

Voice of the

4th Quarter 2009, Issue #2

# DRAGON



The official quarterly newsletter for Soldiers, Civilians and Families of 36th Signal Battalion serving in the Republic of Korea

## MERCURY PRIDE IV DRAGON SPIRIT I

## UFG 09 KICKS OFF WITH WARRIOR STORM II



Photo by Pfc. Ashley Franklin



DRAGON SHIELD PAGE 7



TOWER CERTIFICATION



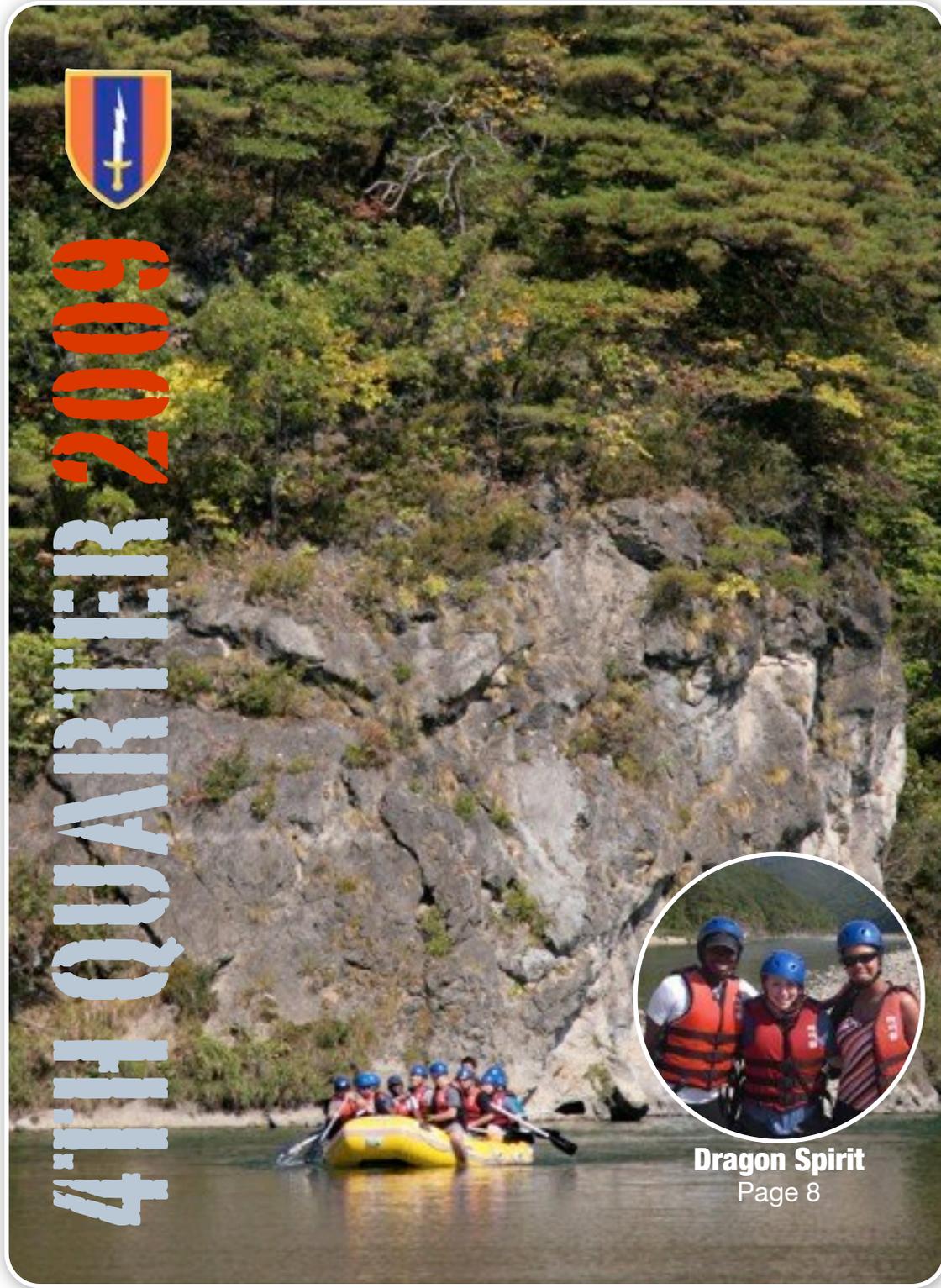
UFG 09



COMBINED FEDERAL CAMPAIGN Begins Oct. 1, 2009



# 6002 SIGNAL BATTALION 4TH SIGNAL BRIGADE



**Dragon Spirit**  
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## VOICE OF THE DRAGON

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# DRAGON'S CORNER



Lt. Col. Mark E. Rosenstein, 19th Commander, 36th Signal Battalion



Greetings to all "Dragons!" Over the past quarter each of you contributed immeasurably to the overall success of the battalion. The

last 90 days were fast and furious; I'm very proud of the effort each of you provided. Highlights of the past 90 days remind each of us just how much we have achieved - Warrior Storm, Ulchi Freedom Guardian '09, RSOI of the 307<sup>th</sup> Signal Battalion from Hawaii, Semi-Annual Training Brief to the Eighth Army Commander, Brigade Senior Leader Training, Mercury Pride and the run over the Ban-Po bridge, Visit by the Army CIO/G6 (CSM Desjardins), Single Soldier Retreats, Manpower Assessments, Welcoming of the 14<sup>th</sup> Signal Detachment, USAG-Daegu Safety Inspection, NETCOM/9<sup>th</sup> ASC IG Inspection, Unit Cultural Awareness trips, Quarterly Training Brief to the Brigade Commander, Qualification Ranges, Dragon Spirit I and Dragon Shield I. In one way or another, each of you contributed to the success of one or more of these events. Teamwork is our strength!

During this quarter, we lost two members of our battalion family -- Mr. Kim, Hung Sok from the 501<sup>st</sup> Signal Company and Mrs. Betty Warren from the 293<sup>rd</sup> Signal Company. I would like

to honor their memory with a quote from Hermann Broch, "No one's death comes to pass without making some impression, and those close to the deceased inherit part of the liberated soul and become richer in their humanness." Please take a moment to reflect on your loved ones and cherish the moments you have with them.

As we transition to fall and eventually to winter, I ask each of you to think about safety. As colder weather approaches, so does the chance for cold weather injuries. Please take time to read the Battalion Winter Safety



*Pvt. Clark pulls security at Salem HLZ in support of battalion OPERATION DRAGON SHIELD*

Campaign which touches on issues such as the effects and signs of cold weather injuries, winter driving and proper winter clothing/equipment.

At this time, I would like to take a moment to welcome all new personnel and families. You have joined a great organization and are part of a strong team. We value the knowledge and experience you bring to the 36<sup>th</sup> Signal Battalion. As you acclimatize in the "Land of the Morning Calm" I encourage you to take time to get

settled and learn your way around your new environment. Please complete all in-processing steps to ensure the best quality of work and personal life. Take time to learn about Community Services such as Army Community Services as well as local customs, courtesies and shopping areas. Please do not hesitate to ask any of us for help - We are a team!

The coming quarter brings several key training events and holidays. October provides opportunities to "catch-up" on unit maintenance while November brings a brigade range week and December closes with Dragon Shield II. In between the training events Halloween, Thanksgiving and Christmas are fast approaching; I look forward to sharing in the "Holiday Spirit" with all of you.

To close, I simply want to reiterate how proud I am to serve you as Commander of such a fantastic organization. I ask each of you to always think and act **SAFELY**; travel with your "Fire Team" and watch yourselves around alcohol, drugs and other harmful influences; be alert to curfews; treat family, friends and others with **Dignity** and **Respect**; and for Leaders to ensure end-of-week, "Under the Oak Tree," counseling is conducted. Who we are as individuals and as an organization is up to us - "If we can dream it, we can achieve it!" - Let's reach for our highest potential and make our assignment in Korea an experience of a lifetime. Please enjoy this quarters "Voice of the Dragon"

"Dragon 6"



# BN END OF FY09 RUN



Photo by Lan Dalat



1st Sgt. Michael Payne, 293d Signal Co. First Sergeant follows the lead of the battalion  
Cmd. Sgt. Maj. Harry Mercado.

Lt. Col. Rosenstein leads the battalion on a three mile run inside Camp Walker during the Quarterly Battalion Run on Sept. 29, 2009.

## Meaning of the Battalion

**Crest:** Orange and white are the colors symbolic of the Signal Corps. The lion is from the Arms of Normandy where the Battalion participated in WWII. The blue and white bells refer to signaling. The Dragon is representative of Vietnam where the Battalion participated in twelve campaigns. The torch and lightning flashes are symbolic of the Signal Corps. Red stands for courage and sacrifice while gold is emblematic of excellence.

**Coin (front):** Blue signifies vigilance. The Korean characters, Left/Right, mean: Courage and Sacrifice. The coins gold background represents excellence. On the coins edge are the patches for the Battalion's Major Command, NETCOM/9<sup>th</sup> Army Signal Command, and its Higher Headquarters, 1<sup>st</sup> Signal Brigade. At the bottom of the coin is the Battalion motto, "Standard Bearers!"



**Coin (back):** Around the top of the coin is listed the year the Battalion was activated in the Republic of Korea (ROK). Around the bottom are the campaigns the Battalion participated in. In the center of the coin is the Dragon as well as all currently assigned units. The Call Sign for the Battalion is "Dragon" and thus "Dragon 6" and "Dragon 7" represent the Commander and Command Sergeant Major respectively. The coin is presented for a "Standard of Excellence."





# BN COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR'S MINUTE

Command Sgt. Maj. Harry Mercado, 36th Signal Battalion, Camp Walker, Daegu



**Harry Mercado**  
CSM, US Army  
Command Sergeant  
Major

Greeting once again to all the Soldiers, KATUSAs, Civilians and families of the mighty 36th Signal Battalion. I want to reiterate what I said last quarter, I am honored to be your Command Sergeant Major and serve

side by side with each and every one of you. The entire Dragon team makes me extremely proud when I say I belong to the 36th Signal Battalion.

The past quarter has been an extremely busy one for us all. Warrior Storm and Ulchi Freedom Guardian (UFG) was our main effort. I will say that everyone lived up to our motto "Standard Bearers" by (our critical role) enabling the best Command and Control from the "D" to the Sea. There were many other event that brought out the meaning of Team Work. The training leading up to and during Dragon Shied showed the combat effectiveness that our Soldiers posses.

Many other training events that I could talk of were completed in the same fashion "outstanding". The arrival of the 14th Signal Detachment Headquarters to Camp Walker was completed to true Dragon fashion as well, Welcome aboard "Locked in Tight". The quarter ended in true Dragon fashion with a Battalion Run and lunch time BBQ. I want to thank everyone for the support, it was truly a great time. Additionally, I want thank the NCOs who worked so hard to put that event together for the entire team. The coming quarter will bring more challenging and meaningful training events. Also, the holiday season is this quarter; I want everyone to enjoy the season and give thanks for the many Blessings we have.

I want to recognize a few heros, who have exceeded the standard this past quarter. NCO of the quarter CPL Emerson, David (169). Soldier of the quarter PFC Johnson, Charity (169). KATUSA of the quarter PFC Han, Jin

Hyun (HHD S4), These heros will compete at the Brigade Board 5-8 October. The competition at these boards continues to challenge our best of the best. Hailing and fare-welling is always bitter-sweet. I know we have a page dedicated for our hellos and good byes but I want to thank a few senior NCOs for their dedicated service during their tenure in the Dragon

Battalion and I wish them well in their future endeavors. 1SG Michael Payne and SFC Anissa Cox-Holt, you will both be missed. I welcome the following senior NCOs and their families to our great team, they have already made an impact on the continued success of the Battalion. MSG(P) Robert Brown (S3 SGM), 1SG Eric Crayton (293rd 1SG), MSG Davis Tyrone (currently visiting), SFC David DeVaughn (14th Detachment Sergeant), SFC Wanda Tapp-Kratzer (S-4 NCOIC), SFC Denise Shelton (OPS CEN NCOIC), SFC James Robinson (293rd SATCOM), SSG(P) Carlos Rosado (OPS CEN).



In closing I want everyone to enjoy the time off that is associated with the months of November and December. Please Keep your fellow Soldiers, co-workers and families safe, now and always. I am proud of the entire team. Thank you all for everything you do everyday.



Cmd Sgt. Maj Harry Mercado joins Capt. Spence Calder, 1st Sgt. Michael Payne, Soldiers and ROK Navy officers at ROK Navy base in Busan during Ulchi Freedom Guardian theater exercise.

"Standard Bearers"



# FIRE CRACKER RUN

Celebrating the Fourth of July in Daegu

# FINISH



Photo by Minnie Dalat

Soldiers and Families from the 36th Signal Battalion celebrate their glorious finish!

*Story by Lt Bridgette Navejar*

The Fourth of July is well known for relaxing, barbecues and fireworks. However, firecrackers were on the minds of a group of 36<sup>th</sup> Signal Battalion Soldiers who competed in The Kelly Fitness Center's Firecracker 5 Kilometer Run/2 mile walk at Camp Walker, Daegu. All participants awoke early from their weekend slumber to register for the event at 7:30. The 36<sup>th</sup> Signal Battalion showed outstanding support for the race by encouraging participation of Soldiers and Family members. As the shot gun signaling the start of the race shattered the land of the morning calm, runners and walkers took off on the designated course.

Staff Sgt Kathryn Zenj-Ra of the Battalion S1 participated in the two mile walk portion and stepped up the challenge by pushing a stroller carrying her 10 month old triplet daughters, Hannah, Tatiyanah and Kaylin. The Zenj-Ra girls were dressed for the occasion in matching strawberry outfits and floppy hats. A surprising participant was Danny Dalat, the 10 year old son of Maj Lan Dalat, the Battalion Executive Officer. Danny ran the entire 5K course in under 30 minutes! Maj Dalat and son had a nice father-son run and it was apparent that Maj Dalat was proud of his son, "I want to

support my son on his first 5K race. He did more than my expectation. He finished and won the first place trophy for Youth category. It's the best birthday present he has given to himself."

Throughout the Battalion, approximately 20 Soldiers and Family members participated in the Firecracker Fun Run. Staff Sgt. Alejandro Fuentes of the maintenance support team saw the relay as a great family event and brought his wife Merlinda, and two young daughters Genevieve, 6 years, and Maya, 18 months. "The firecracker 5K runner was an energetic run. It was a great way to start off the day; my family was willing to partake in the event. In the end we felt better and glad we made the effort for the run," noted Staff Sgt Fuentes.

The Soldiers of the "Standard Bearers" Battalion led the way with seven individuals winning first and second place trophies for their age brackets. Danny Dalat, the only youth runner, was very impressed with his trophy, which was evident by his large grin, and proudly declared "I did it!" The Firecracker 5K ended with a bang as signal-orange T-shirts were dispersed to the participants and the "Standard Bearers" took off to light up the grills in celebration of the Fourth of July.

## CAREER COUNSELOR

During the past Fiscal Year the 36<sup>th</sup> Signal Battalion accomplished its retention objectives in every category. Many of you probably ask, what the retention objective is, don't Soldiers just reenlist as they desire or ETS and retire at their choosing-not necessarily.



Steven Gedemer  
Sgt. First Class  
Career Counselor

The United States Congress allows each branch of the military to be only "so strong"; this is where the term end-strength comes from. Currently the Army is allowed to have 562,400 Soldiers in its ranks. This of course is accomplished through recruiting, retention, and then attrition. All of these three components need to operate together to ensure the Army maintains its required "end-strength" without exceeding it.

What does this mean to you? It is your signal that the Army is a competitive environment no different than that of a Fortune 500 Company. Each and every one of you from day one has been competing with each other, from selecting your MOS to promotions. Just like you would in civilian employment you must ensure that you are meeting and hopefully exceeding the standard in every way you possibly can. Unlike your civilian counterparts you have numerous ways to accomplish this such as, weapons qualification, APFT, military and civilian schooling, volunteer work, and these are just to name a few.

As we embark on the new FY I encourage each and every one of you to be proactive in your careers. When it comes to reenlistment bonuses and options, the early bird will get the worm. This FY it is already projected that the Army will once again slow down reenlistment and possibly suspend them as they did in June of this year. Once again this is where that term "end strength" comes in. When the Army is able to recruit and retain Soldiers as the past FY has shown, it must balance this within the limits that Congress gives it. As many of you know this is why Soldiers who are retirement eligible and have derogatory information in their file are being told they must retire.



# SHIELDING THEATER COMMUNICATIONS

Story by Lt. Col. Mark Rosenstein

Photo by Maj. Lan Dalat



Soldiers make movement to Carroll Helicopter Landing Zone in preparation for the mission on objective Salem, a remote communications Site.

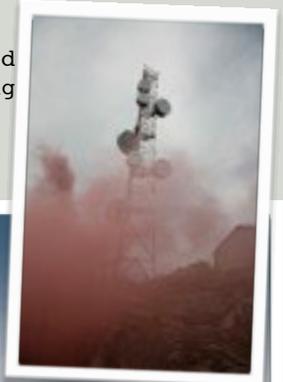
DAEGU, Korea - 24-25 September 2009 the 36<sup>th</sup> Signal Battalion, Camp Walker, Daegu conducted DRAGON SHIELD I, a battalion semi-annual exercise designed to rapidly deploy security and maintenance personnel from garrison locations to remote "mountain-top" transmission sites supporting the Theater Defense Communication Systems (DCS) infrastructure. The 36<sup>th</sup> Signal Battalion has a 24 hour-a-day, 7 day-a-week, 365 day-a-year mission to operate, maintain and defend the DCS network which includes the Defense Switched Network (DSN) as well as transmission mediums carrying all digital traffic, including Wide Area Network (WAN) services such as e-mail, supporting the lower two thirds of the Korean peninsula. The 36<sup>th</sup> Signal Battalion, which consists of a Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment (Camp Walker), the 14<sup>th</sup> Signal Detachment (Camp Walker), the 169<sup>th</sup> Signal Company (Camp Walker), the 293<sup>rd</sup> Signal Company (Camp Carroll) and the 501<sup>st</sup> Signal Company (Camp Humphreys) enable Command, Control, Computer, Communications, Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance (C4ISR) throughout the lower two thirds of the peninsula to

support the Commander United Nations Command (UNC), Combined Forces Command (CFC), United States Forces Korea (USFK) and Eighth Field Army's ability to lead, direct and maneuver available forces during armistice, crisis and war.

Remote mountain-top communications sites are not new to the Signal Corps, especially in South Korea. After the armistice between North and South Korea was signed on 27 July 1953, many remote mountain-top communications sites were established to support command and control of U.S. Forces operating on the peninsula. At that time, many of these remote sites were in austere locations built with interlocking bunker fortifications and were reachable only by rotary wing assets. These sites were manned 24 hours-a-day, 7 days-a-week, 365 days-a-year and included operations, maintenance, security and life support capabilities. Today, as a result of time and technology, operating conditions have changed allowing these remote communications sites to operate without a permanent cadre of on-site personnel.

(Cont. on page 22)

Salem remote site is covered by smoke during the assault.



2nd Lt. Rory Abbazio checks the perimeter of Salem HLZ after a successful dismount of more than 25 Soldiers.

# DRAGON SPIRIT: RIVER RAFTING



Photo by Hi-One Staff

Officers and Soldiers participate in Dragon Spirit: River Rafting event to enhance esprit de corps and stress management



Photo by Lt. Col. Mark Rosenstein

Officers ride the rubber boat down Dong-gang river in Korea



Photo by Lan Dalat

Officers conduct the stress management training and discussion during a rest stop

## Refreshing the Spirit *by Lt. Col. Mark Rosenstein*

On 29 September 2009 officers of the 36<sup>th</sup> Signal Battalion, Camp Walker, Daegu conducted DRAGON SPIRIT I, an exercise designed to help leaders refresh their spirit, build confidence, develop friendships and strengthen unit esprit de corps. The event, built around a river rafting adventure, took leaders 3.5 hours northeast of Daegu to the Dong-gang River in Gangwon Province. This region was selected for its scenic beauty, wildlife and spiritual serenity. Nestled beneath the Taebaek Mountains, the waters of the Dong-gang are clean, clear and stimulating.

Upon arrival leaders divided in to two 10-man teams, conducted “warm-up” drills, acclimatized to the brisk river water and learned a few basic paddling techniques. Several of the warm-up drills were new to the group who had fun working with each other and the Korean guides. The water temperature, about 58 degrees, quickly gained everyone’s attention. Shortly after water acclimatization events, both teams grabbed their rafts and

launched on a 3.5 hour journey down one of South Korea’s most renowned river valleys.

During their journey, teams conducted various team building events such as exiting and entering rafts while mid-stream, learning to paddle in cadence and racing. The events allowed officers to work together, build trust and overcome fears. For CPT Nashuma Knight, the event was a life changing opportunity as she was heard saying, “My mother will never believe I did this.” After about 1.5 hours of paddling and team building events, the group pulled-up along a serene sandy bank to rest and conduct experiential training. Leaders were asked to describe what leadership meant to them and to provide one stress management technique they used to help improve their spiritual fitness. This was probably the most poignant element of the day as every officer, including the most senior, learned by listening and reflecting on the experiences of others.

*(Cont. on page 25)*



Photo by SGT Im Woo Hyun





# LIGHTNING CORNER

Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, Camp Walker, Daegu



**Nashuma R. Knight**  
Captain, Signal Corps  
Commander

Dear Spouses, Family Members, and friends of the HHD, 36th Signal Battalion.

The First Sergeant and I are proud of being a part of the Standard Bearer Battalion. The opportunity to lead and take care of Soldiers is truly an honor and privilege and we are enjoying the Army experience in a wonderful country that has opened its arms to our Soldiers and their families. To the Soldiers and their families,

thanks for your outstanding service to the battalion and the community. You are truly ambassadors for our nation. Continue to be courteous, conscientious and mindful of our Korean hosts and always think before you act. HHD has been extremely active over the last few months with the completion of a successful Warrior Storm II/ Ulchi Freedom Guardian exercise, as well as Mercury Pride IV, further enhancing our unit's ability to be prepared to "fight tonight." Recently we completed Dragon Week, a week of planned training designed to enhance the

warrior skills of our Soldiers and take them away from the usual hustle and bustle of daily operations. Some of our focuses have been range certification on all of our weapons systems, continued support and diligence of our monthly Good Neighbor Program "Feed the Needy," and preparation for the upcoming Installation Force Protection Exercise for the Daegu Garrison, in addition to the upcoming Holidays. We also recently had a Warrior Leaders Course graduate, SGT Julie Stephens, whom we are very proud of. Also, SGT Showes (P) and his wife recently rededicated their vows to each other. Again, many thanks goes to the spouses and family member who support our Soldiers whether they are here with their spouse or residing back in the states. Your unwavering support and dedication is greatly appreciated.

We would also like welcome Sgt. 1st Class Moore as the Detachment Sergeant. Every Soldier is critical to the overall mission accomplishment of our unit. We thank you for the support and dedication you have shown to the unit and we encourage you keep it up.

"Lightning 6"  
"Move by Fire, Led by Lightning."

## FRG MEETING

*First Wednesday of each month  
at 6 o'clock pm  
Pizza will be provided*

October 7, 2009  
November 4, 2009  
December 2, 2009

Spec. Tidwell and Pvt. Berry serve lunch for more than 600 elderly and needy people of Daegu at Duryu Park as part of the Korean Red Cross and U. S. Army Good Neighbor Program.



# LIFE SAVING LESSONS

By: Pfc. Bianca Martin

It was a misty Monday morning on Camp Henry as a group of twenty-eight soldiers made their way to the Education Center. Some of them did not realize that in a few days they face a prickly rite of passage. Combat Life Saver training was the three day mission for a handful of soldiers from the "Standard Bearers" Battalion.



Pvt. Matthew Eddy and Spc. Robert Barham

The course covered the basic skills needed to treat wounded comrades on the battlefield through Tactical Combat Casualty Care. The main focus of TC3 is to save preventable deaths, prevent further deaths, and to continue the mission. Most preventable deaths on the battlefield result from either hemorrhage from an extremity,

tension pneumothorax (collapsed lung), or an airway obstruction. The

class

focused on ways to treat those three conditions.

After an extensive presentation on bandaging, body positioning and ways to assess the casualty, the class moved to specific procedures that the

Combat Life Saver can perform. Staff

Sgt. Joseph Aprile the CLS instructor, livened the PowerPoint presentations with anecdotes of his personal experience as a medic.

While under fire, the only procedure a CLS trained soldier can perform is the application of a tourniquet.

This could mean life or death for a casualty; according to the class presentation, 60% of preventable battlefield deaths result from hemorrhaging from an extremity. The class

progressed to the tension pneumothorax, which accounts for 33% of preventable battlefield deaths. A needle decompression is performed on the afflicted lung by inserting a needle with a catheter between the second and third ribs. This lifesaving procedure can

quickly alleviate the pressure caused by a penetrating chest wound. 6% of battlefield deaths are a result of an

airway obstruction, so soldiers were taught how to identify and remove obstructions as well as how to insert a nasopharyngeal airway. The climax of CLS training, a rite of passage for many as well as the final test,



was the insertion of a saline lock.

Often times when a casualty has lost substantial amounts of blood, they run the risk of suffering from hypovolemic shock. The best way to prevent this is by administering fluids directly into the blood system. The final test for soldiers was to successfully insert a saline lock into a live subject: their classmates. "The most important thing in CLS is confidence, to be able to do the correct thing when the real thing happens," observed Pfc. Walter Myers. Under the supervision of Staff Sgt. Aprile, all soldiers successfully initiated a saline lock and completed their tasks.

"CLS is important because it can save your battle buddy during times of war," said Pvt. Xavier Clanton, when asked about CLS. CLS training is not only a useful tool for reducing preventable battlefield deaths...but also a reflection of a long held value of never leaving a fallen comrade.

## RE-UP GOALS

- (1) Reenlist, on a long-term basis, sufficient numbers of highly qualified Active Army Soldiers.
- (2) Enlist, or transfer and assign sufficient numbers of highly qualified Soldiers who are separating from the Active Army into RC units, consistent within geographic constraints.
- (3) Achieve and maintain Army force alignment through the retention, transfer, or enlistment of highly qualified Soldiers in critical skills and locations.
- (4) Adequately support special programs such as the U.S. Military Academy Preparatory School (USMAPS) and ROTC "Green to Gold" programs.



# 36TH SIGNAL BATTALION *in Action*

Photos by Maj Lan Dalat



1st Lt. Rene Rodriguez takes aim of his M9 after receiving instruction from Maj. Chuck McGarry during the Officer Professional Development.



Spec. Jordan weaves himself over and under the obstacle

Right: CSM Mercado gives 14th Sig Det. responsibility to SFC DeVaughn.



Below: HHD Soldiers conduct Combat Taekwondo during the morning physical fitness.



36th Sig. Bn. Soldiers tour the Korean War National Museum in Seoul as part of Mercury Pride IV



The three battalion field grade officers take a pause at the top of Salem remote site following the Dragon Shield mission.



Chaplain (Capt) Joon Ahn conducts the Remembrance Ceremony at Camp Humphreys, Pyongtaek to honor Mr. Kim Hung Sok, 501st Sig. Co. Korean National employee who died of cancer on July 8.





Lt. Col. Rosenstein inspects a Soldier's Class A uniform during 1st Signal Brigade Mercury Pride IV at Collier Field, Yongsan Garrison, Seoul, Korea



Maj. Chuck McGarry inputs an event onto the long range calendar during the battalion strategic planning session.





Photo by Sgt. Im, Woo Hyun

Sgt. Wright observes the target as a Soldier launches an M203 round down Masan Range on Sept. 22, 2009.



Photo by Mr. Kim, Kyo Hon

Battalion officers and spouses participate in the 12th Annual Korean - American Friendship Circle Dinner at the Interburgo - EXCO in Daegu where college students and American sponsors exchange cultural experiences.



Photo by Maj. Lan T. Dalat





Cmd. Sgt. Maj Ronald Desjardin, CIO/G6 Cmd. Sgt. Maj. visits Signal Soldiers at the battalion prior to his retirement.



Lt Col Mark Rosenstein picks a slice of meat from the chef at Mercado Brazilian Steak House in Gangnam, Seoul where he dined with Company Commanders, First Sergeants and Staff following the training in Seoul.



Capt Nashuma Knight, Amy DeVries, Minnie and Hanna Dalat, Capt Maia Susuico, and 1st Sgt Dominique Davis strike a pose at Mercado Steak House in Seoul.



Soldiers from Task Force Dragon attend the New Horizon Training at the Fellowship Hall, Camp Walker, Daegu on July 23



Spec. Reynolds installs the TACSAT antenna on the roof of the Bn Hq. in preparation for Dragon Shield.



photo by Sgt. Im Woo Hyun

Staff Sgt. Tony Fullwood observes the target as a Soldier fires an M249 light machine gun down Masan range.



Photo by Cpt. Nashuma Knight

Sgt. 1st Class Tapp-Kratzer puts a piece of fruit onto a meal tray that a volunteer will deliver to an elderly person at Duryu Park, Daegu.





# TITAN CORNER

14th Signal Detachment, Camp Walker, Daegu



**Brittianè Staton**  
Captain, Signal Corps  
Commander

It is a great honor for Joseph, Jaylen and I to join the Titan family here in the "Land of the Morning Calm." 3 August 2009 signified the transition of 14th Signal

Detachment Change Of Command Ceremony in Seoul, Korea. 14th Signal Detachment was constituted 18 February 1944 as 14th Signal Radar Maintenance Unit and earned the Meritorious Unit Commendation (Army) for Korea and Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation for Korea. Since that time, 14th Signal Detachment has evolved into the Theater COMSEC Logistics Support Center-Korea (TCLSC-K).

7 August 2009, 14th Signal Detachment became a part of 36th Signal Battalion "Standard Bearers."

This was significant change for 14th Signal Detachment as our Headquarters moved from Camp Coiner, Seoul to Camp Walker, Daegu. Our daily operation locations for our Detachment are now located in three geographical locations on the Korean Peninsula: 14th Signal Detachment Headquarters, Camp Walker, Daegu, COMSEC Management Camp Henry, Daegu and COMSEC Maintenance Support Camp Coiner, Seoul.

18 September 2009, 14th Signal Detachment First Sergeant Vernon Robinson relinquished responsibility as the First Sergeant to Sergeant First Class David DeVaughn. First Sergeant David DeVaughn hails from Philadelphia with three sons. The Titan family is grateful to have him on board as our First Sergeant and I know he will do great things for 14th Signal Detachment. 14th COMSEC Maintenance Section gained another great asset to the team, CW2 Melendez, who is accompanied by wife Kaylie, and two children. We are also grateful that Mrs. Melendez is

going to serve as the 14th Signal Detachment Family Readiness Group Leader (FRG). I know she will do a great job and keep our family members informed of all upcoming events. It would not be a complete family without having expectant parents within the Detachment. SGT Gassoway and SPC Wright are expecting baby girls' soon. Congratulations! Also, within the 14th Signal Detachment family, we have a Combative team that won 1st place in the Combative Tournament on Camp Humphreys, 5 Sept 2009. This team was lead by SFC Wells of 14th COMSEC Maintenance Section. "Congratulation." 14th Signal Detachment is always striving for excellence and with these new additions to our family we will achieve it.

14th Signal Detachment may be small in numbers but our mission still remains the same, to support the entire Korean Peninsula with COMSEC Management and COMSEC Maintenance support. This is a nonstop no fail mission. The soldiers may encounter long hours to accomplish the mission. However, the reward for all the hard work is knowing that the 14th Signal Detachment was the reason for mission success of all units on the Peninsula needing COMSEC support. This is why I want to say "Thank You" to the loved ones supporting our soldiers here on the Korean Peninsula and back in the states. All the love and support you give to the 14th Signal Detachment Soldiers make the days less stressful knowing that you care.



Photo by Lan Dalat

Lt. Col. Rosenstein observes the uncasing of color ceremony Capt. Staton in which 14th Signal Detachment is designated under 36th Signal Battalion at Camp Walker, Daegu, Korea on August 7, 2009.





## 14TH DETACHMENT HONORS

### Campaign Participation Credit

- **World War II-EAME:** Rhineland; Central Europe
- **Korean War:** UN Defensive; UN Offensive; CCF Intervention; First UN Counteroffensive; CCF Spring Offensive; UN Summer-Fall Offensive; Second Korean Winter; Korea, Summer-Fall 1952; Third Korean Winter; Korea, Summer 1953

### Decorations

- Meritorious Unit Commendation (Army) for KOREA 1953
- Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation for KOREA 1950-1954

## 14TH SIGNAL DETACHMENT HISTORY

The 14th Signal Detachment is a small unit with a big mission. Their mission is ongoing and immensely important as it supports all of the peninsula. The 14th Signal Detachment began with humble beginnings when it was constituted as a Signal Radar Maintenance Unit in 1944. Since then it has been inactivated, re-designated, and activated several times. The Detachment was last re-activated on 16 October 2002 in South Korea. It was headquartered at Camp Coiner in Seoul, South Korea. The Detachment is uniquely split into two separate divisions. The TCLSC-K-MD (Theater COMSEC Logistics Support Center Korea Maintenance Division) and CLSC-K-ICC (Theater COMSEC Logistics Support Center Korea Information Control Center).

The TSLSC-K-MD section was placed on Camp Coiner where they still reside. They support all the units that are on the Korean Peninsula with electronic maintenance support.



The CLSC-K-ICC section was previously located in Camp Hialeah, Busan, South Korea. The CLSC-K-ICC was moved to Camp Henry in the summer of 2006 where it currently resides.

The 14th Signal Detachment is ready to complete their mission from their new Headquarters on Camp Walker in Daegu. They have recently had a Change of Command on August 3 in Yongsan. Shortly after the Change of Command, they cased their colors to move their Headquarters and join the "Standard Bearers" Battalion. The 36th Signal Battalion's previous motto, "From the DMZ to the Sea" has new relevance. We can now better support the Korean Peninsula with the addition of 14th Signal Detachment's Electronic Maintenance and COMSEC support.

*SUSCIPIO DUX - SUPPORT THE COMMANDER*





# THE TORCH IS LIT

169th Signal Company, Camp Walker, Daegu, Korea



**Maia Susuico**  
Capt., Signal Corps  
Commander

“The Torch is Lit”! The 169<sup>th</sup> Signal Company continues to dominate throughout the Battalion and possibly throughout the Brigade.

In July, the 169<sup>th</sup> SC prepared for

the most intense, enduring exercise in Korea - Ulchi Freedom Guardian 2009. UFG is a peninsula wide exercise where U.S. and Republic of Korea Forces collaborate. The 169 SC ensures all forces within our Area of Operations have the necessary means to communicate. Prior to the exercise the 169th SC create, modify, activate and maintain network circuits, user accounts and numerous servers. In addition to exercise preparation, the 169 SC Family took the time to relax and have fun at the Company “pre-exercise” BBQ.

In August, UFG began. The 169 SC provided exceptional support to multiple units to include 8th Army, 19th ESC, SOCKOR, and 501st Sustainment Brigade. Throughout three network enclaves in Area IV, we designed and implemented

over 30 exercise network circuits, eight tactical circuits, created over 300 exercise accounts in addition to maintaining 8000 real-world accounts, and installing over 200 LAN lines. The 169<sup>th</sup> SC continues to provide outstanding communications support with minimal downtime. Soldiers that went above and beyond: Cpl. Brown, Pfc. Bolden, Spec. Cains, Chief Flores, Spec. Foulenfont, Pfc. Gomez, Pfc. Harris, Pfc. Johnson, Chief Johnson, Spec. Jordan, Spec. River, Sgt. 1st Class Rodriguez, Staff Sgt. Tenorio, and Staff Sgt. Thomas.

September has been extremely busy – Company Tour, Mercury Pride IV, Company White Week and Dragon Shield. The Company Tour was extremely

Pyramids, the oldest observatory in Korea and a free lunch buffet. All who participated had a great time. Mercury Pride is a Brigade wide event where Soldiers within the Brigade (roughly 2000 Soldiers) get together to learn and regroup. Events that occurred during this time were Class A inspection, and the Korean War Museum Tour. Company White Week gave us the opportunity to learned first aid, urban operations, land navigation, IED detection, and site defense to include intense Physical Training (PT) every morning. Lastly, Dragon Shield, a Battalion event gave Soldiers the opportunity to get on a helicopter, infiltrate, and secure a site. Soldiers enjoyed this event and want more of it.



Soldiers from 169th Signal Co. participate in the unit cultural tour where they visit Kyongju, the most famous landmark in Korea.

successful. Approximately 48 Soldiers, Civilians, and Family members attended the tour. We were introduced to the famous Buddhist Temple in Korea, the Korean History Museum, Korean

Overall it’s been a great quarter. I am very proud of each and every Soldier and Civilian in the company. I believe if you work hard, you deserve to play hard. The 169 Signal Company is successful because of your Soldier, your son, your daughter, your wife, your husband. Thank you for your continued support. Your support means a lot to them, a lot to me, and most of all a lot to our Army.

“The Torch is lit!”

“Torch 6”





# EAGLE'S NEST

293d Signal Company, Camp Carroll, Waegwan, Korea



**Spencer Calder**  
Captain, Signal Corps  
Commander

As Summer draws to a close and we wrap up a successful Ulchi Freedom Guardian, I would like to thank all of our families in 293rd for all their patience and

understanding of the hours we worked. All of the spouses were just as essential to our success as any officer, NCO, or Soldier here.

We will be moving into a few comparatively free months, so I encourage all of our team-members to take leave. Remember, all of you gave 100 percent during August so take time for yourself and your family. During the upcoming months the 293rd will be working on our foundation Soldier's skills like counseling, property accountability, training methods, and equipment maintenance. Keep these priorities in mind in all we do and we will indeed live up to being a true "Aquilifer! Lead From the Front!"

"Eagle 6"

## SAFETY BOARD

Thankfully we concluded UFG with no exercise related accidents and everyone safe and sound. But that does not give us the license to let down our guard. I would like to ensure everyone is still thinking safety while we roll into the fall holiday season. If you are going swimming or fishing remember that you can still get hypothermia in sixty degree water, if you are deep frying a bird make sure you have a properly rated fire extinguisher, and always maintain your POV. Keep in mind that Fall time is flu season and the best way to stay healthy is through prevention.



First Sergeant Crayton assumes responsibility as 293d Signal Company First Sergeant on September 29, 2009 at Camp Walker, Daegu

First Sergeant Michael Payne hands over the company guidon to Cmd Sgt. Maj. Harry Mercado that signifying the successful termination of responsibility as the company first sergeant during the Change of Responsibility ceremony at Camp Walker, Daegu, Korea on September 29, 2009



# CHALLENGE OF THE GAME

By: Spc. Dorothy Gray, 293rd Signal Company

Life in the Army while stationed in Korea can be challenging. Soldiers work hard every day to ensure that the tasks and missions assigned to them are met. There are times when there doesn't seem to be enough hours in the day and they blur together. How do soldiers cope with all of these days? A few of the dedicated soldiers in the 293rd Signal Company have chosen to play team sports as a way to add a little fun and relaxation.

*"It's a fulfilling after work activity that allows our unit to build camaraderie and esprit de corps"*

- Spc. Christopher Robertson

The 293rd Signal Company brought together an excellent group of soldiers to participate in Korea's Softball League. Team captain Staff Sgt. Anton Smith, Platoon Sergeant of 3rd Platoon, led the group of players in practice and games. They met in the evenings with equipment and enthusiasm. The 293rd played against other teams on the peninsula every week in League games. Family members were frequently in attendance during the games to cheer them on and lend moral support. As the season progressed, the 293rd team showed just how well the game could be played. During the

three part season, the 293rd Signal Company won 7 of 9 in the first part, and 6 of 7 in the second. The final round of the season was a double elimination playoff. During practice time the players worked together to form a group of individuals into a team. This team arrived to games with smiles and jokes for each other and their opponents. Morale was high and they played hard. Every team has its bad games and the 293rd Signal Company was no exception. But through it all

they remained dedicated to the spirit of the game and the team. When the pressure of the game was evident, the 293rd team pulled together to play the best game they could. Spc. Christopher Robertson stated "It's a fulfilling after work activity that allows our unit to build camaraderie and esprit de corps"

The 293rd Signal Company team went into the double elimination



Photo by Spc. Dorothy Gray

playoff with a determination to continue with team effort and work their way to the final rounds of the games. The first of the two scheduled games unfortunately did not go well. Despite the loss, they went into the second game that evening with good spirit and hopes of making it to the next level. This proved to be out of their reach even as they encouraged each other to do well. They lost the second game and were eliminated from the playoffs.

Despite the disappointment, all of the players were generally pleased with the way the season went. According to Sgt. Miguel Marte, "What the sport did for us was to help us learn a new appreciation for relaxation and take us away from our military mindset for a couple hours at a time." During times

when it seems like all there is to do is ensure the mission is accomplished, the 293rd Signal Company's Korea Softball League team found a way to throw a little fun into the long days.

## **TEAM CAPTAIN:**

Staff Sgt. Anton Smith

## **MEMBERS:**

Spc. Geoffrey Box  
Pfc. Shangela Campbell  
Sgt. Barrett Christian  
Spc. James Curtis  
Sgt. Nathan Heaps  
Spc. Ian Moloney  
Sgt. Miguel Marte

Pfc. Curtis Min  
Pfc. Cordell Mitchell  
Spc. Christopher Robertson  
Pvt. Dashawn Russell  
Pvt. Sterling Smith  
Spc. Tiwuanda Thomas  
Pfc. Jonathan Walker





# STRYKE'S CORNER

501st Signal Company, Camp Humphreys, Pyeongtaek, Korea



**Anthony Reinhardt**  
Captain, Signal Corps  
Commander

Dear Soldiers, Families, and Friends of the 501<sup>st</sup> Signal Company,

I would once again like to express my gratitude for the

opportunity to command this unit. I continue to be amazed by the dedication, commitment, and professionalism displayed by the members of this company. The last 5 months I have commanded this unit have truly been honored and I am grateful for the opportunity.

The past few months have been extremely busy for the 501<sup>st</sup>; in August the company participated in Warrior Storm II and Ulchi Freedom Guardian '09. The long hours and hard work put in by the members of the 501<sup>st</sup> contributed to the success of these exercises. Also in August, several Soldiers attended the battalion promotion board. SGT Shalota Williams, SPC Daniel Robinson, SPC Julien Policape, SPC Jawon Jones, and SPC Steven Deanda all excelled at the board and are now promotable. September began with the company hosting an organizational day. The Soldiers and civilians, along with family members, played sports and had a barbeque, it was a wonderful event and I would like to thank everyone who made that day possible. 501<sup>st</sup> also participated in a brigade inspection at Mercury Pride IV and Dragon

Shield, the battalion's site defense exercise, bringing to a close another busy month.

The 501<sup>st</sup> will be hosting Family Readiness Group meetings on October 22<sup>nd</sup>, November 19<sup>th</sup>, and December 17<sup>th</sup>. All families able to attend

are highly encouraged to do so, the new FRG Leader, Mrs. Williams will use these meetings as an opportunity to keep the families informed about events in the company. On October 31<sup>st</sup> the unit will also have its annual Halloween Fun Run followed by participation in the Spooky Hollow event where Soldiers will hand out candy to over 1,000 family members. Holiday parties are scheduled for Thanksgiving and Christmas, all Soldiers, civilians, and family members are welcome, children of family members will receive gifts and the Soldiers can participate in a Secret Santa gift exchange.

I would like to welcome the all of the new family members who have become a part of the 501<sup>st</sup> and encourage you to participate in company events. I look forward to seeing all of you in the coming months and I hope you continue to enjoy your time in the Republic of Korea.

**"Stryke Hard, Stryke Deep!"**

**"Stryke 6"**



Soldiers from 501st Signal Company stand tall for the Class A inspection during Mercury Pride IV in Yongsan, Seoul, Korea.

## FRG MEETING

22 October 2009  
19 November 2009  
17 December 2009



# RIISING TO THE OCCASION

By Spc. Julien Policape, 501st Signal Company

Life as a Soldier can be hectic and stressful at times, and it is important for Soldiers to do things outside of work that they can enjoy. Some soldiers frequent clubs, take local trips, or develop and work on talents such as singing. On August 29, United States Army Garrison Humphreys Morale Welfare and Recreation held a Rising Star contest to find USAG Humphreys' most talented vocalist and allowed participants to showcase their talents.

 The Rising Star contest is a singing competition for soldiers to display their vocal ability in front of a live crowd, as well as three judges. There are cash prizes awarded for the top three performers of the night, which adds an extra incentive for each competitor to perform their best. In addition to the individual prizes awarded to the top vocalists of the night, there is an additional cash prize of \$300 MWR dollars that is awarded to the most supportive unit in the audience. The units can show their support by cheering the loudest as a group.

A total of twelve performers from various units on USAG Humphreys participated in the 2009's Rising Star competition. One singer who participated in this year's Rising Star competition was Spc. Lashonda "Nikki" Martin from the 501st Signal Company. Spc. Martin had previous experience with singing competitions to include placing first in a previous Rising Star contest at her last duty assignment in Fort Huachuca, Arizona, as well as auditioning for the American Idol television show. Spc. Martin has also loaned her voice during many unit functions singing the National Anthem as well as other popular

selections.

The competition Specialist Martin faced was fierce, with most of the performers showing well above average singing talent. Specialist Martin's song choice for the evening was "If I Ain't Got You" by multi-platinum selling artist Alicia Keys. Specialist Jawon Jones of the 501st Signal Company said, "She was outstanding; she really hit all of the notes correctly on a song that is very vocally challenging." Specialist Daniel Robinson of the 501st Signal Company said "Specialist Martin was great. I could tell from the moment she started singing that she definitely had a special talent."

 Her passionate performance was awarded with the second place prize of \$250 dollars. The 1st place winner of the contest was Staff Sgt. Gordon, from A Company, 304th Signal Battalion. Interestingly, both the 1st and 2nd place winners were from the 1st Signal Brigade. Staff Sgt. Gordon's performance blew away even those spectators who traditionally don't enjoy country music. Spc. Robinson



Spc. Lashonda Martin  
Photo by Spc. Julien Policape

stated that he was at a loss for words after hearing him sing, "It was like we were listening to someone singing in a music studio." Spc. Jones said "He could really sing, he definitely had the talent to sing professionally."

In traditional 501st Signal Company fashion, the unit came out to show support for one of their own. Soldiers and family members came out to hear Spc. Martin sing. The 501st group roared to the crowd "Stryke Hard!" followed by a thunderous "Stryke Deep!"

 The competition for most supportive unit was very close, coming down to a tie breaker between the 501st Signal Company and the 602nd Aviation Support Battalion.

The size difference between the two units gave the 602nd the edge. The 501st were still proud to show support for their respective soldiers, especially Spc. Martin, who said "I had great support from my company which made me feel warm and fuzzy inside to see so many of my peers showing support for me."



Photo by Spc. Julien Policape



# DRAGON SHIELD

By Lt. Col. Mark Rosenstein

(Cont. from Page 7)

Signaleers who serve, and have served, in Korea know the importance of the DCS network, its associated Technical Control Facilities and the absolute requirement to ensure its viability and survivability.

DRAGON SHIELD involved more than 70 Soldiers from all five battalion units and included three separate CH-47D air missions. Air coordination and pyrotechnic resources were planned months ahead of execution and unit-level training was conducted during Sergeant's Time Training and within other collective training events. Training focused on troop leading procedures, site and building clearing, site defense, first aid and radio communications. During execution, single channel SATCOM was used in tandem with Iridium communications to ensure constant communications was maintained with battalion operations during each mission. Given the 24 hour-a-day, 7 day-a-week, 365 day-a-year mission of the battalion, the preparation, coordination and execution of the exercise provided Leaders and Soldiers alike with a realistic and challenging training event that improved real-world readiness. A leader after action review revealed

Sustains and Recommendations to improve the next iteration of DRAGON SHIELD and serves as continuity for future leaders assigned to the battalion.

DoD recognizes the importance of these facilities through the Defense Information Systems Agency (DISA) which routinely inspects DCS facilities. To ensure viability and survivability under routine conditions, the 293<sup>rd</sup> Signal Company and the 501<sup>st</sup> Signal Company routinely dispatch organic Roving Maintenance Teams (RMT) consisting primarily of Korean Nationals (KNs). RMT personnel primarily use ground-based assets to reach these sites and conduct routine maintenance and upkeep. For comprehensive scheduled services and maintenance as well as upgrades and renovations, the battalion relies on their organic Maintenance Support Team (MST) led by Chief Warrant officer 2 Christie Stewart and a highly skilled cadre of Soldiers and KNs (some of which have served with the battalion for more than 25 years). MST

Pfc. Smith dons his protective mask at Salem site during the Dragon Shield Exercise.



**CBRN Training during the mission on Salem**

works closely with the 2<sup>nd</sup>

Combat Aviation Brigade (CAB) headquartered at Camp Humphreys to schedule rotary wing assets to support maintenance activities. To ensure viability and survivability under non-routine conditions, the 36<sup>th</sup> Signal Battalion created exercise DRAGON SHIELD to prepare and train rapid deployment teams capable of securing, defending and maintaining these sites via land and air mobility pending the arrival a permanent security forces (ROK/US). Battalion operations led by Maj. Chuck McGarry works closely with 2<sup>nd</sup> CAB to support non-routine rapid deployment air mobility/assault missions that ensure viability and survivability of DCS remote site locations.



Photo by Cpt. Spence Calder

Pvt. Clanton and Pvt. So fired their weapons at OPFOR during their assault of Topside to regain positive control of the vital communications site during Dragon Shield Exercise.



# FAMILY CORNER

Families of 36th Signal Battalion: Pyeongtaek, Waegwan, Daegu, and Busan

## SIGNAL BATTALION SALUTES STUDENTS

By Amy DeVries, FRSA

Teenagers across the peninsula participated in the USFK Summer Hire Program, an initiative to offer high school students an opportunity to develop valuable work habits and skills, which 36<sup>th</sup> Signal Battalion (1<sup>st</sup> Signal BDE) enthusiastically participated in. Friday August 14 marked the final day of the Summer Hire program, and was celebrated with an Awards Ceremony for the three summer hires that spent both summer sessions committed to the program. Erica Brun, Tyrome Myatt Jr., and Catherine Robinet were thanked for their dedication and efforts by the Deputy Director of IM South, Ronald Coleman, Family Readiness Support Assistant Amy DeVries, and Battalion Adjutant 2nd Lt. Bridgette Navejar, and the other Civilian and Soldiers who were able to work with the students. Catherine Robinet worked in the 6<sup>th</sup> Signal



Photo by Maj. Lan Dalat. (Amy DeVries, Eric Brun, Erica Brun, Richard Robinet, Catherine Robinet, Tyrome Myatt Jr., Tyrome Myatt Sr., and Ronald Coleman)

Center, while Erica Brun and Tyrome Myatt Jr both worked in various capacities around the 36<sup>th</sup> Signal Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, including the S3, Family Readiness, and S1 shops. Parents of the students recognized were invited to attend the ceremony, complete with Battalion coins and Certificates of Appreciation. The Signal Battalion is proud of all of the young adults who participated in this year's Summer Hire Program and are confident that the skills these students learned will benefit them in future endeavors.

## WELCOME TO THE FAMILY!

*Hannah Stewart*

Born August 25 to Cody and Heather Stewart



Photo by Pfc. Bellamy

Lt. Col. Rosenstein, Command Sgt. Maj. Mercado, and Chaplain Ahn visit Pfc. Cody Stewart, Heather, Hannah and Bradley Stewart



*Rylee Madison Cooper*

Born July 01, 8:26 am  
6lbs 9oz at Hyosung Hospital  
to Arthur and Mrs. Cooper





# 축하합니다

# Congratulations



*Lt. Col. Mark Rosenstein presenting Il Chae Cho an award celebrating his 35 years of service*



*Lt. Col. Mark Rosenstein presenting Chong Ho Song an award celebrating his 5 years of service*



*Chae Kun Chong, Tu Uk Pak, and Song Yo Kwon were also recognized with Certificates of Appreciation*

## 35 YEARS

Mr. Kim, Nam Chun, 293rd  
Mr. Pak, Ki Tak, 169th  
Mr. Pak, Yang Hwan, 293rd  
Mr. Cho, Il Chae, 293rd

## 30 YEARS

Mr. Paek, Chong Un, 293rd

## 25 YEARS

Mr. Kim, Tong Chin, 293rd  
Mr. Pak, Chong Hwan, 293rd  
Mr. Yi, Ki Son, 293rd

## 10 YEARS

Mr. Yi, Sang Yop, 293rd

## 5 YEARS

Mr. Song, Chong Ho, 293rd



### ACHIEVEMENT MEDAL FOR CIVILIAN SERVICE

Jonathan Yoshioka  
James Malott

### PERFORMANCE AWARD

Pak, Kyong Ho, HHD  
Kim, Sun Tuk, HHD  
Pak, Chae Sun, HHD  
Chong, Yong Suk, HHD  
Cho, Hong Kun, 293rd  
Sim, Chun Sop, 293rd  
Yi, Chae Sun, 169th  
Kim, Hyon U, 169th  
Yi, Pyong Kyu, 169th  
Chun Kon Son, HHD

In Ho Choe, 293rd  
Im Sok Nam, 293rd  
Chun Tong An, 293rd  
Tong Chin Kim, 293rd  
Sok Un Yi, 293rd  
Su Ho, 293rd  
Hyong Ku Chong, 293rd  
Tuk Su O, 501st  
Chong Hwan Pak, 293rd  
Chang In Sin, 293rd





View of Dong-gang River in Gangwon Province nested beneath the Taebaek Mountains.

After many meaningful discussions, a group photo was taken to mark the occasion and the team departed for their remaining eight kilometer journey. During the final leg of their rafting excursion, both teams had several opportunities to challenge their rafting skills and build

confidence in themselves and their equipment as they negotiated several Class two rapids. As the team traveled through the valley, the officers took time to get to know one another, realize the beauty of the region and reflect on their professional and personal lives. Senior leaders had an opportunity to spend quality time with junior leaders; sharing experiences to broaden their awareness of Army life, leadership and character. Junior leaders had an opportunity to share their concerns and challenges with senior leaders and learn from their experiences.

The journey ended some 15 kilometers down the Dong-gang River. Teams worked together to police-up the rafts and equipment and then joined together at the Rafting Company headquarters for a traditional Korean barbecue where the Battalion Chaplain conducted additional Stress Management training. Initially, some officers may have felt DRAGON SPIRIT would be another one of “those” exercises that sounds great but provides very little enduring value although as the day came to an end everyone realized they gained much more than they ever expected about themselves, their peers and their role as an Army leader. Chief Christie Stewart told the group, “I didn’t think about work one time the entire day.”

Chief C. Espaza, 2nd Lt. B. Navejar, Lt. R. Rodriguez, Chief T. Arnold, and Chief C. Stewart celebrate the successful completion of the 15 Km river rafting event.

Sgt. Im and Pfc. Park prepare the barbecue while battalion officers participating in a Stress Management class from Chaplain Ahn.





**Mercury  
Pride IV**  
Yongsan, Seoul



Commander  
HQ, 36th Signal Battalion  
Unit 15026  
APO AP 96218