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"In Unity and Vigilance"

THE DRAGON FLYER

501st MI Brigade Newsletter



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HHD Conquers the Mountain

Proudly serving
501st MI Brigade
Soldiers and Families

The Red Dragon Team

Col. Kris A. Arnold
Brigade Commander

Command Sgt. Maj. Marc A. Gianotti
Brigade Command Sergeant Major

The Publication Staff

Staff Sgt. Reshema G. Sherlock
Public Affairs NCO

Staff Sgt. Alex J. Young
Graphics Designer

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Guidon Bearers from the 501st Military Intelligence Brigade, stand in formation during the brigade Change of Responsibility ceremony, on Camp Humphreys, South Korea. U.S. Army photo by Comp Humphreys Visual Information Branch

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LEADER'S CORNER



Col. Kris A. Arnold
Brigade Commander

To the mighty Red Dragons, as we prepare for another theater exercise, I want to first thank you for your service to our country and for your efforts in ensuring the security of the Republic of Korea. I would also like to thank your family members that are here and those that are stateside for their unwavering support to your service and our nation.

As we saw during last year's Ulchi Freedom Guardian exercise, tensions can rise suddenly here on the Peninsula, which means all of us need to be ready to surge operations and potentially "Fight Tonight." We must remain vigilant and prepared! Upon assuming the position of Chief of Staff of the Army, General Milley, wrote, "Our fundamental task is like no other – it is to win in the unforgiving crucible of ground combat... No matter where we are around the world, America's Soldiers are displaying courage, commitment and character." Milley added, "We are demonstrating unparalleled competence and agility. And no matter the challenge, no matter how complex the environment, or how dangerous the situation, our soldiers fight and win."

General Milley's comments could not be more applicable to the Red Dragon Soldiers. Your efforts made a significant difference to the US and ROK senior leaders during the provocation last August. Based on the latest events on the Peninsula, e.g., nK's recent nuclear test and satellite launch, followed by the closing of the Kaesong Industrial Complex by President Park, tensions are likely to rise again during Key Resolve. If they do, I'm confident that the mighty Red Dragon Soldiers will be ready for the challenge. Reinforcing the requirement to be ready, General Milley has stated that Readiness for ground combat is – and will remain – the U.S. Army's #1 priority." Readiness, which Milley wrote "is #1, and there is no other #1," is an issue the general emphasized in his speech after being sworn in as chief. I know all of the Soldiers in the 501st MI Brigade understand this Readiness requirement, and I appreciate your continued efforts in staying ready both individually and as a unit.

Along with Readiness, General Milley spoke about taking care of the troops. "Our collective strength depends on our people – their mental and physical resilience is at our core," Milley wrote. "We must always treat each other with respect and lead with integrity. Our soldiers are the crown jewels of the nation; we must love them, protect them, and always keep faith with them."

I know the leaders of the brigade take this charge very seriously as evinced by your daily actions; so in closing, I want to thank all of your outstanding efforts in ensuring that we are ready and for your efforts in taking care each other and our most precious resource—the Soldier!

"Red Dragon 6"
"Red Dragons Strike with Fire!"
"Pacific Victors!"



Col. Kris A. Arnold, Commander, 501st Military Intelligence Brigade, speaks with Soldiers during a change of command ceremony, on Camp Humphreys, South Korea.

Welcome to 2016! The beginning of each new year typically begins with change, and this will definitely be the case for our Brigade. If we focus on the list of "new" things that occur this quarter, it can seem a bit daunting. A new evaluation reporting system for Noncommissioned Officers, new training guidance, focus areas, and threats from up north and around the globe. The most bitter-sweet change for me will be welcoming our new Brigade Command Sergeant Major, Command Sgt. Maj. Julie A. Guerra as I depart for Fort Meade.



Command Sgt. Maj. Marc A. Gianotti, past command sergeant major of the 501st Military Intelligence Brigade, reaches for the guidon, during a change of command ceremony on Camp Humphreys, South Korea. Photo by Camp Humphreys Visual Information Branch.

Soldiers, change is good. If you decide to stay with the Army Team, you can always count on the fact that every few years, there will be some turbulence. When major changes have occurred throughout my career I refused to rush to judgment. I also avoided being drawn into opinionated discussions about how things "used to be", or why "this is stupid". Instead I trusted my leaders, then researched or asked for the background on why changes were implemented, and then fell back on what I knew was constant for guidance. In my personal life, I have my faith, family and friends. In my professional life I look to the Army values, Army Regulations, and SOPs/TTPs. I think of these as the moral compass, map and protractor needed to navigate through my career.



Command Sgt. Maj. Marc A. Gianotti
Brigade Command Sergeant Major

As you begin the 2nd Quarter of FY16 and a new calendar year make a few resolutions. Resolve to stop rushing to judge regulations or a legal, moral and ethical order; do the research or ask why if you are unsure. Resolve to do the right thing, personally and professionally, every time instead of taking a short cut or doing what is convenient. Finally, resolve to do your part to continue building the community of excellence that makes the 501st the best Brigade in INSCOM and the Army.

It has been an absolute privilege to serve you as the Brigade CSM. This is Red Dragon 7, OUT.

"Red Dragon 7 OUT"
"Red Dragons Strike with Fire!"
"Pacific Victors!"

501ST MILITARY INTELLIGENCE BRIGADE WELCOMES NEW SENIOR ENLISTED LEADER

By Staff Sgt. Reshema Sherlock



Command Sgt. Maj. Julie A. Guerra, right, symbolically receives the responsibility and noncommissioned officers' sword from Col. Kris A. Arnold, left, commander, 501st Military Intelligence Brigade, during the brigade's change of responsibility on Camp Humphreys, South Korea. U.S. Army Photo by Pfc. Kim, Min Kwon

Camp Humphreys, South Korea – The 501st Military Intelligence Brigade held a Change of Responsibility ceremony at the Super Gym on Camp Humphreys, South Korea, Feb. 11.

During the ceremony, Command Sgt. Maj. Julie A. Guerra, a native of Tucson, Ariz., assumed responsibility as the brigade's senior enlisted leader from the outgoing command sergeant major, Command Sgt. Maj. Marc A. Gianotti.

Gianotti, a Syracuse, N.Y. native, and former member of the United States Army Great Skills Program, has served in various leadership positions to include Infantry Team and Squad Leader, Platoon Sergeant, First Sergeant, Battalion Sergeant Major, Battalion Operations Sergeant, and Brigade Operations sergeant major.

"Although I did not have as much time and altitude as I would have liked, I am extremely thankful for having had the opportunity to call myself, Red Dragon 6 7," said Gianotti.

Prior to his current position as the Brigade's senior enlisted leader, Gianotti served as the 3rd Military Intelligence Battalion, command sergeant major. His deployments include Operations Desert Shield/Storm/Fox, Iraqi Freedom, Enduring Freedom, and numerous operational missions.

"I have spoken many times about what I consider the three ships essential to success in life, and the Army – Followership, Leadership, and Mentorship. Sir, you reminded me that there is a fourth that I overlooked; Friendship," said Gianotti.

"Ready to 'Fight tonight' is not a motto here, it is a creed and it makes our foe tremble," said Gianotti. "I will miss serving with such a tight knit team, and our great allies."

Upon relinquishment of his responsibilities, Gianotti will assume responsibility of the 704th Military Intelligence brigade, at Fort Meade, Md.

Col. Kris A. Arnold, commander of the 501st Military Intelligence Brigade, presided over the ceremony, and recognized Gianotti for his honor and unwavering leadership to the brigade.

"When command sergeants majors speak, it is not only experience and expertise that you hear – but

Command Sgt. Maj. Julie A. Guerra, brigade command sergeant major, speaks to the Soldiers and guests during her change of responsibility ceremony on Camp Humphreys, South Korea. U.S. Army Photo by Pfc. Sydney Johnson



it is wisdom," said Arnold.

"Command Sgt. Maj. Gianotti, we are a great organization, because you were in it – you have made a difference to every Soldier in this brigade, including me," said Arnold.

Arnold mentioned his time spent with Gianotti, and commended him on the tremendous impact he has had on the brigade. From improving readiness, to developing the best SHARP campaigns on the Peninsula, as well as the reinforcement of discipline throughout the ranks.

"So, as we say goodbye to one seasoned warrior, we also welcome another. Command Sgt. Maj. Guerra, you are no stranger to Korea, or to the brigade. We are very fortunate to have such a proven leader to be our next brigade command sergeant major," said Arnold.

Guerra, who is no stranger to the brigade, has served in numerous leadership positions as well. Her assignments include Drill Sergeant, First Sergeant, Rear Detachment Command Sergeant Major, and Operations Sergeant Major.

"Twenty one years ago, last month, I reported to this fine brigade right out of Advanced Individual

Training as my first assignment," said Guerra. "I am truly humbled to have been chosen to lead alongside Col. Arnold, and its command sergeant's majors today."

Guerra's overseas assignments include Korea, deployments as part of the Implementation Force, Operation Iraqi Freedom, and deployments to Bosnia and Herzegovina.

"I look forward to this opportunity to serve the brigade, and the Alliance team," said Guerra.

Incoming Command Sgt. Maj. Julie A. Guerra takes charge of the brigade from Col. Kris A. Arnold. - U.S. Army Photo by Spc. Benjamin Pollhein.



Incoming Command Sgt. Maj. Julie A. Guerra takes charge of the brigade from Col. Kris A. Arnold. - U.S. Army Photo by Pfc. Sydney Johnson.



532ND MI BATTALION

Maintenance Challenge participants conduct a PMCS of the M4.



Soldiers from the 532nd Military Intelligence Battalion, 501st MI Bde., conduct preventative maintenance checks and services on their M4 weapons during the battalions maintenance challenge on Camp Humphreys, South Korea. U.S. Army photo by Spc. Jordan Adams.

THE BLACK HORSE MAINTENANCE CHALLENGE

In every branch, unit, and post across the Army, maintenance remains one of the most important aspects in sustaining readiness. Given the necessity to maintain readiness in the Korean theater, the 532nd “Black Horse” Battalion embraces the “Fight Tonight” concept by emphasizing maintenance throughout the year. Through leader emphasis and diligence in the maintenance program, the Battalion is always prepared to execute missions throughout the peninsula at a moment’s notice. In order to further train the unit’s Soldiers and evaluate the status of the maintenance program, the 532nd executed their Bi-Annual

10 Maintenance Terrain Walk and Maintenance Challenge

in November 2015. These events brought together Soldiers across every company and rank to refine their maintenance skills and compete with their peer group to determine the best maintainers in the Battalion.

On November 17th, Soldiers from throughout the Battalion attended the Maintenance Terrain Walk. Led by the Black Horse Company Executive Officers, the Maintenance Terrain Walk provided Soldiers with refresher training on the operation and maintenance of HMMWVs, LMTVs, generators, M4s and



M50s. While the primary focus of the event was to prepare Maintenance Challenge participants for their evaluations on the following day, the Maintenance Terrain Walk incorporated training for pre-command Officers through discussions of company and battalion maintenance programs.

To begin the Maintenance Terrain Walk, the trainer instructed participants on maintenance administration. Whereas the majority of the day’s training focused on ten-level maintenance tasks, this section emphasized the importance of company commander oversight of the unit’s maintenance program. Following this segment, Soldiers rotated through a HMMWV, LMTV, and generator station. Maintenance experts provided the Soldiers with an overview of the specific vehicle’s PMCS procedures and highlighted specific areas of interest on the vehicle. Third, Soldiers received hands-on training with their assigned M50 mask. In addition to conducting a PMCS, the CBRN trainer discussed the operation of various parts within the mask and explained the importance of maintaining the pieces properly. Lastly, Soldiers learned about the operation of the M4 and conducted a PMCS and functions check. Armed with the day’s training, Soldiers were well prepared to excel at the Maintenance Challenge the following day.

On November 18th, the Black Horse Maintenance team tested the maintenance knowledge of Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers, and junior Soldiers through several graded stations. The event began with an open-book exam, testing the participant’s knowledge of the use of HMMWV, M4, and M50 Technical Manuals. Following the written exam, Soldiers rotated through stations covering CBRN, M4, HMMWV, Generator, LMTV, and Fire Extinguisher maintenance. The maintenance crew provided challengers with one piece of equipment, a TM, and a DA-Form 5988 with faults and mistakes built into the form. After receiving a brief introduction to the station and the rules, the challengers were given a set amount of time to first verify the DA-Form 5988 and then the augmented PMCS steps to identify additional faults. Following completion of each station, Non-Commissioned Officers graded the completed 5988s and tallied the scores for all participants.

Following a pizza party for the event’s participants, LTC Nyland presented awards to the first, second, and third place Soldier and Non-

Commissioned Officer, based on their culminate score from all events. The Battalion Commander awarded PFC Devonta Darden from Alpha Company and SGT Carlos Gomezstrada from HHSC with Army Achievement Medals for earning first place in the competition, and 1LT Julian Woodhouse of Alpha Company was awarded a Battalion coin for earning the best score out of the Company Executive Officers.

While all companies in the Black Horse Battalion manage demanding intelligence missions twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week, the unit remains focused on readiness and strives to improve its programs on a daily basis. By incorporating the maintenance terrain walk and maintenance challenge into its training calendar bi-annually, the 532nd will remain proficient in all aspects of maintenance, continually training and evaluating Soldiers and leaders of all ranks on the fundamentals of PMCS. In addition to providing great training value, the maintenance challenge brought together Soldiers from all ranks and companies, uniting the geographically-dispersed 532nd Battalion and building cohesion between companies.

1st Lt. Ashley White, Nathaniel Rollings, Julian Woodhouse, and Gina DeFabio from the 532nd Military Intelligence Battalion, contributed to this story.



Sgt. Delacruz of Alpha Company trains Soldiers on the HMMWV during the Maintenance Terrain Walk. U.S. Army photo by Pfc. Victoria Delahanty.

B/524 CI/HUMINT Planning Conference

By: 532nd MI Bde.

The 532nd Military Intelligence (MI) Battalion, 501st Military Intelligence Brigade, hosted their week long CI/HUMINT planning conference at Camp Humphreys, South Korea. During the conference, leaders from the battalion and B/524 met with subject matter experts from 441st MI BN (Japan), 2nd Infantry Division G2X, and III Marine Expeditionary Force, to kick off the “melding of the minds”.



Historically, prior to the deactivation of 524th MI BN – Silent Vigilance – the unit conducted two separate exercises: Northern Vigilance (NOVIG) and Southern Vigilance (SOVIG) during 1st and 3rd quarter of the fiscal year. NOVIG was specifically geared towards HUMINT while SOVIG was tailored towards CI. Each exercise was approximately two weeks long, and they marked the culminating training event for Soldiers of B/524.

The intent behind the conference was to combine both exercises into one. The resulting

concept, ARIRANG SENTINEL (AS16), far exceeded expectations. Behind shut doors and deprived of all social interaction, participants in the conference not only successfully fused the two, they expanded the exercise into uncharted territory. AS16 will evaluate Soldiers and MI professionals on 95 total critical tasks, a 13% increase from the previous two exercises combined. With the additional critical tasks, Soldiers will be evaluated on new areas of their respective MOS previously untouched. Furthermore, since the exercise will simulate a wartime environment, the unit now has the unique opportunity to validate the CI/HUMINT section of Eighth Army’s OPLAN.

The foundation is set. Following the event execution in April, the unit is excited to see what’s in store for the next iteration. With participation from external units throughout the PACOM AOR, reserve integration from our sister BN, 368th MI BN, and our ROK counterparts, the list will only continue to grow. We have no doubt that in the near future, the contributions of 19 Soldiers and Marines will have paved the way for the premier PACOM level CI/HUMINT exercise held right in our backyard.



By Capt. Thamio Delpesch, S1 OIC, HHSC 532nd MI Battalion

The 532nd Military Intelligence (MI) Battalion, along with the Battalion Family Readiness Group (FRG) hosted its’ annual Non-Combatant Evacuation Operations (NEO) training. Soldier, Families and Civilians within the battalion came to partake in this training as a pre-cursor to the Courageous Channel exercise held across the Korean peninsula.



Family members walk through the site during the Non-Combatant Evacuation Operations training on Camp Humphreys, South Korea. U.S. Army Photo by Jennifer Corriea.

NEO operations to include Courageous Channel and Focused Passage is of the utmost importance to the 532nd MI Battalion Commander, Lt. Col. Nyland. “Factors causing an evacuation may be a surprise, but performing a NEO evacuation should be second nature.” From its inception, Lt. Col. Nyland pushed to ensure that this event turned out a huge success, largely in part due its significance and the fact that you never know when you will need to

evacuate so preparation is key. Lt. Col. Nyland laid the foundation for the battalion that NEO operations will be the primary focus. She encouraged a new culture within the battalion that enforces and encourages the Soldiers, Families, and Civilians to be prepared for an evacuation, if necessary, and to take part in the evacuation process.

Capt. Delpesche, the Battalion S1 provided the training on the NEO program; who has overall responsibility, past real-world evacuation scenarios and the lessons learned from them, the steps from initial notification of an evacuation through arrival at the repatriation centers within the US, realistic packing lists, and the utilization of both the adult and children’s masks. The Camp Humphreys Legal Office provided significant information on how to process claims, powers of attorneys, wills and its’ different types, and travel authorizations.

As most individuals consider their pets to be another member of the Family, the post veterinarian attended the NEO night as well. She spoke in depth about the process of ensuring that a pet is returned.



Family members pose for a picture during the flight portion of the Non-Combatant Evacuation Operations training, on Camp Humphreys, South Korea. U.S. Army Photo by Jennifer Corriea.

“WINGED VIGILANCE!”

By: Spc. Schmaldest

As a Specialist, I have not had too many opportunities to experience a leader's role or gain knowledge about how my leaders and other leaders operate on a day to day basis. CPTW, conducted on December 3rd through December 5th, was my chance to get a taste of the importance and reality of what a leader should be doing on a regular or irregular schedule in the Army. CPTW consisted of classes on PT, NCOER, Supervise PMCS, Convoy/Vehicle Commander, Counseling, Troop Leading procedures, and 8th Army Regulations. With these classes given, there was a homework assignment given to create a Spartan Leader's Book.

Every Specialist who has been in the Army for a decent amount of time knows the basics about Physical Training and what uniform you can and cannot wear. At least that's what I thought until I was actually taught about the regulations found in FM 7-22 and DA PAM 670-1. Specific regulations I did not feel the need to look into consist of: wearing the proper winter PT uniform and wearing the fleece cap for the duty uniform in under 32 degrees at the commander's digression. I had never before worn the short-sleeve PT shirt in winter PT's. When the day comes that I may need to know the regulations for certain cases, I will know them. That day comes every day. Not even a week after this training, I was in a PT formation that required the soldiers to downgrade to short-sleeves and shorts. Classes from CPTW taught me what right looks like, but even



Soldiers work together on Land Navigation during commanders priority training week on Camp Humphreys, South Korea. Photo by U.S. Army

more importantly, it taught me how to find what right looks like. The knowledge of regulations can save soldiers of all ranks from being taught the wrong information, or worse, teaching the wrong information to other soldiers.

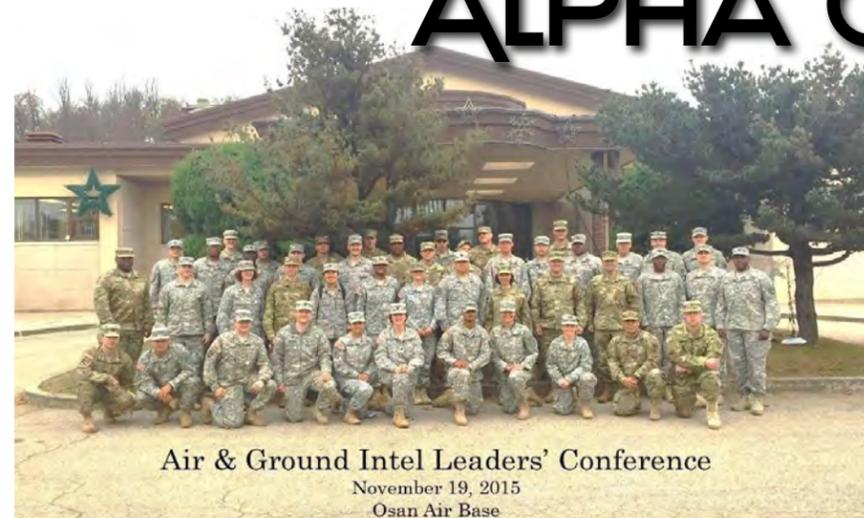
Hands-on-experience is something not many soldiers get to receive unless they volunteer to do something out of the norm. CPTW gave unique PMCS experiences for Specialists. In a practical exercise, I was asked to conduct, supervise, and evaluate the PMCS process on a chemical mask. In the past, I had only conducted PMCS on HMMWV.

Directly after the PMCS class, a class on Troop Leading Procedures was taught. This class showed me how in depth the procedure is and should be. It consists of METT-TC, conceptualizing a plan, perfecting the plan, consistently informing the soldiers of the schedule for the mission, creating a 3D map and finally going over the mission objective and how the mission will be carried out one last time before executing.

Counseling statements are the way to inform a soldier on what they should or should not be doing. But more importantly, they let the soldier know of the route and action to take in order to complete the correction they need to make or the route they need to take to better themselves as a person and as a soldier. In CPTW, I learned that counseling statements aren't just a monthly task. They can be done whenever a soldier has done the right or wrong thing. They can be a "Way to go," or they can be a, "you better shape up." Counseling statements are a way to put on-the-spot corrections on paper after the correction is made.

After gathering all we had learned during CPTW, we were asked to make a Spartan Leader's Book. I can, at any time, find the information that I learned during this eventful week in this book. It is complete with regulations, a PT plan, should I ever be ordered to lead PT for a week, 501st MI Brigade's History, as well as that of the Commander's and 1SG's biography, creeds, and other various tools to better myself as a soldier and as a leader.

ALPHA COMPANY



By: Capt. Arthur Murphy

The 3RD MI BN leadership participated in the Air Ground Intel Leaders conference 19 November at Osan Air Base. The 3RD Battlefield Coordination Detachment (BCD) and the 607TH Air Operations Center (AOC) hosted the event in order to synchronize future intelligence efforts and share an understanding of ground and air intelligence operations.

The event began with a briefing by the AOC and BCD Commanders as well as informational briefs from the Ground Component Command-Combined Analysis Control Center (GCC-CACC) and 694TH Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance group (ISR). Attendees then participated in a joint problem solving session where senior leaders voiced their concerns in an open collaborative environment.

Following the round table, attendees toured the various facilities that enable intelligence collection and coordinate the operations of multiple joint platforms. Finally, the 5TH Reconnaissance Squadron provided

an aircraft capabilities briefing, facility tour, and question and answer session.

The conference accomplished three important goals. First, it let senior leaders meet face to face to share best practices and jointly attack problems. The round table discussion was productive because it integrated major decision makers and their support staffs with expert knowledge of complex problem sets. It also gave junior leaders and support staff visibility on theater-wide concerns shared by multiple intelligence collection organizations.

Next, it let intelligence producers and consumers expand their situational understanding of the process that synthesizes raw data into critical intelligence and answers Priority Intelligence Requirements (PIRs). The 3RD MI BN, as an intelligence collection unit, may not always see how individual collection efforts fulfill the greater intelligence gaps. The conference let junior leaders broaden their understanding of how their individual platforms fed the greater intelligence enterprise

and ultimately answer PIRs. Also, ground units may not always see who develops their intelligence and the multiple sources of that intelligence.

The conference exposed ground unit leaders to the aerial intelligence layer, increasing their understanding of how intelligence is generated. Letting intelligence consumers actually see and touch the equipment and organizations that generate intelligence boosts their confidence and lends credibility to the greater intelligence enterprise.

Finally, it was a great opportunity for junior leaders to network with peers across the theater of operations and share their expertise. Conference attendees came from a plethora of backgrounds with a wealth of knowledge in multiple areas. I personally met intelligence officers who were former AH-64 Apache pilots and Air Force personnel who flew aboard the DHC-7 ARL in other theaters of operations. Attendees had unique experiences but shared understanding which let them foster working relationships even after the conference ended.

In conclusion the conference was a resounding success; time well spent focused on critical ISR missions and the process that creates valuable intelligence. I sincerely look forward to attending the next conference and possibly showcasing Alpha Company's ARL aircraft as well.

BRAVO COMPANY

By: 1st Lt. Joshua Julian



Capt. Kayleigh Wallace, commander, Bravo Company, 3rd Military Intelligence Battalion, 501st MI Bde., briefs Pentagon officials on the capabilities of the Guardrail aircraft. Photo by U.S. Army.

Bravo Company, 3rd Military Intelligence Battalion (AE), 501st MI BDE has one of the most dynamic mission sets. Having the dual personality of Aviation and Military Intelligence, Bravo Company many times enjoys the experiences from both. A part of the force modernization, Bravo Companies RC-12K's are being divested. This involves both training pilots on the new RC-12X and flying the aging RC-12K's back to the United States. Recently, a ferry flight of two RC-12K's left Camp Humphreys on a trans-pacific flight.

The Crew left Camp Humphreys mid-day on a cold Sunday in the beginning of October. The plan was to have the two aircraft follow each other till they hit mainland America then they would split their ways based on where their final stop was. One aircraft was destined to New Jersey, while the other aircraft was going to be put up on display in front of the new Brigade Headquarters, at Fort Gordon, Ga. The tail winds were significant, allowing the aircraft to travel at speeds greater than 350 miles per hour. The first stop was Misawa Air Base, Japan.

The plan upon arrival at Misawa was to spend the night, and then leave the next night at midnight. This would allow crews to adapt to the effects of crossing the International Date Line. However at the same time, Severe Turbulence the first evening and two Typhoons the second evening created a barrier for the crew's route to their next stop, a small Aleutian Island. However after two days of weather, the crews launched on the next evening.

Leaving Misawa at Midnight on the 15th, the crews arrived at Shemya Island at 10 AM on the 14th. The aircraft fought 40 knot direct crosswinds on the way to the runway, but without any alternative, put the aircraft to bed at Shemya. This small former Air Force base was now operated by Alaskan Civilians. Littered with the remnants of old Air Force Hangars rotting from neglect, the island appeared to be exactly what zombie apocalypse movies prepare you for. After a night of storms and small foxes attempting to catch a ride with us, both crews were off to Anchorage, Alaska.

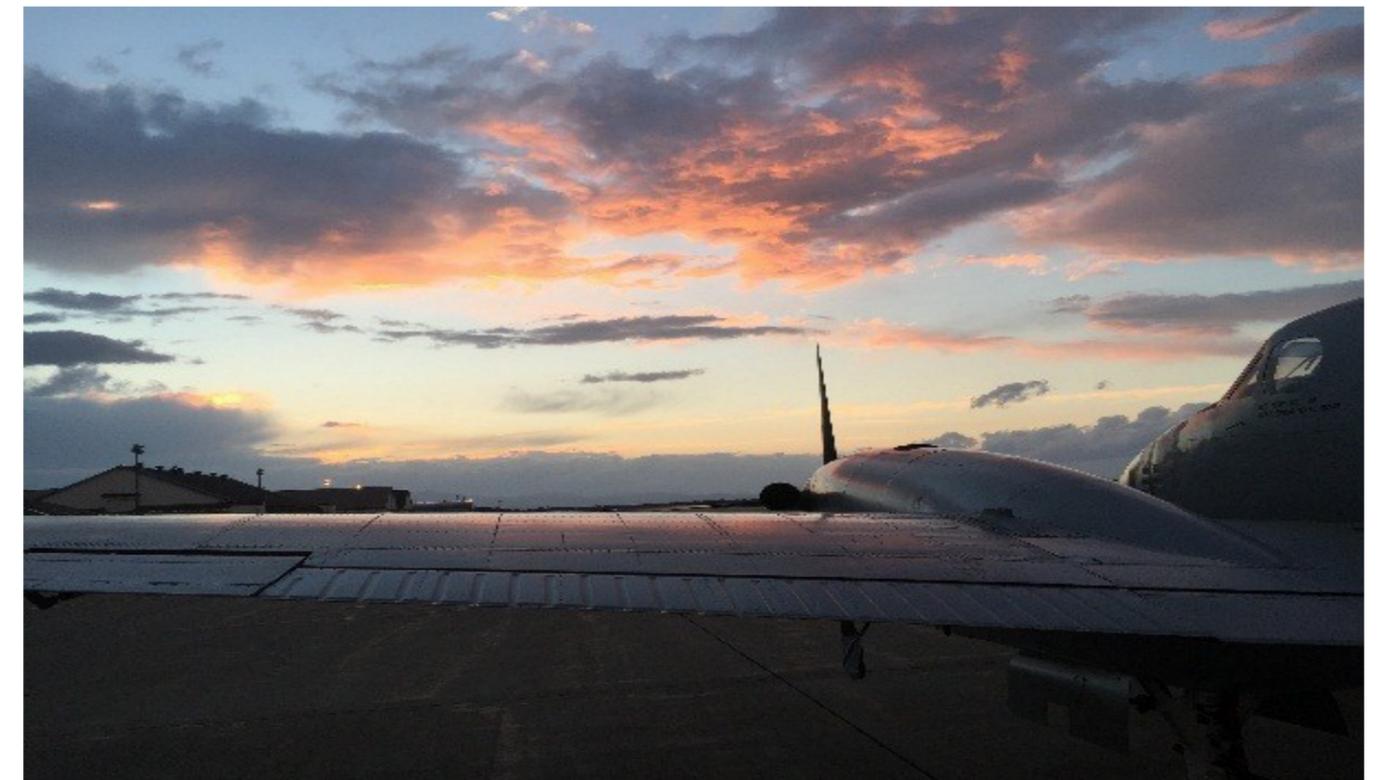
Despite being a shorter leg, the remains of the storms caused a headwind that made the trip to Anchorage very slow, but six hours of flight later, the crews were at customs. This is where the crews split up. Both crews planned on a one day reset and another one day reset at their next stop. My aircraft would be resetting in Seattle. My sister ship had family in Portland and this is where they would reset. When arriving at the airport on the second day to conduct preflight, we encountered an error with our transponder. For the uninitiated, the transponder is the piece of equipment that tells Air Traffic Control and other aircraft where we are and at what altitude. This piece of equipment has saved countless pilots throughout the years, and we will not leave without it being functional. On this Saturday, we attempted everything we could to fix the transponder with no luck. Luckily within an hour, we had a detachment of maintenance personnel that works with our aircraft. Before the end of the day, the aircraft transponder was fixed, and a solution was created to stop this from happening again in the future. It only cost a day of flight, and 800 dollar box seat tickets to the Seattle vs Carolina game. The next day we came in, preflight the aircraft and were off the ground with no issues, transponder working.

Upon landing at Boeing Field in Seattle, we were greeted with sad Seahawks Fans. Due to the

lost days because of weather and aircraft issues, we decided to keep pushing forward. The next couple days to Denver, Nashville and then Savannah went without issue, and gave us a feeling of longing for the expertise of the American Air Traffic Controllers.

By the end of October, both aircraft were at their final destinations, and mission was a success. The experience of flying a mission of 30 hours was phenomenal and broadened my abilities as an aviator. Bravo Company will continue to execute mission, but operating outside of the norm is a welcome change.

The Guardrail Aircraft rests for the night after a flight from Camp Humphreys to Misawa, Japan. Photo by U.S. Army.



719TH MI BATTALION HHD CONQUERS THE MOUNTAIN!

By Capt. Robert Anderson



Soldiers from the 719th Military Intelligence Battalion, 501st MI Bde., conduct a rigorous walk from the base of Kamak Mountain, as part of commanders priority training week. Photo by U.S. Army

and had to move with some pep in their step in order to hit all the stations. It was a challenging but well worth it.

The culminating event was a joint march with a ROK Army platoon from the base of Kamak Mountain to the top where Detachment K is located. The Company coordinated for bus transportation to take the approximately thirty HHD Soldiers to the starting point of the mountain. WOLFPACK Soldiers in an effort to break the ice with the ROK Army Soldiers introduced themselves in Korean. Next, the detachment PSG conducted the OPORD brief of their mission and then together as one unit they were off to take the mountain.

This was a rigorous upward march that really tested the Soldier's physical abilities. Not only was the movement tough, but halfway thru they encountered OPFOR and successfully created a support by fire and flanked the enemy on the right side to successful win the battle. At the top, the ROK Army Leaders briefed HHD Soldiers on their mission and how they support the detachment. Together they celebrated the movement up the mountain with a barbecue. HHD concluded an amazing week of training marching down the mountain to link up with transportation back to USAG-H. WOLFPACK leads the Way!

SILENT WARRIORS

Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 719th Military Intelligence Battalion, 501st MI BDE, "The WOLFPACK", had an incredible week of training back in the beginning of November. Their focus throughout the week was to not only fine tune their individual Warrior Skills, but also to effectively train to execute their operational area security mission. The first three days, Soldiers received detailed in-class training on specific Warrior Skills to include: Voice Communications, Evaluate a Casualty, CBRN, Weapon Employment, and Civilian Affairs.

The benefit of being a Headquarters company is that subject matter experts can be easily found. For example there is no one better to instruct the communications class other than the BN S6 NCOIC, SFC Lewellen. Weapons employment was taught by a former Drill Sergeant, SFC Fields. HHD also was fortunate enough to leverage the expertise of the BDE PAO, SSG Sherlock, for the civilian affairs class.

After good quality in-class training, the next step was to validate that training with "check on learning" STX lanes. In squad sized elements, HHD Soldiers took off on a ruck all around USAG-H, one station for every class taught during the week. The same instructors used earlier in the week were able to again test out their Soldiers to make sure their training

18 stuck. Each squad had a random route to each station



Soldiers from Alpha Company, 719th MI Battalion, assesses a casualty during commanders priority training week.

By: 1st Sgt. Douglas Hegyi

As a member of the United States Army, I believe it is very important to always continue training no matter what type of environment you are working in. Whether you are in a tactical or strategic unit you always need to be combat ready. Even though we are stationed on the Korean Peninsula and not in a combat zone, we have to be ready to "Fight Tonight." With that being said, the way that Alpha Company 719th MI BN conducts weekly and quarterly training is very important.

Over the last couple of months, Soldiers from Alpha Company 719th Military Intelligence Battalion have been conducting Sergeants Time Training (STT) in preparation for Commander's Priority Training Week (CPTW). During STT, Soldiers were trained in skills such as map reading, methods of communicating with the media, and clearing rooms. After

ALPHA COMPANY CONDUCTS CPTW!

completing several weeks of STT, these Soldiers' skills were tested at CPTW. Commander's priority training week consisted of four different sites where they were tested on different skills.

Site #1 consisted of a written test that covered map reading, first aid, salute reports, and how to identify and report a UXO. This written test was a great way to assess the Soldiers' ability to be tested under the pressure of time. Soldiers were given a time limit to complete each section of the test and once they received a go in all sections they moved on to the next site.

At site #2, Soldiers were tested on how to do a proper vehicle inspection and how to search personnel. This type of training is essential to the welfare of Soldiers. When Soldiers are able to conduct proper inspections of vehicles and personnel we can prevent our enemies from using hidden weapons against us while they are in our custody. After completing site #2 they moved to site #3.

During training at site #3, Soldiers worked in teams to make movement through a building. As they were moving through the building they cleared a number of rooms. Learning the art of clearing rooms helps to ensure that Soldiers have the ability to trust in each other and work in teams. Upon completion of clearing rooms Soldiers moved to site #4.

While at site #4, Soldiers reacted to indirect fire, assessed a

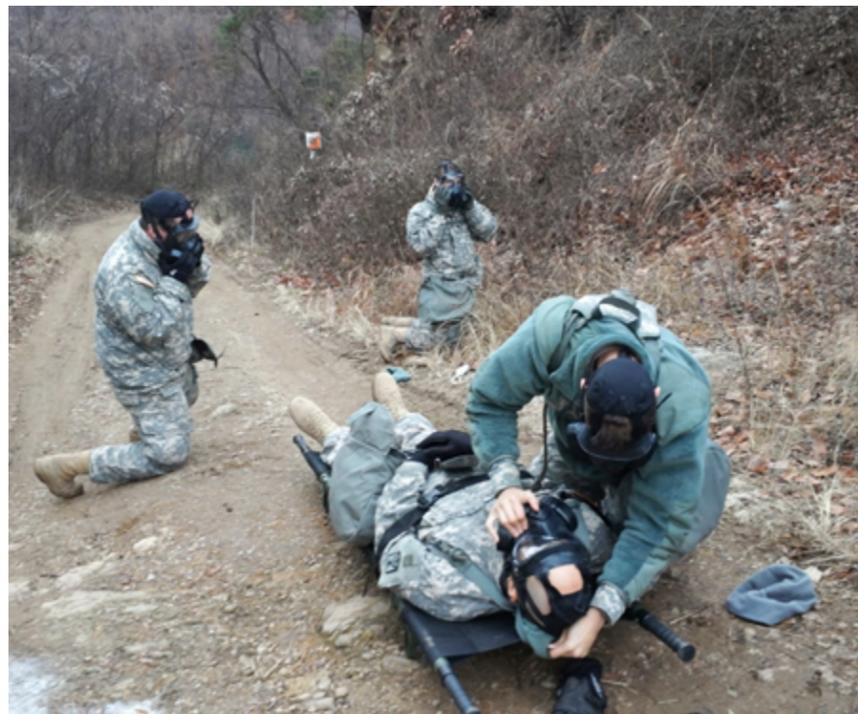
casualty, and interacted with the media. While reacting to indirect fire and assessing a casualty are commonly trained tasks and necessary to the accomplishment of the mission down range; interacting with the media is not as commonly trained. It may not seem like an important task, but when the media looks for a story they typically go straight to the source; Soldiers. Reporters look to Soldiers as a source when collecting information about the military.

Training is a vital part of being a Soldier. Without knowing our basic Soldier skills we would be unable to be successful in a combat zone. This type of training also teaches teamwork which is necessary in both a combat and a garrison environment. Phoenix Knights HQ out.



Soldiers from Alpha Company, 719th MI Battalion, pulls guard as their squad members clear rooms, during commanders priority training week.

BRAVO COMPANY



A Soldier from Bravo company, 719th Military Intelligence Battalion, 501st Military Intelligence Brigade, secure the mask on another soldier, during their commanders Priority Training Week.

CPTW

The Soldiers of Bravo Company continued to excel in all regards for the months of October through December 2015, and as we progress through the Holiday Season, we are reminded how grateful we are for all of these outstanding individuals and teams that make up Bravo Company, and the work that they perform on a daily basis. Throughout the quarter, our Soldiers continued their 24/7 operations in support of the USFK J2, Special United States Liaison Advisor Korea (SUSLAK), and ROK partners and agencies. We continue to strengthen the Alliance through a number of different initiatives, maintain our “Fight Tonight” readiness with quality maintenance programs and training on Army warrior tasks and battle drills, and reset/rebuild with emphasis on Soldier and Family wellness and readiness.

B CO Soldiers continue to be the tip of the spear for the 719th MI BN and the 501st MI BDE in terms of strengthening the Alliance. Our Soldiers continued to work side-by-side with ROK partners on a daily basis, sharing techniques, knowledge, and experience with our friends and allies in dynamic environment and pushing the US-ROK Alliance forward. Our Soldiers continually push boundaries and search for new ways to enhance sharing and cooperation. Additionally, the CSG, along with most of our personnel who directly support the J2 and USFK, continued to assist the J2 in monitoring the armistice with 24/7 Ops, while working towards improving communication and coordination

20 between all of the varying members of the US intelligence community in

Korea.

In terms of remaining ready to “Fight Tonight”, B CO Soldiers have continued to strive for excellence. Our company NCO’s continue to assist the commander in developing quality training based on the 8-step training model that enhances our ability to protect the force and execute Army Warrior Tasks and Battle Drills. Our CPTW this quarter allowed all of our Soldiers to operate in squads, practice the troop leading procedures, gain valuable tactical leadership experience, and react to real-world scenarios that enabled them to refine their critical individual and collective skills. Additionally helping to maintain our unit’s “Fight Tonight” posture, our maintenance team spent countless days and weeks on extended maintenance missions. They maintain the systems that our customers rely on for information and they continue to brave hazardous mountain roads, winter weather, and Korean traffic on a regular basis to do so, and to keep our unit’s operations running.

Last but not least, the company and its Soldiers continue to focus on Soldier and Family wellness and readiness. The company and its Soldiers are in the midst of preparing for their 2015 Holiday Party at Lotte World, where the Families and Soldiers will earn a well-deserved day of fun together, and a long overdue “Thank-You” from the 719th MI BN and B CO leadership.

B CO is made up of some outstanding Soldiers and Families, and we look forward to what we will all accomplish together in the next quarter!

FRG Eventful Times



By Jennifer Corriea
Family Readiness
Support Assistant

As the weather begins to cool, FRG events begin to pick-up with the planning and preparations of holiday parties and ensuring that Soldiers and Families are taken care of during the holiday season. Here in Korea, we kick off the fall with a Non-combatant Evacuation Operations (NEO) exercise. This year during the annual Courageous Channel exercise, participating Family members were able to ride in a Chinook (at USAG Humphreys) or a Blackhawk (at USAG Yongsan) to get the experience of what it would be like to evacuate Korea. This important exercise occurs twice annually and provides our Families with important preparation information. A NEO evacuation would occur when the U.S. Department of State feels that non-combatants are at risk due to war, political or civil instability, or a natural disaster. It is important for our Family members and government civilians to understand the process of NEO. Our Family Readiness Groups (FRGs) partner with our unit leadership and NEO Wardens to ensure that we provide relevant and informative briefings to our non-combatants. The mission of the FRGs stateside is to promote self-sufficiency, provide a communication channel with the unit command team, and prepare them for the deployment and redeployment of their Soldier. Here in Korea, we prepare our Families to be able to depart the country without their Soldier and to be self-sufficient in a foreign country while their Soldier is on TDY or on mission. Biannually, we provide Families and Soldiers information on the evacuation process, important documents to maintain their NEO binders, and training on issued protective masks. It is important to be tied into your FRG to get useful information of upcoming events, important training, and a way to communicate issues and concerns with the command team.



'TIS THE (TAX) SEASON

By
Maj. Mike S. Ni,
Brigade Judge Advocate

Good intentions often get muddled with very complex execution. The last time the government tried to make taxes easier, it created a 1040 EZ form with a 52-page help booklet.
- Brad D. Smith, former Board Member at Yahoo!

Happy New Year from the Brigade Legal Office! As we follow the theme of transition, there is no better sign of a coming new year than tax season. Yes, I know there is Hanukkah, Christmas, and New Year's Eve, but those are causes for celebration, while just hearing the word, "tax," can elicit reactions of dread and anxiety, and the reality that another year has genuinely come and gone. Such trepidations are not unfounded. According to Joseph Henchman who writes a blog on tax policy (yes, there are people

who actually write about tax for a living!), the federal tax code is located in Title 26 of the United States Code and spreads across two volumes consisting of over 2,500 pages.

The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) publishes its own regulations that run approximately 9,000 pages. Then there is the compilation of tax cases and regulations found in the Standard Federal Tax Reporter that has accumulated over 70,000 pages! The amount of legislation a citizen is expected to understand would give any person significant consternation when filing his or her taxes.

Fortunately, there is help! Every year, the Army provides its Soldiers, mobilized Reservists, dependents, and retirees across the peninsula free legal assistance to prepare their tax forms. Whether you are stationed as far north as Camp Casey or in the middle of it all in Seoul, you can find an Army tax center open during the tax season ready to assist any qualified individuals on filing their taxes.

Two major tax centers in South Korea include United States Army Garrison (USAG) - Yongsan and USAG - Humphreys. Other installations may also have their own tax center, such as at Camp Casey. If you are not certain whether your post has a tax center, please give us a call and we can direct you to the nearest location.

At Yongsan, the tax center is located at the Moyer Community Activities Center at Building 2259, Room 102 (next to Smoothie King). The Yongsan tax center will open on January 28, 2016, and end

operations on May 5, 2016. During this period, you may reach the center by telephone at DSN: 723-7887.

The Humphreys tax center is located at the Humphreys Legal Assistance Office at Building 578 (near Quarry Gate). It will begin to see clients starting January 20, 2016, and conclude on June 15, 2016. When opened, you may reach the center by telephone at DSN: 753-5680.

All tax centers are staffed with dedicated IRS-trained military and civilian personnel who will sit one-on-one with each individual to prepare his or her tax return and answer any tax-related question. Please note there are some services the tax center cannot provide. For example, it cannot help you sell real estate, run a business, or cancel a debt.

When you go to the tax center, here are five quick tips to make your trip as efficient and worthwhile as possible:

1. Remember to bring not just your own identification and Social Security (SSN) cards, but also the identification and SSN cards of your dependents. Also make sure to bring two forms of identification. If filing electronically and jointly with your spouse, remember both of you must be present to sign the required forms. If your spouse cannot join you at the tax center, be sure to have a Special Power of Attorney that permits you to complete tax filings for your spouse.

2. Bring a copy of your last year's return.

3. Bring the correct forms and information. These include your current W-2, W-2G, Form 1099, and Form 1099-R, which are your wage and earning statements,

and interest statements. If you own real estate property back in the United States, bring your current Form 1098 or 1098-T that includes your mortgage statements. If you have children and paid for child care, bring information on the total amount paid for such care and your child care provider's tax identifying number, social security number, or Employer Identification Number.

4. Bring all receipts for tax-deductible donations.

5. Lastly, bring a canceled check that includes your bank routing and account number so you may receive a direct deposit of any tax refund you may receive.

The tax center can help you alleviate some of the complexities of filing your annual taxes. Centers are located throughout the peninsula. Best of all, it is a free service provided by a well-trained staff. Let them assist you in relieving another worry so you can focus on your duties for the new year. Remember, as our former Commander-in-Chief, Richard M. Nixon, once said, "Make sure you pay your taxes; otherwise you can get in a lot of trouble." Have a great new year!



**"Soldier First,
Lawyer Always"**

"IN UNITY AND VIGILANCE"



HERE IT COMES

Staying safe in the cold means staying aware of your personal risk. Know your limits and plan ahead for all your activities, both on and off duty.

READY ...OR NOT?

Ready ... or Not is a call to action for leaders, Soldiers, Army Civilians and Family members to assess their "readiness" for what lies ahead—the known as well as the unknown.

Throughout our professional and personal lives, events happen all around us. We are often able to shape the outcome of those events, but many times we're not. Navigating life's challenges is all about decision-making.

So are **YOU** ready ... or not?



<https://safety.army.mil>

I. A. M. STRONG

HOW DOES I. A.M. STRONG LINK TO OUR ARMY VALUES, WARRIOR ETHOS, AND PROFESSION OF ARMS?

A Soldier in the United States Army stands strong - a member of a band of brothers and sisters bound together by timeless values and sharing a sense of trust with and duty and loyalty to their fellow Soldiers that is unlike any other in the world.

Their willingness to sacrifice for each other, to never leave a fallen comrade, is what makes a Soldier strong - on the battlefield, and off.

When sexual harassment or sexual assault occurs, it is not only a direct violation of our Army Core Values and Warrior Ethos, but also an assault on what it means to serve in the Profession of Arms and the Army way of life - a life in which it is our duty to protect and take care of each other no matter the time, place, or circumstance. As a band of brothers and sisters, we have a personal and professional duty to intervene and prevent sexual harassment and sexual assault.

Sexual assault is a crime. It is blue on blue. It betrays victims and their Families; erodes the bedrock of trust upon which the Profession of Arms is grounded; and has a corrosive effect on our unit readiness, team cohesion, and command environment.

The damage resulting from sexual assault extends far beyond the victim, weakening the very health and morale of our Soldiers, breaking the bond of trust within our team, shattering the confidence Soldiers have in one another, and undermining unit readiness.

Sexual assault can be prevented. As Soldiers, our Core Values demand that we act to stop these behaviors. There are no passive bystanders. Passive bystanders who do not assist, do not report, and do not try to help their fellow Soldiers as they see sexual harassment or sexual assaults occur are part of the problem. We must protect our team members. When we see or sense the risk of sexual harassment or sexual assault, we have a duty to intervene and protect our fellow Soldiers.

501st MILITARY INTELLIGENCE BRIGADE

