



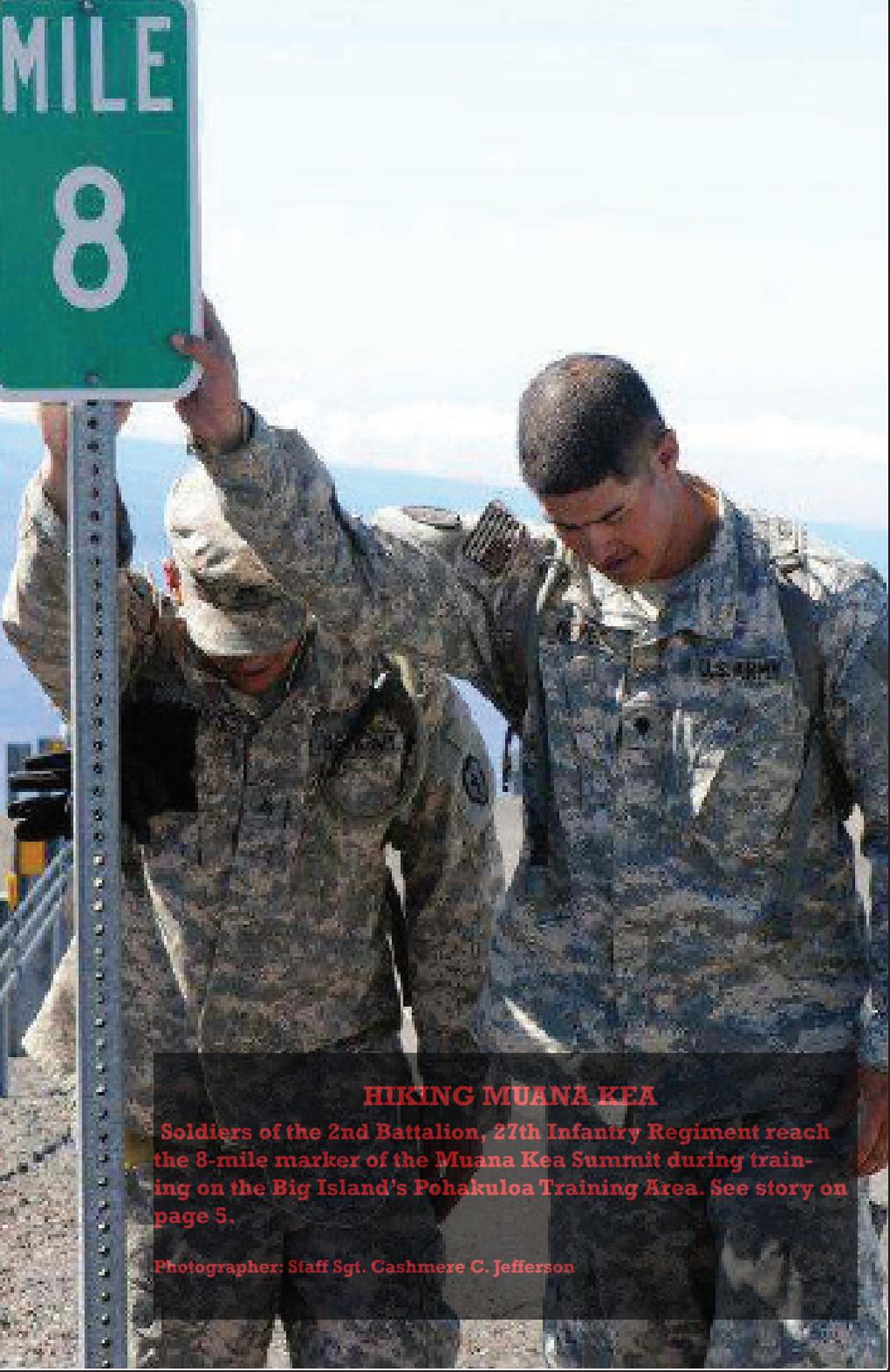
# BRONCOS

3RD BRIGADE COMBAT TEAM

NOV.DEC 12

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**HIKING MUANA KEA**

**Soldiers of the 2nd Battalion, 27th Infantry Regiment reach the 8-mile marker of the Muana Kea Summit during training on the Big Island's Pohakuloa Training Area. See story on page 5.**

**Photographer: Staff Sgt. Cashmere C. Jefferson**



THE 3BCT'S OFFICAL NEWSLETTER

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[WWW.25IDL.ARMY.MIL/BRONCOS/3\\_25.HTML](http://WWW.25IDL.ARMY.MIL/BRONCOS/3_25.HTML)

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Brigade Commander Sergeant Major  
**Command Sgt. Maj. David M. Clark**

**BRONCO BRIGADE NEWS**

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**No UPARs at this time**

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**Spc. Malcolm Erskine**

3rd Brigade Special Troops Battalion  
**Spc. Ken-ken Alvarado**

325th Brigade Support Battalion  
**No UPARs at this time**



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CHECK OUT THE BRONCO BRIGADE ON SOCIAL MEDIA FOR THE MOST UPDATES STORIES AND VIDEO'S VISIT US AND TELL US WHAT YOU THINK.

The Bronco Bulletin is published six times annually by the 3rd Brigade Combat Team Public Affairs Office. All photos not credited are official 3BCT photos.

Please send photos you'd like to be featured in this publication to:  
[broncobrigade@yahoo.com](mailto:broncobrigade@yahoo.com)

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## Note from the Editor

As we closed out the end of the year, the Bronco Brigade wrapped up in some pretty amazing ways. This edition of the Bronco Bulletin will highlight our best and as always, we look for Soldiers to share their stories with us. If you haven't had the chance to do so already, please encourage your leaders, Soldiers, family and friends to follow us on Facebook for the most up-to-date information on what's happening through the brigade.

Staff Sgt. Cashmere C. Jefferson, 3rd Brigade Combat Team Public Affairs NCOIC  
Have a story idea? Please call us at (808)655-1083

# Wardogs provide fire support at PTA

Story and photos by Staff Sgt. Cashmere C. Jefferson  
3rd Brigade Combat Team Public Affairs Office

## “FIRE MISSION”



Wardog Soldiers Staff Sgt. Rick Carlson (left to right), 105mm section chief, Sgt. James Omalley, gunner, and Spc. David Scott, assistant gunner, 3rd Battalion 7th Field Artillery Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, provide fire support with a 105mm howitzer during a “Steel” live fire exercise Nov. 6, at the Pohakuloa Training Area on Hawaii’s Big Island.

Pohakuloa Training Area--What’s the sound of artillery?

That’s been a question for Soldiers of all armies until they’ve had the opportunity to personally experience the sound.

The question was answered by Battery A, 2nd Platoon, “Wardogs,” 3rd Battalion, 7th Field Artillery Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, during a combined live-fire exercise on the Big Island, here, Nov. 6.

“Today we’re out here providing fires to 2nd Bn., 27th Inf. Regt., “No Fear”, as their units conduct a live-fire exercise on Range 10 and a convoy live-fire on Range 20,” said Lt. Col. James Lowe, commander, 3-7th FA. “And we’re supporting both missions simultaneously with our Wardogs from firing point 809.”

The Wardogs, who conducted all leader and section certifications prior to the unit’s deployment to PTA, provided 105mm fires in support of the maneuver plans of the 2-27th FA, said Lowe.

Soldiers of the 3-7th FA have been providing fire support with their 105mm howitzer for units of the Bronco Brigade throughout their PTA rotation in preparation for their next deployment.

“The forward observers are the eyes, the fire direction center is the brains, and we are the muscle,” said Staff Sgt. William Oliver, section chief, 3-7th FA.

“As soon as the infantry squad calls for fire to the fire direction center to suppress, neutralize or destroy an enemy, data is sent down to the gun line, verified by the chief of section, and the command is given to fire,” added Sgt. Lionel Ruiz, cannon crew member.

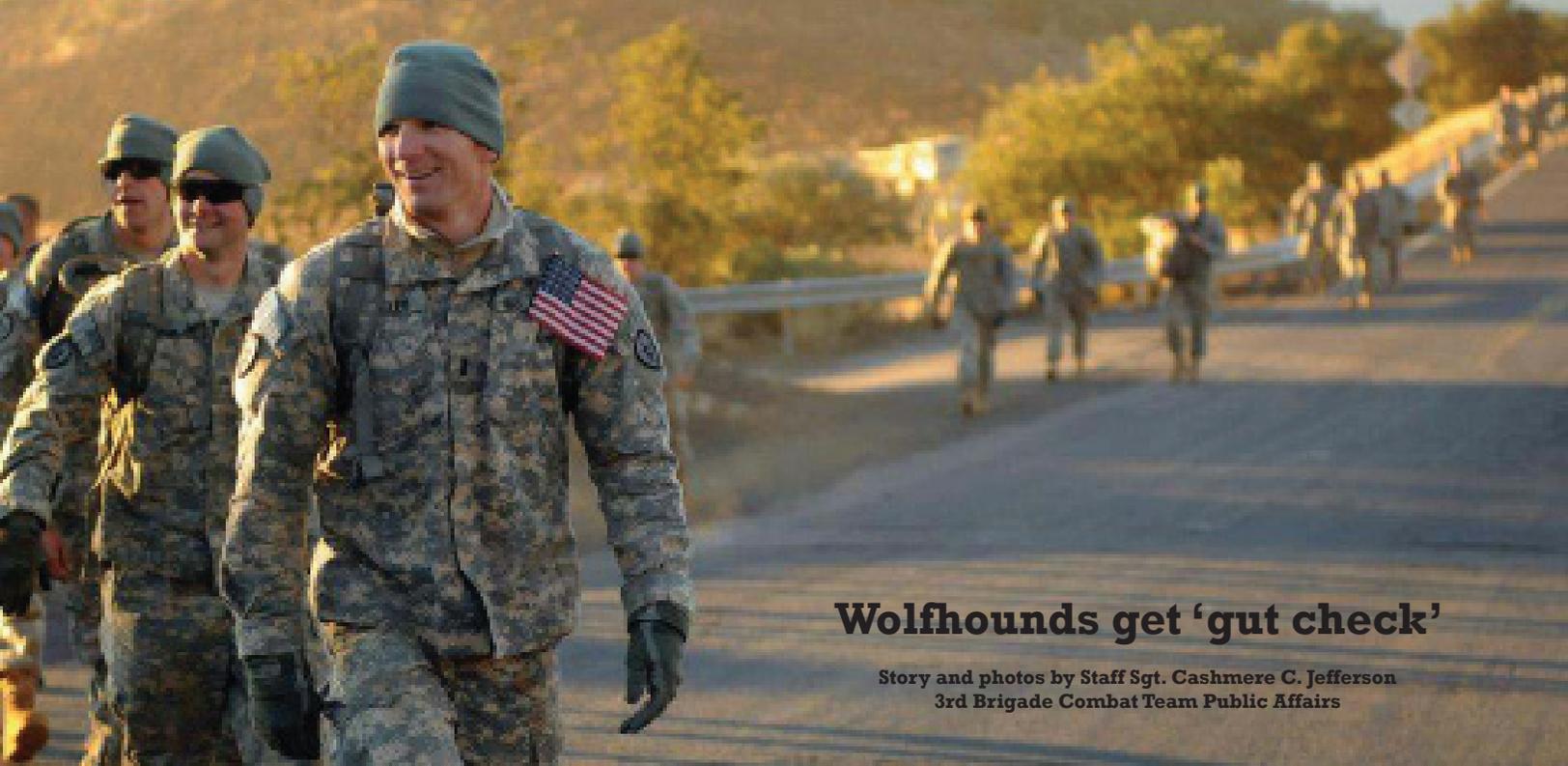
Capt. Jesse Wood, Wardogs Battery commander, emphasized that the capabilities of his unit are strong.

“We can employ two weapons systems at any given time,” said Wood.

According to doctrine, the mission of the field artillery is to integrate and deliver lethal and nonlethal fires to enable joint and maneuver commanders to dominate their operational environment across the spectrum of operations.

“My guys are ready, accurate and fully capable to support the mission of any unit with any mission called down to us,” said Wood. “We’re Wardogs.”





## Wolfhounds get ‘gut check’

Story and photos by Staff Sgt. Cashmere C. Jefferson  
3rd Brigade Combat Team Public Affairs



HILO, Hawaii — Bronco Brigade Soldiers have endured intense live fire training during their seven-week mission at the Pohakuloa Training Area on Hawaii’s Big Island; and of the most physically challenging missions they’ve faced is the 13,796 Mauna Kea summit hike, the perfect test for the “Wolfhounds”, who have “no fear on earth”.

According to Hawaiian mythology, the peaks of the island of Hawaii are sacred, and Mauna Kea is one of the most sacred. Legend has it that an ancient law only allowed high-ranking tribal chiefs to visit its peak.

It’s only fitting that 2nd Battalion 27th Infantry Regiment, “Wolfhounds”, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division’s top Noncommissioned Officer, Command Sgt. Maj. Tony E. Tuck, has hiked the 8-mile summit 3 times.

Tuck said the leaders of the Bronco Brigade wanted to ensure Soldiers are fit to fight and added, “we just want to provide the Soldiers a ‘gut check’ to give them some motivation for what they’ll be facing come deployment.

The Mauna Kea is a volcano on the island of Hawaii standing 13,796 above sea level and while much of the mountain is below sea level; when measured from its oceanic base, the total height

difference is 33,500 feet, significantly taller than the elevation of Mount Everest.

Units throughout the Bronco Brigade have hiked the mountain, culminating their training here at PTA. More than 400 Wolfhounds proved why they have “No Fear”.

2nd Lt. Richard Grue, D. Co, 2-27 Inf.; 3BCT, 25ID, platoon leader, completed the hike in a record two hours and five minutes, the fastest time in the brigade.

Spc. Kevin J. Sicilian, a fire support specialist, assigned to A. Co. 2-27 Inf., 3BCT, 25ID, said, “once I got to six miles, I had to adjust my body to the air out here, keep pace, and after I did that it was cake.”

With its high altitude, dry environment, and stable air flow, Mauna Kea’s summit is host to one of the most sophisticated collections of astronomical observation facilities in the world.

The environment surrounding the summit was no big deal to Spc. Kevin R. Greene, Command Sgt. Maj. Tuck’s driver, who’s hiked to the summit’s peak four times.

When asked why Greene has hiked the mountain so many times he said, “I can’t let the [325th Brigade Support Battalion Command Sgt. Maj.] beat 2-27. If he can do it three times, I had to do it four.”





Soldiers of the 2-35th Inf., 3rd BCT, 25th ID, march in a Veterans Day parade Nov. 10 at the Pohakuloa Training Area on Hawaii's Big Island.

## Remembered: Veterans Day commemorated in many ways

Story and Photo by Staff Sgt. Cashmere C. Jefferson  
3rd Brigade Combat Team Public Affairs

HILO, Hawaii — “It was 1944 at the time, and I was never on the ground.

“I dropped bombs all over Germany. I was proud to serve. I was part of one of the best generation of Soldiers ever.”

Those were the words of 90-year-old World War II B-24 bomber pilot Walter Huges, 93rd Bomb Group, 330th Bomber Squadron, who flew 35 special missions across Europe and marched in the Veterans Day parade, Saturday, here, alongside veterans past and present.

Hundreds of citizens, both young and old from the island of Hawaii, lined the streets to pay their respects during the parade.

Louis Roach Jr., deputy garrison commander, Pohakuloa Training Area, recalled a time in the 1960s when veterans didn't receive a parade when they got home, but were instead met with hostility.

“When we came home from Vietnam, vets didn't get welcomed like this,” Roach said.

“People would spit on us and throw stuff at

us when we got home, and at times, I felt like I didn't know what I was doing there even though I went to serve at the call of my nation. We have come a long way.”

Roach added he has served in every war since he was 18, from Vietnam to Desert Shield and Desert Storm, to Iraq and Afghanistan.

“I love my country, as I know all veterans do and would do it all over again if I got the chance,” Roach said.

Veterans from most eras of time were present, whether they were marching in the parade or standing in the streets dressed in the uniform of their service.

Soldiers of 2nd Battalion, 35th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, currently training at PTA, also marched in the parade.

Spc. Daniel Lee Joy, forward observer, Co. C, 2-35th Inf., had been deployed to Afghanistan but was able to participate in the parade.

“I come from a family of veterans, so I'm proud to be here and I'm proud to serve,” said Lee Joy.

“It felt great to be honored by the community for the sacrifices we've made and will for our country,” he added.

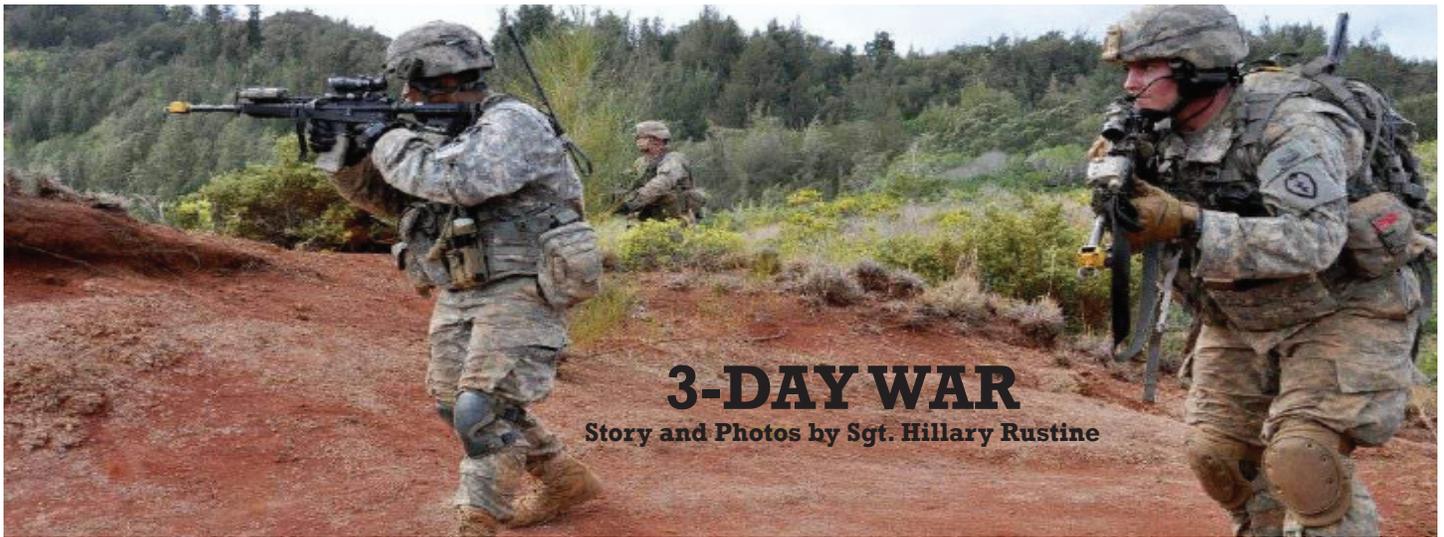
### Veterans Day Origins

Nov. 11, 1918, is generally considered the end of World War I, The Great War, and the war to end all wars.

In 1938, Congress declared Armistice Day a holiday, and, in 1954, the name changed to Veterans Day to honor all U.S. veterans.

Honoring veterans on Nov. 11 not only preserves the historical significance of the date, but also helps focus attention on its purpose to honor America's veterans for their patriotism, love of country and willingness to serve and sacrifice for freedom.

The Army's theme for Veterans Day was “Soldier for Life.”



## 3-DAY WAR

Story and Photos by Sgt. Hillary Rustine

### *Whoever gets the objective first wins...*

KAHUKU TRAINING AREA — Looking out over the breathtaking view from a mountainside on Oahu, they received the word: “You’re all dead!”

Straining their eyes, the squad had to decipher if the swaying of the trees was the breeze or Soldiers silently approaching through the treacherous territory.

Warriors of 2nd Battalion, 27th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, conducted a “Three-Day War,” a squad force-on-force training exercise, Nov. 13-16.

“The event is designed to evaluate the squad leader’s ability to synchronize the actions of his fire teams, operate within the commander’s intent and dynamically adapt to unforeseen circumstances,” said Capt. Jonathan Leiter, Plans, 2-27th Inf. Regt., 3rd BCT.

The squads executed two missions per day. The goal was to put squad leaders in posi-

lasting two hours each, with each company in the battalion rotating squads during the three days to every station, for more diversified training. During periods of darkness, squads conducted patrol-based activities to train for low-light and uneven landscape patrols.

“Squad leaders are receiving the same mission, and briefed that the opposing squad is the enemy. Each lane consisted of looking for high-value targets, downed military equipment or captured personnel, and recovering them,” said Spc. Mark Pulver, gun team, Company C, 2-27th Inf. Regt. “This is to test each squad leader for creativity, ingenuity ... and allows squad leaders to direct their team leaders to accomplish the mission.”

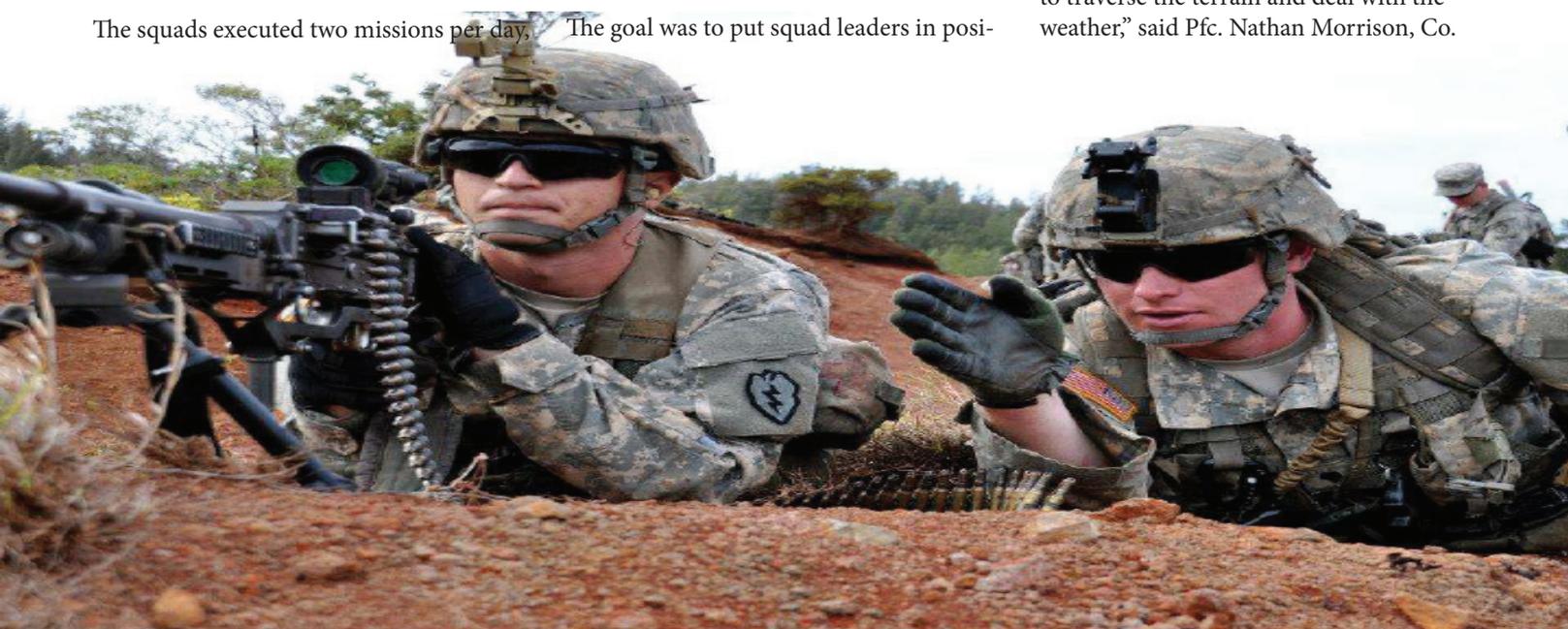
Staff Sgt. Benjamin George (left) and Spc. Wyatt Arndt, both from Co. A, 2-27th, 3rd BC Team, 25th ID, make their way to the objective during the Wolfhound Squad vs. Squad Three Day War, Nov. 15.

tions to make decisions that they normally wouldn’t in a training situation. These decisions have real consequences opposite a live force that is equal or greater than their number with similar training and resources.

“It’s fun because we get to play against each other. It’s like capture the flag; whoever gets the objective first wins,” said Pulver. According to most of the participants, the hardest part was the terrain. The challenges were staying several days on a mountain while wearing gear the entire time, negotiating the steep mountainsides and reacting to contact in that environment.

Simultaneously, the battalion’s reconnaissance platoon conducted a three-day zone reconnaissance exercise focused on locating and determining the composition and capabilities of the squads.

“I think it’s good training; it gives me more confidence because I am learning to traverse the terrain and deal with the weather,” said Pfc. Nathan Morrison, Co.



# New Zealand soldiers and Bayonet



# ets strengthen ties in Koru Kiwi



# YEAR IN REVIEW

## Broncos close out year in Afghanistan; welcome new command team and train

By Staff Sgt. Cashmere C. Jefferson, 3rd Brigade Combat Team Public Affairs



SCHOFIELD BARRACKS, Hawaii—The 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, made up of some 3,500 Soldiers, had some tearful moments, historic runs, awards, and record setting milestones. Take a moment to look back at their year, remembering everything that makes them the brigade they are today.

Soldiers of the 3rd BCT, 25th ID, returned home after completing a yearlong deployment to the eastern region of Afghanistan in March, fighting for more than a year in the toughest terrain, ever assigned to the U.S. Army.

The Bronco's worked tirelessly to develop the capabilities and confidence of their Afghan partners and provided overwatch to more than 500 miles of shared border with Pakistan.

Following a successful deployment the unit redeployed safely but not without loss.

In May, the unit unveiled the newly erected Bronco Memorial with the names of 71 Soldiers lost in the brigade's previous deployments to Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom, engraved in

white on the dark granite of the memorial. At the end of the month the Bronco also dedicated a memorial room, located inside the brigades headquarters, celebrating the legacy and accomplishments of its Fallen Soldiers.

For gallantry displayed in the battles fought in the mountains of Afghanistan, two Soldiers, Spc. Craig Middleton, 3rd Squadron, 4th Cavalry Regiment, 3rd BCT, 25th ID, and Spc. Jeffrey Conn, 2nd Battalion, 27th Infantry Regiment, 3rd BCT, 25th ID, were awarded the Silver Star in a ceremony, June 18, for marked heroism in combat while supporting Operation Enduring Freedom XII.

For two years Col. Richard Kim, and Command Sgt. Maj. Andrew Spano expertly commanded the Broncos finally bid farewell in July, welcoming Col. Brian S. Eifler and Command Sgt. Maj. David M. Clark, as the new leaders of the brigade.

Under the new leadership of Eifler and Clark, the Broncos have trained vigorously conducting live fire exercises, sling load operations, situation training exercises, and field training exercises on Oahu and on Hawaii's Big Island.

The unit has also conducted security operations in New Zealand and tactical operations center simulations with the Screaming Eagles in Fort Campbell.

Lastly, the Bronco Brigade concluded the year winning the 25th ID's "Best Dining Facility" recognition for its award winning cuisine, and the best is still yet to come.

# Bronco Chaplain Corner

I hope that you the BCT family have experienced a wonderful Holiday season and a much needed rest from all the hard work that you have performed this last month. We have been busy the month of December by doing Strong Bonds events at local hotels. During one two week period we saw one hundred and twenty couples. These events were a success because our BCT families were interactive and candid about anything and everything that they were going through. As I told them I want to tell you how proud I am of you and your sacrifice for the BCT, the Division, and the Army. You have done things that only show that this military life is a calling for you. As you reflect perhaps on New Year's Day of the events of the last year, pat yourself on the back and be encouraged and realize that you accomplished what only one percent of the American public accomplished by your service to the nation.

3BCT, 25th ID QTR Strong Bonds Event Dates, locations of hotels still pending.

3BSTB: Jan. 24-25; 60 singles

3-4 CAV: Jan. 31- Feb 1; 60 singles

3-7 FA: Feb, 1-2; 60 singles

2-35 INF: Jan-25-26; 30 singles

325 BSB: Feb. 14-16; 30 couples

3-4 CAV: Feb. 14-16; 30 couples

3-7FA: Feb. 7-9; 30 couples

2-35 INF: Feb 20-22; 30 couples

HHC Bde: Feb 21-22; 30 singles

3 BSTB: Feb 22-24; 30 couples

2-27 INF: Feb 21-23; 30 couples

325 BSB: Feb 22-23; 60 singles

Bronco Chaplain: Chaplain (MAJ) Bob Crowley Office (808)655-8441

Wolfhound Chaplain: Chaplain (CPT) Kwon Office (808)655-4921

Cacti Chaplain: Chaplain (CPT) Miller Office (808)655-5012

Raiders Chaplain: Chaplain (CPT) McCarney Office (808)655-7343

Steel Chaplain: Chaplain (CPT) Jo Park Office (808)655-5519

Mustang Chaplain: Chaplain (CPT) Fryer Office (808)655-4920

Bayonet Chaplain: Chaplain (CPT) Turner Office (808)655-7889



# FAMILY READINESS GROUP NEWS & UPDATES

**3rd Brigade has added 5 new Family Readiness Support Assistants (FRSA) to support Y-O-U!**

## •UPCOMING EVENTS



**Spouse Pre-Deployment Brief  
4-6 February/Wheeler Gulch**

Your opportunity to receive lots of information, resources and make contact with the agencies here that will make sure that the upcoming mission will be successful for all of us.

**•Why do I need a Power of Attorney?**

**•What is a Blue Star Card?**

**•Receive your "FREE" Deployment Kit**

**•Is Space A Travel Free?**

**Get these important questions and others answered by the Experts... at the Fair**



## Grief Training

**For Senior Advisors and Casualty Response Training (CRT) Volunteers.**

**20 Feb: 325 BSB/ Classroom 3**

**5:30pm-8:30pm**

**&**

**28 Feb: Main Post Chapel Annex**

**9am-12noon**





# Bronco Upcoming Events

**9th Mission Support Command will host the Martin Luther King Observance 2013**

**Where: 9th MSC Assembly Hall, Bldg 1554, Fort Shafter Flats**

**When: Jan. 16, 2013 10:30-12:00 am**

**With Guest Speaker: Dr. Dwayne Priester**

**Please contact Sgt. 1st Class Jerry Maynard (808)438-1600 for more information**



**Date:**

**February 2nd**

**Start Time:**

**8:00 AM**

**Located at:**

Intersection of Hauula Street and Trimble Road; 1492 Trimble rd Schofield Barracks Hawaii, 96857

- Free of charge
- Donations accepted for the Bronco Memorial Association
- Contact Ann Gibson for details (910) 551-3836

## *Bronco Remembrance Run*

# RUN FOR A REASON

*5K/10 K run up Kole Kole Pass at Schofield Barracks w/ Keiki run*



Brigade Recognition Ceremony  
Sgt. Smith Theater  
9:30 am

Soldier Cohesian Day  
Jan. 31 12:00 noon

Spouse Pre-Deployment Fair  
Monday Feb. 4  
8:30 - 1200 noon  
1:00 - 5:00 pm

Tuesday Feb. 5  
8:30 - 1200 noon  
1:00 - 5:00 pm (2-35 IN)

Wednesday Feb. 6  
8:30 - 1200 noon (2-27IN)  
1:00 - 5:00 pm (3-7FA)

**CRT Training** for Chaplain, Sr. Advisors, and volunteers

Wednesday Feb. 20  
5:30-8:30 pm

Monday Feb. 28  
9:00 - 12:00 pm

The Cacti is hosting "Take Arms Day" Feb. 28 from 0900 - 1300 for spouse...let the fun times roll!

*All Donations and T-Shirt Sales to Benefit*

*The Bronco Memorial Association!*

