

Unofficial 1st Infantry Division Magazine of Soldiers and Families
November 2008
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Duty **1** First!

Legacy Of Strength

The Big Red One Creed

TEAMWORK is the foundation of the Big Red One. I shall never fail my team, for I maintain the standard. My conduct and self-discipline sets the example for others to follow.

HONOR is what I stand for—an American Soldier on duty for my country. My loyalty is intense. I display care for my fellow Soldiers and my chain-of-command through courage, respect, integrity and compassion.

I have learned to **ENDURE**, to thrive in adversity. The harsh reality of combat gives me the enthusiasm for realistic training. I am physically and mentally strong to meet the demanding situations my unit encounters.

We are one in the Big Red One. Our **BROTHERHOOD** gives us strength to fight on to any objective and accomplish the mission as our veterans have done before us. I live the legacy of my division.

READINESS is my priority. To be ready for any mission, anytime, anywhere. My business is first-class training and living high standards of care and equipment, weaponry and tactical and technical competence.

My **ORGANIZATION** is my strength. The BRD is bigger than any one individual. It gives me purpose, self-confidence, competitive spirit, intestinal fortitude and the desire to fight with all my heart.



Duty First!

No Mission too Difficult. No Sacrifice too Great.

November 2008 www.1id.army.mil

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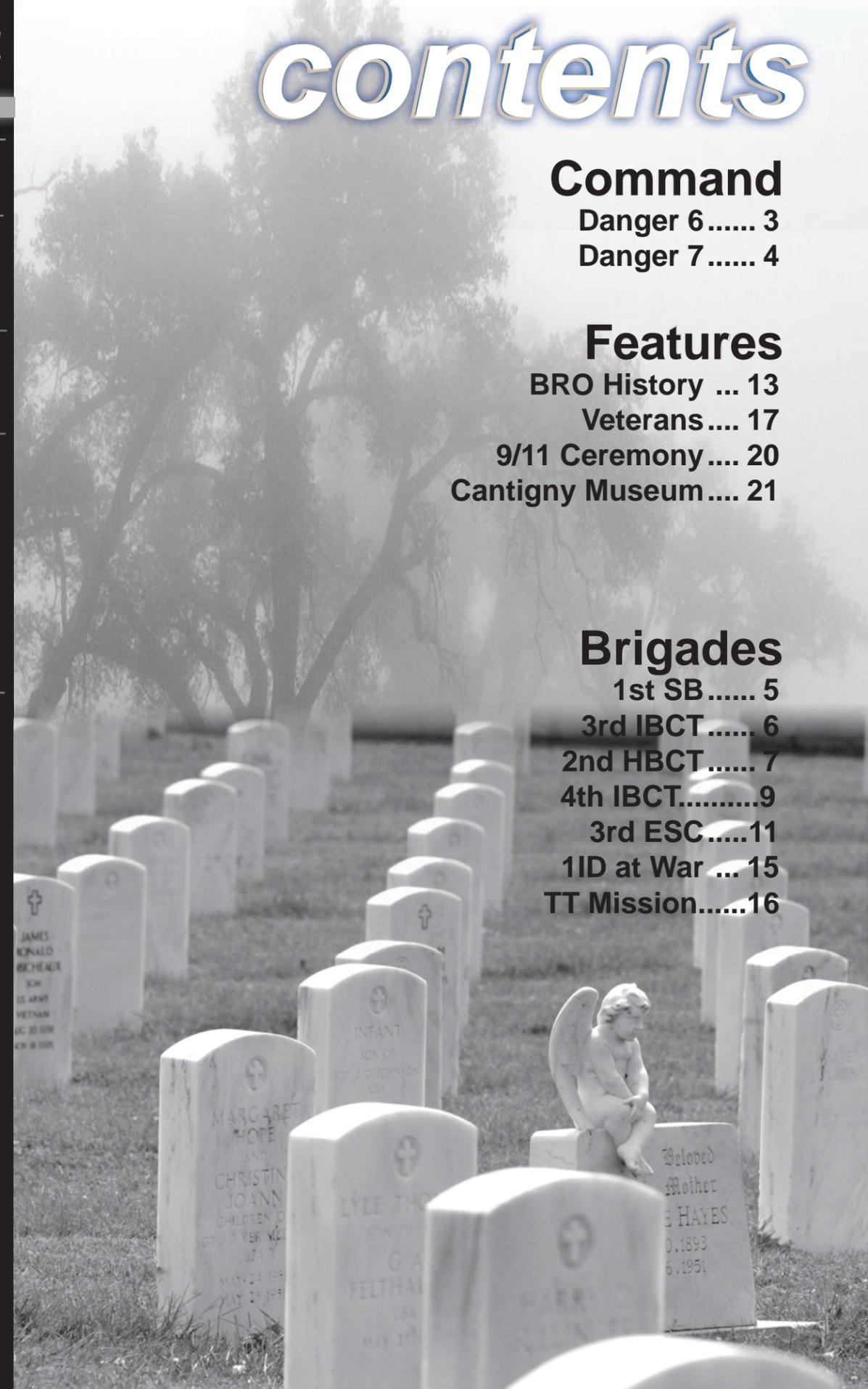
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Commanding General **Danger 6**

Traditions Of Bravery

Brig. Gen. Perry Wiggins

With the onset fall, the changing colors, and crisp temperature, comes a day when our nation pauses and pays tribute to the sacrifices made by all our veterans, those that are with us and those that have passed. It is by their courageous service that our nation and its ideals of liberty and democracy have endured and prospered throughout the world. On Nov. 11, Veterans Day, we honor their contribution to America and enduring legacy.

The birth of our nation is marked with the Declaration of Independence, however that independence and the ideals it proclaimed, would have been nothing but a noble aspiration if it were not for the courage and sacrifice of our nation's veterans.

Each successive generation of veterans has risen to defend the freedom and prosperity of our nation. You can read the triumphs of each of these generations on the countless battle and campaign streamers adorning the Army colors. Names like "Saratoga" – where our veterans won a decisive victory over the British after a period of unremitting setbacks, and "Antietam" where tens of thousands died in the terrible struggle to preserve the Union and break of the chains of slavery.

On the division's colors you will find the campaigns streamers of Meuse-Argonne, Lorraine and Picardy from the Great War, marking the first chapter of our division's illustrious 91 year history. You will also find the streamers of Tunisia, Normandy and Ardennes-Alsace from World War II, the Tet Counteroffensive in Vietnam, the Liberation of Kuwait from the Gulf War, and most recently Iraq.



The streamers are awarded for the courageous actions of the regiments, brigades, and our division. They illuminate the tumultuous history of our nation and the price of freedom. Some battles you might recognize, some are long forgotten. But the legacy of the veterans who fought in those battles and all veterans who served can be seen in the continuing freedoms of Americans, in the position America holds as the leader of the free world, and in the stable and prospering democracies throughout our world.

Our veterans fought for independence, defended America's shores, fought to preserve the Union and rid it of slavery. They have toppled tyrants and fanatical regimes. Confronted and defeated the communist empire, and spread the universal ideals of freedom and democracy throughout the world. They achieved victory as liberators, not conquerors, and shaped a better world, a more peaceful world – in Europe, Japan, and the Balkans. The most recent generation of veterans are securing our victory and hard-earned peace in a sovereign and free Iraq and resolutely battling Al Qaeda and the Taliban in Afghanistan.

These traditions of bravery live on today in our Big Red One Soldiers stationed here at Fort Riley and deployed forward in Afghanistan and Iraq. These traditions

live on in heroes like SPC Ross McGinnis – a "Blue Spader" who paid the ultimate sacrifice when he threw himself on top of a grenade to save the lives of four comrades. These traditions live on in our 1st Inf. Div. Soldiers who return from combat with injuries – some visible, others not – but they continue to fight and make sacrifices for their country.

This Veterans Day more than 1,000 Big Red One Soldiers marched with veterans from all the services in the Manhattan Military Day Parade. Marching together represents how our nation's military and the 1st Inf. Div. move "Danger Forward" on the path blazoned by our veterans. We pay tribute to the veterans' service and sacrifice not just on Veterans Day, but in our duties and conduct everyday as Soldiers.

No Mission too Difficult. No Sacrifice too Great.

Duty First!

Command Sergeant Major **Danger 7**

Veterans!

Division Command Sgt. Maj. James Champagne

This Veteran's Day, we remember the men and women who have served in the 1st Infantry Division, the United States Army and all veterans who have served in the military.

The veterans of the Big Red One have continually defended America when its borders, its people and its way of life have been threatened. It has always been the Soldiers of the 1st Inf. Div. who have been willing to stand up and be counted.

Our most potent weapon in war, without a doubt, is the men and women in uniform. They come from all across America, from small towns and big cities and from as many backgrounds as there are people, but they all have one thing in common: they volunteered and answered their nation's call to duty.

They are the men and women who serve today in the 1st Inf. Div.; the same Soldiers who sweat in the sands of Iraq and patrol the borders of Afghanistan.

Every morning we wake up on free land, we do so because of the men and women who have served in the Big Red One, the Army and all of our nation's branches of service.

Veteran's Day is a time to thank and honor the Americans who have answered the call to duty, especially those who have served during times of war.

Since Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom began, a vast number of the Soldiers serving on Fort Riley and the 1st Inf. Div. today have deployed in support of the Global War on Terrorism. These men and women have always done, and will continue to do, uncommon things.

The Soldiers of the Big Red One have crouched in the muddy trenches of Europe, confronted the enemy from Sicily and struggled up the sandy beaches of Normandy. They steamed in the jungles and the rice paddies of Vietnam. They've endured the harsh terrain of Kosovo and then chased terrorists over the mountain tops of Eastern Afghanistan and squinted against the dusty wind on the bleak, empty landscapes of Iraq.

I recently had the opportunity to attend the Society of the 1st Infantry Division reunion. While there, I met hundreds of

veterans of the Big Red One. Veterans like retired Command Sgt. Maj. Bill Ryan, a World War II veteran who survived the Normandy Beach landing.

I met Harley Reynolds, another World War II veteran. He survived all three landings we made in World War II.

Ronald Mackedanz was a Soldier in Vietnam assigned to Charlie Company, 1st Battalion, 16th Infantry Regiment. Like the others who attended the reunion, he was modest about his tour of duty in that far off jungle, yet proud to have been in the Big Red One, as he should be.

After the Revolutionary War, President George Washington said, "We owe these veterans a debt of gratitude, indeed a debt of honor."

So, this month, all across the nation, Americans are gathering together to remember and pay tribute to our veterans. It is not just our Soldiers who sacrifice, but their Families as well. Our Families' service is marked by the unwavering support to their loved ones who are in harm's way. The call to duty is answered by our Families who support our Soldiers, honor their service and welcome them home. They may not carry a rifle, but they carry the weight of worry and added responsibility until their loved one returns home.

We have always embraced and professionally executed whatever mission comes our way. No matter where we go, or what the mission, we will always retain the integrity of our great division, our heritage, our organizational values and our commitment to our Soldiers and Families.

The men and women serving in the 1st Inf. Div. today are ordinary people who have been placed in extraordinary circumstances, and they, like all veterans know the true meaning of courage.

While history records the valor of the American Soldier in terms of units and armies and forces, the role of the American Soldier is the story of each individual who accepted the call of duty. For 91 years, Soldiers of the 1st Inf. Div. have accepted that responsibility and lived by the motto: "No Mission too Difficult! No Sacrifice too Great! Duty First!"

Now ... Get after it!



Deterring The Enemy

By Staff Sgt. James E. Brown Jr.
1st SB PAO

CAMP TAJI, Iraq – One by one, a half-dozen Mine Resistant Ambush Protected vehicles entered a gravel parking lot outside the 1038th Horizontal Construction Company motor pool. The Soldiers jumped out and went to work filling coolers with fresh bags of ice, water and Gatorade to ensure there was plenty of fluid to drink throughout the day.

The Soldiers of the Arkansas-based company fall under the 1st Squadron, 152nd Cavalry Regiment, an Indiana National Guard unit attached to the 1st Sustainment Brigade out of Fort Riley, Kan. What makes this unit so unique is their diverse mixture of military occupational skills. It has Soldiers who are combat arms, combat engineers, supply specialists and human resources, to name a few.

Each day before they begin their missions, vehicle commanders ensure Soldiers conduct pre-combat inspections to ensure all equipment is present and working properly. The mission is briefed and contingency plans are reinforced.

“Our job is to become a known deterrent for any insurgents who plan to attempt an improvised rocket assisted munitions attack on Camp Taji, Iraq,” said Staff Sgt. Terry Burdin “We also enforce the no parking policy along the borders of Camp Taji and investigate any suspicious person or vehicle within our area of responsibility.”

The group did encounter a stranded driver a few hours into their patrol. One of the Soldiers spotted a disabled van pulled off to the side of the road. They approached the driver and asked him about his situation and if he’d seen anything suspicious or any abnormal activity within the area.

“I try to keep in mind every person or vehicle we deal with are friendly. We treat every person as we would want to be treated given the same circumstances. We remain professional, polite, but prepared to use force if necessary,” Burdin said. “I believe strongly in ... making good, lasting impressions with the local populace.”

(Top) Spc. Tadd Eli, points out to a fellow Soldier a suspicious person observing their patrol from a roof top.

(Middle) Spc. Robert Sherrouse drives a Mine Resistant Ambush Protected vehicle.

(Bottom) Spc. Jose Ramirez looks inside a broken down bus to ensure there are no additional passengers hiding in it.

1st SB PAO/Brown

3RD IBCT Troops Assist In Turbine Movement

By Staff Sgt. Adora Medina
3rd IBCT PAO

KANDAHAR, Afghanistan – Those who reside in the smaller villages of southern Afghanistan have limited or no electricity. Even though rows of power lines stretch for miles across the desolate sands of the region, major cities are the only ones to actually benefit from these sources.

U.S. forces joined with Afghan national security forces and the International Security Assistance Force late last month, to participate in an operation that would lead to the eventual establishment of power for the smaller communities.

The combined forces transported a new turbine 180 kilometers across southern Afghanistan to the Kajaki dam, located in the Hellmand district.

Soldiers with 2nd Battalion, 2nd Infantry Regiment, escorted the turbine as it passed through their area of operations. The light infantry unit cleared a path and secured approximately 30 kilometers enabling safe travel within the Maywand district of Afghanistan.

The vast open area presented a challenge for the light infantrymen who just recently began

operations in the district.

“We’re still not sure what villages are pro-ISAF or pro-Taliban or where some of the areas along the route are worse than the others,” said Capt. Trevor Voelkel, commander, Company C, 2nd Bn., 2nd Inf. Regt.

To familiarize themselves with the area, Voelkel’s company went out to perform reconnaissance prior to the operation. When they reached a certain portion of the district, Voelkel recalled being rocketed twice within an hour. To alleviate unnecessary

risks on the day of the operation, Kiowa and Apache helicopters circled the district, providing air support to the joint convoy.

The 1st Inf. Div. Soldiers shadowed the convoy for about 10 hours, encountering only one incoming rocket round, which landed north of their perimeter. As the convoy departed from the district, 2nd Bn., 2nd Inf. Regt. Soldiers transferred responsibility to Task Force Hellman, who led the convoy the remainder of the way.

Despite Taliban attempts to deter the operation, the turbine safely arrived to the Kajaki dam where engineers would begin the construction process to provide electricity for the remote areas of Afghanistan.



3rd IBCT PAO/Medina

A 1st ID Soldier, secures a main road in the Maywand district of Afghanistan as a Kiowa scans the area below.

2

ND HBCT

K-State Basketball Team Shares Bond With “First Lightning” Soldiers

By *Spc. Dustin Roberts*
2nd HBCT PAO

Although the phrase, “firing from long range” has two different meanings in the areas of collegiate basketball and Army field artillery, two organizations from both realms came together to share a common goal: victory.

The Kansas State University basketball team visited the 1st Battalion, 7th Field Artillery Regiment, 2nd Heavy Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division on Sept. 11 to build a relationship between the organizations before the brigade deployed to Iraq.

“Something I have been intrigued with in the two years I’ve been here is to form a bond with a group of Soldiers,” said KSU basketball head coach Frank Martin. “It’s a way to show

our guys that they can take the freedom and the peace we live with for granted sometimes.”

The basketball team traveled to Fort Riley to view the Sept. 11 remembrance ceremony, participated in a simulated Humvee convoy and got the chance to see how field artillery Soldiers practice before the big game.

The idea was sparked when the KSU football team built a partnership with the 1st Bn., 28th Inf. Regt., 4th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, in January 2007, before the brigade deployed to Iraq in support of the Global War on Terror, said Lt. Col. Robert Bailes, commander, 1st Bn., 7th Field Art. Regt.

“The basketball team and coach Martin were very interested in establishing a partnership with our unit here at Fort Riley; we met with the coach and got to hear him talk to some Soldiers

in the Warrior Transition Battalion,” Banks said. “We realized right away that he and his program would be perfect for our program here.”

Of the day’s events, the Sept. 11 remembrance ceremony, was the most emotional for the players and Soldiers alike.

“The ceremony brought back memories for all of us; we were all young when the attack happened. You remember where you were when you saw it happen on the TV screen and you thought about family and loved ones,” said Darren Kent senior power forward. “It makes us remember all the people who lost their lives that day, and all the Soldiers who are fighting for what happened.”

After the ceremony, the group moved on to experience what the players thought was an expensive and giant video game.

In the Humvee convoy simulators, the players got to “play” Soldier for an hour or so by putting on body armor and getting quick lessons on how to hold, load and fire M-4 Carbine rifles.

A few players even had the chance to sit in the driver’s seat or man the .50-caliber machine gun in the turret of the Humvee.

During the training, four video screens surrounded the Humvees to give players the effect that they were actually driving in Baghdad and fighting the enemy.

“It was so great to go in the Humvee and actually carry a weapon (and fake-shoot the enemy in Baghdad;) it was pretty fun,” Kent said. “I think it’s very realistic; to get the physical feeling of the training, getting to wear the actual gear and firing the weapons kept my heart rate up. This is a great tool to use for the Soldiers and it was a big video game for me.”

Kent said his teammates were excited and thankful for the opportunity to see what Soldiers do on a day-to-day basis.

“We just want to thank the Soldiers for everything that they do for us,” Kent said. “Hopefully they stay safe and positive when they are over there [Iraq]. My wish is that they can see a few of our games this season so they can relax and kind of just get away from the war and get their minds on basketball, family and friends.”

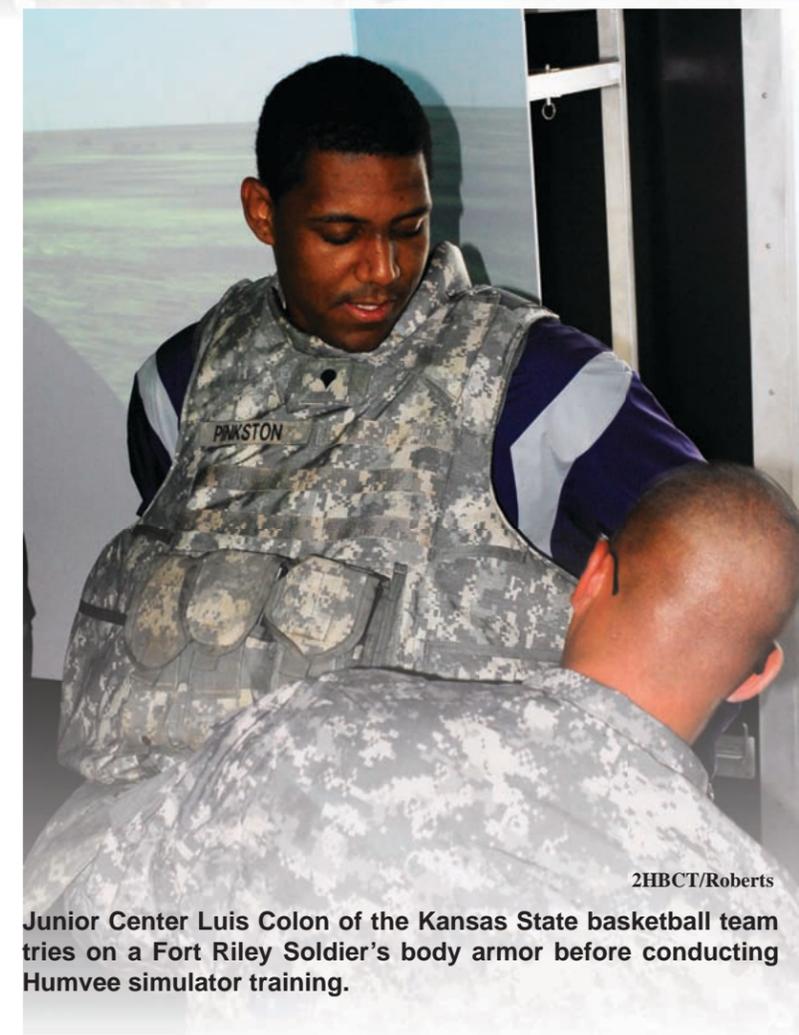
Bailes said the Soldiers are very proud of what they do and were grateful for the opportunity to show-off what they do.

“I think they [KSU basketball team] had a vision of what the Army life was before they got here, and we’ve been able to turn that around and show them what a positive experience this is for our Soldiers,” he said. “This is a great opportunity, and we are so thrilled to have the basketball team in this partnership.”

Soldiers from the battalion also had the chance to visit the team on campus in Manhattan, to see how the student athletes practice in the classroom and on the basketball court.

Bailes said the visit was also to help strengthen the already solid bond between the two organizations.

“Hopefully it will pave the way for other units here on post to establish similar partnerships with other teams at the university,” he said. “We’re going to carry this relationship forward even when we get to Iraq and as the team goes



2HBCT/Roberts

Junior Center Luis Colon of the Kansas State basketball team tries on a Fort Riley Soldier’s body armor before conducting Humvee simulator training.

through their season.”

As the players and Soldiers shared laughs and conversation, it was easy for Bailes to see what the day meant for everyone.

“We have a lot of similar characteristics in both of our organizations,” Bailes said.

“We are both about success, whether it’s on the battlefield or on the basketball court.”



2HBCT/Roberts

Junior guard Dennis Clemente of the Kansas State University basketball team laughs while conducting Humvee simulator training at Fort Riley.

4TH IBCT PT Competition

By Anna Staats
Duty First! Magazine

In combat, one of the things that helps get a Soldier through the day is his or her physical fitness. How strong the body is often determines one's ability to physically and mentally respond to challenges.

With that in mind, Col. Henry Arnold, III, commander of the 4th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, offers his Soldiers a monthly fitness challenge.

Arnold developed the fitness challenge as a battalion commander, modeling it after a similar program used by Gen. David Patraeus, commander, U.S. Central Command. To compete in the challenge, Soldiers must go above and beyond normal Army physical fitness test standards.

A little more than 60 Soldiers in the Dragon Brigade came out early Sept. 30 to test their fitness skills. The test started with push-ups. For men, the expectation is 80 push-ups in two minutes, each push reviewed by a grader. Push-ups are followed by at least 85 sit-ups; 10 pull-ups and 20 dips (standards are adjusted accordingly for female Soldiers).

Once those were out of the way, Soldiers took off on a three-

mile run, which must be completed in 22 minutes or less (25 minutes for female Soldiers).

Only a small percentage of the Soldiers who show up for the test actually meet the standard.

"It's a good test of physical strength and physical endurance," Arnold said. "It's tough to make the standard."

The real goal, Arnold said, was to positively promote physical fitness excellence

"These people [who are named Iron Dragons], we recognize them publicly with certificates and a trophy, and they go back and represent physical excellence within their organizations," Arnold said. "And that's what it's about. Physical fitness is a part of readiness - it's about survival on the battlefield."

As word has spread about the competition, more and more Soldiers have shown up to take on the challenge. In August, 48 Soldiers took the Iron Dragon test. Only eight made the cut. At September's event, 63 participated and 15 passed.

Arnold said Soldiers in units throughout the division are encouraged to come and participate as well.

"It's a great event, and it's open to the entire division," Arnold said. "You all can come; you're welcome to the challenge." 

October Iron Dragons

Of 63 Soldiers who completed the Iron Dragon physical fitness challenge, the following 15 made the cut:

UNIT	NAME	PUSHUPS	SITUPS	PULLUPS	DIPS	RUN	TOTAL SCORE
2nd Bn., 16th Inf. Regt.	2nd Lt. Ben Juvinall	89	98	20	26	20:58	358
2nd Bn., 16th Inf. Regt.	2nd Lt. Lauren Gore	104	97	16	35	20:14	386
2nd Bn., 16th Inf. Regt.	2nd Lt. Samuel Greulich	100	95	14	27	18:57	381
2nd Bn., 16th Inf. Regt.	2nd Lt. Benjamin Porath	92	91	12	29	19:30	364
2nd Bn., 16th Inf. Regt.	Spc. Adrain Espadas	93	94	10	27	21:16	346
1st Bn., 28th Inf. Regt.	Spc. Luis Figueroa	108	89	11	35	21:30	363
1st Bn., 28th Inf. Regt.	Pvt. Erik Parrilla	96	88	10	25	18:45	366
1st Bn., 28th Inf. Regt.	2nd Lt. Jacob Armstong	90	90	15	30	20:25	345
1st Bn., 28th Inf. Regt.	1st Lt. Lawrence Csaszar	84	87	10	20	20:14	333
1st Bn., 28th Inf. Regt.	Staff Sgt. Samuel Pearson	83	88	10	20	21:27	321
1st Bn., 28th Inf. Regt.	2nd Lt. Thomas Henegar	82	87	12	21	21:45	319
1st Bn., 28th Inf. Regt.	Sgt. Jayson Johnson	85	86	10	23	20:24	334
HHC, Special Troops Bn., 4 IBCT	2nd Lt. Ryan Orbinson	85	95	13	28	20:05	355
HHC, 4 IBCT	2nd Lt. Nichlos Grodevant	92	97	10	30	20:56	361
1st Bn., 7th Field Art. Regt., 2 HBCT	Pfc. Carlos Medano	106	86	13	36	19:38	380

3RD ESC WE CAN FIX IT

By Sgt. Aaron LeBlanc
165th CSSB, 1st SB

CAMP TAJI, Iraq - If it rolls, the mechanics of the 536th Maintenance Company can probably fix it. The unit from Schofield Barracks, Hawaii, is playing an important role within the 165th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, 1st Sustainment Brigade, and is vital to the overall mission of the Soldiers stationed at Camp Taji.

"I have a good team of professionals here," said Sgt. 1st Class Phillip Foster, the noncommissioned officer in charge of the 536th's Automotive Base, a maintenance bay which represents a good chunk of the heavy-lift capacity of the company.

Foster's maintenance bay has completed 204 major jobs since they arrived in Iraq, all of which were labeled as 'high priority.' "We handle mainly big-ticket items here, like engine replacement and complete overhauls," explained Foster.

His shop isn't limited to repairing vehicles however; it's also where Sgt. Jamie Cadman, an armorer with the 536th Maint. Co. works.

"We can repair any small arms in the Army's arsenal. And we even repair some weapons for the Iraqi army on the other side of the base, such as their .50 caliber machine guns," said Cadman.

The 536th as a whole has completed thousands of jobs since they arrived in country last year.

"The shops have averaged about 635 jobs a month since their arrival in December 2007,"

said Sgt. 1st Class Dennis Calvert, the non commissioned officer in charge of the 536th's Shop Office. "That's over 4,400 jobs, at least, in the last seven months. Some jobs are definitely more time consuming than others, but in the end, every job has to be completed with the least downtime possible," he said.

Calvert went on to explain that the shops of the 536th "provide direct support, as well as organizational support to 14 units within the 1st Sust. Bde. and the 165th CSSB, and 33 external units, from various MiTT Teams to Special Forces. We also provide 24-hour support to the Convoy Support Center for any unit needing maintenance repairs passing through the greater Baghdad area."

In addition to being the most robust maintenance operation on the base, the 536th is also responsible for the operation of the largest warehouse complex in the country, capable of handling all classes of supply. The 536th has recently fielded a gun truck platoon, capable of conducting convoy security for the numerous combat logistics patrols organic to the 165th. Further, they also provide tactical tow trucks to every convoy organic

to the 165th, making them the only unit within the battalion to be represented in such a fashion.

"My Soldiers understand that the armor they upgrade, the trucks they repair, and the electronic warfare kits that they install save lives, and they take pride in that," said Foster. "I can't tell you how many Soldiers have come back to us from off the road and told us about how something we did helped them return home safe." 



165th CSSB/Leblanc

The 536th Automotive Base has completed 204 major jobs since they have arrived in Iraq. They handle many big - ticket projects like engine replacement and complete overhauls.

CG's Mounted Color Guard Wins Multiple Awards

By **Bill Armstrong**
Fort Riley Post

The Commanding General's Mounted Color Guard brought several awards home to Fort Riley following the 2008 National Cavalry Competition Sept. 17-21 in Cheyenne, Wyo.

Events for the annual competition included jumping over obstacles, mounted saber target strikes and military horsemanship. The competition is open to all horsemen, including living historians, re-enactors, active, Reserve and National Guard military riders and uniformed mounted law enforcement officers. Entrants register at levels representing novice, intermediate or advanced equestrian skills.

"Even with the small amount of time that we had to really prepare and focus on specific events, they performed just outstanding," said Capt. Richard Martinson,

CGMCG commander.

Some of the competitors return each year to ride in the same events. That may seem like an advantage, but Martinson said his troopers come to the event with a winning attitude backed by effective training.

"We're really fortunate because we have a really great riding program that's enforced by my civilian trainer, Ron Roller, 1st Sgt. (Dean) Stockert and all the guys who've come before us here that tweaked our program to be what it is today. I get guys for a year, and maybe they get to do two competitions. They come in there and have never seen a cav competition before, and they still go there and take away a lot of blue and red ribbons," Martinson added.

Twelve members of the CGMCG traveled to Cheyenne with an equal number of horses in a caravan of brightly painted trucks and trailers.

"It was a great chance to take what we do in ceremonies and what we do in demonstrations and put those skills to actual use and get the fruits of our labor," Stockert said.

In a field of more than 60 competitors, Fort Riley's troopers brought home the most awards. The team won six first-place ribbons, 18 for second place and three for third place.

Other events were mounted pistol, platoon drill, cavalry bugler, authenticity and historical impression and Major Howze, an event in which teams ride in formation with period clothing and equipment and use sabers to strike targets. The Director's Cup was an advanced finals event testing skills in saber, pistol and field jumping.

Trooper Michael Manning brought home an engraved, silver plate for being named best overall rider in Level II. As a result, the Army specialist was invited to compete with Level III's advanced riders in the Director's Cup competition.

"It was nice to be asked to ride in it because I was a Level II rider and really wasn't supposed to compete in a Level III event. I really wanted to win one event – that was my goal. So it was nice to take pistols, jumping and overall Level II," Manning said. "It was all the horse I just hung on."

Spc. Jesse Doggett and his horse, Winchester, won the Pegasus award. The award is based on the horse displaying the best stance, hoof care, bone structure and other criteria.

"The competition was great. Every year, they throw something new at us and we adapted and overcame everything they threw," said Staff Sgt. Randy Hubbard, CGMCG platoon sergeant.

The CGMCG already is making plans to compete in next year's cavalry competition. Based on lessons learned in Cheyenne, the team will focus their training less on group and more on individual events in an effort to bring home even more awards in 2009, Hubbard said.



Awards won during the Cavalry Competition.

Fort Riley Post/Smith



Cavalry Salute

1st Inf. Div. PAO/Howard

Scholarships Offered

By **Anna Staatz**
Duty First! Magazine

Children who lose a parent in combat while assigned to the Big Red One are eligible for up to \$10,000 in scholarship funds from the 1st Infantry Division Foundation.

The foundation is part of the Society of the 1st Infantry Division. It was established in 1966 as a mechanism to collect funds to care for the Families of servicemembers killed in combat. The establishment of the foundation was pushed by Maj. Gen. William DePuy, who sent a letter to division Soldiers asking how they felt about establishing a fund to help with the educational costs of the children of Soldiers who died fighting for the Big Red One.

Collection began during Vietnam. DePuy scholarships currently allow for \$10,000 over four years for children of Big Red One Soldiers killed in combat. Since the foundation was started,



more than 1,100 scholarships have been awarded. To date, more than 170 children of a Big Red One Soldier have lost a parent in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Rosemary Wirs, of the 1st Inf. Div. Foundation, said that when a Soldier is killed in combat and there are surviving children, a letter is sent to the widow explaining the scholarship program.

"We ask that the widow complete the enrollment form, basically the names and birthdates of the children, and return it to us along with one signed copy of the by-laws," Wirs said. "We then issue certificates of award for each child, which are either mailed to the widow or presented to her at an award ceremony."

The foundation is funded by contributions from members of the Society of the 1st Infantry Division, active duty Soldiers and organizations which have an interest in supporting the children of Soldiers killed in combat.

For more information, visit www.1stid.org.

History Of The Big Red One

An American Turning Point: Cantigny

By Ty Abney
Duty First! Magazine

Before the spring of 1918, American troops, specifically the 1st Infantry Division, played a minimal role in World War I. With the British and French already deep into battle with the Central Powers, American Soldiers had not yet been given the opportunity to prove their worth to the Allied forces. That would all change May 28, 1918, in a small French village known as Cantigny.

Located approximately 75 miles north of Paris, the German army had taken over the village during their assault along the Aisne River. On the Cantigny plateau, the city's location served as a key surveillance point which allowed the German army to see everything and everyone around them. The Germans took the village in March 1918 and Allied forces wanted it back.

"In the spring of 1918, the Allies were under great pressure on the western front by the German spring offensive," said William McKale, director of the 1st Infantry Division and U.S. Cavalry Museum, "The British and French had been fighting for four years and needed some help – a shot in the arm for morale purposes. The Americans had landed the previous summer, had been training and used in a very limited way in providing security in different sectors of Allied lines. As the spring came on, the British, French and American commands wanted to insert Americans into the battle plan."

McKale said Gen. John J. Pershing felt the German salient located in Cantigny seemed like the perfect place to employ American troops and give them a "test by fire."

Since the Americans had yet to see action, their performance at Cantigny would be assessed two separate ways. The first involved deciding exactly what the United States' role in the rest of the war would be. The second was proving to the rest of the Allies they were a strong battle unit and could be counted on. An American success would signify the United States could operate independently, rather than serving as replacements for British and French forces. Failure meant continued pessimism about American abilities.

The 1st Inf. Div. was eventually inserted into the Somme Sector in late April 1918, where they spent most of the time taking on enemy artillery and gas barrages. Orders were eventually given to prepare for an assault on Cantigny.

The importance of this initial battle was so great in deciding America's role in the Great War that Pershing addressed the officers of the 28th Inf. Reg. (now the Black Lions) personally, saying, "You will represent the mightiest nation engaged. Our future part in this conflict depends on your action."

Finally, at 6:45 a.m. on May 28, 1918, men from the 28th Inf. Regt., led by Col. Robert L. Bullard began the challenge placed in front of them.

Twelve French Schneider tanks rolled forward as French pilots provided air support from above. The Germans responded by firing a barrage with the 75-millimeter gun in the tanks' direction. As the Schneiders crept passed the front-line trenches, 4,000 American soldiers, better known as 'doughboys', fixed their bayonets, grabbed extra gear and proceeded to follow their rolling shield across the empty field.

The plan was for the regiments' three battalions, each with a specific job, to attack three separate locations in and around the village.

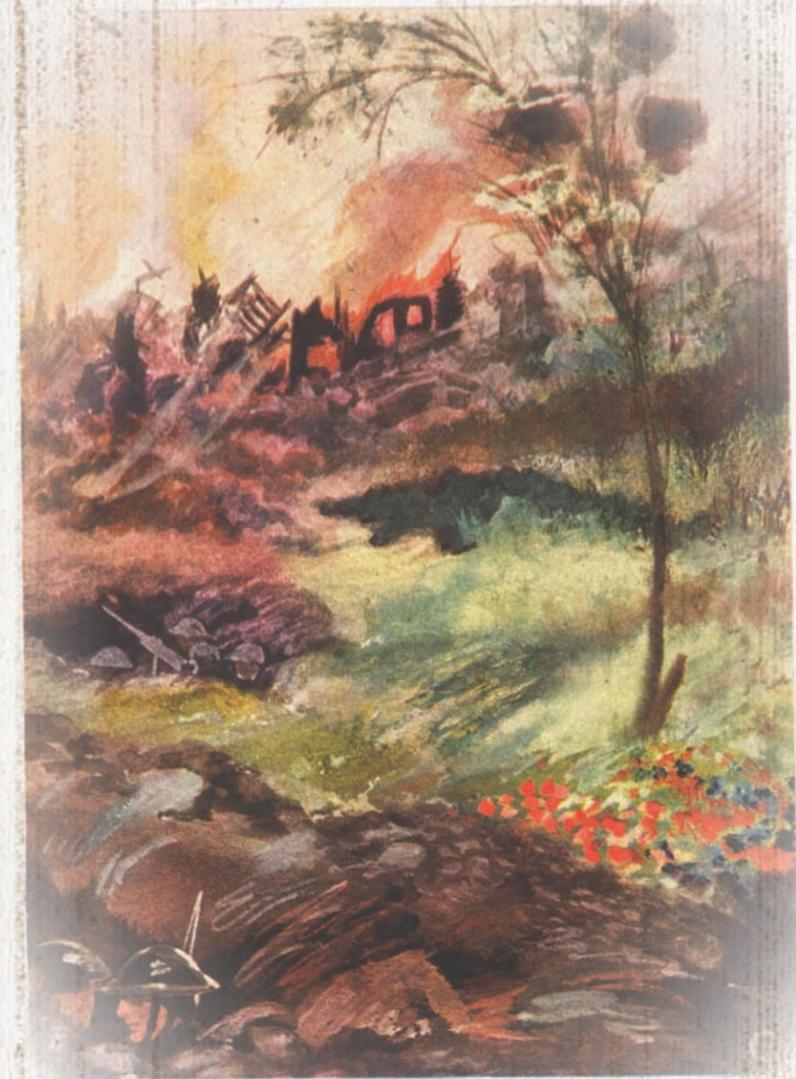
The center battalion was to use support from the Schneiders to attack the primary German position in Cantigny, clear it and eventually move past the village.

The northern battalion was given the task of protecting the left flank of the center battalion, while the southern battalion maneuvered to the south edge of the village. The southern battalion was then to clear their zone and set up a perimeter to protect against a German counterattack from the southeast.

Amazingly enough, the Allies faced little resistance as they successfully reached their objective point by 7:20 a.m. With the village in their control, the doughboys dug in for the German counterattack.

Over the next two days, German forces would try their hand at recapturing the vital village, but were held off by the relentless efforts of the 28th Inf. Regt.

By May 30, the German counterattack was completely halted and the Americans had successfully secured the village of Cantigny.



Spring—Cantigny

With an increased number of American casualties, the men of the 28th Inf. Regt. were relieved by the 16th Inf. Regt.

Even though the Germans had been defeated, they gave the American troops everything they could handle. What started as a regiment of 4,000 Soldiers was cut to approximately 3,000 men in the grueling three-day battle.

"Over the course, the regiment took the objectives, took the town, reduced the salient and then they beat back German counter attacks," McKale said. "This proved to the British and French that the American soldier had a fighting spirit and that they could be used in broader offensive actions that would eventually take place in the summer and fall of 1918."

What started out with a regiment in charge of security ended with a regiment that showed the rest of the Allies what the American spirit

is all about. In the grand scheme of World War I, Cantigny was a small battle, but was one of the most significant in the history of the United States Army.

It sent a message to both the Allies and Central Powers – The Americans are here, and they can fight. 

1st Infantry Division at War

1st Infantry Division

Oldest continuously serving division in the United States Army. Over 8,000 Soldiers in three brigades and multiple subordinate units deployed.

Primarily located in Fort Riley, Kan.; training responsibility extends to three other states: Kentucky, Oklahoma and Texas.

The Division is scheduled to modularize in Fall 2009.

1st Brigade, Fort Riley

Trains transition teams. So far more than 8,000 servicemembers have trained and deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan and more than 1,200 have redeployed. Transition Teams live and work with Iraqi Security Forces (ISF) and the Afghan National Army (ANA).

Scheduled to modularize FY09.



3rd Sustainment Command (Expeditionary), Iraq

Provide theater logistics command and control for the theater commander supporting the Army Forces (ARFOR) and Combined Joint Task Force (CJTF) mission. Deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom May 2008.



75th Fires Brigade, Fort Sill

Integrates attached ground and air maneuver forces and on order functions as a maneuver headquarters in support of full spectrum operations. Separate battalions currently deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.



4th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, Fort Riley

Currently resetting at Fort Riley, Kan., the brigade is training for a second deployment to Iraq. The Department of Defense recently issued deployment orders for 2009.

2nd Heavy Brigade Combat Team, Iraq

The brigade departed Fort Riley, Kan., in October 2008 on a scheduled 12 month deployment in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

1st Combat Aviation Brigade Combat Team, Iraq

Nearing the end of a 15 month deployment to Iraq, the brigades 2,800 Soldiers will re-deploy to Fort Riley, Kan., throughout November and early December 2008.



1st Sustainment Brigade, Iraq

Recently provided logistic, human resource and financial management for 80,000 Soldiers and 20,000 civilians and contractors throughout Multi-National Division-Baghdad and area support for Multi-National Division-Central. The brigade is scheduled to re-deploy to Fort Riley, Kan., in late 2008.



3rd Infantry Brigade Combat Team, Afghanistan

One of the Army's newest brigades, its Soldiers deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom in June 2008. The deployment is scheduled to last 12 months, during which Soldiers will conduct counterinsurgency and stability operations.



4th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade, Fort Leonard Wood

The MEB is a new concept in area operations and stability operations. The 4th MEB unique staff is composed of engineer, military police, chemical, cells and organically has a brigade support battalion and a signal company. The brigade was activated at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., in October 2008.



TT Mission

- Transition Teams advise, teach, and mentor Iraqi Security Forces and the Afghan National Army.
- Transition Teams provide direct access to Coalition capabilities such as air support, artillery, medical evacuation and intelligence gathering.
- Transition Teams are critical to the transfer of security responsibility to the Iraqi and Afghan governments.
- The consolidation of training at Fort Riley provides standardization of high quality training and effective use of resources.
- Dedicating the 1st Infantry Division Headquarters and one of the Division's Brigades to the Transition Team mission demonstrates full commitment by the US Army.



Veterans Day



By Gary Skidmore
Duty First! Magazine

Beginning with America's war for independence, more than a million men and women have died in battle fighting for the freedoms of the American people. Members of the 1st Infantry Division have always demonstrated valor, honor and compassion. Though separated by time and place, these Soldiers are unified in character and deed. Today, 1st Inf. Div. veterans of every era and every background have certain things in common. They live by a strict code of discipline. They understand the meaning of personal accountability, loyalty and shared sacrifice. They are a band of brothers who have faced an enemy on the beaches of Normandy, in the jungles of Vietnam, and the desert of Iraq. Through the 91 years the division has existed, the men and women of the Big Red One have made a special family. The camaraderie only few in a lifetime experience.

Bill Ryan

Trained as an airborne Soldier, Command Sgt. Maj. (Ret.) Bill Ryan was transferred to the Big Red One after the division lost so many in the fight for Sicily. "They took 100 of us from the 82nd Airborne Division and put us in the 16th Regiment for the invasion of Normandy."



Duty First!/Skidmore

Veteran John Parmonter, Co. D, 1st Bn., 28th Inf. Regt., speaks with Spc. Ronald Minick and Sgt. Jon Dorsey of Co. A, 1st Bn., 28th Inf. Regt.

Ryan said during the assault on the beach, his and all four of the landing crafts around him, were hit by mortars and sunk. He said the only reason he survived was because he had an additional life preserver around his body.

"When we got blown out of the water, I had a terrible concussion and was knocked unconscious," he said. "The only reason I lived was the extra floating device I had around me."

Ryan said he doesn't know who dragged him to shore, but remembers lying on the beach during the entire battle.

"I was there until 10 p.m.," he said. "While I was waiting to be taken off the beach, I was put on the detail of policing up the bodies, but I was in and out of consciousness so much of the time, I don't remember a lot."

Ryan was eventually sent back to England, recovered from his injuries and then returned to the 82nd Airborne Div., where he jumped into Nijmegen during Operation Market Garden.

He then returned to the 1st Inf. Div. as a replacement after the battle for Aachen and proudly states he walked all the way to Czechoslovakia with the Big Red One.

One of the most memorable experiences for Ryan was when he and his unit liberated the labor camp at Falkenau.

"There were bodies stacked up. When we first saw them you thought they were men lying there.... We didn't know they

were women. They were just skeletons," he said. "We liberated as much food as we could and gave it to them, but found out later that we shouldn't have done that, they had to be fed carefully. We were just trying to help those poor people."

Altogether, Ryan served with the division more than 11 years throughout his 30-year career.

"The 1st Infantry will always be the best division in the Army as far as I'm concerned," said Ryan. "It's the unit I was first bloodied with, and you never forget the first unit you were in combat with. I've met a lot of people through the division and the camaraderie is fantastic. We're all brothers in the Big Red One."

Harley Reynolds

Harley Reynolds is also a World War II veteran and a survivor of D-Day, a remarkable feat in itself. Reynolds also made all three of the division's beach landings during World War II, North Africa, Sicily and Normandy and was on the first assault wave of each.

"We were all scared on that first landing," said Reynolds. "There was a lot of fear everywhere. None of us had been in combat before and didn't really know what to expect, but it



Duty First!/Skidmore

Twelve members of Co. C, 2nd Bn., 16th Inf. Regt., who all served together in Vietnam go over photos of the time they spent together.

CANTIGNY MUSEUM

By Anna Staatz
Duty First! Magazine

Whether it's crawling to the top of one of several military vehicles out in front, or wandering the indoor galleries, the Cantigny First Division Museum offers a hands-on method of interacting with history sure to appeal to the young and the old.

The museum complex, located on 500 sprawling acres in Wheaton, Ill., features formal gardens, a golf course, restaurant, the First Division Museum and the Robert McCormick Museum. McCormick, an Army colonel was also the former editor and publisher of the Chicago Tribune. The McCormick Foundation was established as a charitable trust in 1955, when McCormick died.

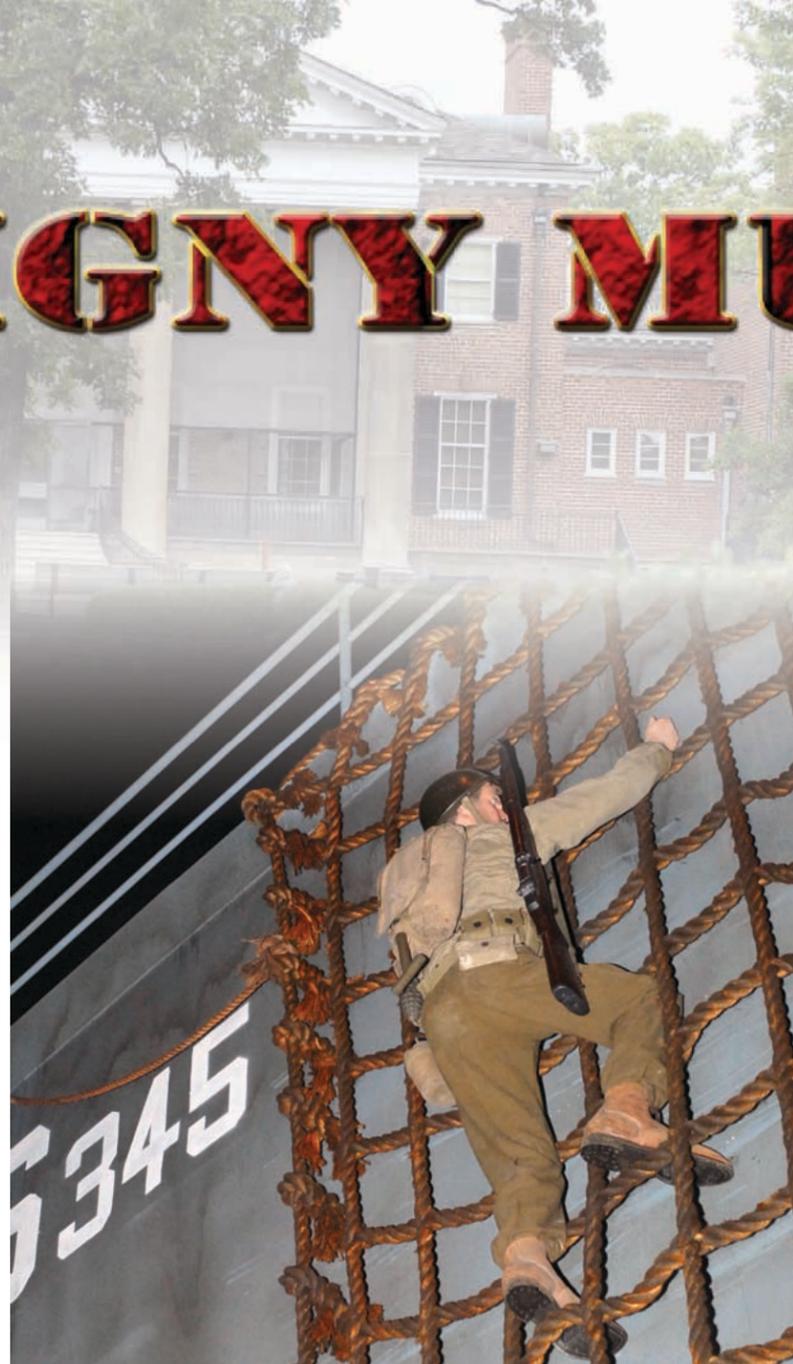
Staff at the museum are working on plans for an expansion. Paul Herbert, executive director, said he is hopeful that the museum's board of directors will approve an expansion plan by the end of the year.

If approved, the expansion could nearly double the size of the museum and would take about three years to complete. Herbert said the expansion would allow the museum to showcase the story of the 1st Infantry Division following Vietnam.

"We do have a little bit on Desert Shield and Desert Storm, but this museum was built in 1991 and 1992, so what we have is very little," Herbert said. "We have nothing about all the years elements of the division were on peacekeeping duty in the Balkans in the 1990s, and we have almost nothing on the current war on terror. So the first thing we want to do is bring the story up to date."



A setting in the Robert McCormick museum. The museum, McCormick's former home, has many of his collections.



Photos by: Duty First!/Staatz

One of the 1st Division galleries depicts the events of D-Day.

Herbert said the museum also had several large artifacts which could not be properly displayed outside and thus needed an indoor gallery. He particularly noted the recent addition of what is believed to be the only surviving landing craft of the Normandy invasion.

"Of course the 1st Division landed at Omaha Beach using these watercraft, and we're very proud of acquiring it," Herbert said.

If an expansion is approved, Herbert hopes that the bulk of the construction and remodeling work can be completed by August 2010, the museum's 50th birthday. The expansion will most likely not be complete until some time in 2011, Herbert said.

"We want to make sure this generation of Soldiers can bring their children and grandchildren here over the next 20 to 40 years and we've got their story and we've got it right," Herbert said. "They should be able to do that in the same way the World War II and the Vietnam vets and even the Desert Storm vets are doing today. We feel that expanding this museum is a duty we have to the Soldiers who are serving today."

Annually, the museum hosts more than 100,000 visitors, a number that continues to grow, Herbert said.

The museum's exhibits allow guests to interact with history, whether it's by listening in on old radio communications, rifling through a supply tent, or walking off a landing craft onto Omaha Beach. Herbert said museum artifacts are collected three ways. They are either donated to the museum, loaned to the museum or purchased by the museum.

One of the most notable donations, Herbert said, is four Medal of Honor awards given to 1st Inf. Div. Soldiers. The awards were donated to the museum by the Families of the Soldiers.

"The Families of Soldiers who received those Medals of Honor have entrusted them to our care," Herbert said. "And in each case, those decorations have been accompanied by other personal effects that tell that Soldier's story."

On the museum's front lawn is a collection of tanks and artillery vehicles, one of the most popular displays, Herbert said, particularly with children. Most of the vehicles were obtained through a loan from the Army for display.

Herbert said the museum acquires 30 to 40 additions to its collections each month. As it begins to tell the story of more recent conflicts, the challenge becomes greater.

"When you talk about post-1970 up to the modern time, it's going to be a real challenge to find artifacts to the current conflict because all this material is government property, and it's being used by the Army now."

More information on visiting the museum and events hosted by the museum can be viewed at www.firstdivisionmuseum.org

If You Go

The 1st Division Museum is located in the Cantigny Park Complex, Wheaton, Ill.

Phone: (630) 260-8185 (museum), www.cantigny.org.



Under the direction of a registered nurse, the operating room specialist supervises and participates in preparing the patient and the environment for surgical procedures. The specialist also provides assistance during surgery, supervises and participates in preparing and maintaining sterile supplies and equipment for patient care.

The Operating Room Tech also:

- Performs pre-operative skin preps.
- Transports pre-operative and post-operative patients.
- Places and positions patient on the operating room table.
- Assists in the performance of preparing patients for the administration of anesthesia.
- Gathers scrubs, gown, gloves and sets up a sterile field for surgical procedures.
- Applies surgical dressings and fabricates extremity plaster splints.
- Prepares medications for irrigation solutions.
- Uses and evaluates sterilizer test indicators.



DAGGERS CASE COLORS

By Anna Staatz
Duty First! Magazine

Soldiers in the 2nd Heavy Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, have said the last of their goodbyes to Families and friends and embarked on a scheduled 12-month deployment to Iraq.

During a deployment ceremony Sept. 30, Brig. Gen. Perry Wiggins, commanding general of the 1st Infantry Division and Fort Riley, commended the Dagger Brigade on its preparation for deployment.

"Preparing to deploy is challenging," Wiggins said. "For the Daggers, there were a number of tasks to complete, like equipment to draw, shots to receive, briefings to take, field exercises to complete, ranges to execute and piles and piles of paperwork to complete."

Wiggins told the Soldiers and Families in attendance at the ceremony that the preparation was more than enough to achieve the mission given to them.

"Daggers, your nation has called you," Wiggins said. "And you have answered that call. You will stand on point for this nation in its fight against terrorism. And do not be confused.... you are the front line in keeping that fight from reaching our very shores."

The brigade is comprised of about 3,700 Soldiers. It has

been given the mission of assisting Iraqi leaders and citizens in creating a more secure environment.

"Today marks the newest chapter of the brigade's history as we launch into a one year journey to enhance the security and prosperity of the Iraqi people in our assigned area of operation," said Col. Joseph Martin, brigade commander.

For Staff Sgt. Robert Tressider and his Family, deployments are becoming a routine of life. The deployment with 2nd HBC T is Tressider's third.

"It's all about the same," Tressider, 1st Bn., 7th Field Artillery Regt., said of leaving. "There's mixed feelings as to whether it will be good or bad, but we have a lot of good guys, so I'm not worried about it."

Tressider's wife, Rozine, said the couple had spent time at briefings and filling out paperwork ahead of the deployment. They also set up web cams on their computers, so Tressider can stay in touch with her and their two children, Robert and Kolena.

"We've just stayed at home and spent time together," Rozina said. "This is our third [deployment], so it's kind of becoming routine."

Soldiers in the Dagger Brigade left in increments throughout October. About 275 members of the brigade left ahead of the deployment ceremony to prepare for the unit's arrival in Kuwait and Iraq. 



Duty First!/Staatz

Col. Joseph Martin (left), commander, 2nd Heavy Brigade Combat Team, 1st Inf. Div., and Command Sgt. Maj. Donald Battle case the brigade's colors during a deployment ceremony Sept. 30 at Fort Riley.

WTB Changes

By Anna Staatz
Duty First! Magazine

Soldiers headed to Fort Riley's Warrior Transition Battalion will now go through a board process to decide whether they are best off at the medical unit or working with their home unit.

A recent Department of Army directive requires all warrior transition units to have a board review the packets of Soldiers before issuing orders to the unit. At Fort Riley, the Triad of Leadership board consists of the post's commanding general, WTB commander, Irwin Army Community Hospital commander and their command sergeants major.

Lt. Col. Michael Dlugopolski, division surgeon, said the post's commander and command sergeant major represent the unit and military needs; the hospital commander and command sergeant major represent the medical and clinic aspect and the WTB commander and command sergeant major can best provide input on whether a Soldier would benefit from their unit's resources.

The board reviews each Soldier's packet, which includes four parts, Dlugopolski said. It has a warrior screening matrix, used to judge the severity of the Soldier's medical condition; a company commander's assessment of how well a Soldier is functioning in their unit; a battalion commander's memorandum, saying he is in agreement with the case being forwarded to the board for review; and the Soldier's profile, a physician's assessment of a medical condition that can or does interfere with the Soldier performing their duties.

Dlugopolski said the board evaluates the Soldier's medical condition, based on how long the condition will last and how much treatment or therapy is required.

"If a Soldier has surgery for ACL reconstruction, that's a pretty common sports injury," Dlugopolski said.

"After the surgery recovery, the Soldier maybe goes to physical therapy three times a week," he said. "Do they need a case manager to tell them to make their three appointments? Probably not."

The flip side, Dlugopolski said, is the Soldier who has come back during a deployment with hand and leg

injuries from an improvised explosive device and has some traumatic brain injury symptoms.

"He's probably going to TBI clinics, has behavioral health appointments as well as therapy and care for his hand and leg injuries," Dlugopolski said. "He may have five or six or more appointments a week all at different places and may need a case manager to be the advocate for the care that he needs and help track those appointments."

Col. Lee Merritt, WTB commander, said before the directive for a board came out, there was limited guidance

about who could come to the WTB. "We had everyone from those who were severely injured

97TH MP BATTALION

to those who were found to have bad hearing," Merritt said. "Those Soldiers who have conditions like a hearing problem still have tremendous value to their units and there is ways for them to have their medical needs met without being sent to the WTB."

Having Soldiers who do not have long-term or severe medical conditions also allows the WTB cadre, case managers and physicians to devote more attention to the Soldiers with more pressing medical conditions, Merritt said.

The TOL board has also begun requiring that Soldiers whose packets are up for consideration be present to answer questions and discuss their case if needed. Three packets

1-28 BLACK LIONS

into the Sept. 22 board meeting, Brig. Gen. Perry Wiggins, commanding general of the 1st Infantry Division and Fort Riley, was already commenting on the positive aspect of having the Soldiers there.

"This is the dynamic we've been looking for," Wiggins said. "I don't know about the rest of you, but being able to see these guys and talk to them is good."

The TOL board meets every two weeks, or as needed, depending on the number of packets being processed. There are currently about 425 Soldiers in the Fort Riley WTB. 

TO WTB

K-State Fort Riley Day

By Russel Cope
Fort Riley Post

The Kansas State University Wildcats welcomed Soldiers and their Families Sept. 6 to Bill Snyder Family Stadium in Manhattan for their football game against the Montana State University Bobcats.

The battle of the cats on K-State/Fort Riley Day started with a tailgate party in "Cat Town." From there, the action moved to the stadium where Soldiers cheered and celebrated a 69-10 Wildcat stomping of the Bobcats.

Before the game began, the national anthem and taps were played while a giant monitor displayed the names of Fort

Riley Soldiers who had lost their lives in the Global War on Terrorism.

The opening ceremony featured 1st Infantry Division Soldiers carrying the division's colors onto Wagner Field, including those cased colors of the units currently deployed in support of the Global War on Terrorism. The game ball had previously been used by Fort Riley Soldiers in Iraq.

When it was time for the Wildcats to take the field, they didn't rush onto the field in normal fashion. Instead, the players marched in military style, led by Command Sgt. Maj. James B. Champagne, 1st Infantry Division command sergeant major. Just before the start of the game, captains from both teams met at the 50-yard line for the coin toss using a Big Red One coin.



Willie the Wildcat does push-ups with 1ID Soldiers.

They were joined by Staff Sgt. Mathew Carson, Fort Riley's noncommissioned officer of the year, and Sgt. Dallas Lockley, the post's Soldier of the year.

KSU paid special tribute to two Army Families selected to represent all Army Families in the Greater Fort Riley Community. The two Families selected by the division command sergeant major met with Brig. Gen. Perry Wiggins, commander of 1st Inf. Div. and Fort Riley, and his wife, Annette, on the 50-yard line. The Wiggins' and K-State officials presented gifts of appreciation to the families of Lt. Col. Brent Cummings and Pvt. Thomas Newman, both of the 4th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, 1st Inf. Div.

A boost for K-State fans came from Willie the Wildcat, KSU's mascot, who performed push-ups every time the Wildcats scored a touchdown.

In addition to being Fort Riley Day, it also was Band Day at K-State. During halftime, high school bands lined up on the field next to bands from K-State and Fort Riley's 1st Infantry Division. The bands started off the halftime festivities by playing "The Army song." After that, they played "Stars and Stripes Forever" as Fort Riley Soldiers marched onto the field carrying an enormous American Flag. As they entered the field, the high school marching band split up, leaving room for the Soldiers to unfurl the flag. When the Soldiers had the flag at full size,

it completed the "S" with which band members spelled "KSU" in giant, human letters.

In the third quarter, after the Wildcats scored another touchdown, Fort Riley soldiers met Willie the Wildcat in the end zone to complete another set of victory push-ups.

K-State/Fort Riley Day was about strengthening the relationship between KSU and Fort Riley. The day also gave area residents an opportunity to show their appreciation for Fort Riley Soldiers and their service to the nation.

"It was a real good day for Fort Riley and K-State. This day shows the K-State community that we support them, as well.

It also shows students and Soldiers that both communities can get along and support each other," said Sgt. Russell Young of 2nd Battalion, 16th Infantry Regiment, 4th BCT, 1st Inf. Div.

At the end of the game, Soldiers of the Warrior Transition Battalion received the game ball from members of the Wildcat football team.

"This is one of many opportunities for Soldiers and their Families to enjoy K-State athletics. K-State provides discounted tickets to most of their athletic events. This is a fantastic example of the support we get from the local community. AUSA's sponsorship of tickets for Soldiers helped provide for this day," said Maj. Nathan Bond, 1st Inf. Div. public affairs officer.



1st Inf. Div. Commander, Brig. Gen. Perry Wiggins talks with a fan at the Sept. 6 Kansas State football game.



1st Inf. Div. Soldiers march onto the field before the K-State football game.

Photos/Blackmon

