



# WARRIOR SPIRIT



2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team  
25th Infantry Division

## Soldier's Medal

Spc. Holt received the Soldier's medal this quarter for heroic acts... Pg. 15

## Refuel your Spiritual Tank

The Brigade chaplain speaks about keeping anxiety down and staying spiritually fit... Pg. 3



# Command Team's Forward



Warriors! As the year 2012 comes to a close, we cannot say enough about how much pride we have in your demonstrated performance during this past year. As we circulate throughout the Brigade Combat Team, we see professional and well trained soldiers focused on always improving themselves and bettering their team. Credit is especially due to the junior leaders in our ranks who are committed to operational readiness and willing to raise the bar in pursuit of excellence. Leaders and planners have taken advantage of all training resources and areas to execute tough realistic training that has paid off with successful outcomes that will make the difference in combat in 2013. We encourage you to maintain that mind set and always be diligent in fine tuning your skills and building your team.

The Cavalry Squadron and Infantry Battalions of Warrior Stryker Brigade Combat Team have demonstrated their professionalism and ambassadorial presence by extending America's hand to our Pacific Partners through various combined training exercises. Some of these strategic exercises included Strykehorse's participation in Exercise Yuda Abhyas with a deployment to India, the Gimlets partnered training during Exercise Foal Eagle in Korea, the Golden Dragon's deployment to Japan in support of Exercise Orient Shield and their Emergency Rapid Deployment Exercise of a platoon to the Kingdom of Tonga in support of Exercise Coral Reef as well as the Wolfhound's deployment to New Zealand in support of Exercise Alam Halfa as well as Operation Wolfhound Maul in Korea where 1-27 IN conducted some combined training with the South Korean Army as they conducted multi-echelon training. We also had multiple battalion training deployments to the Big Island of Hawaii and Yakima Training Center in Eastern Washington. None of these exercises would have been possible without the overwhelming professionalism from the Soldiers of our Warrior Support Battalion who enabled each and every exercise to be effectively executed and accomplished. We successfully validated our deployment systems across the Pacific Theatre while maintaining security for ourselves and our partners through flexibility and interoperability. Thank you Warriors.

Our "On Time " Artillery Battalion secured a place in Schofield Barracks' history when it lead the return of artillery live fire to Oahu and at the same time setting a high standard of precision and discipline for other Red Legs to follow. They have also shot a "S-ton" (S=short...) of 155mm ammunition in support of each maneuver Task Force deployed across the Pacific for training and they have proven themselves to be not only "On time" but also "on target".

The New Year is upon us. Collectively we will forge our training to continue mastering our skills at all levels with the goal of being the best trained, best equipped, best maintained and most disciplined fighting force in our Army's history. Get Ready Warriors. In January and February during our own exercise here on Oahu, Exercise Warrior Spear, we will both train and challenge our company size units ability to plan, maneuver, sustain and engage with and destroy the enemy. We'll expand our capabilities while encountering and solving non-standard problems through small unit leadership using innovative thinking. All of this builds toward our next deployment exercise later in the Spring when we will travel to the National Training Center at Fort Irwin, California for a month of focused training.

Lastly, we want to extend our personal thanks and appreciation to the Families that make up our Warrior STRYKER Brigade Combat Team. Your involvement and many sacrifices for the Warrior Brigade are critical to our success and your support is simply the best. Our readiness is conditioned by all that you do to support your Soldier and each other.

Over our holiday leave period, we encourage everyone, with emphasis, to devote time to your Family and yourselves. Enjoy all the season brings. Enjoy the closeness of your Family, the gift of your friends and battle buddies, the unity of the brigade and return refreshed, safe and prepared for our future challenges.

Wishing you a healthy, happy and successful New Year.  
Warriors!

MICHAEL A. CROSBY  
Command Sergeant Major  
Brigade CSM

THOMAS H. MACKEY  
Colonel, Infantry  
Commanding

# The Chaplain's Corner



Have you ever felt anxiety about how low your car is on gas while you drive down the freeway hoping and praying you don't run out of gas before reaching the nearest gas station? It's a sinking desperate feeling. Do ever feel that way about your day to day work in the Army?

If you've been in 2nd Brigade, 25th Infantry Division you know might know what I'm talking about. Major General Fuller says, "2nd Brigade and 3rd Brigade are moving at the speed of war." So, if you are feeling a bit overwhelmed right now with the how fast things are moving and happening in our brigade do not feel you are alone.

The real issue is not necessarily how hard we are working, but how are we all taking advantage of our down time? How are you managing the white space on your personal or family calendar? Are you using it wisely and investing in your marriage and kids?

If you are not married and don't have children, are you using your personal time in a

constructive manner that helps you relax and fill your energy tank?

You may ask, "Chaplain, how can I tell? How am I supposed to know if I'm spending my time wisely and replenishing myself?"

First, are you prioritizing competing requests for your calendar based on your goals, priorities, values, hopes and dreams?

Second, are you keeping at least one hour a day for yourself? Are you keeping one hour of your day for time with God - worship how you feel convicted to worship (at a Chapel, church, synagogue, mosque, temple, etc)? Are you saving at least on hour of your day for your spouse and children?

Third, are you eating right and sleeping right? The food and drink you put into your body has a direct effect on your mental and emotional well being and the same with your sleep. Get plenty of it!

When we keep a balance in our livings we can handle the speed of war! We are headed to the combat zone next year and need to be ready and trained, but we also need to make sure we are emotionally, mentally, and spiritually prepared also.



Chaplain (Maj.) Scott Koeman

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## Brigade Media

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Photo by Tech. Sgt. Michael R. Holzworth

Soldiers from 1st Battalion, 21st Infantry Regiment, “Gimlets” 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 25 Infantry Division return off the firing range after completing an alternating movement while engaging targets at 200 to 1000 meters during a live fire training exercise Sept. 19, 2012, at Pohakuloa Training Area, on Hawaii. Soldiers from 1st Battalion, 21st Infantry Regiment, “Gimlets” 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 25 Infantry Division are conducting a month-long exercise at the Pohakuloa Training Area, on Hawaii which is focused on platoon level collective training with enabler integration. The training will culminate in a combined arms live fire exercise later this month.

## ‘Gimlets’ Conduct realistic training at PTA

Story by Tech. Sgt. Michael R. Holzworth  
AFN-Pacific

### POHAKULOA TRAINING

**AREA, Hawaii** – More than 800 Soldiers from the 1st Battalion, 21st Infantry Regiment, “Gimlets,” 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, traveled from Schofield Barracks on Oahu to Pohakuloa Training Area (PTA) on the island of Hawaii.

They came to PTA to build teamwork and focus on platoon-level collective training while integrating engineers and mortars in a realistic training environment to maintain a high level of readiness.

“It’s about knowing the basics, it’s about mastering the basics and employing them in a disciplined fashion,” said Lt. Col. Timothy

Hayden, battalion commander, 1-21 Inf. Regt. “Building that team and getting to know each other; establishing trust and the confidence that your buddy on your right or left is going to do his job, hit his target and make sure he is there when you need him to be is what this training is all about.”

PTA plays a large role in keeping American forces in the Asia-Pacific region ready for any type of contingency, whether it is during war or for humanitarian assistance.

“This training area is great,” said Staff Sgt. Humberto Dovalina, Stryker mortar section leader, A Company, 1-21 Inf. Regt. “It’s a little bit like Afghanistan, it’s got the hills and the terrain is similar. It’s like being deployed.”

Gimlet Soldiers have not been tasked to deploy, but are maintaining their readiness for what has been described by senior defense officials as a need for a continued U.S. military presence in the Pacific.

Because of PTA’s size and proximity to Oahu, it is vital to the units stationed in Hawaii.

“This is what I came in the Army to do, because PTA is so large we get to fire all our weapons and work together with the other sections,” said Spc. Justin Phillips, Stryker mortar assistant gunner, B Company, 1-21 Inf. Regt. “Here we get more and more familiar with the rounds and the weapon which only helps the guys on the ground; the better we are the better we can support them.”

After arriving at PTA in early September, Gimlet Soldiers went straight to work conducting multiple phases of tough, realistic training.

“The training is very good and it’s going to set us up for success when we head out to our next operation, whatever that may be,” said Sgt. Brandon Ingram squad leader, C Company 1-21 Inf. Regt. “We’re going to ranges left and right, we’re getting up at [5a.m.] and not getting to bed till late in the evening, but it’s all worth it because the training is going to lead to the safety and the survivability of our men.”

Prior to training as a platoon, it is necessary to train at the

individual, team, and squad level. Soldiers took part in hand-grenade qualification, practiced bounding tactics with Stryker vehicle variants armed with weapons ranging from Mark-19 grenade launchers, mounted .50-caliber remote



weapons systems, 120mm Mobile Mortar Carrier vehicles. Ground forces dismounted from Infantry Carrier Vehicles (ICV) to practice squad assault tactics, techniques and procedures.

“We started setting the base work to understand how each other operate on the battlefield and we really started building a team so we are successful in the fight,” Hayden said.

The collective training allows Soldiers to build on their previous training while helping them move seamlessly into platoon-level training and integrating all of the weapons systems employed in a theater of operations. The training culminates in a Combined Live Fire Exercise (CALFEX), a final test of the Gimlets’ newly-acquired skills. Their ability to act as a cohesive unit will give them the confidence needed on the battlefield and earn them a trip home to family and friends in October.

“We can’t do any of this without the great support of our families, our teammates and our community back home on Schofield Barracks,” Hayden said. “It is really what makes us a great Army.”



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Michael R. Holzworth

Soldiers from Bravo Company 1st Battalion, 21st Infantry Regiment, “Gimlets” 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, prepare and resupply 120mm mortar rounds prior to a fire mission from a Mounted Mortar Carrier (MC-B) 37 Sept. 20, 2012, at the Pohakuloa Training Area, on Hawaii’s Big Island. Soldiers from 1st Battalion, 21st Infantry Regiment, 2nd SBCT, 25 ID are conducting a month-long exercise which is focused on platoon level collective training with enabler integration. The training will culminate in a combined arms live fire exercise later this month.



Photo by Sgt. Daniel Johnson

Pfc. Chelsea Martin, a cook with HHC, 225th Brigade Support Battalion, 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division provides breakfast to 1st Sgt. Justin Stewart of HHC, 1st Battalion, 27th Infantry Regiment, 2nd SBCT on Sept. 1 here. The field feeding team from 225th BSB is one of the many support elements needed to facilitate the training being conducted by 1-27 Inf. Regt. as part of Operation Wolfhound Maul here.

## Warrior Support for Wolfhounds

Story by Sgt. Daniel Johnson  
2nd Brigade Combat Team Public Affairs

**RODRIGUEZ LIVE FIRE COMPLEX, Korea** – Soldiers of the 225th Brigade Support Battalion, 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division are ensuring that the 1st Battalion, 27th Infantry Regiment, 2nd SBCT, 25th ID, has everything it needs to continue training operations here during their more than month long deployment to Korea during Operation Wolfhound Maul from July 31 to Sept. 9.

From platoon live fire to urban assault missions, the Soldiers of 1-27 Inf. Regt. need support. The 225th BSB has attached a maintenance team and a field feeding team among other assets to help the ‘Wolfhounds’ accomplish their mission and ensure their continued focus on training.

“We do everything we can to serve the Soldiers,” said Staff Sgt. Kevin Wethly, dining facility manager, 225th BSB. “Sometimes the ranges run long or start early, so we do whatever we can to ensure everyone gets fed.”

“It is important for us to identify the problems with the vehicle as quickly as possible so we can get them back out there fast so they can train,” said Pfc. Thomas McAllister, a mechanic with 225th BSB. Along with providing mission critical support to the ‘Wolfhounds’ the BSB is also helping keep troops motivated and their moral high.

“What we do here helps to improve the moral of the Soldiers that are training,” said McNeil. “They know there will be hot food waiting for them when they return.”

The Soldiers have a place where they can sit down and relax said Wethly. Being able to watch some TV and relax while enjoying a hot meal does a lot for a Soldier's motivation.

It isn't just the 'Wolfhounds' that are getting tough and realistic training here in Korea, the support elements are getting real world experience with how their lives will be when they deploy.

"What we do here in the field is what we will be doing during deployment operations," said Wethly. "It isn't just the unit we're supporting that gets training, we are training as well."

The more training they get as mechanics while they are here the better they will be able to

accomplish their mission when deployed, said McAllister. It is important for the support elements to train just as much as the combat elements. The Army relies on every element to be proficient in its duties.



"Garrison life isn't the only life in the Army," said Sgt. Rodger Jachim, a team leader with the 225th BSB mechanics detachment. "This is a much different training environment than we would see back home."

The biggest challenge was working with fewer supplies said Jachim. They were able to get approval to repair broken parts rather than just replacing them. That type of training is invaluable experience for future combat operations.



Photo by Sgt. Daniel Johnson  
Pfc. Chelsea Martin, a cook with HHC, 225th Brigade Support Battalion, 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division prepares chicken-ala-king for the night's dinner meal on Sept. 2 here. The field feeding team from 225th BSB is one of the many support elements needed to facilitate the training being conducted by 1-27 Inf. Regt. as part of Operation Wolfhound Maul here.

Not only are the Soldiers of the BSB training on their primary duties by supporting the 'Wolfhounds', they are also learning new skills that will assist them in accomplishing future contingency missions.

"I went to an automatic weapons range for the first time," said Spc. Destiny McNeil, a cook with 225th BSB. "I qualified on a squad automatic weapon on my first attempt. It was pretty awesome."

"We've been doing a lot of cross training so that in a pinch our guys have a little bit of experience working on a lot of different systems," said Jachim. "We are much more adaptable now."

From supporting the nutritional needs of our troops to keeping critical equipment rolling the Soldiers of the 225th BSB provide crucial support services in the training being conducted throughout the 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team.



Photo by Sgt. Daniel Johnson  
Pfc. Thomas McAllister, a mechanic with the 225th Brigade Support Battalion, 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division provides repairs the brake line of a Stryker vehicle to facilitate the continued training of the 1st Battalion, 27th Infantry Regiment, 2nd SBCT on Sept. 1 here. The mechanics from 225th BSB is one of the many support elements needed to facilitate the training being conducted by 1-27 Inf. Regt. as part of Operation Wolfhound Maul here and 14 other Soldiers from the battalion volunteered to help plant Native Hawaiian plants along with nearly 100 community volunteers.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Sean Everette

Spc. Elly Tessororf, 185th Military Intelligence Co., 2nd Squadron, 14th Cavalry Regiment, 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, is paced by Master Sgt. Laura Shade during the Female Engagement Team ruck march here on Nov. 14. The march is part of the FET selection process.

# Female Engagement Team selection ramps up in 2nd Brigade

Story by Staff Sgt. Sean Everette  
2nd Brigade Combat Team Public Affairs

**SCHOFIELD BARRACKS, Hawaii** – When an Army patrol walks into a village in Afghanistan, one of the things the Soldiers look and listen for is information that can help the mission. However, a standard patrol made up of Combat Arms Soldiers can only talk to half of the population of a village. Afghan women are culturally off-limits to male Soldiers. With the addition of a Female Engagement Team to a patrol, suddenly that other half of the population becomes accessible, and the information they have

about what is going on in their communities is within reach.

The 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team is in the process of selecting Soldiers here for the Female Engagement Teams, or FETs, it will use during future operations in Afghanistan. The last round of selections ended Nov. 14, and will resume in the coming weeks.

Capt. Katherine O'Brien, the 2nd SBCT Provost Marshal and Female Engagement Team Officer in Charge, said she is looking for a certain kind of female Soldier.

“Our FET selection is focused on finding Soldiers who have great

physical ability, but who also have really good interpersonal communications skills, have the ability to build rapport, and are mature,” O'Brien said. “To assess these factors, we've conducted an APFT, a 10.7-mile ruck march, an interview, and a counseling packet review so we can get the Soldiers who are most likely to excel in this position.”

Sgt. Maria Guajardo, 556th Signal Co., 2nd Battalion, 11th Field Artillery Regiment, has already been through this process and been selected for what she believes to be a very important job. She thinks FET members will be able



Photo by Staff Sgt. Sean Everette  
Soldiers weigh in their ruck before the Female Engagement Team march here on Nov. 14. The ruck march is a part of the FET selection process.

to reach Afghan women in a way a male Soldier never would.

“It’s definitely a lot easier on Afghan women to have a woman to talk to, instead of a man, and they want to be like us, so they’ll be more likely to talk to us and give us the information we need,” Guajardo said.

O’Brien said that being on a FET doesn’t just benefit the Army. It also benefits the Soldier.

“It gives them leadership experience and leadership abilities. They’re able to cross-train and use equipment they would normally use. They can use vehicles. They can go on patrols. They can do things outside of their MOS that will make them a more well-rounded leader and a more well-rounded Soldier,” said O’Brien.

The formal training for FET won’t begin until January. Any female Soldiers in the 2nd SBCT who are interested in trying out need to see Capt. O’Brien at 2nd SBCT headquarters.

The 2nd SBCT is still looking for Soldiers to be part of the Female Engagement Teams.

“It’s going to give them a really unique experience,” O’Brien said. “We’re coming out of Afghanistan

and there are going to be limited opportunities to do these kinds of



missions in the future. So, if there’s anybody who’s interested in being a part of this team, I’d like them to come and see me, and see if we can put together a training package and incorporate them.”



Photo by Staff Sgt. Sean Everette  
Pvt. 1st Class Barbara Young, C Co., 225th Brigade Support Battalion, 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, is interviewed by Capt. Katherine O’Brien, 2nd SBCT PMO and Female Engagement Team Officer in Charge, Sergeant 1st Class Jackie Zerby, FET Noncommissioned Officer in Charge, and Sergeant Major Gregg Sapwell, 2nd SBCT S3 Sergeant Major, here on Nov. 13. The interview is a part of the FET selection process.



Photo by Sgt. Daniel Johnson

Pilots of an AH-64 D Apache with 4-2 Attack Reconnaissance Battalion, 2nd Combat Aviation Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division, fly over Soldiers of 1st Battalion, 27th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division while preparing to deliver an attack on enemy targets at the Digital Multipurpose Range Complex during Joint Exercise Gunsmoke being conducted here on Sept. 6 as part of Operation Wolfhound Maul. Operation Wolfhound Maul was conducted as part of the 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team's training to prepare for future contingency missions and deployments.

# Operation Gunsmoke

Story by Sgt. Daniel K. Johnson  
2nd Brigade Combat Team Public Affairs

## RODRIGUEZ LIVE FIRE

**COMPLEX, Korea** – Soldiers, aviators and Airmen came together at the Digital Multipurpose Range Complex on Sept. 6 here to conduct Joint Exercise Gunsmoke as part of Operation Wolfhound Maul being conducted by 1st Battalion, 27th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division.

Soldiers of 1-27 Inf. Regt. were joined by Army aviators from 4-2 Attack Reconnaissance Battalion, 2nd Combat Aviation Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division and Air Force pilots from the 36th and 25th Fighter Squadrons, 51st Fighter Wing, Osan Air Base. Also participating in the exercise were five Airmen from the 25th Air Support Operations Squadron, 1st Air Support Operations Group, Wheeler Army Air Field. These

joint forces were able to produce a realistic training environment for all assets to train.

“The purpose of today’s training was the integration of air assets as well as indirect fire assets from mortars and artillery,” said Capt. Jason Stanley, Fire Support Officer for 1-27 Inf. Regt. “This allows the maneuver commander to have hands on experience conducting a mission with multiple assets at his disposal.”

In addition to mortar fire provided by 1-27 Inf. Regt. and Artillery fire from 1st Battalion, 15th Field Artillery Regiment, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 2nd Infantry Division the Air Force provided two A-10/C Thunderbolt IIs and two F-16 CM Fighting Falcons to augment the close combat air support provided by 4-2 ARB’s two AH-64 D Apaches. Joint training such as this helps

Army and Air Force personnel work together at the team level, said Tech. Sgt. Glen Derra, a joint terminal tactical controller with 25th ASOS. Training at a live range such as this allows Airmen to get experience working with Army ground forces which is critical for operators.

“We’ve gotten a lot of good training working with Soldiers on the ground,” said Capt. Michael Harmison, Commander for A Co., 4-2 ARB. “Talking air assets onto targets from the ground can be tough, so the more practice the better.”

This type of training prepares Soldiers for future contingency missions and deployments by giving them experience in deconflicting airspace to safely utilize multiple fire assets during a mission.

“Air space deconfliction can be challenging without the proper experience,” said Stanley. “It is critical for the fire support teams on the ground to be able to turn off artillery in order to allow air



Photo by Sgt. Daniel Johnson

1st Lt. David Cox, a fire support officer with A Co., 1st Battalion, 27th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division calls for fire support on enemy targets from his Stryker at the Digital Multipurpose Range Complex during Joint Exercise Gunsmoke being conducted here on Sept. 6 as part of Operation Wolfhound Maul. Operation Wolfhound Maul was conducted as part of the 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team's training to prepare for future contingency missions and deployments.

assets to provide support. Working with the Air Force is a common practice when deployed. Soldiers gaining experience working with them in training environments helps to prepare them for executing those missions in real world engagements.”

“We are much more effective and able to destroy the enemy quicker if we have an experienced crew on the ground that can rapidly talk the aircraft onto the target,” said Harmison.

This joint mission was not a simple endeavor. Soldiers conducting the mission from the ground were required to manage multiple variables all while maintaining situational awareness of the battlefield.

“This is no easy task,” said Stanley. “The more assets you are managing the more difficult it becomes to ensure everyone is on the same page. Successfully executing a mission as they have done today helps to boost their confidence.”

“When we start putting infantry with aviation and then add in Air Force the communication and the languages of our professions can cause some confusion,” said Harmison. “Being able to practice this communication in a training environment allows us to be better prepared for communicating in the future during combat operations.”

The full spectrum training being conducted by 1-27 Inf. Regt. is

helping to ensure that our Soldiers and Airmen are prepared to provide security to the Pacific region and are able to engage enemy forces anywhere they may deploy.



“From a fire support role, this is truly full spectrum operations,” said Stanley. “All indirect fire support systems, as well as combat aviation and close air support were utilized in this training.”

“Having the Air Force and the Army forces working so closely with each other helps to ensure security for the Pacific region by preparing our troops for future contingency missions by utilizing realistic training,” said Derra.



Photo by 1st Lt. John Proctor, 4-2 Attack Reconnaissance Battalion, 2nd Combat Aviation Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division

1st Lt. John Proctor, a pilot with 4-2 Attack Reconnaissance Battalion, 2nd Combat Aviation Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division, flies an AH-64 D Apache over Soldiers of 1st Battalion, 27th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division as he prepares to deliver an attack on enemy targets at the Digital Multipurpose Range Complex during Joint Exercise Gunsmoke being conducted here on Sept. 6 as part of Operation Wolfhound Maul. Operation Wolfhound Maul was conducted as part of the 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team’s training to prepare for future contingency missions and deployments.

# 2nd Stryker Brigade, A Year in Review



Story by Sgt. Daniel K. Johnson  
2nd Brigade Combat Team Public Affairs

**SCHOFIELD BARRACKS, Hawaii** – For the 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, 2012 has been a big year. The primary focus of the brigade has been Theatre Security Cooperation missions with Pacific partners in the region. Our battalions have deployed as close to home as Oahu and as far as India and Korea.

July of this year saw a change in the command team of the 2nd SBCT. Col. Christopher S. Vanek was replaced by Col. Thomas H. Mackey and Command Sgt. Maj. William Hain was replaced by Command Sgt. Maj. Michael Crosby.

The 2nd Battalion, 11th Field Artillery Regiment “On Time” fired live rounds on Oahu for the first time since 2006. Being able to fire here rather than deploying to larger training areas will allow for the Soldiers to train more often and become more proficient.

The Brigade Support Battalion “Warrior Support” deployed assets to nearly every battalion mission.

Their support of missions such as Wolfhound Maul and Foal Eagle were instrumental to the success of those deployments. They also earned the Connelly Award for the best dining facility in the Pacific.

The 1st Battalion, 21st Infantry Regiment “Gimlets” deployed to Korea in support of Foal Eagle 2012. They trained side by side with the Republic of Korea Army and helped to ensure a lasting partnership with one of our Pacific Allies with realistic bilateral training.

1st Battalion, 27th Infantry Regiment “Wolfhounds” hosted the Singapore Army during Tiger Balm, as well as deploying to Korea for Wolfhound Maul. These two exercises helped to increase security in the region by strengthening the partnerships we share with Korea and Singapore. The Wolfhounds also partnered with New Zealand military forces during Exercise AlamaHalfa in New Zealand.

The 2nd Squadron, 14th Cavalry Regiment “Strykehorse” deployed to India as part of Yudh Abhyas 2012 to strengthen our relationship with our Indian partners. As well as deploying to Washington State this year for a month-long training

exercise at Yakima Training Center. The realistic training they received while deployed allowed them to be prepared to travel to the National Training Center and perform at their peak.

1st Battalion, 14th Infantry Regiment “Golden Dragons” deployed to Japan during Orient Shield 2012 to work with our Japanese Self Defense Force partners. The combined training on all aspects of infantry and mounted tactics strengthened not only our Golden Dragons but our Japanese partners as well. Operation Coral Reef partnered the Kingdom of Tonga with the Golden Dragons in Tonga.

It has been a productive year for the 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, but training wasn't the only thing the brigade has to be proud of.

Spc. Kevin P. Holt, a medic with the 225th BSB, earned the Soldier's Medal for his heroic actions while on leave in Florida. He subdued a man who had stabbed a Florida woman during an altercation and then provided life saving measures while waiting for emergency personnel to arrive.

As our brigade prepares for future contingency missions and deployments we remember that even with all of the accomplishments we've had this year, none of them would be possible without the support of the families that stand behind our Soldiers. Thank you for your support. We won't let you down.

# Orient Shield 2012



Story by Staff Sgt. Jaime L. Witt  
139th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

**AIBANO TRAINING AREA, Japan** - Soldiers from 1st Battalion, 14th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, out of Schofield Barracks, Hawaii, along with Japan Ground Self Defense Force members from the 33rd Infantry Regiment, 10th Division, Middle Army, attended a ceremony that closed the 13th iteration of Orient Shield, a bilateral training exercise taking place at Aibano Training Area, Shiga Prefecture, Japan, Nov 7.

Orient Shield is designed to enhance interoperability between U.S. and Japanese units at the lowest level, emphasizing combat readiness of both forces while strengthening their relationship.

Nearly 1,000 Soldiers and Japan Ground Self Defense Force, or JGSDF, members gathered on the parade field at Aibano Training Area in military fashion, standing in tight, disciplined formations. During the ceremony, the commanders of both units exchanged gifts and addressed the Soldiers and JGSDF members in attendance.

Col. Koji Furuya, commander of the 33rd Regiment, said he appreciated the Soldiers who participated in the bilateral exercise for their great effort during the last two weeks of training.

“I’m certain that this bilateral exercise has helped to make the U.S.-Japan alliance stronger,” said Furuya. “Through training and events it appears that all U.S. and Japan Soldiers actively worked together to communicate and to overcome differences. Through this bilateral exercise, mutual understanding of tactics and communication were deepened, which allowed us to enrich our ability and to establish the foundation for smooth bilateral operation. I have no doubt that the 33rd Combat Team and the 1-14th Battalion have built a relationship to fight and win together.”

Col. Jonathan Larsen, commander of the 1-14th Infantry, said the exchange was beneficial for the security of both regions.

“Over the last two weeks we have increased the security of our great nations,” Larsen said. “Our Soldiers shared difficult training situations, and we increased our respect for

each other, and our commitment to those nations and the people of the world. It is by forming partnerships at all levels, from the individual Soldier to the highest units in our forces that we will ensure continued security.”

U.S. Soldiers and JGSDF members exchanged information over the last two weeks, learning about each other’s tactics, techniques and capabilities, including vehicles, weapons, and other equipment. The 2nd Stryker BCT deployed Strykers to Japan for the first time since the vehicle’s introduction to the U.S. Army. Orient Shield concluded with a bilateral field training exercise, which encompassed all tasks and topics trained on during the functional phase of training.

“Over the last two weeks, we have seen some significant changes all around us,” Larsen said. “Our Soldiers have come alive with a better understanding and appreciation for each other. We still don’t speak the same language, and we still come from very different backgrounds, but we are similar in our minds. And that has allowed us to make friendships and memories that will last us a lifetime.”



# SHARP Program

Sexual Harassment / Assault Response & Prevention



**I.A.M. STRONG**  
INTERVENE • ACT • MOTIVATE

**“Achieving Cultural Change”** The Commanders Intent is to Educate & Train all Soldiers and Civilians to **INTERVENE, ACT, and MOTIVATE** to prevent sexual harassment and assaults, thus promoting the

**I. A.M. STRONG**

**Sexual Assault can occur without regard to gender, spousal relationship, or age of the victim.**



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**Sexual Harassment** is a form of gender discrimination that involves unwelcomed sexual advances, request for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature between the same or opposite genders.

**Sexual Harassment complaint processes:**

- Informal Complaint-** Complainant does not wish to file in writing
- Formal Complaint-** Complainant files in writing and swear to the accuracy of the information

**Sexual Assault** is a crime defined as Intentional sexual contact, characterized by use of force, physical threat or abuse of authority when a victim does not or cannot consent. Sexual assault includes rape, nonconsensual sodomy (oral or anal sex), indecent assault (unwanted, inappropriate sexual contact or fondling), or attempts to commit these acts.

**Sexual Assault reporting options:**

- Restricted Reporting Option-** Medical Treatment, Counseling, Advocacy Services
- Unrestricted Reporting Option-** Medical Treatment, Counseling, Advocacy Services, Command Involvement, Official Investigation

\*SHARP SPECIALIST can assist all **Soldiers** and their **Family Members** over the age of 18. For additional questions contact one of the team members listed above.

**SHARP Program: I AM THE FORCE BEHIND THE FIGHT**

# Soldier's Medal

Story by Sgt. Daniel K. Johnson  
2nd Brigade Combat Team Public Affairs

**SCHOFIELD BARRACKS, Hawaii** — The Soldier's Medal was presented to Spc. Kevin P. Holt, a combat medic with 225th Brigade Support Battalion, 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, during a ceremony held at BQuad, here, Oct. 19.

Holt earned the medal for heroic actions taken by him on June 11, when he saved the life of a Florida woman after she had been stabbed during an attack by her employer, a would-be suitor.

While golfing with his father, Roger, during a surprise Father's Day visit, Holt saw a woman and a man having a physical altercation near the Rivera Golf Course in Holly Hill, Fla.

The woman, who had been working in a nearby house for years, cooking and cleaning for her assailant, fled after refusing her employer's advances.

When Holt and other golfers approached the couple, the medic saw that the woman had been stabbed.

"I went up with the golf club and told the man to drop the knife," said Holt, in an interview with Orlando television station WESH. "He didn't want to drop it, so I told him I was going to hit him with the golf club."

Four people assisted Holt in



Photo by Maj. Gabriel Zinni  
Brig. Gen. Burt Thompson, deputy commanding general, Support, 25th ID pins the Soldier's medal on the chest of Spc. Kevin Holt during a ceremony held here on Oct. 19.

fending off the attacker, who dropped the kitchen knife. Holt passed his golf club to his father, who guarded the man to prevent him from getting up.

"Then, I went to work on the woman," said Holt.

Holt performed life-saving measures, and the injured woman has since made a full recovery.

"I was only doing what any other person would have done," said Holt. "I am grateful I was able to assist and render aid when it was needed."

The assailant is awaiting trial.

"Courage above and beyond," said Brig. Gen. Burt Thompson, deputy commanding general, Support, 25th ID. "You stood off an attacker and treated an individual."

The Soldier's Medal is awarded to

any person of the armed forces who distinguishes him or herself by heroism not involving conflict with an enemy. The performance must have involved personal hazard or danger and the voluntary risk of life under conditions not involving conflict with an armed enemy.

Part of the oath taken by all Soldiers is to protect against foreign and domestic enemies. Holt upheld his oath when he protected a citizen of the United States from certain death at the hands of a domestic enemy, said Thompson.



# Realistic Cavalry STX at YTC

Story by Sgt. Robert M. England  
2nd Brigade Combat Team Public Affairs

**YAKIMA TRAINING CENTER, Wash.** – In the age of modern technology, even the military has begun to utilize tools such as virtual trainers and simulators to augment and supplement traditional field training. But when it comes to getting the full experience, no technology can perfectly recreate the feel of conducting true situational training exercises in the field.

Cavalry troopers from A Troop, 2nd Squadron, 14th Cavalry Regiment, “Strykehorse,” 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, conducted a situational training exercise on Oct. 17 at Yakima Training Center, Wash.

The training exercise consisted of area and route reconnaissance en route to a key leader engagement with a simulated village leader.

1st Lt. Bryce Land, a platoon leader for A Troop, and the platoon leader orchestrating the reconnaissance movement, said key leader engagements are important because it allows Army leaders to meet with local village leaders and establish a working relationship, build rapport and learn valuable intelligence of enemy activity in the area, as well as how the local population feels about military presence.

“Talking to their leaders lets us know what they want, how they feel about us and the general

disposition of the area,” Land said. Perhaps more important is the sense of realism that has been worked into the training. Land said that everything from the environment to the simulated Afghan National Army role players integrated into the platoon contributed to the training’s authenticity.

“This is probably the most realistic training we’re going to get before NTC,” Land said. “We’re trying to make it as realistic as possible.”

Lt. Col. Carl Michaud, squadron commander, 2nd Sqdn., 14th Cav. Regt., said that his squadron operations and intelligence sections researched current events in theater, and they designed the situational training exercise

to simulate what the Soldiers can expect when they go to the National Training Center and in a deployed environment.

“The situational training exercise that the staff from the squadron designed out here will be a very good representation of the skills the Soldiers will need to know as they get into theater,” Michaud said. “Of course, as situations change, they’ll have the background knowledge to be flexible and adaptable and handle whatever mission the squadron ultimately gets tasked with.”

Route reconnaissance is nothing new for the cavalry scouts of the Strykehorse squadron. Land said that, prior to deploying to Yakima, the squadron has conducted many route reconnaissance missions at



Photo by Sgt. Robert England  
Spc. Kevin Jackson, a cavalry scout with A Troop, 2nd Squadron, 14th Cavalry Regiment, 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, establishes a secure perimeter near a Stryker reconnaissance vehicle during a platoon situational training exercise on Oct. 17 at Yakima Training Center, Wash. The platoon’s mission during the STX was to conduct route reconnaissance en route to a key leader engagement with a simulated Afghani leader.

Schofield Barracks, but the terrain and space inhibited large-scale movements across open terrain. The training area at YTC, however, was more than accommodating, he added.

“We’ve actually done route reconnaissance, area reconnaissance and KLEs back home as much as we can on Oahu,” Land said. “There are very limited movement corridors there and we’re very restricted with our vehicles, so we came here to use our vehicles and get a little more training.”

Michaud echoed Land’s appreciation for the sheer size of the training facility, and said that it was actually one of the reasons the squadron deployed to Yakima for training. In addition to having more room to train, Land said that YTC’s training areas are a lot more similar to what the squadron may see in future engagements.

“It’s more of a high desert,” Land said. “On Oahu we don’t have that much high desert, especially that we’re allowed to work on.”

Michaud said that the platoon STX was actually a continuation of training that began after the brigade completed its reset phase following its redeployment from Iraq in June 2011. The natural progression of training began at the individual Soldier level, and progressed through the fire team and squad levels, leading them into platoon-level training.

“We focused our training methodology, since we had about 18 to 24 months dwell time, starting at the individual scout level back last December,” Michaud said. “We focused on all the individual tasks that we could do at Schofield, and then at Schofield we actually ended with a collective training event of platoon STX. That was kind of a practice run for what they’d get to see out here at Yakima.”

Michaud added that one of the main purposes of situational and live-fire exercises is to build confidence in the Soldiers; so that the Soldiers can build confidence in their leaders and confidence in their equipment so that they can maneuver, control fires, close width and destroy the enemy.

Another aspect that has contributed to the sense of realism has been the integrated enablers and combat multipliers. Support elements ranging from medics and mechanics to field artillerymen and combat engineers lent their technical and tactical expertise to the squadron’s training, Michaud said.

“This has actually been a very big brigade effort; although it’s 2-14 Cavalry out here training, we’re really Task Force 2-14 and have support from across the brigade,” Michaud said. “2-11 Field Artillery sent out their A Battery to support our training so they could integrate fires in with maneuver, both at the Walk and Shoot level which is a leader certification, platoon live-

fires, and they’ll actually be firing in support of platoon STX and troop STX in a dry-fire mode. So we’ll work a lot of that maneuver-shooter linkage throughout our time here.”

“And of course you can never do any exercise in the Army without your support,” Michaud added. “The brigade support battalion sent out a robust element to support us, so we have our own field feeding team that’s providing food for almost 600 Soldiers from across the brigade, as well as mechanics team out here that, quite frankly, has been doing an incredible job considering that we flew about 1500 miles, drew somebody else’s equipment, road-marched it 170 miles to Yakima and started training. Somehow they’ve been able to keep those 29-odd Strykers and all the wheeled fleet up and operational without hindering our training.”

As the squadron moves into its final phase of training at YTC, Michaud expressed his admiration for how dedicated the Strykehorse troopers have been throughout their month-long deployment to Washington for training.

“We designed the training so there wasn’t a lot of breaks, and the Soldiers are really moving from one either individual training event or collective training event to the next,” he said. “They’re doing this without a whole lot of downtime, a whole lot of sleep and absolutely no days off, and I think their motivation to this point speaks volumes about the character of Soldiers we have in this squadron and what they’re able to accomplish when given a task.”





Photo by Sgt. Daniel Johnson

Soldiers of C Co., 225th Brigade Support Battalion, 2nd Brigade Combat Team lift a simulated casualty in preparation of moving him into the treatment facility. This type of training prepares Soldiers for mass casualty scenarios in combat.

## Mass Casualty Exercise at Makua

Story by Sgt. Daniel K. Johnson  
2nd Brigade Combat Team Public Affairs

**MAKUA VALLEY, Hawaii** – Soldiers of C Co., 225th Brigade Support Battalion, 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division deployed to Makua Valley in an effort to prepare their Soldiers for deployed operations as a level-two treatment facility on # Nov.

This type of training helps prepare Soldiers for the challenges they will face when they deploy with the Brigade or on humanitarian missions in the Pacific.

“This type of exercise is vital,” said Cpt. Ted P. Walker, commander for C Co., 225 BSB. “We seldom

get the opportunity to operate in these types of conditions in between deployments. This simulates what we will be doing down range.”

“This is their first stop,” said Spc. Kihei-Nalani Kalauli, a treatment medic with C Co., 225 BSB. “We have everything that is vital to help a patient to survive.”

Realistic training is important for Soldiers to prepare them for combat operations. Scenarios such as this Mass Casualty exercise give them that training.

“This is a full dress rehearsal,” said Walker. “This stresses our capabilities and puts us in the most realistic scenario in order to

do the mission we would perform when deployed.”

Charlie med is set up in its entirety as a level-two treatment facility for the field, Walker continued. We are prepared to receive patients from a mass casualty scenario, triage and package them for the next level of care.

Deployments are not the only time this type of training could be useful. As a medical company, they could be required to deploy without the brigade in the event of a natural disaster or other humanitarian mission.

“As a Charlie med in a Stryker brigade, we can be called upon

to deploy with or without the brigade,” said Walker. “We are capable of being deployed to any area in the world and able to set up a level-two treatment facility wherever we are called to serve.”

The Mass Casualty exercise wasn't the only training being conducted in Makua Valley by the Soldiers of C Co. The NCOs and Soldiers took it upon themselves to train on their own with small classes and peer training.

“If we see something we know we're good at we will immediately make a class,” said Kalauli. “There is a lot of cross training going on in addition to the mass casualty

exercise.”

The training has also helped to foster a team mentality. Medics typically work alone or in small groups. Training like this allows them to come together and share their collective knowledge.



“Training like this is very important,” Kalauli continued. “When we come together like this it helps us to come together as a team.”

Whether it is a deployment to Afghanistan or a humanitarian mission in the Pacific Region, Charlie Med is prepared to save lives wherever the Army needs them.



**Photo by Sgt. Daniel Johnson**  
A Soldier with C Co., 225th Brigade Support Battalion, 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team provides oxygen to an 'injured' Soldier during the mass casualty exercise held in Makua Valley. This type of training prepares Soldiers for mass casualty scenarios in combat.



**Photo by Sgt. Daniel Johnson**  
Soldiers of C Co., 225th Brigade Support Battalion, 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team operate on a 'injured' Soldiers during the mass casualty exercise conducted in the Makua Valley. This type of training prepares Soldiers for mass casualty scenarios in combat.

# Mechanics support YTC

Story by Sgt. Robert M. England  
2nd Brigade Combat Team Public Affairs

**YAKIMA TRAINING CENTER, Wash.** – Whether deployed to combat zones or training centers, enabler support acts as a combat multiplier for combat arms units, bringing potency or longevity to the fight. And when it comes to equipment, one disabled vehicle can put many lives in danger.

Mechanics from the Combat Repair Team attached to the 2nd Squadron, 14th Cavalry Regiment, “Strykehorse,” 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, deployed to Yakima Training Center in Washington

state for the month of October in support of the squadron’s month-long training.

The mechanics’ efforts at all times of the day allow the Strykehorse squadron to maintain combat effectiveness across the broad scope of its daily training operations.

Chief Warrant Officer 3 Timothy McDonald, the 2-14 CRT Maintenance Technician, said that he and his crew of 33 Soldiers and two civilian contractors support the cavalry squadron the way they were trained to: repairing broken equipment.

“We provide direct support through repairs to the Strykers as well as the guns; pretty much anything that breaks we fix it,” McDonald said. “Anything to keep them shooting, moving and communicating, we provide that at our level.”

McDonald continued to say that, on average the 2-14 CRT services between 15 to 20 vehicles daily, to include weapon systems.

Spc. Christopher Busch, an all-wheel vehicle mechanic on the 2-14 CRT, noted some of the issues as operator errors, while others occurred during intended usage of the equipment. All issues, however, have been different from one another, he added.



Photo by Sgt. Robert England

All-wheel vehicle mechanics with the Combat Repair Team attached to the 2nd Squadron, 14th Cavalry Regiment, 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, repair an M777 howitzer on Oct. 14 at Yakima Training Center, Wash. The CRT deployed with the cavalry squadron from Schofield Barracks, Hawaii, to Yakima Training Center to support training operations in Washington state.



Photo by Sgt. Robert England

Spc. Christopher Busch, an all-wheel vehicle mechanic with the Combat Repair Team attached to the 2nd Squadron, 14th Cavalry Regiment, 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, troubleshoots the suspension on a Stryker fighting vehicle on Oct. 14 at Yakima Training Center, Wash. The CRT deployed with the cavalry squadron from Schofield Barracks, Hawaii, to Yakima Training Center to support training operations in Washington state.

“All of the faults we’ve had have been real random, not a lot of the same parts breaking out here, it’s always something new and something different that comes in,” Busch said. “Sometimes they’re operator-level faults like showing them how to work the heater or properly work different aspects of the truck, or they’re big faults like oil leaking from places it shouldn’t.”

Busch said that in garrison, the vehicles are not subjected to the types of tough training across rugged terrain as they are when in a training environment. They may have the routine maintenance inspections and road tests, but it’s no comparison to what the vehicles face in a place like YTC, he added.

“Back at Schofield, the trucks don’t

break as often, they’re not getting run on missions,” Busch said. “Out here, they’re driving on dirt roads, hills; they’re really putting these trucks through their paces.”

One of the benefits of pushing the trucks to their limits in this environment is that the mechanics are able to identify issues that may occur in a deployed environment with similar conditions under similar usage conditions, Busch said.

“The trucks are getting what it would be like in Iraq or Afghanistan, so we’re seeing a lot of the faults we would see downrange here as opposed to garrison where we don’t see too many problems,” Busch said.

When the time comes to repair vehicles and equipment, McDonald said that the facilities may not be

fully equipped like his workstations back on Oahu, but his talented crew still manages to get the job done.

“We make do with what we have,” McDonald said. “We have the things we require to do our job and to make sure the mission is successful, that’s the main thing.”

“A lot of the issues we’re having out here are operator-level issues, so the Soldiers in the units are not being thoroughly trained on some of the equipment,” McDonald added. “But I have a lot of young Soldiers that are straight out of [Advanced Individual Training] and they’ve had that training; whether it’s operator-level or direct support-level, so they take that training and they’re able to share it with the operators and show them how to work the equipment. I think that alone makes this mission a whole lot easier on all of us.”



# ‘On Time’ fires live rounds on Oahu

Story by Sgt. Robert M. England  
2nd Brigade Combat Team Public Affairs

## SCHOFIELD BARRACKS,

**Hawaii** – Soldiers from B Battery, 2nd Battalion, 11th Field Artillery Regiment, “On Time,” 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, conducted an artillery live-fire exercise at Area X on Aug. 28 on post.

The live-fire marked the first artillery shoot on Oahu since August 2006, said Ken Torre, a supervisor with the Schofield Barracks Range Control Office.

Torre stressed the safety considerations taken into account weeks before the first round was fired.

“There are two mandatory documents required to perform a safe artillery exercise: Surface Danger Zone (SDZ), which provides the firing limits of the guns being fired, and the unit’s fire data, which provides the data to ensure rounds that are being fired impact inside the SDZ,” Torre said.

Torre added that the firing unit’s officer in charge and noncommissioned officer in charge must complete the range safety certification program with their unit prior to firing.

In addition to the safety standards put forth by the range control office, On Time Soldiers implemented the five requirements for accurate,

predicted fire. Lt. Col. Dewey Mosley, the battalion commander for 2-11 FA Regt., said that these five requirements helped to ensure that all rounds fired hit their target.

“Safety is absolutely paramount, and whether we are training in garrison or in combat, for artillery we always employ what we call the five elements for accurate, predicted fire,” Mosley said. “We check every element of the chain that’s involved in fire support all the way from the observers on the hill, through our fire direction centers and on to our guns to ensure that the rounds are going to the right location.”

Staff Sgt. Travis Nickel, a fire control NCO with B Battery, 2-11 FA Regt.,



Photo by Sgt. Robert England

Maj. Gen. Kurt Fuller, center, pulls the firing lanyard on an M777 howitzer during an artillery live-fire exercise at Area X on Aug. 28 here. Firing live on Oahu will allow the battalion to maintain proficiency on the guns through more frequent, local training.



Photo by Sgt. Robert England

Sgt. Jordan Eiesland, a cannon crew member with B Battery, 2nd Battalion, 11th Field Artillery Regiment, 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, discusses his duties with Maj. Gen. Kurt Fuller, center, during an artillery live-fire exercise at Area X Aug. 28 here. The battery followed specific guidelines ensuring the safety of both the Soldiers and the surrounding communities.

said that the SDZ provided a very limited impact area, which added an intrinsic benefit for the artillerymen.

“The safety box is small. That contributes to accuracy in combat because it gives us a small window for error,” Nickel said. “As far as artillery in combat, sometimes we get a troops-in-contact mission where it’s key to be accurate. If not, you can endanger the friendly forces when we’re there to support them.”

Nickel continued to say that the live-fire exercise on Oahu was a nice change from having to deploy to the Pohakuloa Training Area on the island of Hawaii, or the National Training Center at Ft. Irwin, Calif. He added

that the battalion conducts various dry-fire and simulation drills, but the live-fire encompasses everything field artillerymen enlist for.

“We do digital sustainment training, we do crew drills and certifications, but when you actually do a live-fire is when it comes together,” Nickel said.

“It builds the unity, gets your platoon knowing the firing capabilities and shows everyone else what we can do.”

Mosley said that the ability to fire live rounds on Oahu opens up many benefits, both for the battalion and the artillery and fire support communities as a whole.

“Being able to fire here on Oahu

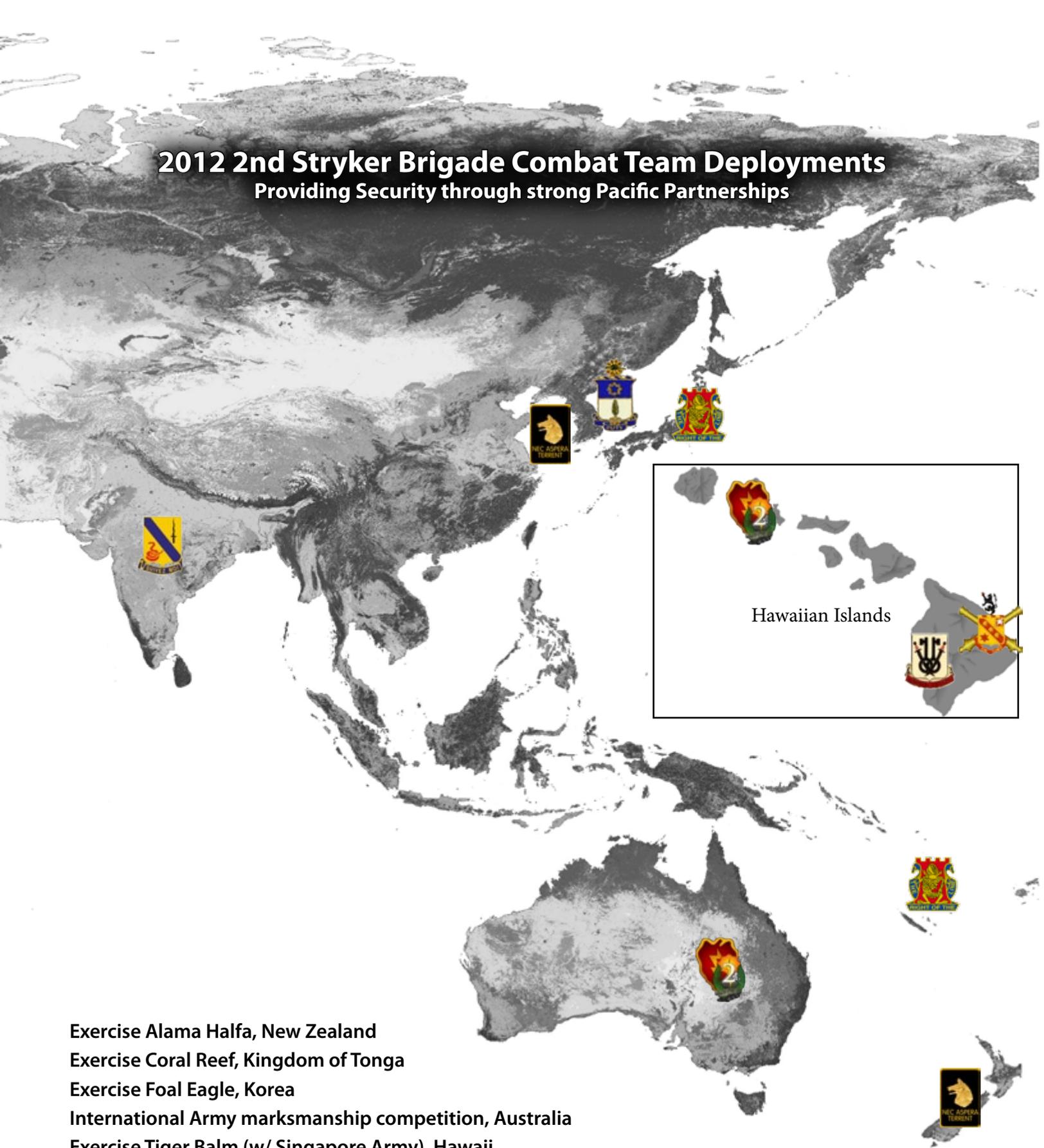
rather than ship the entire unit to PTA is a huge savings in terms of cost, and then also we need to remember the operation tempo for these Soldiers,” Mosley said. “With multiple deployments and a great deal of training, this allows them to come out here on Oahu and fire the Howitzers but still have quality time with their families.”

“As far as what it does for the artillery and fire support community, we also need to remember that, in addition to us, we also have the National Guard field artillery battalion, and there are several U.S. Marine Corps elements that are here as well. So by opening this door up they are able to come fire live here as well.”



# 2012 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team Deployments

Providing Security through strong Pacific Partnerships



- Exercise Alama Halfa, New Zealand
- Exercise Coral Reef, Kingdom of Tonga
- Exercise Foal Eagle, Korea
- International Army marksmanship competition, Australia
- Exercise Tiger Balm (w/ Singapore Army), Hawaii
- Exercise Wolfhound Maul, Korea
- Exercise Yudh Abhyas, India
- Collective Training , Australian Army, PTA Hawaii
- Collective Training, Yakima Training Center, Washington State