

## Hot wheels

What's hotter than Tabasco sauce, candy apple red and can fight fires faster than Sparky the Fire Dog? - Page 3



## Slammin' good time

Wrestling fans were treated to body slams and brain busters at the International Championship Wrestling event Saturday. - Page B1

# The Fort Huachuca Scout



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April 10, 2003

## Scout reports

e-mail: [thescout@hua.army.mil](mailto:thescout@hua.army.mil)

### Water outage

There will be a water outage Wednesday, from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Areas affected will be Dove Circle, Mills Road, Mizner Road, and the Museum Annex.

Water outage is required to demolish two fire hydrants and replace one fire hydrant.

For more information, call Wade Hayes at 533-8514.

### ACS to establish FRG

The first meeting of an Army Community Service support group for families with deployed soldiers, civilians and contractors will be held from 6-8 p.m. April 30, at the Fort Huachuca Child Development Center.

The group is designed to help anyone geographically separated from a loved one as a result of Army deployments, whether the deployed family member is in the military or not.

ACS will provide free childcare to those attending the event. Those who wish to participate in the event must register by April 28. To register, call the ACS office at 533-2330/5919.

### AER campaign

The Army Emergency Relief Campaign is ongoing and ends May 15. Unit representatives are still collecting donations to help the Army "take care of its own." Currently the fort has collected \$43,500 in donations.

If you have contributed from AER and would like to share your story, contact Sgt. 1st Class Donald Sparks at 533-2622, for an article in the *Scout*.

For more information on how to contribute to AER, contact Sgt. 1st Class Peter Gross at 538-1140.

## INSIDE

### Smallpox vaccination policy under revision

The Department of Defense is revising its policy for some 500,000 military personnel whom it plans to vaccinate against smallpox following recent deaths related to the vaccine. Page 3

### It shouldn't hurt to be a child

April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month. Since children are not issued with warranties or user's manuals, the training services provided by the Army can help first time parents, care givers, and even old hands with insights into the right choices to make. Page 4

### Latest Thunderbirds, Iraqi Freedom update

Fort Huachuca's weekly coverage of the War in Iraq and the 11th Signal Brigade's support to the theater. Page 5

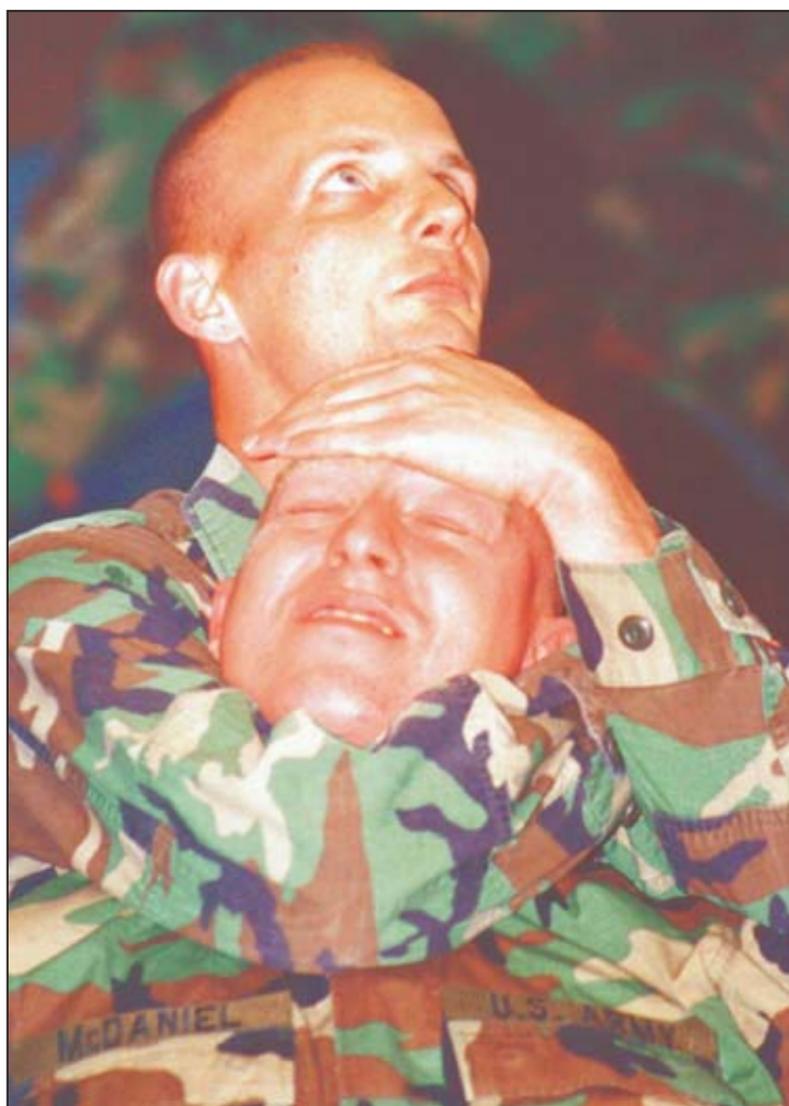


Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Donald Sparks

### 'Anything you say sergeant'

Sgt. Jason Cochran, Company A, 304th Military Intelligence Battalion, establishes a choke hold on Spc. Timothy McDaniel, as part of combatives training during Sergeants Time Training. See related story and photos on Page 7.

## Captain promotion pin-on point increased to 40 months

BY BRUCE ANDERSON  
ARMY NEWS SERVICE

The Army has raised the time-in-service requirement for promotion to captain from 38 months back to 40 months, effective April 1.

With the increase, the Army began an incremental return to the 42-month requirement that existed prior to October.

"The higher requirement

provides more time for junior officers to prepare for the responsibilities associated with the rank of captain," said Maj. Patrick T. Budjenska, personnel policy integrator, G1.

In October, the Army started promoting officers to captain after only 38 months of service.

The Fiscal Year 2002 Defense Authorization Act authorized the promotions after 36 months, but the Army opted

for 38 months to give junior officers as much training as possible before promoting them to captain.

This accelerated promotion was one facet of the Army's campaign to alleviate a shortage of captains.

The shortage was the result of an under-accession of lieutenants in the early 1990s, which was compounded by attrition during the booming economy of the late 1990s,

said personnel officials.

The Army can begin the move back to longer development for its lieutenants because it has exceeded its goal for the number of captains on active duty.

In the six months since reducing the pin-on point to 38 months, 700 more captains elected to remain in the service than was the case in previous years.

While stop-loss has con-

tributed in a minor way to the increase of the Army's overall officer strength, the major causes for the increase in the number of captains are the accelerated promotion of first lieutenants, lower attrition rates among captains, and an increase in the number of captains returning to active duty.

Since the end of fiscal year 2001, more than 200 captains have returned to active duty.

## Post spring cleanup underway Monday

BY SGT. 1ST CLASS  
DONALD SPARKS  
NCOIC, USAIC&FH PAO

Flowers blooming, birds singing and love in the air is often symbolic of spring. Another tradition of spring, albeit military, is post clean up.

All units and tenant units on the installation will conduct area police of selected areas beginning Monday through April 18.

Commonly known as post beautification, the purpose of the clean up is to properly dispose of trash, debris and landscape around training areas and specific governments buildings.

"This is our community

and we have to take pride in where we live, work and play," said Sgt. Maj. Paul Moore, installation operations sergeant major.

Additionally, on April 17, all soldiers residing in government quarters will be released to conduct cleanup in and around their housing.

Units responsible for housing areas will ensure vehicles are available to collect and dispose of refuse and oversized items in their respective housing areas by April 18.

As expected during the clean up, post officials urge all soldiers to think safety during the weeklong event.

Soldiers should be con-

See SPRING, Page 6



Photo by Staff Sgt. Robert Hyatt

### Red planet

Soldiers from B Company, 86th Signal Battalion, from Fort Huachuca, erect a Tropo antenna during a dust storm at an undisclosed location in Iraq. The unit, part of the 11th Signal Brigade, has been providing communications support throughout the theater in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.



BY MARTY MARKS, WIFE,

MAJ. GEN. JAMES A. "SPIDER" MARKS, POST COMMANDING GENERAL

Hello again,

As spring arrives in beautiful southeastern Arizona, most of us find our thoughts filled with the harsh realities of a war rather than the miracles of spring. These days are the most crucial and stressful for our spouses so far away and in harm's way. Please try to take time every day to appreciate the beauty around us, share that with your children and your spouse. If we can find peace in our hearts for a time each day by concentrating on all the good in our lives and letting the challenges of separation drift away, we will be much more productive and supportive parents and spouses.

The emotional roller coaster you may find yourself on because of deployment and separation follows a very recognizable pattern. There are five stages in the emotional cycle of deployment. See if you don't recognize yourself in one of the following stages. Hopefully, this information will allow you to breathe a sigh of relief - you're normal!

Pre-deployment: Something most of us have been through recently. This stage is characterized by an increase in activity in preparation for deployment as well as being characterized alternately by denial and anticipation of loss.

Deployment (first month): This stage is characterized by that roller coaster of emotions and may be unpleasant and disorganized. Common experiences include: Mixed emotion/relief, disoriented/overwhelmed, numb/sad/alone, sleep difficulty, and personal worries (soldier safety, auto, pay, finance, home safety, etc.).

Sustainment (second through fifth month): This stage is the period of establishing new sources of support and new routines. Common experiences include: feeling more in control, independent and confident.

Re-deployment (last month): This stage is a period of intense anticipation often with mixed emotions. Common experiences include: excitement, apprehension, bursts of energy, and difficulty in making decisions.

Post-deployment (three-six months later): This stage starts with homecoming and the time frame varies from family to family. Many believe this is the most important stage for soldier and family. Common experiences include: a honeymoon period, a loss of independence for the spouse, a need

for one's own space, renegotiating routines, and reintegrating the family.

We must recognize, deal and master each stage as it comes along. Failure to negotiate these changes can lead to significant strife. Understanding the emotional stages of deployment helps to avert family crisis. For more information on The Emotional Cycles of Deployment: A Family Perspective, please refer to the HOOAH 4 Health Web site at: [www.hooah4health.com/environment/deployment/emotionalcycle.htm](http://www.hooah4health.com/environment/deployment/emotionalcycle.htm). Our Family Liaison Office offers great information for all Army families every month in its FLO NOTES, which can be found at: <http://www.aflo.org>.

The Fort Huachuca community has designed many programs and activities with our deployed families in mind. Please plan to attend the following events:

Spring Youth Fest, April 26, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Youth Services Building, Child Development Center and Geronimo Field.

For families of deployed Fort Huachuca soldiers: "Operation Sustaining Families," a free beef barbecue at La Hacienda Field, April 27, 2-5 p.m.

The Fort Huachuca Child Development Center is offering seven-nine additional hourly care slots for our families. Reservations can be made for same day, drop-in care, Monday through Friday, by calling 533-7057. Reservations open at 6 a.m. Take advantage of the available drop-in child care to attend one of the weekly support groups sponsored by Family Advocacy:

Anger Management/Effective Communication - every Tuesday, 2-4 p.m., Parenting Support Group - every Wednesday 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m., and Stress Management - every Wednesday 1:30-4 p.m. All classes are held at Raymond W. Bliss Army Health Center, second floor, Room P-26. For more information call the Family Advocacy staff at 538-0625.

Finally, if any of you is still looking for a support/readiness group, please call our Family Services Program manager, Pam Allen, at ACS at 533-5919.

Because we are dealing with the serious issues of war, our Chief of Chaplains, Maj. Gen. Gaylord T. Gunhus has written a prayer for all deployed soldiers and their families. Feel free to share this with fellow spouses. For many of us these days, a thoughtful prayer is our greatest comfort.

*Loving Father, we ask you to be with our loved ones this day. As they stand in harm's way, give them Your divine protection and strength. Impart to each one endurance to finish the task. Let them show courage and mercy to our foes. Spare the innocent and anish the evil ones that our world may be a peaceful place in which to live. Just as our children play here at home, let the children in war torn places begin to know the fruits of freedom. As our soldiers, our loved ones, think of home and envision themselves here, let them know we believe in them and are proud of them. Give them the assurance that this great nation stands ready to honor them for their sacrifices. Father, still our hearts and fill us with your peace. Amen*



CHAPLAIN, (MAJ.) DENNIS R. NITSCHKE  
DEPUTY COMMAND CHAPLAIN, NETCOM

There is a lot going on in the world today. Now, there's an understatement. With all of that, there are also opinions, commentaries, edicts, etc., that confuse matters even more. Last week I preached a sermon on some of this - that there are too many voices wanting to be heard and that we should listen to just one. For me, that would be to listen to the voice of God. But that is not the topic for this "discussion."

There is a lot going on in the world today - and we sometimes don't grasp the "big picture." As much as the news media, friends and neighbors and just about everyone else is giving us information, I believe it is critical we put together the pieces of the puzzle we call life in order for "life" to make sense. Especially today.

It is a "given" that we are praying for the troops in and around Iraq. We have a vested interest because over 1,000 of them are from our post - our family members, our friends, our neighbors. It would be absurd not to care for those we know and love. We want them home - safe and warm. Since we are military it is also a "given" that we extend that care and prayer to others in the military not from here because we have served elsewhere, with different folks and at the least, know what other families are going through. We want to support them in their daily lives.

It also requires little thought to extend this praying and caring for our president, his circle of leaders, the Congress, and all the military leadership so that the war be conducted in a humane way and end as quickly as possible in order that we can return to a sense of normalcy. Some would even say it was patriotic to ask blessings on the leadership.

The natural flow of caring reaches the people of the United States (and her allies) as we continue to be concerned not only about the war, but with terrorism as well. We "are the people," so to pray and care for ourselves is normal behavior. The "people" includes the family members of military personnel deployed.

More people are speaking out for the protection of the Iraqi people. This becomes somewhat unnatural until you realize that we are not fighting Iraqis, but a regime so evil that it would kill 100,000 (plus) of its own people. We care for the people of Iraq because we want to see freedom for all and we cherish it enough to go to war to liberate them from a dictator, as well as continue to protect our freedom - and the freedom of the world.

Because there will be a void of leadership once this war is complete and rebuilding is begun, we are concerned about what sort of government will fill that void. We want one that will be safe for world peace as well as one that will keep its own people safe.

An oft forgotten "group" is the community-at-large, especially around military installations. Because so many of our soldiers are deployed, families tend to stay home more. This causes economic stress on businesses that often have to power down on employment - usually the lower spectrum of employees, sometimes military spouses - and this becomes a revolving struggle for assisting agencies, like the Salvation Army and food banks. So, we are concerned about the community - because there are our friends and neighbors again.

So, life is a puzzle and it takes a "broad" look at it to see the "big picture." Each "piece" above counts on the others to make life have meaning. Folks, we are in this period of time together - we need to count on each other - and count for each other. If your part of the puzzle is weak or in despair, please note that there are those around you who care. I ask each of us to look around - see the "parts of the puzzle" near you and reach out to keep us together. As we struggle together so do we grow together. Take time this week to care for another part of your puzzle in life. Blessings to all.

Contact the chaplain by e-mail at [Dennis.nitschke@netcom.army.mil](mailto:Dennis.nitschke@netcom.army.mil).

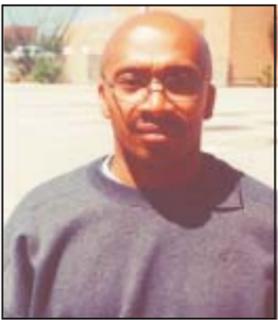
### We support our troops

According to Dianna Beatty, Myer Elementary School counselor, the fourth and fifth graders joined forces to show their support for Fort Huachuca soldiers deployed overseas. She said the students are putting the names of family members, local soldiers and even their own names to plastic yellow ribbons that are tied to Myer's front fence. "The goal is to simply wish them well. The children are pretty excited about it," Bea. She said the project took about five rolls and 300 yards of ribbon and all had to be cut by hand.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Sharron Stewart

## Scout on the Street



"I think they have a right to protest. But look at how they are affecting the police and commerce."

Sgt. 1st Class Melvin J. Watson  
Headquarters and Headquarters, 504th Signal Company Battalion



"I'm very upset about the protestors. They should be supporting our troops, not protesting."

Melanie Sharpsteen  
spouse of a retiree



"I think it's really sad when even the Iraqis are on our side and Americans aren't. Our military know what they are doing."

Shirley Marlin  
guest of military retiree



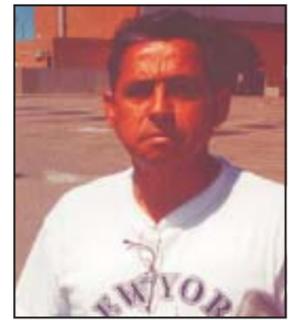
"I think it's ridiculous how a lot of celebrities are using their positions to express their opinions."

2nd Lt. Trent Weston  
Company C, 304th Military Intelligence



"They're cowards. I'm a Gulf War veteran. They should support our troops."

Armando Ortiz  
disabled veteran



"I think people should be aware if we are in this country getting the benefits of citizenship, we should support the troops."

Ramon Mena  
Retiree

Photos by Sgt. 1st Class Donald Sparks

## The Fort Huachuca Scout®

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# New vehicles have post firefighters humming for joy

BY SGT. 1ST CLASS DONALD SPARKS  
NCOIC, USAIC&FH PAO

What is hotter than Tabasco sauce, candy apple red and can cross rugged terrain and battle blazes better than Sparky the Fire Dog? Firefighters of the Fort Huachuca Fire Department will answer in unison – Hummer.

Last week the fire department acquired two new, special-equipped HUMVEES, two All Terrain Vehicles and a new Tender to improve their capabilities of fighting wildfires that may occur on the installation.

"We've tried for many years to get a HUMVEE," said Stephen Houck, chief, Fort Huachuca Fire Department. "We once tested a regular HUMVEE, but it wasn't designed for our mission here."

Although wildfires can happen in heavily forested and dry weather regions, Hauck said the Department of Defense never realized the importance of tactical vehicles as a wildlife management tool.

Two years ago the Army recognized the value and began purchasing tactical vehicles. Because Fort Huachuca has some of the worst topography firefighters may have to deal with, it was critical to get the equipment to support the fire mission here.

The equipment the department had been using, two Kovach Tenders, were purchased in the early 80s according to Hauck. A tender is a water truck capable of carrying between 1,500–2,000 gallons of water.

"We've modified them; beat them up and they outlived all expectations we've ever imagined," Hauck said of the old equipment.

With the addition of the HUMVEES, Hauck expressed the tactics of his firefighters will drastically change their ability to squelch fires.

"We're now more mobile, but we're also doing more work on the ground," he said. "The HUMVEES give us more flexibility than we had before. With the Tenders we were limited to flat ground areas and they're generally top heavy which was a problem traveling over rough terrain."

Although the HUMVEES carry less water, they do provide a tactical advantage by allowing the firefighters to get closer to the source and using the water more efficiently.

Another plus is that it saves manpower because now it takes only one person in the cab to turn on the switches to start the pump, nozzles and spray bars. Normally four firefighters were required to do the job.

Just as the HUMVEES improve the fire department's mission, the addition of the ATVs provides a major impact as well.

"The ATVs allow us to scout the scene better and determine the path and direction of the fire," Hauck said. "With the addition of the ATVs, monitoring of fires is increased twofold. The firefighters are able to get around quickly to send information back to the main post headquarters. And because of a lack of air support this year, it also allows the firefighters better area of observation for hot spots."

With the use of the ATVs, the firefighters no longer have to pull a piece of equipment from another location to go scout as well.

This new equipment reduces the costs by thousands of dollars in operations and maintenance associated with wear and tear. Each HUMVEE cost \$200,000; the ATVs \$12,000 each and the new Tender was \$180,000.

Most importantly new equipment has brought newfound enthusiasm of the firefighters in the department.

"Our guys have a huge input for what we need and what we do here," Hauck said. "I tasked them to research what

was the best equipment out on the market to suit our particular needs and mission, and the HUMVEE was the best direction to go."

When considering which equipment to buy, Peter Bidegain, lead firefighter, expressed the importance of environmental consideration.

"The equipment is a lot easier on the land," Bidegain said. "When we're trying to get to the fire, we don't have to worry about the heavier equipment bruising the natural environment."

Hauck added despite gaining the new equipment, the fort still relies on its mutual aid agreement with the outside community such as the Huachuca City and Fry Fire Departments.

Having been a firefighter on Fort Huachuca for nearly 25 years, Ron Castro, fire engineer, has been around as long as the original tenders the department been using.

"This is the best equipment we've had since I've been here," Castro said. "Chief Hauck has a lot to do with that. He worked hard to get us what we needed to make us more flexible to perform our mission. This equipment suits our needs for the terrain we deal with."

Hauck expressed his gratitude to fort's leadership for supporting their mission and understanding how important their role in protecting the fort from a devastating wildfire such as the Ryan Fire last year.

"When we stopped that fire, it was headed to a place where no one wanted it to be," Hauck said. "It was our guys on the ground making good decisions to stop that fire. This new equipment will make us even better."



Photos by Sgt. 1st Class Donald Sparks

Firefighters demonstrate by turning on the water guns of this new fire fighting vehicle.



A backview of the HUMVEE shows it is well equipped with sufficient water hosing and water pumping capability.

## Pentagon revises smallpox vaccination policy after deaths

SGT. 1ST CLASS DOUG SAMPLE  
AMERICAN FORCES PRESS SERVICE

The Department of Defense is taking a watchful approach to its smallpox vaccination program after the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta reported investigating whether a sequence of cardiac deaths was associated with the vaccine.

The government has suggested that anyone with certain heart-related risk factors not take the vaccine. It continues to examine several suspected cases, including that of a 55-year-old National Guardsman who died of a heart attack five days after receiving the smallpox vaccine.

Following the CDC's recommendation, Col. John Grabenstein, deputy director for military vaccines for the Army's surgeon general, said

the Defense Department is revising its policy for some 500,000 military personnel whom it plans to vaccinate against smallpox.

The military has medically screened vaccine recipients since the program's beginning, Grabenstein said. He noted DoD would now take an even closer look at risk factors such as tobacco use, high blood pressure, high cholesterol, diabetes and family history of heart disease before giving the vaccine.

"People with three or more of those conditions would be exempted," he said. Grabenstein cautioned anyone – vaccinated or not – to seek healthcare if they experience chest pain or shortness of breath with exertion.

Military personnel currently receiving the smallpox vaccine are those deployed or deploying to a Central Command area of operation; those who would go into a smallpox outbreak

area to help control the disease; and healthcare workers at DoD hospitals and clinics who would treat smallpox patients.

Grabenstein said there is no plan to vaccinate everyone in the military at this time. "It's a pretty focused and targeted program," he noted.

Even with the public concern over the safety of vaccine, he said the recent deaths seem to be in proportion with usual rates of death.

"The evidence that we have so far shows that these are not linked in a cause and effect way," Grabenstein explained. "The deaths seem to be just the natural level of heart attacks that occur among unvaccinated people. But the investigation is not finished, and to be on the safe side, this extra precaution is being taken," he added.

More than 350,000 service members have

been vaccinated, with "the expected number of post-vaccination symptoms and few serious reactions," he said.

"Lots of people had itching at the vaccination site, swollen lymph nodes under the arms, which are fairly common," Grabenstein said. "In terms of serious reactions we've had few, in fact fewer than we would have expected looking at the historical figures. We're pleased with the success of the program."

On Dec. 13, 2002, President Bush announced a nationwide smallpox vaccination plan out of concern that bioterrorists could use the germ that causes the smallpox disease as an agent to attack the United States. Although smallpox was eradicated in 1980, the germ was kept in two laboratories in the United States and the former Soviet Union for study. Whether the germ is in other locations is unknown.



## The Soldiers' Lawyer

FORT HUACHUCA  
LEGAL ASSISTANCE OFFICE

### Combat zone income tax exclusions frequently asked questions

#### 1. What is the combat zone exclusion?

If a soldier serves for at least one day in an area the president or Congress has defined as a "combat zone," the soldier's base pay and hostile fire pay are exempt from federal taxation for that month, up to the maximum enlisted rate (including warrant officers). Commissioned officers can exclude up to \$5,382.90 per month for 2003.

#### 2. What areas qualify for the CZ exclusion?

Military service in the Persian Gulf area, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, or Macedonia qualifies for combat zone tax treatment.

The CZ tax exclusion also applies to service in Afghanistan, Pakistan, Tajikistan, and Jordan after Sept. 19, 2001 and to service in Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan after Oct. 1, 2001.

Other areas include the Philippines, effective Jan. 9, 2002; Djibouti, effective July 1, 2002; and Yemen, effective April 10, 2002.

Other areas (e.g., Korea) do not qualify even if a soldier receives hostile fire pay for serving there, because these areas have not been designated as "combat zones."

#### 3. Do states follow these combat zone

#### benefits with regards to state income tax?

It varies from state to state. Most states adopt the federal rules on CZ tax benefits.

For example, Arizona and California have tax laws on CZ benefits that are very similar to what the federal government follows.

However, a few states, such as Montana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Tennessee, do not grant automatic extensions for the filing state tax returns.

#### 4. My spouse is currently deployed in a CZ. Do I have to file our joint return right now?

No. Soldiers who serve in a CZ in a given year have until 180 days after they depart the CZ to file their taxes for that year.

Additionally, if soldiers are deployed during the tax filing season from Jan. 1 to April 15 they may add the number of days of the tax filing season they were deployed to their automatic extension.

Likewise, civilians serving in a combat zone or qualified hazardous duty area in support of and under the direction of the U.S. Armed Forces, such as Red Cross personnel; accredited correspondents; and contractors are also entitled to automatic federal return filing extensions.

As with soldiers, treatment of civilians and the combat zone extension for state income tax purposes is state-specific, with the majority of the states adopting the federal rules on combat

zone extensions.

#### 5. How do I let the IRS know I qualify for the CZ filing extension?

This is an automatic extension, so all you need to do is write the name of the operation, for example Operation Enduring Freedom, and "combat zone extension" in red and in caps on the top of your income tax return.

No other tax forms are required; however, we recommend including a copy of your orders with your return.

No penalties or interest will be imposed for failure to file a return or pay taxes during the extension period.

The IRS, however, will pay interest on a refund from the due date of the return if the return is timely filed after applying the deadline extension.

#### 6. Will my tax-free pay show up on my W-2?

This is an automatic extension, so all you need to do is write the name of the operation, for example Operation Enduring Freedom, and "combat zone extension" on the top of your income tax return in red ink in all capital letters. No other tax forms are required. We recommend, however, that you include a copy of your CZ orders with your tax return.

No penalties or interest will be imposed for



Photo by Staff Sgt. Robert Hyatt

Pfc. Lee Hall, right, and Pfc. Heather Brown of B Co 86th Signal Bn., assemble antenna parts for a Heavy Troop during a dust storm at an undisclosed location in Iraq. Soldiers, such as the 11th Signal Brigade, their family members, and civilians qualify for an automatic extension to file their income taxes due to combat zone exclusion.

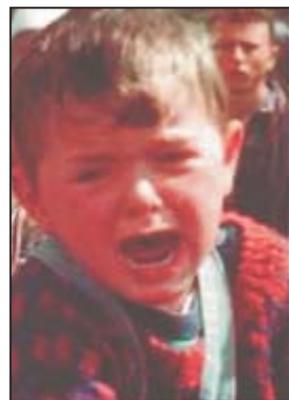
# April is Child Abuse Prevention Month

BY NELL M. DRUMHELLER  
SCOUT STAFF

According to documents provided by the National Center for Victims of Crime, in 1874 the abuse of a child by her parents was brought to the attention of Henry Bergh, the founder and president of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. Without any statutes pertaining to child abuse, Bergh could only acquire a lawyer to pursue the case on the grounds that "children ought to be deemed just as worthy of protection from abuse as dogs and cats."

The case, named after the abused child, became known as the "Little Mary Ellen Case" and went to court on April 10, 1874, providing for the establishment of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children in 1875. A year later, the S.P.C.A. and the S.P.C.C. merged, forming the American Humane Association that has pioneered standards for the protection of children and animals since its formation.

Whether it's abuse, neglect or just ignorance, the care of children is often not done kindly or in the best interest of the child.



Army Community Services Family Advocacy program provides parents and caregivers

with training and support in treading the high-ways of child rearing.

According to Maggie Torres of ACS, "There are four major categories of child abuse: physical, sexual, emotional, and child neglect. In very abusive situations, it is not uncommon for more than one type of abuse to be present."

Since children are not issued with warranties or user's manuals, the training services provided by the Army can help first time parents, care givers, and even old hands with insights into the right choices to make.

One of the classes available, "Child Abuse Prevention is Everyone's Mission," helps the layperson understand how to identify the categories of child abuse and when and where they should report their concerns.

In the class Torres explains how to identify physical abuse, which according to the Army is "infliction of physical injury as a result of punching, beating, kicking, biting, burning, shaking, or otherwise harming a child." Torres says you can identify a victim when they have, "unexplained burns, bites, bruises, broken bones or black eyes" as well as injuries in multiple stages of healing, presence of welts or bruises after absence, weekend, or vacation, "clusters" of injuries or symmetrical injuries.

Less easy to recognize are the behavioral indicators of an abused child. Torres said some to watch for include, "if a child feels deserving of punishment, is apprehensive when other children cry or frightened of one or both parents." A caregiver may notice that a child is afraid to go home, has a story about an injury that is inconsistent or changes, is



wary of adults or attempts injury of self or others. "While these behavioral indicators are not exclusively attributed to physical abuse, they may provide some insight to physical indicators that are observed," Torres said.

In recent years according to a representative of the National Center for Victims of Crime, public awareness of child abuse has been heightened by highly publicized cases, such as the brutal beating death of Lisa Steinberg in New York City by her adoptive father, attorney Joel Steinberg. Yet many cases of child abuse continue to go unreported and many signs of abuse remain undetected.

In Arizona, anything leaving a mark or a bruise will be considered child abuse.

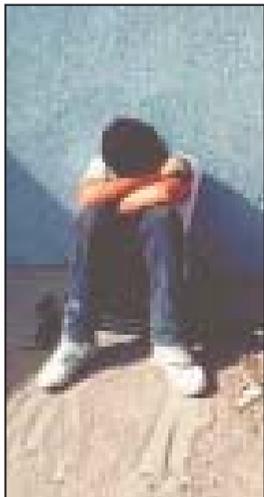
As insidious as physical abuse is, Torres said that sexual and emotional abuse scars children as deeply.

Behavior indicators of sexual abuse may include: bizarre or sophisticated sexual knowledge, engaging in persistent and inappropriate sex play, the child is reluctant to be left alone with a particular person, has poor peer relationships and reports sexual assault by adult or another child.

"Keep in mind the person the child may show fear of or reluctant to be with may not be the perpetrator of the abuse," Torres said. "It could be the child was intimidated with threats such as no one will ever believe you or if you tell, she'll never love you again." She added that there might have been threats made against that person, such as "I'll have to hurt them too."

"The child is keeping a terrible secret and that can cause them to act afraid, they don't want to slip up."

Emotional abuse may appear subtler, but can have long lasting affects. Torres described emotional abuse as acts or omissions by the parents or other caregivers that have caused or could cause, serious behavioral,



cognitive, emotional, or mental disorders. Physical and emotional indicators of this type of abuse include speech disorders, lags in physical development, failure to thrive, hyperactive/disruptive behavior, sallow or empty facial appearance and when the child attempts

suicide. "It's easy to be aware of the extremely aggressive child in a group setting, but also be aware of the overly compliant, extremely passive child. They too could be the victim of abuse," Torres said.

The fourth category of abuse is child neglect. "This is characterized by the failure

Don't make your child  
cry over spilled milk



photo illustration by Angelica Pequeño

to provide for the child's basic needs. Neglect can be physical, educational, or emotional," she added. "Neglect is probably the most common form of child abuse."

"The number one cause for reports of child neglect center around issues of unattended children and inadequate supervision," she continued. However, physical neglect can include a refusal of or delay in seeking health care, abandonment, and expulsion from the home or refusal to allow a runaway to return home.

Perhaps not one of the most readily recognized forms of neglect, but important still is educational neglect. Torres identified this as the allowance of chronic truancy, failure to enroll a child of mandatory school age in school, and failure to attend to a special educational need.

Emotional abuse and emotional neglect are essentially inseparable according to Torres. In emotional neglect, the hallmarks are the predominate unavailability of the adult to the child. "Spouse abuse in the presence of a child is in fact child abuse," Torres said. On Fort Huachuca, cases of reported spouse

abuse in the presence of children are also investigated for child abuse. Of note, children who live in homes where domestic violence is present are five times more likely to be abused themselves and 80 percent of men who regularly abuse their wives, also abuse their children, according to Torres.

Statistics gathered by National Center for Victims of Crime indicate child abuse rarely occurs as a single incidence. Abuse usually manifests itself as a pattern of events that can start as early as infancy and as late as adolescence. Often abused children don't realize that there is anything abnormal or wrong in their family.

It is important to note that a parent or guardian is at a substantially greater risk of abusing a child if he or she was abused. Increased substance abuse has also been attributed to the incessant rise in cases of child abuse.

Torres encourages that preventing child abuse is possible, steps to this success include: attending classes: parenting, anger control, stress management, child development; learn alternatives to physical punishment; promote safety awareness; provide a clean, healthy environment; listen to your child; know where your child is and who he's with; help your child build self-esteem and participate in parent support groups/self-help groups.



## April activities with children in mind

Child Abuse Identification, Recognition and Reporting, April 22, 6 - 8 p.m., ACS Youth Fest, Youth Services Building and field, April 26, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.  
Child safety seat demonstrations at the Youth Fest, April 26  
Stand For Kids Day, Ethel Berger Center, Sierra Vista, April 26, 9 a.m. - noon  
Kids on the Block puppet shows at the Youth Fest, April 26  
Child Abuse Identification, Recognition and Reporting Class, April 29, 6 - 8 p.m., ACS. Call 533-2330 for more information.



# Community Updates

## Kindergarten Roundup at Myer

Kindergarten Roundup is continuing through tomorrow from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Myer Elementary School office for pupils residing on post. Please bring the pupil's birth certificate and shot records. There will be a waiting list for additional pupils that wish to attend the kindergarten program but do not reside on post.

## School flea market planned

Col. Johnston Elementary School will be having a Flea Market for Literacy Saturday. It will be from 8 a.m. - noon. There will also be a yard sale, a bake sale and a used book sale. Money will be used for the author visit, school improvement and sponsoring class parties.

## Range Closures

Today - AM, AU, T1, T1A, T2, T3  
Friday - AL, AM, AU, AW, T1, T1A, T2  
Saturday - AL, AW, T1, T1A, T2  
Sunday - AL, AW  
Monday - AK, AM, AN, AU, T1, T1A, T2  
Tuesday - AK, AM, AN, AU  
Wednesday - AK, AL, AM, AN, AR, AS, AU, AV, AY, T1, T1A, T2

For more information on Range Closure contact Range Control 533-7095.

## Blue Cross rep. answers queries

A representative for the Arizona Blue Cross/Blue Shield will be available to answer your questions pertaining to health insurance benefits on Tuesday from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. in Room 3, at the Murr Community Center, Fort Huachuca. If you have any questions regarding this event, please contact Eva Dixon, 533-5735 or Linda Shelman, 533-5273.

## Passover Seder scheduled

The Fort Huachuca Jewish community will celebrate Passover Seder Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. at the Main Post Chapel Activity Room. Because of the uniqueness of the celebration and limited seating, reservations are required by tomorrow. Reservations will be on a first-come, first serve basis, based on 40 seats. The cost of the event is \$15 per person. This annual celebration is a time of remembering the history and the stories of Moses leading the Israelites out of Egypt. Various foods that make up the meal symbolize the journey from bondage to freedom. Call Jo Widfeldt-Moore, 533-4748 for more information.

## Spirit of Service Award

The Department of the Army announces its participation in the American Legion's

Spirit of Service award. This award will recognize a member from each of the Armed Forces of the United States, Sergeant and below, for their outstanding military performance and volunteer service in a local community.

Nominations must be submitted to Headquarters, Training and Doctrine Command, Attn: ATBO-BPS, Fort Monroe, VA 23651-1048, no later than May 14. Each nomination packet must be submitted through the nominee's chain of command and include a narrative and biography.

## Tuskegee Airmen Award

The Department of the Army announces its participation in the 2003 Tuskegee Airmen, Inc. Military award. This program recognizes outstanding military members (Active, Reserve and Guard) from each of the military services, who epitomize the pursuit of excellence in their chosen career fields. Four awards recognizing outstanding achievements are presented in the following categories: junior enlisted, senior enlisted, company grade and field grade military members.

Nominations must be submitted to Headquarters, Training and Doctrine Command, Attn: ATBO-BPS, Fort Monroe, VA 23651-1048, no later than May 7. Each nomination packet must be submitted through the nominee's chain of command and include a narrative and biography.

## Housing construction continues

Construction began last week in the Pershing Plaza West area. Through April 30 there will be one way traffic only on Rucker and Burns. There will be signs and flagmen at the site to help direct traffic.



## Blood drive planned

The William Bliss Army Medical Center will conduct Army blood drives on the last week of each month at Eifler Gym from 10 a.m. - 8 p.m. This month's blood drive will be April 29-30.

## Retired officers meeting scheduled

The Coronado Chapter of The Military Officers Association of America, formerly The Retired Officers Association will hold its monthly dinner meeting for members, spouses and guests at Fort Huachuca's Lakeside Activity Center on April 17.

No host cocktails are from 6-7 p.m., with dinner served at 7 p.m.

Michael Grande, who is known as a "Singer of Songs, A Teller of Tales and a

Masterful Guitarist," will entertain.

For more information contact Chapter secretary Chief Warrant Officer, retired, Joe Gill at 458-4099 or e-mail joegill@c2i2.com.

## Car wash Saturday at thrift store



The Sergeant Audie Murphy Club will hold a car wash Saturday from 8 a.m. - noon at the post thrift store, near the Main Gate.

The car wash is for donations. All proceeds will go to the continual support of the Audie Murphy Club and the community of Fort Huachuca. A bake sale will also be going on at the same time.

## Thrift Savings Plan season begins

The next Thrift Savings Plan open season begins Tuesday and ends June 30. During the

open season, you may begin contributing to TSP or change the amount of your TSP contribution by logging on to <https://www.abc.army.mil>. Do not submit a TSP-1 Form to the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center office. It cannot process these forms. To make Interfund changes, use the [www.tsp.gov](http://www.tsp.gov) Web site. If you are a civilian employee and have any questions, please call 533-5735 or 533-5273, Monday-Friday, 7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. or stop by CPAC, Building 22320.

## JITC conference scheduled

The Joint Interoperability Test Command is holding their 13th Annual Interoperability Conference April 21-24 on Fort Huachuca. This year's theme is "The Interoperability Challenge of Military Transformation".

Visit the Conference Home Page for information and registration at [http://jitc.fhu.disa.mil/iop\\_conf/2003/iop\\_conf.htm](http://jitc.fhu.disa.mil/iop_conf/2003/iop_conf.htm).

## Fort Huachuca Lent/Holy Week Services

### Ecumenical Easter Sunrise Service

April 20, 6 a.m.

Main Post Chapel

Keynote Speaker: Father Greg Adolf, St. Andrews Catholic Church

### Catholic - Lent

Service	Day	Time	Location
Stations of the Cross	Every Thursday	5 p.m.	Main Post Chapel
"Poor Man's Meal"	Every Wednesday	Noon	Main Post Chapel
"Poor Man's Meal"	Every Thursday	6 p.m.	Main Post Chapel
Penitential Service	Tomorrow	7 p.m.	Main Post Chapel

### Catholic - Holy Week

Palm Sunday Mass	Sunday	9:30 a.m.	Main Post Chapel
Palm Sunday Mass	Sunday	11:30 a.m.	Kino Chapel
Holy Thursday Mass	April 17	7 p.m.	Main Post Chapel
Good Friday - Stations of the Cross	April 18	11:30 a.m.	Main Post Chapel
Service of the Cross	April 18	3 p.m.	Main Post Chapel
Holy Saturday Mass	April 19	7 p.m.	Main Post Chapel
Easter Sunday Mass	April 20	9:30 a.m.	Main Post Chapel
Easter Sunday Mass	April 20	11:30 a.m.	Kino Chapel

### Protestant - Holy Week

Palm Sunday	Sunday	9:20 a.m.	Kino Chapel
Palm Sunday	Sunday	9:30 a.m.	Prosser Village
Palm Sunday	Sunday	11 a.m.	Main Post Chapel
Good Friday	April 18	11:30 a.m.	Kino Chapel
Easter Service	April 20	9:20 a.m.	Kino Chapel
Easter Service	April 20	9:30 a.m.	Prosser Village
Easter Service	April 20	11 a.m.	Main Post Chapel

### Jewish

Shabbat Service	Every Friday	7 p.m.	Main Post Chapel
Passover Seder	Wednesday	6:30 p.m.	Main Post Chapel

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

## Community Events Calendar

To add items to the calendar, call the Central Community Coordinator at 533-6870.

### "Blessing of the Vines"

April 26 at the Sonoita Vineyard. Cost is \$10 and includes a souvenir wine glass, wine tasting, winery tour and live music.

Info at [www.sonoitavineyards.com](http://www.sonoitavineyards.com)

### 13th Annual Children's Activities Festival

April 26 at the Ethel Berger Center from 10 a.m. - noon.

Enjoy Petting Zoo, hayrides and more.

13

Friends of the San Pedro Bird Walk. The event begins at 8 a.m. and departs from the Hereford Road Bridge. For details call 459-2555.

14

San Pedro Kiwanis meets at noon in the Crystal Room of Thunder Mountain Inn. Contact Nilda Townsend at 458-9647.  
Thunder Mountain Bridge Club meets at 12:30 p.m. at Thunder Mountain Inn. Call Dianna Smith at 432-3883.

15

Rickety Rockettes meets at OYCC at 10 a.m.  
National Association of Retired Employees Chapter 1400 meets at 11 a.m. at OYCC.  
Cochise Toastmasters meets at Landmark Café from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. Call Toni Reeves at 538-7502.  
Cochise Chordsmen (SPERSQA) meets at SV Methodist Church at 7 p.m.  
Society for Creative Anachronism meets at OYCC at 7 p.m.

16

La Salida Del Sol Lions meet at Thunder Mountain Inn at 6:45 a.m. Call Lee at 378-1399 for details.  
SV Chess Club meets at Peter Piper Pizza at 7 p.m.

17

SV Optimist Club meets at 6:30 a.m. at the Landmark Café. Call Robert Atkinson at 459-2711.  
National Association of Retired Employees Chapter 1400 meets at 11 a.m. at OYCC. Call 378-6605 for details.  
Huachuca Area Retired Teachers Association meets at OYCC at 10 a.m.  
Early Release for Fort Huachuca Schools. Myer-Kindergarten @ 1:20 p.m. Grades 4 & 5 @ 1:30 p.m. Johnston, grades 1-3 @ 1:15 p.m. and Smith, Grades 6-8 @ 1:40 p.m.  
The Amazing Arizona Series will continue with "The Coronado National Forest with Joan Vessely. Program begins at 7 p.m. at the Ethel Berger Center. Call Tracy Adkins at 417-6980 for info.

18

Rollin' Thunder Skate Park 5 - 9 p.m. for teens only. Call 533-3205 for information. Open to the public.  
Rollerskating at Youth Services, Bldg. 49013 from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. Call 533-3205 for details.

19

SV Parks & Leisure is sponsoring "Easter Egg-citement" behind the Ethel Berger Center, 10:30 for 1-3 year old (w/parents), 11 a.m. for 4&5 year olds (no parents), 11:30 for 6&7 year old (no parents) and non for 8-10 (no parents). Come see the Easter Bunny and join the fun. Contact Karen Lamy at 417-6980 for additional info.  
Youth Services at Bldg. 49013 has open recreation from 1 - 8 p.m. Call 533-3205 for info.  
Rollin' Thunder Skate Park is open 1 - 6 p.m. Call 533-3205 for information. Open to the public.

20

Easter Sunrise Service begins at 6 a.m. at the Main Post Chapel.

21

San Pedro Kiwanis meets at noon in the Crystal Room of Thunder Mountain Inn. Contact Nilda Townsend at 458-9647.  
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25

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Rollerskating at Youth Services, Bldg. 49013 from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. Call 533-3205 for details.  
Cochise College Choir will perform at the Benson Presbyterian Church at 7 p.m.

26

Youth Services at Bldg. 49013 has open recreation from 1 - 8 p.m. Call 533-3205 for info.  
Rollin' Thunder Skate Park is open 1 - 6 p.m. Call 533-3205 for information. Open to the public.

MCC = Murr Community Center

MPC = Main Post Chapel

OYCC = Oscar Yrun Community Center

Army Family Team Building classes and information at Murr Community Center, 533-3686 or 533-2330

## Post volunteers recognized for selfless service

SPECIAL TO THE SCOUT

Fort Huachuca recognized its volunteers April 1 in a ceremony honoring their contributions to the installation. Speaking at the event, Col. Lawrence Portouw, U.S. Army Garrison commander, said, "We have over 850 registered volunteers who support 53 agencies and organizations in our community."

During the first quarter of this year, volunteers have recorded approximately 15,000 hours of community service. Active duty soldiers, both students and permanent party, volunteered more than 5,000 hours during that timeframe.

Recognized, as the Military Volunteer Unit of the Quarter, is the U.S. Marine Corps Detachment. The Marines, led by Maj. Michael Aloise and Master Gunnery Sgt. Frank Cartledge, volunteered a total of 964 hours during the quarter. JoEllen Richter, the Installation Volunteer Coordinator, said, "That is incredible considering the Detachment has a total of 45 Marines."

The individual VIP Volunteer for March honor went to Kim Martinez. She has served as the parliamentarian with the Officers and Civilians Spouses Club for the past two years and the club's volunteer coordinator for the past year.

Martinez has supported many club activities including the fall bazaar, Tour of Historic

Homes and publicity committee. In addition to her work with the OCSC, Martinez is the PTO vice president at the First Baptist Christian Academy.

The Installation Volunteer Program recognizes community volunteers when they reach specific hours of recorded volunteer time. During this quarter's ceremony, 58 volunteers were recognized for their contributions to the community ranging from 100 volunteer hours to over 1,500 hours. Also recognized were 15 soldiers who had earned the Military Outstanding Volunteer service Medal. Soldiers must volunteer at least 150 hours to earn the medal.

Dan Valle, director of Community Activities, told the audience, "Fort Huachuca and especially MWR activities would not be able to operate if it wasn't for the great work of all our volunteers. Volunteers are everywhere!"

For more information on Fort Huachuca's volunteer program contact your unit or organization volunteer coordinator or call JoEllen Richter at 533-4823.



The individual VIP Volunteer for March honor is Kim Martinez.

## COMMAND INFORMATION SURVEY

The Public Affairs Office wants to know how well you are able to get timely, up-to-date information on events and activities affecting the fort's community. Your assistance is requested to help us with getting the word out on a routine basis by completing the survey below and returning it to the USAG Public Affairs Office, Bldg. 21115, ATZS-PA, no later than May 5 or via e-mail: [pao-watch@hua.army.mil](mailto:pao-watch@hua.army.mil).

**Directions:** Unless otherwise instructed, circle the response that best describes your views.

1. Please select the answer that best describes your status.

a. Service member b. Family member c. Civilian or contract employee d. Retiree

2. If you (or your spouse) are a service member, please help us further identify the demographics of people being surveyed by selecting your pay grade.

a. 04 to 06, or CW4 to CW5 b. 01-03 c. WO1 to CW3 d. E7 to E9 e. E5 to E6 f. E1 to E4 g. Other

3. Please select the answer that best describes your (or your spouse's) organization/employment status on Fort Huachuca.

a. Student b. Instructor/cadre c. Tenant activity d. Other (post support, directorate, etc.) e. Not applicable

In the past six months, have you used the following sources to obtain information about Fort Huachuca:

4. Chain of command, directors, leaders?

a. Yes b. No c. Some

5. Sierra Vista area radio stations?

a. Yes b. No c. Some d. Cannot get local radio stations where I live

6. Local (off-post) newspapers?

a. Yes b. No c. Some

7. Fort Huachuca Commanders Access Channel (CAC), Cox cable 97?

a. Yes b. No c. Some d. Cannot get the Commander's Access Channel where I live

8. Did you watch the last live town hall meeting (March 25, 2003) on the Commander's Access Channel?

a. Don't get the CAC, so didn't watch b. Do get the CAC, and watched the town hall meeting. c. Do get the CAC, but didn't watch the town hall, because

9. The Fort Huachuca Scout?

a. Yes b. No c. Some

10. Fort Huachuca website ([huachuca-www.army.mil](http://huachuca-www.army.mil))?

a. Yes b. No c. Some

11. From Family Readiness Groups?

a. Yes b. No c. Some

12. From other sources. Please specify \_\_\_\_\_

a. Yes b. No c. Some

13. In the past six months, do you think you have been adequately informed of: force protection measures, post happenings, events affecting Fort Huachuca, etc.?

a. Yes b. No c. Some

14. Please provide any additional comments you may have about how information is disseminated on Fort Huachuca.

RETURN TO:

USAG PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE  
BLDG. 21115 ADAIR  
FORT HUACHUCA, AZ 85613-6000

## Pets of the Week



**My name is Sylvester. I am a 10 month old black and white male domestic shorthair cat. I enjoy being petted and loved. My adoption includes vaccinations, dewormer, feline leukemia test, microchipping, and my neuter for only \$42.**



**My name is Ebony. I am an adult female black lab mix. I enjoy kids and have energy to play. My adoption fee is \$52. This includes my spay, vaccinations, dewormer, heartworm test, and microchip. For this small fee I could be a wonderful addition to your family.**



**My name is Sasha. I am 1 year old black and white domestic short hair female. I am a very loving and gentle kitten. I am good with other cats and children, but not with dogs. For only \$42. I could be your cat. My fee includes vaccinations, feline leukemia test, dewormer, microchip, and spay.**



**My name is Joseph. I am an adult male black shepard. I am a very loving and calm dog. I need a loving home & would like to be a part of your family. My adoption fee includes my vaccinations, heartworm test, deworming, microchip, and neuter for only \$42.**

These and several other dogs and cats are available at the Fort Huachuca Veterinary Treatment Facility from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. For information, call 533-2767.

## Learning the ropes at EPG interns get most out of experience

TYWANNA SPARKS

U.S. ARMY ELECTRONIC PROVING GROUND  
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

When Roberto Suarez graduated from the University of Arizona in 1985 as an electronics engineer, he knew he wanted to choose a career path, as he put it, "on the bleeding edge of technology."

"After receiving an associate's degree at Cochise College, I began working as a technician," he explained. "After talking to some engineers on post, they steered me into the direction of perusing a degree in engineering. Working with the government through the student trainee program gave me the advantage of understanding how the government works. And because of that, I chose the government for my career path."

Suarez, like other government interns today, received his first training as an intern at the U.S. Army Electronic Proving Ground. Now as an electrical engineer supervisor at the U.S. Army Network Enterprise Technology Command, he reflects on his first-time experience.

"I worked for EPG for a number of years in the instrumentation division. It actually gave me the opportunity to grow and develop engineering skills more from a system wide approach; I was able to learn the whole spectrum of engineering. I think the internship is an excellent program to bring aboard new engineers for the government," he said.

The internship program at EPG recruits

young and talented electrical engineers suitable for what EPG has to offer, explained Kenneth Van Karsen, Global Positioning System Test Facility team leader and advisor to interns at EPG.

"We're primarily interested in electronics engineers," Van Karsen said. "We have a competitive program here because each one of our interns is assessed for their capabilities and their general knowledge or background that would fit into testing for the Army."

Currently, there are six interns learning the ropes at EPG, and for Son Wang, she would not have it any other way.

A graduate of the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Wang thought about applying for a government job before she began her search, she explained.

"I lived in California for some time while I was going to school," she said. "I worked as a cashier on March Air Force Base and I knew many military people there. I really became comfortable working around military and government people. I also worked with a local company for one semester and my experience there was that government employers care more for their workers. After seeing the job at EPG posted on the internet, I knew that was the right choice for me."

And now after working at EPG for the past nine months, Wang is looking forward to even more challenges.

"I get to meet a lot of new people here and

I had to learn a lot, but I never get bored," Wang said. "They always give me new and different jobs to do and I'm still excited to work here. As the year goes along I will get promoted to a higher level which is important to me. But my ultimate goal is to be a test officer," she said.

Also excited to work for EPG is newcomer Pedro Herrera who has been with EPG for less than two months.

"EPG offers a rotational program which I was really interested in," Herrera said. "It's good because you may like something now and when you actually do it, you might hate it. They give you the opportunity of getting experience with everything EPG has to offer and so far, I like it. I really don't see myself leaving any time soon."

The most important aspect of working for EPG, all the interns agreed, was the fact that everyone takes time to get to know you, Paul Verdugo explained.

"Our advisor, Ken, does a great job with us," Verdugo said. "He really looks out for us and if an issue comes up; Ken will always help us out. But everyone here is helpful. Everyone is like if you have a problem my door is open. No one just walks by without saying anything to



Photo by Tywanne Sparks

Paul Verdugo, left, and Pedro Herrera, Electronic Proving Ground interns, work on a project together.

you. Everyone makes a point to get to know you. You just feel comfortable working here," he said.

**CURFEW** from Page 1

dian, and be in the juvenile's possession."

Ortega added the parent would determine the length of the time frame on the form the juvenile will be out.

Shands said the Fort Huachuca MPs would enforce the curfew as stated in the policy by detaining and citing violators.

"Should a violation of the curfew policy occur, parents will be required to sign for their dependent(s) as the MP Station," Shands said. "Should a second offense occur, the juvenile offender will be required to appear before the Youth Council, hosted by the Judge Advocate General's office, with his or her parent(s), guardian(s) or custodian(s)."

Although the curfew may not be popular for some of the juveniles, Ortega emphasized the importance of the policy.

"We're not trying to make it tough for parents and teens," Ortega said. "We're trying to make it safe for the community."

**SPRING** from Page 1

cerned with hazards such as snakes; local wild life and insects found on the post and should use extreme caution if discovering any unexploded ordnance.

Moore particularly emphasized that all motorists be on the lookout for soldiers during the cleanup.

"Many soldiers will be near curbsides or in the street cleaning debris," Moore said. "Although they'll be wearing reflective road guard vests or belts, motorists need to be extremely cautious and watch for personnel."

If personnel need to dispose any oversize items, they must obtain a landfill permit at Building 22216 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Units must provide their own transportation. If needed, units can request large containers through Kim Taylor at 533-3574, to be placed at the site of their assigned detail areas.

For environmental guidance, call Tom Cochran at 533-5215.

**TAXES** from Page 3

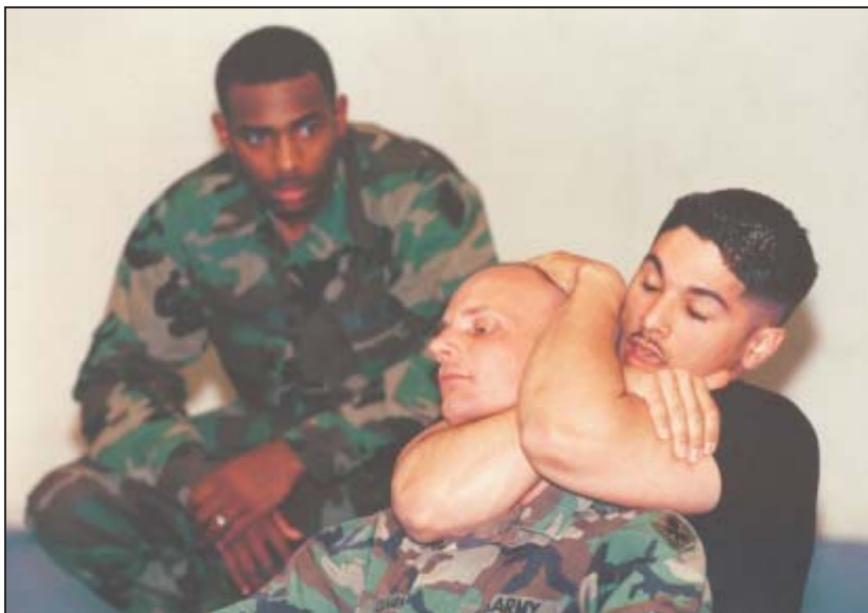
failure to file a return or pay taxes during the extension period. The IRS, however, will pay interest on a refund from the due date of the return if the return is timely filed after applying the deadline extension.

**7. Are there any other tax benefits under the combat zone rules?**

Yes. Wages are exempt from income tax for the year in which a soldier dies while serving in a CZ. Estate taxes are reduced for soldiers who die in a CZ or by reason of wounds incurred in the CZ. Soldiers are exempt from excise taxes on toll telephone calls originating from a CZ.

Finally, spouses may file a joint return if a soldier is in a missing status.

The Tax Center will be open to prepare paper returns until Tuesday. For more information call 533-1314.



Staff Sgt. Gonzalo de Taboada, Company B, 304<sup>th</sup> Military Intelligence Battalion, demonstrates the rear neck and choke hold on Sgt. Jason Cochran as Spc. Anthony Clemons looks on.

# A matter of survival

## Combatives training teaches soldiers to fend for themselves

BY SGT. 1<sup>ST</sup> CLASS DONALD SPARKS  
NCOIC, USAIC&FH PAO

The American soldier is one of the most lethal weapons when he is armed with his weapon in his hands. But what would happen if his weapon malfunctions or he runs out of ammunition? Just how lethal is he then?

Those were some of the questions posed by Staff Sgt. Gonzalo de Taboada, Company B, 304<sup>th</sup> Military Intelligence Battalion, to soldiers during Sergeants Time Training.

Recognizing the importance of knowing how to fight with your hands is what de Taboada has been teaching soldiers in his unit after he came back from the U.S. Army Combatives Train-the-Trainer program at Fort Benning, Ga.

At the school de Taboada, a former boxer and Miami native, said he learned a lot of grappling techniques. He also learned different kinds of martial arts, particularly jujitsu, maneuvers as well.

"I had never experienced live grappling before, but I was quick on my feet because of my boxing experience," de Taboada said. "But the difference is when the fight goes to the ground, what are you going to do? You can't upper cut the guy. So we learned a lot, such as how to break arms, chokes, and most importantly the dominant body positions."

Those positions include the full mount, side mount, guard and rear mounts. He mentioned

“Just because soldiers are assigned to a support unit, it doesn't mean they don't have to know how to take care of themselves... This training is very necessary - it's about survival.”

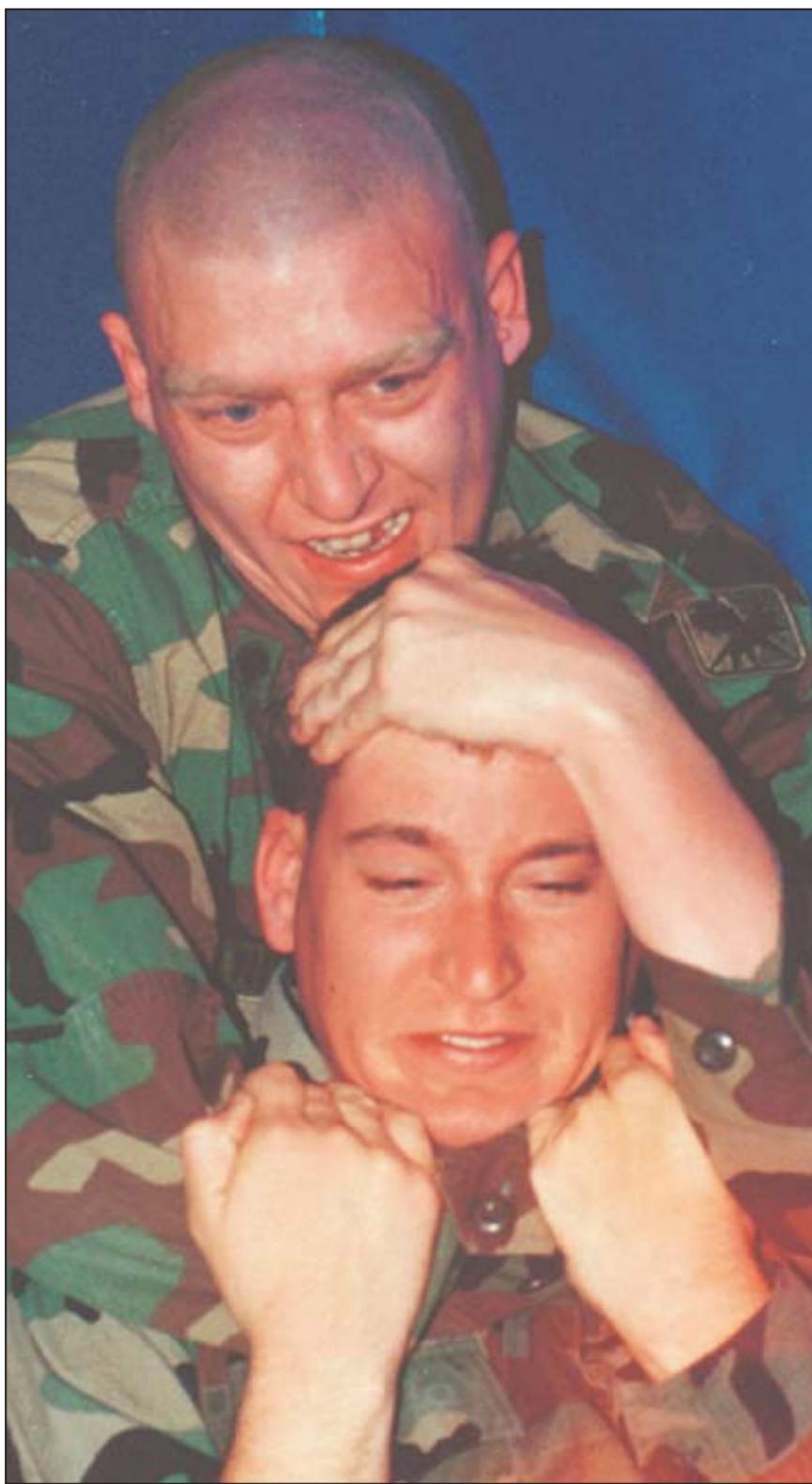
1<sup>st</sup> Sgt. Jack Veal, Company A,  
304<sup>th</sup> Military Intelligence Battalion

he didn't want to overwhelm the soldiers by teaching too much too fast, so he concentrated on basic techniques.

"I showed them a few chokes and arm break techniques," de Taboada said. "Also, how to take care of themselves on the ground."

The U.S. Army's Combatives program includes striking, grappling, knife, and bayonet techniques. Striking techniques include basic punch/kick, as in sport martial arts like karate or tae kwon do, but emphasize combat-oriented striking such as knee and elbow strikes. Many grappling techniques are familiar to sport grapplers, such as this simple standing armbar.

Most of the soldiers' only experienced hand-to-hand combative training in basic training didn't compare to the skills they learned during the class.



Photos by Sgt. 1st Class Donald Sparks

Spc. Timothy McDaniel, Company A, 304<sup>th</sup> MI Bn., gets the best of Spc. Nicholas Grabeel, during their two minutes in the pit. The soldiers were paired off and fought using their combative techniques taught by de Taboada.

"The problem with what they learn in basic training is the moves, such as the over the shoulder throw, are too advanced," de Taboada said. "A lot of these soldiers don't have any background in martial arts. Grappling is much simpler, easier to learn and they can pick up on it real quick."

During the training, de Taboada, who is headed to Drill Sergeant School this summer, demonstrated several maneuvers and he emphasized safety.

As part of the instruction, he carefully showed the soldiers where their hands should be and proper body placement. Once he was confident they understood the techniques, the soldiers were paired off and had to grapple in the pit for two minutes.

Spc. Nicholas Grabeel and Sgt. Jason Cochran were the first two to go at it in the pit, with Grabeel receiving most of the punishment. Red-faced after getting the best of a choke hold from Cochran, he was impressed with the impact of pain from the combatives techniques.

"I tried to get into a dominant body position, but I wasn't quick enough," Grabeel said. "These techniques are not just putting your arm

around someone's neck and choking them. It's not just air flowing to your air pipe, but the blood to your head that is restricted. That was pretty effective."

Spc. Anthony Clemons said he enjoyed the training because a soldier can't street fight his way off the battlefield.

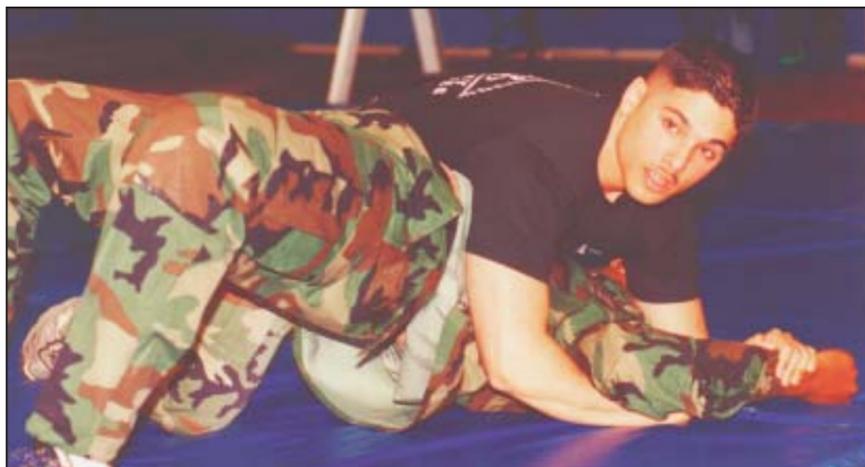
"You'll get too tired if all you're doing is throwing punches all the time," Clemons said. "The techniques we've learned are not about a test of strength, but it's a test of perseverance. It makes you think about your moves and then you fight."

As a spectator on the sidelines, 1<sup>st</sup> Sgt. Jack Veal, first sergeant, Company A, 304<sup>th</sup> MI Bn., was impressed with de Taboada's enthusiasm and expertise during the training. He emphasized the importance of what his noncommissioned officer was teaching the soldiers assigned to his unit.

"Just because soldiers are assigned to a support unit, it doesn't mean they don't have to know how to take care of themselves," Veal said. "This particular training gives them confidence to fight back. This training is very necessary - it's about survival."



Spc. Nicholas Grabeel, right, grimaces as the unlucky demonstrator during de Taboada's example of how to perform a choke hold.



Staff Sgt. Gonzalo de Taboada demonstrates a side control. He explained many times a fighter will find himself in this position, and he must be able to counter the enemy's defensive techniques. The fighter should place his elbow on the ground in the notch created by the enemy's head and shoulder.



## Troops phone home courtesy of 40<sup>th</sup> Signal Battalion

Thunderbirds allow deployed soldiers to reach out, touch family members back home

BY SPC. M. WILLIAM PETERSEN  
11<sup>TH</sup> SIGNAL BRIGADE PUBLIC AFFAIRS

At Combat Support Center-Kuwait, less than a mile from the Iraqi border, Staff Sgt. Chris Mize, a squad leader for 594<sup>th</sup> Transportation Company, 106<sup>th</sup> Transportation Battalion, was making an important call.

"That's good, sweetie," he said. "Now put your mom on the phone."

The call was to Fort Campbell, KY, where his wife and two children are living. Mize has been in the country more than two months, and his occasional phone calls to the United States have made his deployment bearable.

"I don't know how to put into words the fact that there's a lifeline where you can call your family," said Mize.

Sgt. Ivan Alicea-Lopez, Spc. Shane Fligor and Spc. Keith Kilpatrick are a team of signal soldiers from B Company, 40<sup>th</sup> Signal Battalion, 11<sup>th</sup> Signal Brigade.

Their primary mission is to provide telecommunications for CSC-Kuwait. As a voluntary second mission, Lopez and his team provide morale phones for the soldiers to call back to the States.

While the military police units and transportation unit at the camp perform their missions of securing the checkpoints and keeping things rolling, respectively, the soldiers from these units see the 40<sup>th</sup> Sig. Bn. team as their favorite troops in town.

"I've been here for about a week. Sleeping in my HMMWV is really nice," said Sgt. Judson Moore, a military police officer at CSC-Kuwait. "These guys are one good thing about being here because they let us use their phones but don't have to."

Moore makes a weekly call to his wife in Texas.



**An 11<sup>th</sup> Signal Brigade – Thunderbirds logo marks the site of CSC-Kuwait's only morale phone. Sgt. Ivan Alicea-Lopez constructed the marker from white stones with a sign bearing the brigade's motto: "The sun never sets on the Thunderbirds."**

Lopez and his team have been at CSC-Kuwait for only two weeks, but have been in-theater for 4.5 months.

While at the support center, the soldiers from B Co., 40<sup>th</sup> Sig. Bn. support a variety of units operating there, including 106<sup>th</sup> Transportation Battalion, and 302<sup>nd</sup>, 504<sup>th</sup> and 220<sup>th</sup> Military Police.

The signal soldiers also support multinational troops at the checkpoint including British soldiers and MPs.

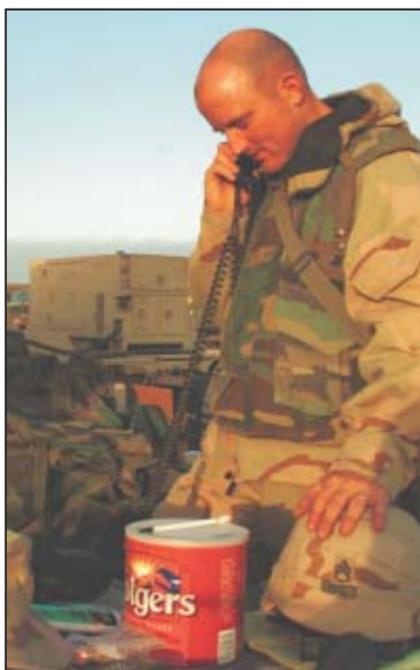
"All these people have their phone service provided by us," said Lopez. "And they have an outstanding service."

While the soldiers lack a Post Exchange, extensive laundry facilities and plane tickets home, they seem pleased with their temporary home.

"It's not bad at all here," said Fligor, a native of Greenfield, Ohio. "It's nice to be able to provide phones, especially for morale calls. We're not required to do this; we volunteered to."

The morale phones have a limited availability for the troops however: the 40<sup>th</sup> Sig. Bn. team only offers the phones for 19 hours per day.

As for the reactions of the soldiers using the phones, Fligor said, "they're ecstatic. A lot



Photos by Spc. M. William Petersen

**Staff Sgt. Chris Mize, a squad leader with 594<sup>th</sup> Transportation Company, makes a call to his family in the states from within a stone's throw of Iraq. Morale phones at Combat Support Center-Kuwait are provided voluntarily by a three-person team of B Company, 40<sup>th</sup> Signal Battalion soldiers.**

of them haven't been able to call home for months."

While Fligor admitted he was initially nervous being so close to the border, he puts his trust in the MPs and the equipment they brought. For him, a morale call is almost a local call: his wife is currently stationed at Camp Doha, Kuwait.

For the rest of the troops at CSC-Kuwait, the phone calls home are a real privilege.

"I try to make a call once a week," said Mize. "This is like a treasure chest of gold when you can put your hands on it."

## Lynch gets family visit in Germany

BY GERRY J. GILMORE  
AMERICAN FORCES PRESS SERVICE

Former prisoner of war Army Pfc. Jessica D. Lynch today saw members of her family as she continues to recover from her injuries at a U.S. military hospital in Germany.

In a news conference Tuesday, Lynch's father, Greg Sr., said he was impressed with his daughter's morale and condition. The soldier, who hails from Palestine, W.Va., is undergoing treatment at Landstuhl Regional Medical Center.

He said her spirits were "real high" and family members were "really glad to see her condition" because they had figured she was "a lot worse."

"She looks real good, real cheerful," added Deadra Lynch, Jessica's mother, noting her daughter's condition "was better than I expected."

Taken prisoner by Iraqi irregular fighters on March 23 near Nasiriyah, the 19-year-old Lynch was rescued April 1 by U.S. special operations troops.

"We just want to say thanks to everybody that took part in the rescue ... we still give out our prayers for not only the troops in Iraq, but (those) all over the world," emphasized Jessica's brother, Greg Jr., who's also an Army private first class.

Lynch and other members of a U.S. Army 507th Ordnance Maintenance Company from Fort Bliss, Texas, were in a convoy ambushed March 23 after taking a wrong turn during action near Nasiriyah.

As of Tuesday, the Iraqi regime now holds seven U.S. servicemembers, all soldiers, captive as prisoners of war.