



THE PHOENIX



PRESS



25TH INFANTRY DIVISION - TROPIC LIGHTNING!



FROM THE DESK
OF THE
BATTALION COMMANDER



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Aloha Family, Friends, and Soldiers,

I cannot fully express how proud I am of our great Soldiers. Every day I am simply amazed at how much work we are accomplishing and the difference we have made with regards to our mission and the quality of our area. Everyone is fully engaged in doing their part to ensure success for the country of Iraq. Our Soldiers are making history.

Since our last correspondence, the operations tempo is really starting to pick up. Now that everyone is settled in with living quarters and PT and work schedules, there has been a full court press to get as much done as possible. Unlike past deployments, the battalion has the tremendous responsibility of redeploying and closing out the operating base. We look for efficiencies every day in order to execute a smooth transition. I can say with confidence that we have the right team for the job.

Our winter is ending and with it the rain will cease. This is my first deployment to Baghdad and it is much different than COB Speicher. It rains much more often here and with rain, comes mud and it gets everywhere. I'm sure we will all be longing for it once the heat comes. With the onset of spring, the temperature is starting to rise and I'm sure we will be in triple digits much sooner than what we would all prefer. Good thing we have plenty of water.

Of course we would not be successful without the love and support of our Family members. I hear of all of the great things happening back in Hawaii and I cannot thank everyone enough. It makes such a difference when our Soldiers know that they are supported from the home front.

Mahalo,
LTC Paul D. Romagnoli

SOLDIER SPOTLIGHT



SPC Kevin Woodruff

SOLDIER
OF THE MONTH

Aloha and Welcome Lightning 7

CSM Devens joins the Tropic Lightning team here in Baghdad as the new Division Command Sergeant Major. Big Mahalo to SGM David Armour for his service as the DCSM since early February





2011 Women's History Month Proclamation

"I never considered myself anything but a Soldier. I recognize that with this selection, some will view me as a trailblazer, but it is important that we remember the generation of women whose dedication, commitment, and quality of service helped open the doors of opportunity for us today."

General Ann E Dunwoody, the Army's first female Four-Star General



March provides the important opportunity for the Tropic Lightning Division & United States Division-Center to celebrate Women's History Month. It is an appropriate time to reflect and appreciate their remarkable accomplishments- past, present and future in service to your Nation.

Women have served proudly in the Revolutionary war. Whether spy or disguised as a man serving the call to duty in support of this soldier and serve at

Today, women comprise ap-Forces; over 200,000 Solders, the Nation in a wide range of ever imagined only a generation women serve this Nation, they do an honor.

Throughout the rich and storied Soldiers contributed their unique fense of this Nation. Today, the cially those who can call them-important heritage and clearly age, dedication, perseverance and determination.

This month, it is important for us all to recognize the achievements, leadership, courage and love of the grandmother, mothers, sisters, aunts, wives, and daughters who shape this Nation and continue to do so everyday. We should all be grateful for the contributions made by past generations, recognize their immeasurable role in the present, and celebrate those of the future who will make a difference.



the Armed Forces since the time of as a nurse, seamstress, cook, clerk, on the front lines- women answered Nation with a selfless ambition to

proximately 12% of the U.S Armed Sailors, Airmen, and Marines serving duty positions gar greater than was ago. In all cases, regardless of how so with courage, pride, commitment,

history of the American Army, female skills, talents and abilities to the de-women who serve our Nation, espe-selves Tropic Lightning, continue this demonstrate to all of us their cour-

David E. Armour
DAVID E. ARMOUR
Sergeant Major, USA
Division Command Sergeant Major

Bernard S. Champoux
BERNARD S. CHAMPOUX
Major General, USA
Commanding



THUNDER



HSC continues to lead from the front, with multiple nominations as the Division "Lightning Soldier of the Day" along with an incredible four-peat of the XO's "Stick of Knowledge" which now rests with the talented S4 team for their outstanding property management for the battalion. The first 100 days are behind us and we look forward to rest of the tour going by just as fast so that we can return to our families.

Congratulations to HSC's four Staff Sergeants who made the Sergeant First Class list: SSG Orama, SSG Padilla, SSG Barbauta, and SSG Sanchez!

Till next time...



CPT TOWNSEND



STORM RIDERS



Operations Company Family,
March was another busy month in Baghdad. Numerous events were held for Women's History Month, all were very informative and well presented. For service members in attendance. We continue to plan for the end of mission in Iraq, and as the Chief of Staff COL Iverson says, "The plan is locked in jello." I know some families are curious for our timeline to re-deploy back and who will be sent home early as we draw down to the end. I just ask, please be patient and expect flexibility amongst our family members at home and deployed. We are doing something that has not been done in any recent history, withdraw troops from a decade long war, to include closing bases and sending home equipment.

I hope everyone had a great St. Patrick's Day and continue to think about your loved ones here. I know we sure do miss everyone at home and appreciate all the hard work going on back there. On behalf of 1SG Jones and myself, thank you!!

-CPT Steven Schnurr



GRIFFIN



Another busy month has come and gone for the G2, the hardest working Soldiers in the Division, as we prepare for the Iraqi Summer heat. The Soldiers in the section continue to excel in all facets of the Division's challenging mission. SPC Woodruff won the Soldier of the Month Board and will compete in the Soldier of the Quarter Board in June. During March the following Soldiers were promoted: CW2 Ferguson. We also saw SPC Mangum re-enlist, continuing his great service to our nation. March brought birthday celebrations for SPC Bogan, PFC Bright, SFC Randall, SPC Lawhun. The G2 also hosted numerous VIPs culminating with General Alexander, Director of the NSA and Commander of CYBERCOM. Again, mahalo for your support and dedication, our friends and families are an integral component of our success.

Tropic Lightning!
LTC James Botters, L2



DRAGON



Aloha Dragon Families and Friends!

We are doing great here!

Summer is in approaching! The days are starting to get hot—but it reminds us of the warm tropical breeze back in the islands. And as we run the perimeter of Signal Hill, the date palm trees are reminiscent of the tall coconut palms that line the white sandy beaches. We continue to keep you all in our thoughts as we go about accomplishing our mission. Our Soldiers continue to remain focused and push forward. We recognize that things are tough, but rest assured we that we are tougher! Seriously, we appreciate the support! Keep sending us the love...and care packages!

Mahalo!

Sincerely, CPT Jerrold Dwayne Castro and
1SG Catalina Lacuesta



ROCKSTAR



From the Commander's Desk

Greetings, to all the Families and friends of the 25th Infantry Division Band. I took command on the 23rd of February and I have hit the ground running on an awesome unit. You would be proud of your Soldiers, as they are performing great musical venues and creating a sense of humanity at Camps Liberty, Victory and Union III.

As you can see by some of the photos, morale is extremely high at the unit. LTC Romagnoli stated in a meeting the other day that conditions here are better than they ever have been since he has been deployed. I have to agree that living space, chow hall and MWR support here are among the best in the world.

The Musical Performance Teams have been busy going to different forward operating bases and giving the Soldiers there something they do not have the luxury of having: live music. The response has been overwhelming at these locations, so we are doing our job and doing it well. I am extremely proud of all of your Soldiers and look forward to completing the mission over here at Iraq.

Thank you for the support and packages that you send your Soldiers. Every little bit counts, even if it is a snail mail letter from home. I have noticed that around 4PM, when the mail arrives, the shift of morale "pegs out" so to speak. So please keep corresponding with your Soldiers as often as you can.

I look forward to commanding your great Soldiers.



CW3 LISA GUYNN
CW3, AG
Commanding



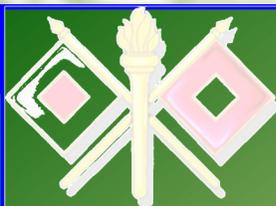
EVENTS CALENDAR

- Apr 4- BN VTC Steering Meeting - 1800 - 2000 at ACS
- Apr 6 - All About Credit - 0900 - 1030 at ACS
- Apr 7 - Managing your Checking Account - 1030 - 1200 at ACS
- Apr 10 - OPS FRG Meeting - 1700 - 1800 at ACS
- Apr 13 - Money Management- 0900 - 1030 at ACS
- Apr 13 - Secrets of Car Buying - 1030 - 1200 at ACS
- Apr 16 - FRG Boot Camp - 0900 - 1400 at ACS
- Apr 20 - Financial Planning for Deployment - 0900 - 1030 at ACS
- Apr 20 - Understanding Insurance & Scams - 1030 - 1200 at ACS
- Apr 21 - Hurricane Awareness - 0900 - 1030 at ACS
- Apr 22 - BN FRG Easter Celebration - 0930 - 1200 at Kalakaua Comm Ctr
- Apr 23 - Family Fun Fest - 0900 - 1400 at Sills Field
- Apr 25-26 - AFTB Level I - 1700 - 2100 at Ft Shafter Aloha Center
- Apr 27 - Money Management- 0900 - 1030 at ACS
- Apr 27 - Simple Tips for Saving & Investing - 1030 - 1200 at ACS
- Apr 28 - Garrison Volunteer Recognition Ceremony - 1030 - 1200 at ACS



SHOP TALK

S6



Greetings from the S6 Shop! This month was eventful for the NCOs and Soldiers of the BN S6. Both SPC Johnson and SPC Rivera were recognized for their hard work and dedication. SPC Kelly Johnson received a coin from MG Champoux, Commanding General of the 25th Infantry Division and SPC Alberto Rivera received a coin from MG Champoux, Commanding General of the 25th Infantry Division and GEN Austin, Commanding General of United States Forces-Iraq. Great work, SPC Johnson and SPC Rivera! You are both vital members of the HHBN communications team. The S6 shop is extremely proud of your achievements!

-1LT Leggett



SECURITY PLATOON

All the Security Platoon Soldiers want to tell their families they love them and miss them very much. The platoon is working hard with their Iraqi partners and are doing a superb job executing their mission.

-1LT Gremillion



Contact Your Soldier
 Rank Last Name, First Name
 Company, HHBN 25th ID
 Camp liberty, Iraq
 APO AE 09344

Comments or feedback please contact:
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