

Voice of the DRAGON

4th Quarter 2010, Issue #6



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

**KOMODO SHIELD III
DRAGON SPIRIT III**

**EAGLE STRIKE I
UNITED DRAGON**



DRAGON SPIRIT III

BATTALION ORG DAY CHAMPS



INSIDE



BATTALION'S 36TH BIRTHDAY

Dragon Battalion celebrates its 36th birthday on the peninsula.



293RD SIGNAL COMPANY OPERATION EAGLE STRIKE

Eagle Strike sets a new standard for future training exercises.



Become a fan of 1st Signal Brigade on Facebook



Operation United Dragon - Salem Restoration Mission. Photo by Pvt. Anthony Downing

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VOICE OF THE DRAGON

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DRAGON'S CORNER



Lt. Col. Mark E. Rosenstein, 36th Signal Battalion, Battalion Commander
Camp Walker, Daegu



Mark Rosenstein
Lt.Col., Signal Corps
Commanding

Hello from the Dragon's den! The fourth, and final, quarter of the year brought significant achievement and success to Team 36. The dedication and selflessness I observed from our family members, Soldiers and civilians during this quarter was humbling to say the least. My pride in the 36th Signal Battalion goes beyond what words can describe. Our battalion is fueled by an endless stream of initiative and enthusiasm that enables our "Dragon" warriors to provide pre-eminent communications to customers spread across the entire peninsula and that strengthens the Korean-American alliance. The highlights of the past quarter demonstrate your passion for professionalism, outstanding teamwork in support of United Dragon (Salem Restoration), superior performance during Warrior Storm II, Ulchi Freedom Guardian 10 and

from advanced Communications Security training. Our other very successful event, Dragon Spirit III, gave our officers and cadets the opportunity to "break away" from their daily grind and receive some much deserved stress management and team building training. Our Dragon Organization Day in September facilitated the battalion coming together for a day of friendly competition and camaraderie that definitely enhanced professional and personal relationships among our many family members, Soldiers and civilian staff (Korean and American); Congratulations to 293rd Sig. Co. for taking home the "Dragon's Cup." Collectively, the battalion's hard work is greatly appreciated and your praiseworthy individual contributions continue to strengthen our organization. Team work is our mantra!

experience you bring to the 36th Sig. Bn. As you acclimatize to life 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. Please ensure you complete the sponsor-



Battalion run kicks off Organization Day 2010

ship survey at <http://www.usfk.mil/usfk/roadcondition.aspx> and take time to learn about your community services as well as local customs and courtesies. Please do not hesitate to ask any of us for help – One Team!

To close I simply want to reiterate how proud I am to serve you as commander of such an extraordinary organization. I ask each of you to always think and act **SAFELY**; travel with your Fire Team, be an alert Pedestrian, and watch yourselves around alcohol, drugs and other harmful influences; 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!" – Lets continue to reach for our highest potential and make our assignment in Korea, an experience of a lifetime. Please enjoy this quarters Voice of the Dragon newsletter.

Winter is approaching fast. During the next quarter, we must apply composite risk management to prevent cold weather injuries such as hypothermia, frostbite, trench foot and yes, dehydration. To improve your safety awareness, please take time to read the battalion Winter Safety Campaign that is posted on the battalion portal. It touches on the effects and signs of cold weather injuries, winter driving and proper winter clothing/equipment. We all must remain alert to ensure the safety of our team. The coming quarter brings several key training events: October brings Dragon Shield IV and Enlightened Dragon III; November brings Autumn Breeze and Focused Passage (NEO Exercise); and December closes with a Brigade Range Week and the holiday season. During the quarter, I look forward to visiting units and getting to know each of you a little better.

"Believe in yourself! Have faith in your abilities! Without a humble but reasonable confidence in your own powers you cannot be successful or happy."

Norman Vincent Peale

At this time, I would like to take a moment to welcome all new personnel and families. You join a remarkable command and are part of a dedicated team. We value the knowledge and

and make our assignment in Korea, an experience of a lifetime. Please enjoy this quarters Voice of the Dragon newsletter.

"Dragon 6" 



SNAP configuration during UFG 10

Komodo Shield II; first-rate execution of the HHD Change of Command ceremony; superior training during the 293rd Signal Company "Eagle Strike" exercise; exceptional performance from our 25Bs during Enlightened Dragon II (over 90% first-time NET+ pass rate); great support during the Eighth Army exercise, Summer Breeze; enhanced safety awareness as a result of successful Confined Space and Combat Life-saver Training; and improved capabilities





BN COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR'S MINUTE

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



Harry Mercado
Command Sergeant
Major, US Army

To the Soldiers, civilians and family members of the mighty Dragon battalion, Wow, the summer has come and gone in a blink of an eye. The past quarter has been both exciting and rewarding. The dedication and professionalism you all provide everyday is very much appreciated; I salute each and every one of you. The past quarter's main effort was the Ulchi Freedom Guardian exercise. The technical expertise that everyone provided and the safe manner in which it was conducted has once again earned you all the well deserved reputation of the premier communicators on the peninsula.

During the last quarter, many of you took advantage of the beautiful weather and ventured out to see Korea and all that it has to offer. I was delighted to see our Soldiers, civilians and their families really enjoying the summer of 2010.

As we get ready for fall and transition to the winter months, I will say that Korea continues to offer many beautiful things to see and do, so get out and enjoy yourselves, with your battle buddies or families. During this time, I ask that everyone remain vigilant of the cold weather. The battalion has a great winter safety campaign; read it, preach it, and live it! The winter safety campaign can only be effective if everyone is employing

safe cold weather practices and policies. Cold weather injuries must be mitigated. This is everyone's responsibility with the NCOs out in front and leading the way.

Organizational day was a tremendous success. It was heart-warming to see all the Soldiers, civilians, and families members out having a great time. I want to give an extra thank you to those who stepped up with that great fire breathing dragon spirit to make the event happen so flawlessly! Everyone had fun and in a safe environment. Congratulations to 293rd Signal Company, the 2010 organizational day champions. Keep



Papa Dragon safe; you've earned the right to take him home! I want everyone to remember that we are all winners!



The 1st quarter of fiscal year 2011 will bring many events. The Battalion will have fun, but we will train hard. The battalion will have its dining in in October; I hope to see you all there. Thanksgiving

and Christmas will arrive in yet another blink of an eye. There will be time to enjoy the holiday season. During the quarter, numerous Dragon training events will take place to



maintain our war-fighting capabilities. We must never forget our main priority or the reason why we are here in Korea: We must maintain our competencies and remain physically fit. Physical fitness must continue in our day-to-day operations. During this quarter, I challenge all leaders to practice safe but realistic training. Throughout

this quarter, counseling must remain in our day-to-day operations. Under the Oak Tree counseling is non-stop. Counseling must continue to be conducted at all levels. We owe this to each other to continue to grow and learn but most importantly, to take care of each other.

In closing, I want to thank you all for the outstanding work you continue to do for this command, and for your continued commitment, sacrifices and service to the Republic of Korea and the United States of America. I know our team is made

up of some of the finest Soldiers, Korean Augmentees to the United States Army, civilians, and families our nations have to offer. I am proud to be on this great team, serving side by side with each and every one of you. I am honored to serve as your command sergeant major.

"Standard Bearers"

"Dragon 7" 



36th Signal Battalion Turns “36”

By LTC Mark Rosenstein, Commander, 36th Signal Battalion

Photo by: Ms. Jin Huang, 36th Signal Battalion FRSA

On Thursday, July 1, 2010 the 36th Signal Battalion celebrated its 36th Birthday on the peninsula. Over 60 Soldiers and civilians were on-hand to celebrate the meaningful occasion. Prior to cutting the birthday cake, everyone joined in to sing a charming rendition of, Happy Birthday after which Lt. Col. Mark Rosenstein, Pfc. Roberto Leal (youngest Soldier), and Command Sgt. Maj. Harry Mercado cut the cake.

The 36th Sig. Bn. was originally formed as the 36th Signal Construction Battalion on May 25, 1943 at Camp Crowder, Missouri. On March 1, 1944, it was re-designated as the 36th Signal Heavy Construction Battalion. During World War II, the battalion participated in the Normandy invasion and other campaigns in Northern France, Ardennes-Alsace, the Rhineland, and Central Europe. Elements of the battalion also participated in the Italian Campaigns and in the invasion of Southern France. One of the battalion's most notable accomplishments during World War II was the construction of a 1,600 foot open-wire span over the Rhine River. The battalion successfully completed the project; one of the world's largest open wire spans at that time.

On June 15, 1946, the 36th Signal Heavy Construction Battalion was inactivated in Germany, after winning five campaign streamers. The battalion was reactivated and arrived in Vietnam on November 6, 1966. It was assigned to the 2nd Signal Support Group and was headquartered at Long Binh. During the conflict, the 36th was involved in the Counter Offensive Phases II through VII, the 1968 TET Counter Offensive, the 1969 TET Counter Offensive, Summer-Fall Offensive 1969, Winter-Spring Offensive 1970, Sanctuary Counter Offensive and Consolidation I. On August 26, 1971 at Fort Lewis, Washington, the battalion was inactivated after it had won twelve campaign streamers and two Meritorious Unit Citations.

On July 1, 1974, the 36th Sig. Bn. was reactivated as part of the 1st Signal Brigade, U.S. Army Information Systems Command in the Republic of South Korea. The battalion's mission and responsibilities consisted of those previously assigned to the inactivated USAISC Communications Operations Facility and Long Lines



Cutting of the birthday cake.

Battalion-South; both of which were headquartered in Taegu, Korea (now spelled Daegu).

In October 1984, the 36th Sig. Bn. was re-designated under USAISC. In December 1996, the 36th Sig. Bn. was re-designated under 1st Signal Brigade as part of the 9th Army Signal Command (ASC). The battalion is comprised of the 36th Sig. Bn., Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, the 14th Signal Detachment and the 169th Signal Company (all located on Camp Walker, Daegu, Korea); the 293rd Signal Company located on Camp Carroll, Waegwan, Korea; and the 501st Signal Company located on Camp Humphreys, Pyongtaek, Korea. The 74th Signal Company formerly located on Camp Hialeah, Pusan (now spelled Busan), Korea was inactivated prior to the

Camp's return to the people of Korea on August 10, 2006 (after nearly 61 years of history with the U.S. Army in South Korea's second largest city). After the inactivation of the 74th Sig. Co., the 293rd Sig. Co. assumed residual missions in the Theater's southernmost regions to include: Pier 8, Busan Support Facility, and Chinhae Naval Base.



36th Signal Battalion Birthday Celebration.



HHD and the Maintenance Support Team are visited by Col. Mark Elliott during UFG '10. Sgt. Thomas McGuire and Sgt. Santino Saldade provide on overview of MST operations, geographic, maintenance support and safety equipment. Col. Elliott also visited 293rd Sig. Co. and 169th Sig. Co. during the exercise.





LIGHTNING CORNER



Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, Camp Walker, Daegu



Jared Mosby
Captain, Signal Corps
Commander

Greetings Team Lightning! I'm excited to lead this team and greatly look forward to serving with all of you. I'm very proud of your performance during Ulchi Freedom '10

action, and I was impressed with the level of detailed planning that went into this event; well done!

I want to also thank those who supported the unit Good Neighbor Program. Our alliance with our Korean community is stronger because of your selflessness; I look forward to our next visit to the Sung-Lim Orphanage. To round out the quarter, our cultural awareness visit to the Demilitarized Zone really helped many visualize and understand why

we serve in Korea; thanks to all who helped plan and execute this great event.



HHD GNP at Sung-Lim Orphanage

This quarter, we say goodbye to some outstanding Soldiers. CW3 Stewart, Sgm. Brown, and Sfc. Tapp-Krazter; all will be missed. We also welcome Capt. Agius, Capt. Williams, Master Sgt. Johnson and Sfc. March to our team.

Winter is rapidly approaching, I ask that each of you review the battalion Winter Safety Campaign and focus on cold weather safety as the weather changes; lets take care of one another.

I wish the best for all of you and will give 100 percent to ensure our team has all resources necessary for success.

"Lightning Strikes!"



View across the DMZ into North Korea

as well as many other events during this quarter. Not only did each of you played a key role in this year's fight, but also your dedication and teamwork enabled our team to successfully accomplish all missions. I'm also proud of everyone's participation in the September M4/M16 range. This was my first opportunity to observe our unit in

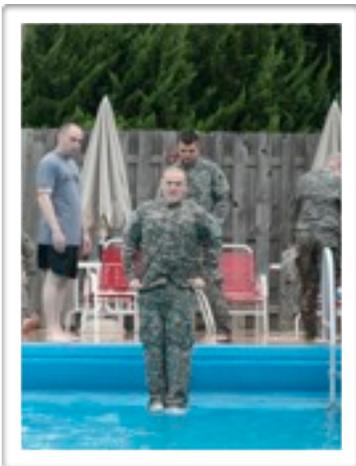
HHD Drown-proofing

Capt. Jared L. Mosby, HHD, 36th Signal Battalion
Photos by: Pvt. Anthony Downing

Each year, approximately 6,000 people drown in the United States. Drowning is the second leading cause of accidental deaths for persons 15-44 years of age.

On July 29, 2010, 28 Soldiers from the Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 36th Signal Battalion, survived drown-proofing training conducted at Camp Walker's outdoor pool. Throughout the day, Soldiers learned vital water-related combat skills and techniques.

Sgt. Deonte Sanders and Sgt. Thomas McGuire led the event. Together, they instructed the Soldiers on how to sustain floatability, maintain breath above and below water, and relax while in the deep water. Soldiers really enjoyed the training event that taught them how to turn their uniform into a flotation device. Following water survival demonstrations, Soldiers were tested on their new water skills. Pfc. Walter Myers said, "I have never felt more comfortable in the water." The event concluded with basic swimming training where one-by-one Soldiers jumped into the pool and learned how to improve their swimming proficiency. Pfc. Tempest Nolan said, "this training was realistic and fun."



Pvt. Howard Christy participates in drown proofing training.



Soldiers use uniforms as flotation devices.



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TITAN CORNER

14th Signal Detachment, Camp Walker, Daegu



Brittianè Staton
Captain, Signal Corps
Commander

Greetings Titan family! It's always an honor to let everyone know how proud I am of the 14th Signal Detachment. This quarter was very busy for the Titan team. During this quarter, we focused on Ulchi Freedom Guardian '10, upgrading our Maintenance Facility, supporting our Good Neighbor Program, and Komodo Shield III. All of you remained focused and ensured mission success. Great job!



Komodo Shield III

Congratulations to Pfc. Xavier Brown and Pfc. Eric Drake on receiving the Army

Achievement Medal for providing information systems support to over 15,000 users while working with the Area IV Local Control Center during UFG '10. Great Work! Brown also participated in the Eighth Army Track and Field Competition at Camp Casey. He took second place in both the shot put and discus events. Great job showing your Titan Spirit!

Congratulations to Pfc. Guy Frage on winning the 36th Signal Battalion Soldier of the Quarter Board. He will have the opportunity to compete for the 1st Signal Brigade Soldier of the Quarter Board next quarter. We support you!

I'd like to also thank the detachment for their outstanding support of the Bukba English Camp and Daemyong English School. Our GNP allows us to build better relationships with the Republic of Korea.

I'd like to hail the newest member to the Titan family and farewell Soldiers. The new addition to our Titan family is "little" Ezra Uncangco. He was born on September 11, 2010 to the proud parents of Spc. Zarah Uncangco and Mr. Patrick Uncangco. Congratulations on your new bundle of joy! To our Soldiers departing the unit, Spc.

Robert Wilson and Chief Warrant Officer Toby Trujillo, thank you! Remember, once a Titan always a Titan; look back at your time in Korea and let everyone know you made a difference as a member of 14th Sig. Det.!



GNP at Bukba English Camp

Our Detachment may be small in numbers but our mission still remains the same, to support the entire Korean Peninsula with Communication Security Management and COMSEC Maintenance Support. Thank You to our families for supporting their Soldiers both in Korea and back in the States. All the love and support you give make our day-to-day mission enjoyable and less stressful.

"Locked In Tight"

Summer Breeze

Spc. Errol Worme, 169th Signal Company
Photo by: 1st Lt. Rory J. Abbazio

Summer Breeze, an EUSA (Eighth U.S. Army) level exercise, took place from July 16 to July 23, 2010. A two Soldier team from the 169th Signal Company – Spc. Errol Worme and Pfc. James E. McGuire - were Area IV augmentees to the Eighth Army G6 Help Desk at CP Oscar. The purpose of the exercise was to implement and test C4IS systems in order to provide a proficient baseline of operations for the upcoming joint Theater exercise Ulchi Freedom Guardian.

The team's first mission was to have Col. Anthony Beck's (8th Army G6) office set up with NIPR, SIPR, and Enterprise CENTRIXS, as well as a Voice over Secret Internet Protocol phone – the team successfully completed all of these tasks. After setting up Col. Beck's of-



Spc. Errol Worme joining a workstation to the Korea domain

office, the team's mission was to have every section within CP Oscar up and running on all three networks (NIPR, SIPR, and ECN). Spc. Worme and Pfc. McGuire were responsible for individual machine connectivity. The team's tasks included troubleshooting and creation of new user accounts, migration of Area II users with Area IV users, joining workstations and laptops in order for them to be on the Korea domain, troubleshooting printers, fixing computer hardware, troubleshooting VoIP instruments, and maintaining the Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol server. Although the exercise was challenging for the team, by the end of the exercise, all users were up and running on compliant machines.

The remainder of the exercise consisted of maintaining networks and ensuring every user was able to communicate. Summer Breeze served as excellent training. The week long exercise illustrated how Signal Soldiers are mission essential to United States Forces Korea.

"The Torch is Lit!"



"Standard Bearers"

4th Qtr 2010

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THE TORCH IS LIT

169th Signal Company, Camp Walker, Daegu



Brock Peters

Captain, Signal Corps
Commander

Hello and warmest greetings to all of the Soldiers, civilians, family members, and friends of the 169th Signal Company! The fourth quarter has rapidly proceeded with a full schedule of events that has kept us wholly engaged in a variety of important missions. To begin with, the company received its first Command Inspection Program under my command from the battalion and received an Excellent rating for our training room – kudos to Spc. Jennifer Rivera, Cpl.

Jeong Jeon, and Pfc. June Gu Kang for your outstanding work! Nevertheless, there were a few areas for improvement, but I am confident that we addressed the areas needing extra emphasis as we continue to focus on excellence. I want everyone to know that I truly appreciated all your teamwork and professionalism during this inspection – each of you contributed to enhancing 169th Sig. Co.!

Along with supporting the Eighth United States Army during the exercise Summer Breeze, your performance during this year's peninsula wide exercise Ulchi Freedom Guardian was another fine example of your collective efforts and teamwork. Whether it was managing the network or augmenting the United States Forces Korea or the EUSA helpdesk, you went beyond the standard to prioritize customer support. No matter the mission, everyone appreciated your hard work and dedication. I cannot tell you how many times customers told me of your prompt and courteous service that enabled them to complete their mission. To paraphrase one customer,

“Great acts are made up of small deeds.”

Lao Tzu

at the help desk,” and this speaks volumes of your technical training and proficiency.



Spc. Johnny Stacey and Pfc. Vanessa Silva display their coins of excellence from the USFK Command Sergeant Major, Csm. Winzenried, for their outstanding support during UFG.

Coupled with the excellent training from our Noncommissioned Officers, another Enlightened Dragon has honed our Soldiers technical skills. Enlightened Dragon continues to offer an intensive training program for Soldiers to earn a CompTIA Network+ certification. Congratulations go to Sgt. David Emerson, Spc. Wallace Love, Pfc. Crystal Schmiesing, Pfc. Charles Walden, and Pfc. Andre Pratt for successfully earning the certification!

While a certain amount of stress is important to keep us sharp, too much stress can overwhelm anyone. With that in mind, Dragon Spirit II and III afforded Officers and Noncommissioned Officers the time to relax, share stories, and enjoy nature with an exhilarating water rafting adventure. Similarly, our families had the opportunity to relieve stress during the Strong Bonds retreat, which provided couples with the ability to build and grow their relationships. These exercises certainly improved the morale and cohesion of the unit in a safe and welcoming environment.

As we move into the final exercise of the quarter, Komodo Shield, which will test and validate our Defense Communications System site defensive plan, we can't neglect to emphasize safety. This is why prior to Komodo Shield we will utilize Dragon Week to fully train our Soldiers and ensure that the exercise is not only successful, but safe as well. We must never forget that Composite Risk Management is the cornerstone of the Army Safety Program. All our Soldiers deserve first-rate training conducted in a safe manner. Please make sure to use CRM both on and off duty.

In conclusion, I want to take a moment and recognize the many new Soldiers to our team: Pv2. Chadwick Beckett, Spc. Jonathan Carreno, Spc. Daniel Fernandez, Pfc. Markice Johnson, Pfc. Marco Romero, Sgt. Daniel Weipert, and Pfc. Aaron Williams; welcome to 169th Sig. Co.! Stay sharp as we start a new quarter, and thank you for all that you do.

The Torch is Lit!



Swimming event organized by 169th Sig. Co. during Organization Day 2010



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EAGLE'S NEST

293d Signal Company, Camp Carroll, Waegwan, Korea



Spencer Calder
Captain, Signal Corps
Commander

logical, Radiological, and Nuclear certification a great training event for our Soldiers. None of this would be possible without everyone's hard work. I would like to thank the families for all the support they provided to the company. In this next



Outstanding work in the last quarter of fiscal year 2010! We have made it through another Ulchi Freedom Guardian and nearly swept all events when we won the battalion Commander's Cup during organization day. I would also like to thank all leaders in the battalion who assisted 293rd in making this quarter's Chemical, Bio-



quarter, we will have several inspections from Brigade as well as the Defense Information Systems Agency, which will check how we are operating and maintaining our facilities. Please keep up the hard work and the

forward momentum to show inspectors how well we operate. I am fully confident that we can win at least one DISA-Pacific Facility of the Year award for fiscal year 10.

As far as social events coming up this year we will have a company Halloween party / rock band contest at the company, as well as a battalion level dining in. Again, I want to wish everyone good luck in their performance evaluations this year. I'm confident we will bring one of the DISA-Pacific awards home; if we do, our new trophy case will look awesome!

Something Cultural

Sgt. Bridget Gassoway, 14th Signal Detachment

Photo by: Pfc. Brian Rivera

Volunteering for the Bukba English Camp is one of the many great experiences that 14th Signal Detachment Soldiers will remember during their tour in Korea. It provided great satisfaction to the volunteers in helping Korean students with their English and experiencing their culture. The main focus for the event was for Korean students to have exclusive interaction with native English speakers, while also teaching the American Soldiers about the Korean culture and history. The Bukba English Camp took place in Incheon, Korea with over one hundred and fifty Korean students and American Soldiers.

This year's Bukba English Camp theme was, Dream in English. The event took the Soldiers to the Incheon Sangjeong Middle School where they were welcomed with many cheerful students eager to share their English abilities. There, they moved to classrooms to share information about one another and then to eat lunch together in the cafeteria. The final event was visiting the Suwon Hwaseong Museum and Hwaseong Fortress where the Korean students interacted with the Soldiers and explained the different artifacts and history behind them. The Soldiers were introduced to such things as the Hwaseong Fortification Hall which showed the construction process; the Culture Hall which showed various cultures; and an outdoor exhibition space that provided more information on Suwon Hwaseong. At the Hwaseong Fortress, the Soldiers learned that Hwaseong was constructed about two hundred and ten years ago and is known as a masterpiece in the history of fortification. It consisted of 41 facilities.

It was a tremendous experience and a lasting memory for the Soldiers of the 14th Sig. Det.. Volunteering for these types of programs gives Soldiers great memories and strengthens the unit as well as, the bond between the U.S. military and the Korean people.



Sgt. Bridget Gassoway and a student from Bukba English Camp.

"Locked in Tight"



36TH SIGNAL BATTALION

in Action



HHD Change of Command



A/304 Sig. Bn. joins the team for UFG '10



Capt. Rene Rodriguez and CW2 Rebecca Johnson's promotion party



CBRN Certification



Award presentation after the battalion run



September 2010 Strong Bonds retreat for single Soldiers





36th Sig. Bn. and 6th Sig. Ctr. host a 19th ESC golf tournament



36th Sig Bn supports the Korean American Partnership Association (KAPA)



Strategic planning FY11



HHD GNP at SungLim Orphanage



Korean War Veterans 60 Year Anniversary



Operation Eagle Strike

By Staff Sgt. George Clay and CDT Kenneth Hunkus, 293rd Signal Company

Photo by: Staff Sgt. George Clay

293rd Signal Company has a unique mission in 1st Signal Brigade as it is one of the most geographically dispersed companies with several interlacing missions. One of these is the operation of Technical Control Facilities. They provide all communications services to Area IV through critical hubs. To accomplish this mission successfully they must train the personnel manning these hubs to face the unexpected and to respond to situations involving crippling communication outages.

In order to test their abilities to handle these challenges they developed their own company training. Mission Training Plans or Army Training and Evaluation Plans do not typically incorporate Technical Control Facilities because the facilities are governed by the Defense Information Systems Agency. DISA outlines the training and operational standards needed in order to run the facilities but does not provide “Crew Drill” style doctrinal training guides.



Firefighters team up to evacuate a simulated casualty (Pv2. Lovett).

In order to raise the training standards, the 293rd Sig. Co. had to come together to develop training that would be effective, challenging, and quantifiable. Training of the company’s junior leadership required the senior leaders to pull together to make a quantifiable program of instruction that could be evaluated and then structured to fit quarterly demands.

Operation Eagle Strike was the first of its type: A multi-tiered training exercise which the 293rd developed, produced, tested and executed successfully to exercise, maintain, and revise standard operating procedures and emergency action plans for communications facilities throughout Area IV.

Eagle Strike was comprised of three parts. The first; planning and development of the program of instruction which was uniquely challenging since no site or crew level training had ever been accomplished prior to Eagle Strike. One of the main aimpoints of Eagle Strike was to develop an emotionally strenuous training environment; training Soldiers in difficult, “under fire” style

scenarios developed mental agility and courage that will enable them to perform better in real events. To build the necessary stress, actors simulated a severely injured Soldier. To better create realism and in an effort to increase stress on the site leadership, 293rd Sig. Co. coordinated with local emergency rescue personnel. The Camp Carroll Fire and Rescue Team was eager to participate and assist the company integration of USAG-Daegu into the emergency re-

sponse.

The exercise took place over the course of two days at four technical control facilities with the full speed run-through at Camp Carroll only. With a single run-through and no resets, Soldiers were tested and the situation developed from every action and inaction. The fire department responded within min-



The Fire Chief explains the emergency response procedure to Staff Sgt. Vivolo.

utes of placing a call, and Soldiers worked with the teams to complete the mission and restore operations. Observers used go / no-go checklists based on emergency action plans and standard operating procedures to note proper execution of the exercise as well as shortcomings. Checks were conducted during and after the exercise to ensure proper security was maintained. Evaluation of the exercise consisted of numerous after action reviews in order to create feedback and assist in the revision of the exercise and site standard operating procedures.

Operation Eagle Strike was the first of what is likely to be many exercises used by the 293rd Sig. Co. to prepare emergency response plans and standard operating procedures. Eagle Strike’s success was based on good planning and strong leadership; two traits characteristics of the 293rd Sig. Co. Future leaders will no doubt turn to Eagle Strike as the standard to meet in defense communications services.

“AQUILIFER”



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501

STRYKE'S CORNER

501st Signal Company, Camp Humphreys, Pyeongtaek, Korea



Anthony Reinhardt
Captain, Signal Corps
Commander

Soldiers, families, and friends of the 501st Signal Company, I'm extremely proud of all the hard work and dedication you have shown over the summer. In August the company conducted an M16/M4 range, participated in Warrior Storm and Ulchi Freedom Guardian '10.

Throughout the exercise, our team worked hard and put in long hours to make these events successful. September began with two four day weekends and an organizational day on September



The 501st Sig. Co. hosts Family Readiness Group meetings on the last Thursday of each month; all families are highly encouraged to attend. The FRG leader, Mrs. Williams, uses these meetings as an opportunity to keep families informed about events in the company as well as to help families new to Korea. Upcoming on October 31st, the unit will con-

duct its annual Halloween Fun Run followed by participation in the Spooky Hollow event where Soldiers will hand out candy to over 1,000 children. 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.

10th. Our team and family members played sports and had a great barbecue; it was an extremely fun event for all. The unit's support of Komodo Shield III, a site defense exercise, prepared the company to defend its facilities in the event of war. This exercise is always exciting and gives our team a chance to practice war fighting skills.



Thanks to all members of the 501st team, without your continued support we could not be as successful as we are today. Please enjoy the upcoming holiday season and the extra time off; you have earned it through your dedication and professionalism.

"Stryke Hard, Stryke Deep!"

36th Signal Battalion Run

Capt. Jared L. Mosby, HHD, 36th Signal Battalion

Photos by: Pvt. Anthony Downing

More than 250 Soldiers from Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 14th Signal Detachment, 169th Signal Company, 293rd Signal Company, and 501st Signal Company participated in a battalion run on JUL 23, 2010. "This was an excellent chance to bring the entire battalion together," said Pfc. Harris Gore.

To get everyone motivated, the run began with "Everybody Dance Now" by C&C Music Factory and "Bust a Move" by Young MC and other fun songs from the 1990s. The 2.8 mile course took the Battalion throughout much of Camp Walker and finished at its start point in front of the Battalion Headquarters.



Soldiers of the 36th Signal Battalion

Despite high temperatures and sweltering humidity, every Soldier finished the run strong. "We all stayed together as a team and that makes a huge difference," said Sfc. (1st Sgt.) Christian Helmka.

When the unit re-assembled, the Battalion Commander, Lt. Col. Mark Rosenstein, asked for one volunteer from each unit to come to the front of the formation. He challenged each of these Soldiers to lead their respective units in a push-up exercise. Once all repetitions were complete, these five Soldiers were awarded the Battalion coins for volunteering for an unknown task. Lt. Col. Rosenstein stressed the importance of volunteerism. Lt. Col. Rosenstein also presented awards to some of its outstanding Soldiers: Pfc. Guy Frage (14th Sig. Det.), Staff Sgt. Gregory Vivolo (293rd Sig. Co.), and Cpl. Hyun Woo Nuh (501st Sig. Co.). The event ended with a strong citation of the battalion motto, "Standard Bearers!"



"Standard Bearers"

4th Qtr 2010

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Operation "United Dragon"

Capt. Rene Rodriguez, 36th Signal Battalion
Photos by: Pvt. Anthony Downing

The 36th Signal Battalion, Camp Walker, Daegu in a joint effort with U.S. Army Garrison – Daegu, 563rd Medical Logistics Company and 2nd Combat Aviation Brigade conducted air mobile operations to restore a critical, mountain-top, remote microwave communications site supporting the Korean Theater of Operations. The 36th Sig. Bn. has a 24 hours-a-day, 7 days-a-week, and 365 days-a-year mission to operate, maintain and defend the Defense Communications System network which includes the Defense Switched Network as well as transmission mediums carrying digital traffic supporting the lower two thirds of the Korean peninsula.

The 36th Sig. Bn., which consists of a Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment (Camp Walker), the 14th Signal Detachment (Camp Walker), the 169th Signal Company (Camp Walker), the 293rd Signal Company (Camp Carroll) and the 501st Signal Company (Camp Humphreys) enable Command, Control, Computer, Communications, Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance throughout a geographical battle space of about 38,250 square miles in the lower two thirds of the KTO to support the Commander United Nations Command, Combined Forces Command, United States Forces Korea and Eighth Field Army's ability to lead, direct and maneuver available forces during armistice, crisis and war.

Remote, mountain-top, communications sites such as Salem are not new to the Signal Corps, especially in South Korea. After the armistice between North and South Korea was signed on July 27, 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 aircraft. 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 technology, operating conditions have changed allowing these remote communications sites to operate without a permanent cadre of on-site personnel. 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 their viability and survivability.



Capt. Rene Rodriguez (Assistant S-3) validates the apex fitting and sling legs that will carry the 3,400 lb transformer.

On August 2, 2010, the Salem DCS remote mountain-top communication site lost commercial power as a result of a lightning storm that rendered the sites transformers non-operational. Operation United Dragon was conceived to unite infrastructure and logistical subject matter experts from various organizations to rapidly restore the communications capability at the Salem site. The 36th Sig. Bn. Assistant S-3, Capt. Rene Rodriguez, along with Mr. Reynaldo Garcia, Quality Assurance/Quality Control Manager, requested assistance from the USAG-Daegu Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security and Department of Public Works to help plan, engineer and install a replacement transformer as well as refuel power generation equipment.

USAG-D DPTMS enlisted the expertise of the 2nd CAB from Camp Humphrey's and 563rd Medical Logistics Company from Camp Carroll to facilitate air mobile operations. Staff Sgt. Easterbrook, Load Master, 563rd Medical Logistics Company led his team to safely rig and certify three separate sling-load packages that consisted of a 3,400 pound transformer, three 55 gallon drums of fuel and special tools for working with high voltage electrical equipment. On August 18, 2010, after four days of inclement weather, Operation United Dragon finally came together with three successful sling-load missions to Salem.

In support of the operation, electricians from USAG-Daegu DPW and communications personnel from 36th Sig. Bn. worked tirelessly to install the new transformer and re-position the inactive commercial power line from the damaged transformers to the new transformer. With power restored, the 293rd Sig. Co. based out of Camp Carroll deployed its Roving Maintenance Team to assess any damage to the Salem communications shelter, power rectifiers, batteries or microwave equipment. Working in concert with the Theater Network Operations and Security Center – Korea Long-Haul Transmissions section, the Salem mountain-top communications site was restored to a full mission capable status.



USAG-Daegu DPW electricians and 36th Signal Battalion personnel relocate the power line.

The success of Operation United Dragon was facilitated by the united talent of infrastructure and logistical subject matter experts from disparate military organizations and the synchronized teamwork of Soldiers and civilians, both Korean and American. Special thanks are extended to U.S. Army Garrison – Daegu, 563rd Medical

Logistics Company and 2nd Combat Aviation Brigade for their dedicated service. These professionals united to form a single team that overcame several challenges to successfully accomplish the mission.

"Standard Bearers!"





CHAPLAIN'S CORNER



36th Signal Bn. Unit Ministry Team, Camp Walker, Daegu, Korea



Joon Seop Ahn
Chaplain, Captain

Spc. Mitchell, Cpl. Kim, and I are honored and privileged to be the Unit Ministry Team for the 36th Signal Battalion. Without your support we would not be able to complete our mission. During the months of July, August and September, Soldiers and families from the Battalion came together and achieved great success.

In the month of July, our UMT provided a Strong Bonds retreat for married Soldiers. This retreat took place at the Paradise Hotel in Busan. Twenty couples and families attended and learned about "Lasting Intimacy" through Nurturing, Knowledge and Skills. Chaplain Jones, Area IV Deputy Chaplain, was a wonderful guest speaker. Also, in the month of July, we hosted Dragon Spirit III for all Officers within 36th Sig. Bn. We provided training on "How to manage

Stress" while we experienced a stress-free environment along the Dong River in Kang-Won-Do province. Officers were able to laugh and enjoy themselves as they rafted down the river. This event was fun and very beneficial!



Couples receiving training during the July 2010 Strong Bonds retreat.

In August we provide minimal religious support due to Ulchi Freedom Guardian 10. During UFG, we visited and brought refreshments and snacks to Soldiers within 36th Sig. Bn. as well as 304th Signal Battalion element located at Camp Walker to encourage them and let them know that we thank them for their service.

In September, we hosted a very nice Strong Bonds retreat for single Soldiers. This retreat was held at the Paradise Hotel in Busan. Training was provided on, "How to deal with a Jerk/Jerkette." This training was well received and all Soldiers enjoyed themselves.

As fiscal year 2010 ends, we believe the battalion had a great year and that the UMT was able to host some events that really increased Soldier and family morale. We intend to do more events for our Soldiers and families in fiscal year 2011. Thank you for your support and prayers. We hope that God truly blesses you and your families.
"PRO DEO ET PATRIA" "FOR GOD AND COUNTRY"

Herb Hillz

By Maj. Mikel Hugo



Need something to do in Daegu? Try Herb Hillz. Herb Hillz is a children's folk-themed playland/petting zoo in Daegu. Its Eco-Adventure provides an opportunity for you and your family to enjoy nature and have fun 30 feet in the air. After some training near the ground, you can take to the trees on rope walks, cargo nets, zip lines, and even bicycles.

*We welcome the newest members of
the Dragon Family.*



Left: Spc. Zarah and Patrick Uncangco from the 14th Signal Detachment are the proud parents of Ezra born on September 11, 2010.

Right: Spc. Pedro and Olga Fermin from the 293rd Signal Company are the proud parents of Nichole born on September 22, 2010.



Refreshing the Spirit

By Lt. Col. Mark Rosenstein, Battalion Commander

DAEGU, Korea – On July 29, 2010 Officers, Cadets and civilian employees of the 36th Signal Battalion, Camp Walker, Daegu conducted Dragon Spirit III, an exercise designed to help leaders refresh their spirit through stress management training, 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 three 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



Officers and Cadets relieve some stress.

allowed participants to work together, build trust and overcome fears. For Maj. Mikel Hugo, incoming battalion S-3, the event

provided an opportunity to assess the unit, he commented, "I've never participated in such an effective event in my career, the esprit de Corps is great!" After about 1.5 hours of paddling and team building events, the group pulled-up along a serene sandy bank to rest and conduct stress management and experiential training. Spc. Bobby

Mitchell, Unit Ministry Team Assistant Chaplain provided stress management training after which, 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 most officers, cadets and civilians described events in their lives and learned by listening and reflecting on the experiences of others.

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



Capt. Jared Mosby provides experiential training.

Rafting Company headquarters for a traditional Korean barbecue. 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. Capt. Rene Rodriguez mentioned, "I didn't think about work one time the entire day." Dragon Spirit is an event highly recommended by leaders of the 36th Signal Battalion.



A team braving Class two rapids.





CAREER COUNSELOR'S CORNER

Army Strong



Steven M. Gedemer
Sgt. 1st Class,
Career Counselor

Greetings, fellow Dragons. As the Army enters its next fiscal year on October 1, 2010, many of you will once again be able to take advantage of your re-enlistment options.

Currently the re-enlistment window has been identified as those Soldiers with an end of term of service of January 1, 2011 thru September 30, 2012. I strongly encourage all of you who fall within these parameters to contact me as soon as possible to discuss the options available to you.

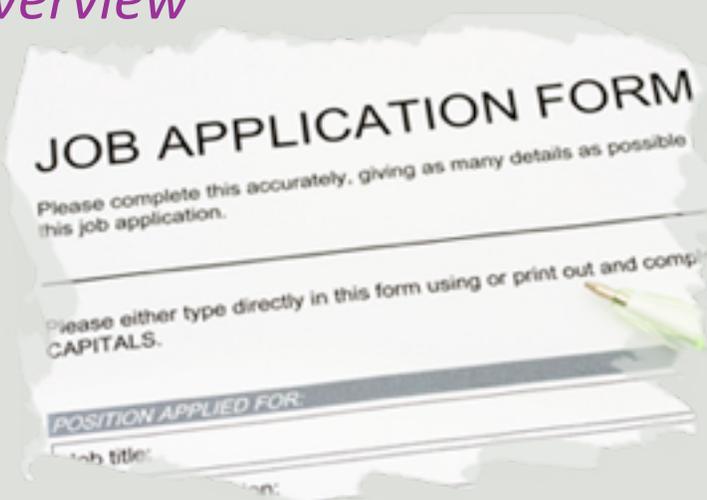
Options and bonuses are continually changing in an effort to align the Army's MOS strengths and overall end strength. Remember, the Army is only authorized a limited number of Soldiers on active duty each year. As Soldiers continue to reenlistment in high numbers the Army will put more restrictions on reenlistment opportunities.

With reenlistments at record numbers, Department of the Army has stressed the importance of Soldiers being proactive with their career counselor. As with last year, the early bird will get the worm-so don't delay. Remember it's your career!

As always, I am here to assist you in planning your military career and your subsequent transition into civilian life. I can be reached at 764-4707 or steven.gedemer@us.army.mil.

Employment Readiness

Overview



The Family Employment Readiness Program assists family members in acquiring job seeking skills, e.g. networking, resume writing, etc. and provides resources that help them to participate in the work force and to develop, or continue, a career/work plan. Each office contains job announcement boards with listings of on/off post employment vacancies, computer labs with internet access, fax and copy machines, typewriters, and telephones. Regular job search readiness workshops designed to help you identify a realistic vocational goal. More information may be found in your local Community Services office.

Also, scan some helpful employment links:

[Army Spouse Employment Partnership, Corporate Partners](#)

[Military Spouse Job Search](#)

[Army & Air Force Exchange](#)

[Non-Appropriated Funds](#)

[Federal Employment](#)





KOREAN CULTURE

Prepared by ROKA Staff, 36th Signal Battalion



Min, Jae Ki
ROKA
Sergeant Major

Greetings 36th Signal Battalion Soldiers and families! I am proud to say we all successfully completed Ulchi Freedom Guardian '10; one of our most important annual exercises on the Korean Peninsula.

Both U.S. Soldiers and Korean Augmentees to the United States Army in 36th Sig. Bn. acknowledged their duties and completed them with high integrity. This strengthened the Republic of Korea-United States alliance and increased mission readiness in many diverse ways.

Our ROK Staff Office detached one KATUSA Soldier as an interpreter to CP Oscar for better communication between ROK and U.S. Forces during the exercise. This shows how the KATUSA program is important for efficient joint operations between ROK and U.S. Forces.

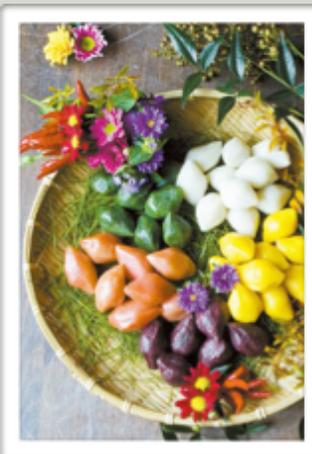
One of the most significant holidays in Korea is Chuseok, which is equivalent to Thanksgiving Day in the USA. This year, Chuseok falls on September 22nd.

Chuseok, the autumnal full moon day that falls on the 15th day of the eighth month by the lunar calendar, is probably the most anticipated festive day for most Koreans. In modern South Korea, most

Koreans return to their home towns during Chuseok. During the three-day holiday, family members get together, pay tribute to their ancestors, and conduct seongmyo, or visit their ancestral graves.



They often visit the tombs of their immediate ancestors to trim plants, clean the area around the tombs, and offer food, drink, and crops to their ancestors. Harvest crops are attributed to the blessing of ancestors.



One of the major foods prepared and eaten during Chuseok is songpyeon, a crescent-shaped rice cake which is steamed upon pine needles. Other dishes commonly prepared are japchae, bulgogi and fruits.

On a sad but happy note, I will transfer to the Area IV Republic of Korea Army Support Group at Camp Henry to serve as command



sergeant major. This is an honor for me although I will truly miss all of you and the battalion.

Thank you for your support and the regard from the U.S. Army Officers and the NCOs to the KATUSA program. It was my pleasure to cooperate with the battalion commander, company commanders, command sergeant major, first sergeants, and all of Soldiers in the 36th Sig. Bn.

My replacement is Master Sgt. Nam. He will prove himself as a leader to properly manage the KATUSA program in the 36th Sig. Bn.

I really appreciate your support. I will never forget my service with the 36th Signal Battalion. Thank you.

 **2010 USAG Daegu**
Army Family Action Plan Conference
18-19 November 2010 

Army Family Action Plan is a conference comprised of a cross-section of Soldiers, civilians, military retirees, and family members who volunteer to represent the community. The Army Family Action Plan is an outlet for the community to bring forth their insights, concerns, talents, and skills for the common goal of enhancing the quality of life for America's Army.





Post 9/11 GI Bill Overview

- New educational benefit for Soldiers
 - Veterans' Administration funds thru appropriations
 - Program effective 1 Aug 09
 - Does not replace existing VA education programs (MGIB, MGIB-SR, VEAP, REAP)
 - Requires no contribution by the Soldier
 - May use up to 15 years after last date of active duty
 - May be used for education offered by an accredited institution of higher learning
 - Includes graduate, undergraduate, and vocational/technical training
 - VA determines eligible institutions of higher learning and approves programs of education
 - Does not apply to solely online / internet programs
- Benefits:
 - Tuition and fees limited to the highest in-state undergraduate tuition for the state enrolled
 - A monthly living stipend paid at the rate of E-5 (with dependents) BAH based on the zip code of the school (for dependents and / or separated Soldiers and spouses) for full time students.
 - Up to \$1,000 per school year to pay for books and supplies
 - Up to \$1,200 of tutorial assistance
 - Up to \$2,000 for reimbursement of one licensing or certification test

For More Post 9/11 GI Bill Information

Veterans' Administration

Phone: (1-888) 442-4551

- General information on the Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits www.gibill.va.gov
- VA VONAPP page <http://vabenefits.vba.va.gov/vonapp/main.asp>
- VA Form 22-1990e pdf hard copy form <http://www.vba.va.gov/pubs/forms/VBA-22-1990e-ARE.pdf>
- DoD Post-9/11 GI Bill Transferability policy http://www.defenselink.mil/home/features/2009/0409_gibill

Eligible individuals receive 36 months of benefits. Benefits under the Post-9/11 GI Bill are paid over the 36 months based on a percentage, as determined by length of qualifying active duty service.

| Service Requirements (after 9/10/01 an individual must serve an aggregate of) | Includes entry level and skill training? | Percent of Maximum Benefit Payable |
|--|--|------------------------------------|
| At least 36 months | YES | 100 |
| At least 30 continuous days on active duty (Discharged due to service-connected disability) | YES | 100 |
| At least 30 months, but less than 36 months | YES | 90 |
| At least 24 months, but less than 30 months* | YES | 80 |
| At least 18 months, but less than 24 months* | NO | 70 |
| At least 12 months, but less than 18 months | NO | 60 |
| At least 06 months, but less than 12 months | NO | 50 |
| At least 90 days, but less than 06 months | NO | 40 |

* If a Soldier separates with less than 24 months of active duty service, the length of entry level skill training is not qualifying for Post 9/11 GI Bill benefits. If a Soldier separates with 24 or more months of active duty service, the length of entry level skill training is qualifying for Post 9/11 GI Bill benefits.



UPCOMING:

Highlights

OCT.

CAR Maintenance Week (4-8 Oct)
Soaring Dragon I-III (5-8, 19-22, 26-29 Oct)
Dragon Week (13-15 Oct)
Winter Safety Week (18-22 Oct)
Dragon Shield IV (19-20 Oct)
Battalion Dining-In (22 Oct)
Stress Management Training (29 Oct)

NOV.

Focused Passage (4-5 Nov)
CBRN Certification (9-10 Nov)
Enlightened Dragon III (15-26 Nov)
Dragon Flight II (16-17 Nov)
Battalion Run/H&F (24 Nov)

DEC.

COMMON Maintenance Week (6-10 Dec)
Holiday Prayer Luncheon (9 Dec)
Battalion Social Dinner (10 Dec)
Brigade Special Weapons Range (13-17 Dec)
Brigade Holiday Ball (17 Dec)

FAMILY HOLIDAY

Planning

Columbus Day Holiday (11-12 Oct)
Continuous School Improvement (CSI) In Service Day - No School (15 Oct)
8th Army Training Holiday / Teacher Work Day-No School (5 Nov)
Veterans Day Holiday (11-12 Nov)
Thanksgiving Holiday (25-26 Nov)
Half-Day Schedule (21 Dec-1 Jan)
Christmas Holiday (23-25 Dec)
New Years Holiday (30 Dec-1 Jan)

THE COMMANDER