane safely to our destination. This was certainly a time when some things were shaken out of my life, so what remain would be eternal.

In one-way or another, all of us will face a time when our life is being shaken. Sometimes it comes suddenly and unexpected and threatens to destroy all that we find refuge in. I believe that God allows these times to happen, so that our faith is built upon Him. So, that we may grab hold of the sure foundation that cannot and will not be shaken.

So, when God begins to shake your life, remember to place your hope and trust in Him. Allow Him to remove those things that are hindering your relationship with Him, so that what remains is eternal.

Blessings,

Chaplain Creamer

THE SABER TEAM

Greetings from the Sabers in Tikrit, IRAQ,

As most of you already know, the battery has gone through a lot of changes over the last month. The biggest change for the battery was a change of responsibility from 1SG Dominguez to 1SG Bullock. 1SG Dominguez was reassigned as the 1SG of Bravo battery. He has been with us since we departed for OIF II back in February. He was instrumental to the success of the battery in accomplishing our mission during deployment, the approach march and also for building a foundation that focused on teamwork. Everyone is sorry to see him go, but I am sure he will continue to do great things for the battalion and especially for Bravo battery. We would all like to wish him and his family a fond farewell and extend our appreciation for a job well done.

I would like to now take the opportunity to welcome 1SG Bullock and his family to the Saber Team. 1SG Bullock was with Delta for over two years and brings a wealth of knowledge and experience with him. He led Delta through numerous deployments to include Kosovo and the current deployment to OIF II. We are excited about his arrival and looking forward to learning as much as possible from him.

One of the largest changes includes shaking up the Early Warning platoon and moving new soldiers from ADADO and Staff into the platoon. SSG Trost and SGT Gozo from the S-3 are moving out to teams and will be replaced with SGT Sweeten and PFC Jones. Almost the entire ADADO cell of soldiers will be rotating with soldiers out at the EW positions through out the month of August. SPC Anderson will replace PFC Mace, PFC Reed will replace SPC Hays, SPC Alphonse will replace SPC Whitley and SPC Zeilsdorf will replace PFC Oneil. These changes ensure every 14J get both Radar and Staff experience to continue developing our soldiers understanding of the entire EW process from the lowest level to the highest.

The final change is one that we are all proud of; SPC Magnuson was selected by the CG to serve as his personal Cook. He was selected over other cooks through out the Division and begins immediately. The only bad thing about it is that the battery loses one of its hardest workers and most talented cooks. The soldiers at Midland are sure sad to see him go. This is a great experience for him and we wish him well.

We would also like to say farewell to SGT Davis, who was selected to attend Officer Candidate School, and SSG Smith, who was selected to attend Warrant Officer School. Both of these fine NCOs performance during the deployment was nothing less then exemplary. We wish the best of luck to them and their families.

Finally, the R&R slots for August are out and the allocation is as follows:

01 AUG 04	09 AUG 04	17 AUG 04	26 AUG 04
PFC Bentley	PFC Malarkey	PFC Mase	SPC Zielsdorf
SPC Huber	SPC Shipley	SPC Walker	SPC Youngblood
SPC Curtis	SPC Brown	1LT Pinkcombe	SSG Jones
SPC Perkins	SFC King	1LT Cornwell	SGT Perches
SGT Gozzo	CW2 Chism	1LT Bonner	MAJ Brandt
CPT Henning	CPT Davis		

Well that is all for now, remember to check out the updates to the battalion web sights, www.4-3adairaq.com and www.operationican.com. Pictures of your soldiers are updated each week. Please continue the outstanding support you have been providing your loved ones. See you next month.



CPT Bird
SABER 6

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Early Warning Families,

SFC Dowdell from the Early Warning platoon here in Iraq. First, I would like to say thank you for the sacrifices you are making as your spouse or parent do their best to make this world a safer place for all of us. Thank You!

The platoon would like to send our farewell to SSG Smith, who has redeployed in preparation for Warrant Officer Candidate School (WOCS), good luck in your journey. There have been a lot of changes in the team since leaving Germany. The Early Warning Platoon would like to welcome the following soldiers to the team: PFC Reed, SPC Alphonse, SGT Gozzo, and SPC Anderson. SGT Tran and his wife Laura have had their second child, a little boy, Jeremiah Collin Tran. Congratulations to PFC Jones and his new bride Yugita Jones as they were married in July while on R&R. Congratulation to PFC Phillip, and SPC Herrera on their well deserved promotions. Congratulations to SGT Perches, SPC Decosta, and SPC Hemmelgarn, who successfully passed the promotion boards. Finally, to PFC Battershell who won the 3rd BDE soldier of the month board, and will continue in preparation for the Soldier of the Quarter board.

The platoon as a whole would like to thank all the family support for the care packages, and letters that have been received. These items are much appreciated and help to keep the focus on the mission. Thank you for all the help and support.

Watch Dog 7
SFC Dowdell

Greetings from the medics of 4/3 ADA,

Our Medics have their work cut out for them this month. Combined with medics from HHC IID and 701st, they have managed to maintain their sanity (except for CPT West). We receive tremendous support from the DFAC by supplying ribs for our needle chest decompression training. Congratulations to SSG Lewis on her promotion and re-enlistment. SPC Morrell and SPC Espinoza will hopefully soon follow in her steps as they prepare to go to the promotion board. We thank our family and friends for all of their support and prayers. Shout out to Scrub City of Arlington, TX for donating scrubs to our aid station.

CPT West

Greetings from the MOTOR POOL,

The wrenches have been turning nonstop here in Iraq keeping us very busy working on the vehicles. However, we would like to take the time to congratulate SPC Wright and his new bride, Duretta, on the birth of their daughter. We would also like to send a hello to SPC Vargus, we are still thinking about you and your pending child birth. All of the mechanics would like to thank all of the family members and their friends for their much needed support and prayers.

SFC Artis

Greetings from the Support Platoon,

The Support platoon is performing nonstop missions for the battery. SFC Turks, SSG Canada, SPC Curtis and SPC Zodnic are doing a great job providing guard and serving as the female search team at the front Entry Control Point to FOB Danger. It is a long, hot job and but they execute it proudly, without a complaint. True professionals! SPC Zodnic is also serving up some mean hamburgers and hotdogs at the MWR for those soldiers who stop by for a late evening meal. Congratulations go out to SPC Davis, he was selected to attend the NCO promotion board this month and he did an outstanding job. He is now promotable and will most likely make the cut off in September and be promoted to Sergeant. We have also started study secessions for the promotion board that meet twice a week in order to prepare the rest of our soldiers for the upcoming boards. We hope to promote as many soldiers as possible prior to redeployment. We would like to send our thought and prayers to our loved ones. Please continue to provide your outstanding support to your soldier. See you on R&R.

SABER 26
1LT Bonner

HHB FRG

Hello Ladies,

Another month has flown by, I would like to thank all the wives and families for the support to our deployed soldiers. Also, thanks for participating in the last DFAC Deployment update/ FRG Meeting and the trip to Wildpark in Bad Mergentheim hosted by our German Partnership. They both turned out to be great and we had great food at both events!!!

The summer vacation is almost over and kids will return to school soon, as well as our FRG Leader Christa Bird. But, if you have any questions you can still call me.

Here is a calendar of events for this month:

Aug. 12th- 9:30 am- 11:00am
Flag Project "Hugs from Home"

Aug. 20th- DFAC
Deployment update/ FRg
Meeting and Crystal Bingo.

If you have any Questions
Please call me.

Maggie Schega

HHB FRG Leader Assistant
09321-925-030 or
Magalita_2000@yahoo.com

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ARCHER BATTERY NEWSLETTER

Hello from Archer 6 and Archer 7,

July has been another great month for the Archer soldiers. They have accomplished some great tasks. The first task we had to tackle was taking over the mission B Battery was executing, the front gate. On 9 July, we formally took charge of operating the Entry Control Point (ECP). This is an extremely important task, as we have the responsibility for protecting our Forward Operating Base's (FOB) main entry and exit. We search every civilian vehicle, every civilian person, and provide over-watch for military convoys and patrols. Since 9 July, we have made several improvements to the flow and security. Be proud of your soldiers!

We sent 13 soldiers on R+R this month. Slots increased for the month of August, up to 18. This is good news! We are still finding ways to increase our slots while continuing to perform our mission. The soldiers have all volunteered to work extra hours to cover the extra slots for R+R. Our goal remains to send 100% of the soldiers on R+R.

In August, we will execute Bradley live-fires. It will take 1st and 2nd platoon away from the FOB for about two weeks each. The soldiers are all excited about doing some fun training and getting back into firing the 25mm! It will be a low-pressure event. This operation will take us into September, and then it will be October before we know it. Cooler weather will make operations much more bearable. It is still reaching 115+ degrees, then add the hot wind and the hot iron of the Bradley and M113. The NCOs and officers are constantly checking to make sure everyone stays hydrated and protected from the heat.

We welcome 1LT David Williams as Predator platoon leader. We also hail SPC Dobson and SSG Gellermann in 2nd Platoon. We wish SPC Farrell a quick recovery from his medical operation. He will spend some time in the Rear with his family while he recovers. We also welcome new babies to the Miracle and Noriega families!

Thanks to all of you who continue to support us in this global war on terrorism. We certainly appreciate you standing by us and making this deployment easier for us! It is an honor and a privilege for us to serve and command this great battery.

Much thanks and best regards,

CPT Ryan Hellerstedt
1SG Alonzo Kelly

ARCHER FRG NEWS LETTER

Hello everyone, we are finally halfway there! Yes we have reached our half way point and now are on the downslide. Many of us have already been able to spend R&R with our loved ones and the rest of us will be having our loved ones home soon for some much needed rest and recuperation.

We have two new additions to the Battery. Thomas Joseph Miracle born July 3, 2004 to SGT and Lexie Miracle and Ivy Rose Noreiga born July 7, 2004 to SPC and Stacey Noreiga.

We also have a new FRL to our Battery he is SSG(P) Melbourne he is happy to help in any way needed and can be reached either at his office or on his cell phone at 01603258476.

Don't forget our next DFAC will be August 20, 2004 this is also the date for our next Bingo. This will be for Crystal prizes.

Thank you for all of your continued support.

Valerie Chisolm

Echisolm@juno.com

Phone:09331-981062/01793036961

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BLACK LIONS

B/4-3 ADA

"Protero pallens, videlicet inferi!"



Commander's Notes

Believe it or not, we've reached the halfway point of this mission. Currently, we expect to conduct our Relief in Place (RIP) with a yet-unidentified unit towards the end of December, then move down to Kuwait for a few weeks to turn in equipment and assist the division in loading ships. The Black Lions can expect to march through the gates of Larson Barracks during the last week of January or first week of February.

Hopefully, this information will dispel any rumors and myths surrounding our projected timeline. Regrettably (and as expected), we will not be home for Christmas or New Years. Also, no soldiers will redeploy early if they reclassify (another bizarre rumor floating around). If you have any questions, please contact the rear detachment and don't pass around questionable information. This only gets people's hopes up and causes a burden on the command.

CPT Henke

Black Lion 6

1SG Dominguez's Corner

Hello Black Lion Friends and Families,

Let me start off by saying, I am proud to be part of the professional Black Lion team. I have been with the "I Strike" battalion since August 2003. My previous duty positions within the battalion were with the Intelligence section in the S-2 and deployed as the First Sergeant with the "HHB Sabers".

This month has been a hot month for the Black Lions. We have been busy distributing ice to keep drinks as cold as possible and setting up air conditioners in all positions. Reverse cycle operations are in effect and taking advantages of the cool nights. We continue to focus on the mission while training to maintain our proficiency level. We are prepared for the upcoming gunner and are currently in position eager to destroy some targets.

We started the month with fun in the sun with our monthly organizational day. Some of the activities included volleyball competition, basketball challenge, laying in the freshly delivered blowup swimming pool, outdoor movie theater and a blow out barbeque with a wide variety to choose from.

This battery is composed of outstanding stellar performers that strive for excellence. Within the last few weeks we have competed on numerous events and continue to set the standard not only for the battalion but also throughout FOB Danger. Special congratulations go out to CPL Laverdiere who competed for and won the Battalion NCO of the Quarter Board. He will now compete for the Battalion NCO of the Year in the fall. PV2 Bivins demonstrated his winning attitude and performance as he competed for and won the Mechanic of the Quarter competition, he will also proceed for the Battalion Mechanic of the Year Competition. The Black Lions represented the "I Strike" battalion with an eager determination to win during the "FOB Danger Track and Field Competition". The following soldiers earned the right to brag about their speed and overall physical endurance. SGT Inman, SGT Britton, CPL Bennett, and PFC Petty won first place in the 4x400 relay with a large margin, SSG Lee won second place in the 200-yard dash and the 100-yard dash.

The Rear Detachment and FRG continue to work hard. I encourage you to continue to support the FRG and attend the monthly meetings to stay abreast of the latest information on the deployment. Thanks for the continuous support with care packages and a consistent mail flow. The morale level increases as mail is delivered. R & R is now working at full capacity. We will continue to strive to fill as many R & R slots as possible and an overall safe return to Germany.

1SG Dominguez

Black Lion 7

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Community Events:

August 20: Main River German/Us Concert-Kitzingen 7:00 p.m.

August 20: Battalion Meeting Larson DFAC 5:30 p.m.

August 21: Community Showcase-Leighton

September 2: Task Force "Victory" Org Day:
Leighton September 10-12: German/American
Fest- Kitzingen

September 14-15: Blood Drive- Leighton

Bravo FRG

Next FRG meeting for the Battery is August 19th at 7 p.m. in the dayroom. See you all there.

Congratulations to Wendy Yanez, She had her baby on the 24th of July. Good job Wendy. Also I would like to congratulate Lisa Coplan. I know this is late, but she had a baby boy on May 29th. She will be home soon. Can't wait to see Christopher Anthony. Please if I have missed anyone, give me a call at 09321-267-752.

There are some birthdays, and anniversaries coming up this August. I cannot post them though, because I don't know who they belong too. If you would be so kind in telling your POC your birthday, email, and anniversary. I would also like it if you can give me your spouse's birthday as well. I would greatly appreciate it. Also if you would, add your children in there too.

Thank you for your time

Sometime, (roughly around the spring time) we will see our better half. I know that I can't wait for that day to come. But that also means some changes as well. Some of us will PCS, ETS, or just staying here. I just want to say good luck to you all, and keep out of trouble.

Hang in there guys. You can do it. Soon you will be home with your sweetheart, and you will be glad. We are praying for all of you, that you will come home safe. Take care and stay out of trouble.

If you would like to say a message to your husband, Please email me at mjbus10@hotmail.com. Be sure to put Battalion message in the subject. So I won't accidentally delete your email when it is sent to my junk mail. Then I could put it in the battalion newsletter. That way it can be sent to Capt Henke, and 1st Sgt Dominguez. Thank you and have a good time while you are over here.

Helen Jenson
Battalion Newsletter publisher
Blacklions

Dawg Friends and Families,

As we reach the halfway point of this deployment, Delta continues to work hard and accomplish all its missions. Delta was recently relieved of its Midland mission for eight weeks in order to allow Alpha and Bravo to qualify on their Bradleys. This is good news for Delta because now we can augment our three other Avenger platoons to reduce the amount of time soldiers are spending out at force protection sites. As you all have seen on the news, the political climate in Iraq has changed but that has not affected our mission. Despite the rumors you may have heard, as of now, 4-3 ADA will not be returning home early and will not be home for Christmas.

R & R and RRMP continue to operate at full capacity. Delta continues to average over 20 slots per month for both programs combined. At the current rate approximately 80 to 85 percent of Delta's soldiers will get an opportunity to take R&R. Everyone will get either R&R or RRMP and some soldiers will receive both based on the number of slots available. The priority for R&R continues to be those soldiers who were deployed for KFOR 4B. Although there is no way to predict the exact dates when soldiers will get R&R since we only get the dates one week prior to the start of the month, the soldiers do know where they stand on the order of merit list.

The Rear Detachment and FRG continue to work hard. I encourage you to continue to support the FRG and attend the monthly meetings to stay abreast of the latest information on the deployment. If you have heard any rumors and have any questions as to their validity contact the Rear Detachment or attend the FRG meetings and ask questions. Also if you are returning to the states this summer, leave an address with the FRG and Rear Detachment so they will be able to contact you in case of an emergency. The web sites are frequently updated with new pictures so view them regularly to check for updates.

Congratulations to the following soldiers on their promotions:

SPC Lillard to SGT
PV2 Colbert to PFC
PFC Palkki to SPC

I would like to thank all the families for the support you have given to your soldiers during this deployment. Please continue to give them your support as they finish up their last six months here in Iraq.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact anyone in the chain of command at any time.

“Seek and Destroy”
CPT Eric Winterrowd

Happy August Birthday to the following soldiers:

PFC Didomenico	1 Aug	PFC Grantham	2 Aug
SPC Smith	5 Aug	SPC Hardman	5 Aug
SGT Glover	7 Aug	SPC Boddy	8 Aug
SGT Fleet	10 Aug	SGT Yates	10 Aug
PFC Medina	12 Aug	PFC Saillant	18 Aug
PFC Schlice	19 Aug	SGT Wilson, I	21 Aug
SGT McRae	24 Aug	CPL Kirksey	27 Aug
SSG Donald	28 Aug		

Hello everyone,

As you may already know, the change of command is set for mid-September, so this is probably the last time I will be writing. So, I'd like to take this last chance to say thanks to everyone who made me feel so welcome in Delta Battery. I had a great time and am glad I got to know some of you better over the last year. I hope to see everyone at our monthly FRG meeting in September in the Delta Dayroom.

I've been on a long vacation, but am finally back in Germany. So, as always, please feel free to call me with any questions or concerns.

Thanks again,

Susan Winterrowd

09321-923265 susanwint@hotmail.com

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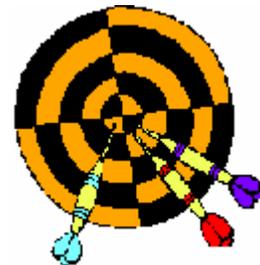
Book and Game Drive for 4-3 ADA Soldiers

Thank you for your continued support for the soldiers of the 4-3 ADA currently deployed to Iraq.

The Family Readiness Group would like to send our soldiers some entertainment items for their use while they are serving our country during this difficult time. Below is a list of suggested items that we would like to send them. But these are only suggestions and if you would like to send them something not mentioned please feel free.



- Books: new or used, paperback or hardcover
- Magazines
- Board Games
- DVD Movies
- Playing Cards
- PlayStation 2 games
- Newspapers



Please feel free to write your name and a greeting on the items you choose to donate. The items will be collected at the July 23rd Deployment Brief/FRG Dinner or they can be dropped off at your battery or the Command Group.

If you have any questions you can call the Suzanne Dugan, Family Readiness Support Assistant at the Command Group at 09321-702-2701, or by e-mail suzanne.dugan@1id.army.mil

We encourage you to send this information to friends and family in the states or otherwise. Any support we can give to our soldiers is greatly appreciated.

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