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Desert Voice Magazine
Serving U.S. and Coalition Forces in Kuwait

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Bradley bedlam

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On the cover

A Bradley Fighting Vehicle crew from 4th Brigade, 3rd Infantry Division, moves off the firing line at Camp Buehring, Kuwait, Oct. 31. For the full story, turn to page 6.

Photo by Staff Sgt. Jacob McDonald

Contact us

Comments, questions, suggestions story ideas? Call the Desert Voice editor at 430-6334 or e-mail at desertvoice@arifjan.arcent.army.mil.

Giving thanks to servicemembers

Thanksgiving has come to signify the American spirit – a spirit of self-reliance, of generosity, and of gratitude for the abundance in our lives. It is that spirit, more than anything else, which compels us to cherish freedom, fight against oppression, and pursue the prosperity we enjoy as Americans. It is that same spirit which has sustained patriotic generations of troops and their Families in defending this freedom.

It is a spirit that once again assumes an even greater meaning this Thanksgiving, as Families across America sit down to Thanksgiving dinner and give thanks for the blessings and the benefits of freedom, liberty, and the bounty of our way of life.

We enjoy these blessings and many others due in no small part to the sacrifice and vigilance of you all, dedicated professionals, men and women of the Armed Forces, both uniformed and civilian.

America's greatest advantage is the same one she's had since the beginning of the republic – the strength, the power of a free people, a free people whose volunteers will fight to defend



Lt. Gen. R. Steven Whitcomb
Third Army Commanding General

their nation and their Families from fear and from terror.

Know that on this Thanksgiving, Americans are praying for your safety and giving heartfelt thanks to you and to your loved ones for your

service. Nov. 11-17 is Military Family Week, and it is especially appropriate during this upcoming Thanksgiving week that as we count our blessings, we give particular thanks to our wonderful Army Families.

It is Families who give us strength and support and give our lives and our mission meaning.

Reflecting on World War II, Winston Churchill said, "We gave thanks to God for the noblest of all His blessings, the sense that we had done our duty."

This Thanksgiving, as we have been at war for six years, I offer my thanks to you, the men and women of Third Army, who each day stand watch against those who would harm us.

God bless you and your Families all God bless our fighting men and women everywhere, on point and on watch around the globe, and God bless the United States of America.

Patton's own!

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Christmas lights may pose fire hazard

Story by

Charles A. Coffman

ASG-Kuwait Fire Prevention Office

The holiday season will soon be upon us here in Kuwait and most of us will try to get into the spirit by decorating our living quarters and work areas in some form or fashion. Because we live and work here in Kuwait, there are some important additional fire safety precautions to take into consideration before you begin to decorate.

To ensure we all have a safe holiday season, the Third Army/ U.S. Army Central Area Support Group-Kuwait Fire Prevention Office offers these important fire safety tips as you prepare for the holidays:

- Never hang Christmas decorations or lights from any sprinkler head as this may interfere with proper activation during an emergency.

- Candles of any type are not authorized, with the exception of approved religious services sponsored by the post chapel.

- Live Christmas trees are restricted to certain approved public assembly locations that hold 50 or more people. Offices and living quarters are prohibited from having live trees; however artificial trees may be used as long as they are labeled as fire-retardant.

- Electrical decorations and Christmas lights need to be 230 volts, CE rated and listed. Do not use 110-volt lights or strands. The use of transformers for 110-volt electrical decorations is prohibited.

- If you use Christmas tree lights, please ensure that they are properly rated for indoor use. Lights are either rated for indoor or outdoor use, not both.

- Carefully inspect each electrical decoration before plugging it in. Cracked sockets, frayed, bare or loose wires can cause a serious electric shock or start a fire. Replace damaged items with new CE-listed electrical decorations.

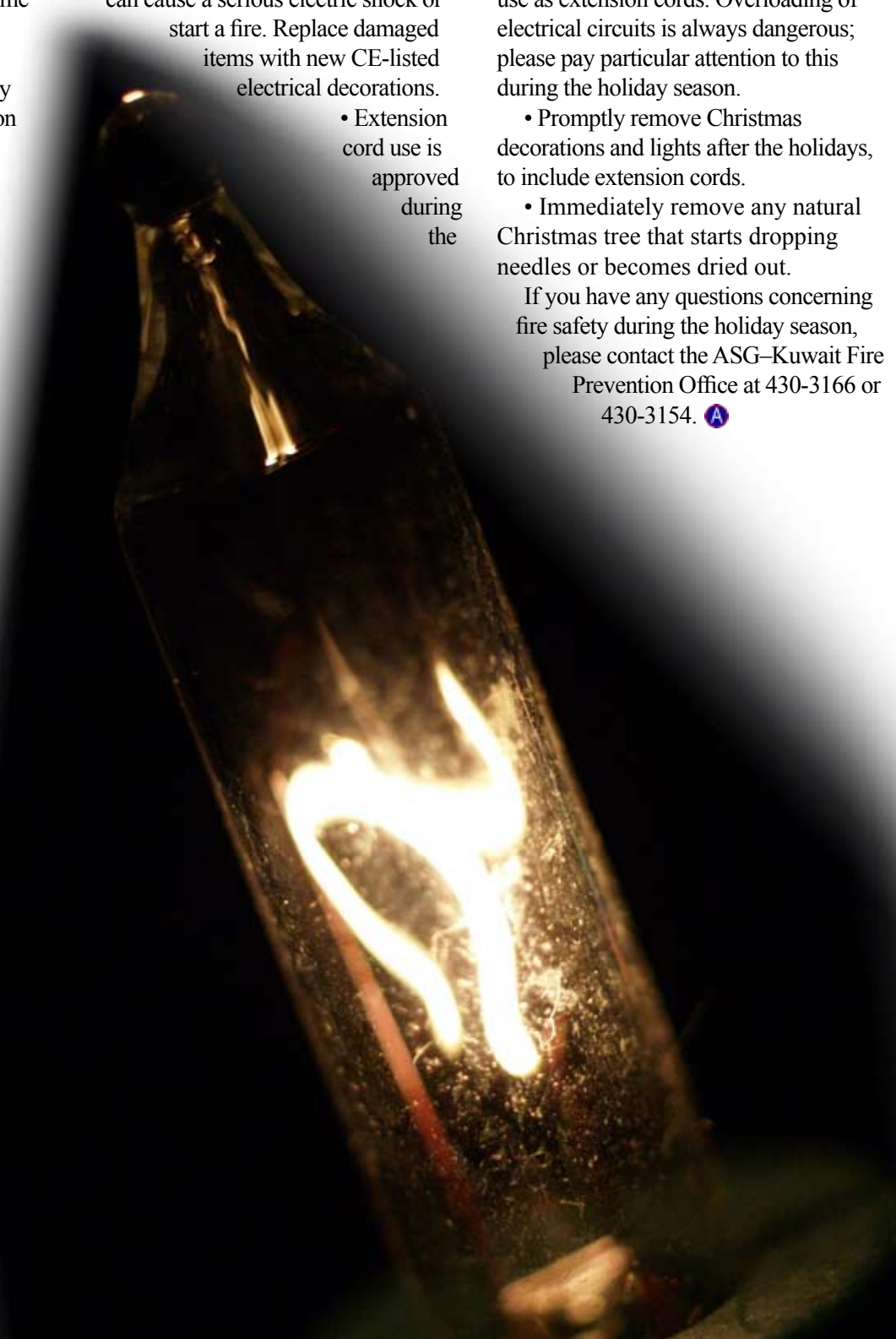
- Extension cord use is approved during the

holiday season only. Extension cords must be the 240-volt, three-prong type, a minimum of 16 gauge and CE tested. Extension cords used for holiday purposes must be identified as heavy duty or extra hard usage. Two-wire extension cords are not authorized for use as extension cords. Overloading of electrical circuits is always dangerous; please pay particular attention to this during the holiday season.

- Promptly remove Christmas decorations and lights after the holidays, to include extension cords.

- Immediately remove any natural Christmas tree that starts dropping needles or becomes dried out.

If you have any questions concerning fire safety during the holiday season, please contact the ASG-Kuwait Fire Prevention Office at 430-3166 or 430-3154. 



Fighting the diabetes war

Early detection, treatment vital for survival

Story by
Spc. Wes Landrum
Desert Voice staff writer

Betty sheepishly awoke anxious for the start of the new day. After getting dressed, she walked into the kitchen and sat down at the table. She reached into a bag and grabbed a black slender case and a bottle. Sticking her index finger out, she took the needle and slowly stuck her finger, the bright red life-giving substance flowed freely from the puncture hole. It was time for her daily glucose check – standard procedure for a diabetic.

Diabetes is a disease that attacks the human pancreas. The cause of diabetes continues to be a mystery, although both genetics and environmental factors such as obesity and smoking appear to play roles. Currently, there are 20.8 million children and adults in the United States who have diabetes. While an estimated 14.6 million have been diagnosed with the disease, unfortunately, 6.2 million people, one-third of the total, are unaware that they have the disease.

“Diabetes is a disease where your body is not producing enough insulin or the insulin that is being produced is not being used properly,” said Lt. Betty Ulmer, health promotion and wellness nurse for Third Army/U.S. Army Central’s Expeditionary Medical Facility–Kuwait. “Insulin is necessary for the body to be able to use sugar. Sugar is the basic fuel for the cells in the body, and insulin takes the sugar from the blood into the cells.”

While seven percent of the American population are diabetics, Ulmer said people who have the disease usually go on to live long and productive lives. However, drastic changes must be made in order to help ensure that long life.

“Diabetics have to change things like their diets. They need to exercise



Courtesy photo

Checking insulin levels many times a day is a daily routine for many diabetic patients.

more,” Ulmer said. “They also need to do things like rub their feet to ensure circulation.”

The website www.diabetes.org classifies diabetes into four categories – type I and II diabetes, pre-diabetes and gestational diabetes. Sometimes, pregnant women will experience high blood sugar levels during their nine-month pregnancy. Gestational diabetes affects more than 135,000 women a year in the United States. The web site went on to say that there is no known cause of gestational diabetes but there are clues however.

“The placenta supports the baby as it grows,” Ulmer said. “Hormones from the placenta help the baby develop. These hormones also block the action of the mother’s insulin in her body.”

Ulmer said treatment for gestational diabetes includes special meal plans, exercise and possibly daily blood glucose testing and insulin injections.

If gestational diabetes goes unchecked, it can lead to macrosomia, which is a larger than normal baby, and can cause problems during birth. The infant is at risk for having very low blood glucose levels at birth.

Gestational diabetes usually goes away after pregnancy, but the chances are higher for gestational diabetes returning in following pregnancies.

“Many women who have gestational diabetes go on to develop type II diabetes years later,” Ulmer said.

Type I diabetes only occurs in children and young adults. Normally called “juvenile diabetes,” this version occurs when the body can’t produce insulin unlike in type II diabetes patients that produce the hormone but it is not effectively used. Ulmer said most children and young adults become dependent on insulin injections to get their daily insulin dosages.

“It’s not common to see them on insulin at an early age,” she said.

Type II diabetes is the most common form of diabetes. In type II diabetes, either the body does not produce enough insulin or the cells ignore the insulin altogether. When glucose builds up in the blood instead of going into cells, it can cause two problems:

First, your cells may be starved for energy, or secondly, high blood glucose levels may hurt your eyes, kidneys, nerves or heart over time.

Ulmer said a person is a little worried when they first find out they have diabetes. But not to panic.

“Type II diabetes is serious, but people with diabetes can live long, healthy, happy lives just like people with type I diabetes,” she said.

While diabetes occurs in people of all ages and races, some groups have a higher risk for developing type I, II, and pre-diabetes than others.

The disease is more common in African Americans, Latinos, Native Americans and Asian Americans/Pacific Islanders, as well as the aged population.

“The key is not to wait too long,” Ulmer said. “If diabetes goes unchecked, you can lose a limb, go blind or die.”

Editor’s note: This is the first in a two-part series on diabetes in November which is Diabetes Awareness Month. 

Soldiers cross line in celebration of rich tradition

Story and photo by
Staff Sgt. Anishka Calder
1st TSC Public Affairs

The Noncommissioned Officer Corps has a tradition that dates back to the birth of the Continental Army in 1775. Each month the corps celebrates the entrance of Soldiers into its crème-de-la-crème corps. A part of this entrance, though not always done for each entrant, is the induction into the NCO Corps.

The 1st Sustainment Command (Theater), in combination with the 640th Special Troops Battalion, held its first NCO induction ceremony at the Third Army/U.S. Army Central's Training and Activity Center on Camp Arifjan, Kuwait, Nov. 2. Newly promoted NCOs were officially welcomed into the Corps with a ceremony that highlighted what it means to be an NCO.

"The NCO induction ceremony is a celebration of the newly promoted who are joining the ranks of a professional noncommissioned officer corps, which emphasizes and builds on the pride we all share as members of this elite Corps," said guest speaker Command Sgt. Maj. James E. Riddick, 598th Transportation Terminal Group command sergeant major. "I want you to understand that this is a celebration, we are here to celebrate your accomplishment."

The ceremony highlighted time-honored traditions which included skits portraying the watches that Soldiers were required to do once every four days before becoming an NCO. At the first watch, a private came to claim a gift consisting of brandy and bread; at the second watch, an NCO from the company came for his gift of tobacco and beer; then at the third watch, the company first sergeant was presented with his gift of a piece of tobacco and a glass of wine on a tin plate.

The rite of passage into the NCO Corps is an indication of the experience and leadership potential that these

Soldiers possess, and of their duty to care for their Soldiers.

"Today I stand here proud to accept you into the Noncommissioned Officer Corps. You should be proud of your accomplishment, you should be proud to be a noncommissioned officer," said Riddick, a native of Hertford, N.C. "With your rank comes the responsibility to care for the Soldiers who will be placed under your care. The American people give us their sons and daughters and expect us to care for them, as they should. Your leadership is counting on you to do just that."

The 22 newly inducted NCOs were thrilled to be recognized for attaining their new ranks and for being welcomed into the corps in a ceremony that showed them the traditions that were brought down through generations. One of these inductees has only two years of service in the military. He gave his take on the event.

"The ceremony gave me a little insight into more of the traditions of the NCO Corps, I had never seen these traditions before," said Sgt. Justin Taylor, 23, a light wheeled mechanic with 1st TSC. "I liked the part where the Soldiers told us what they expected of us as NCOs. I especially liked the end where they asked us to train them so that one day they may become sergeants. I think that's what becoming an NCO is really all about, turning Soldiers into sergeants because they are going to be the leaders of tomorrow."

"The NCO Corps is a body that is really into traditions," said Sgt. Tawana E. Rudolph, 26, a unit supply NCO with 640th STB. "These traditions are only symbols now, but what it represents is the carrying on of the torch of responsibility of the backbone of the Army which is the NCO Corps."

Three candles were lit to signify the burning desire of each inductee to lead from the front. The lighting of the red candle by Riddick symbolized the blood shed and courage of the Soldiers serving and those who served in the U.S. Army. The lighting of the blue



Sgt. Luis Caridad, 1st TSC, raises his hand as he is inducted into the Noncommissioned Officer Corps at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait, Nov. 2.

candle by Command Sgt. Maj. Jimmy Rutherford, 1st TSC STB command sergeant major, and a native of Norris Town, Pa., symbolized valor and fidelity, qualities expected of the members of the NCO Corps. The lighting of the white candle by Command Sgt. Maj. Jeffery Vance, 640th STB command sergeant major, and a native of Hillsboro, Ohio, was in honor of those who gave their lives for this country.

At the conclusion of his address to the new inductees, Riddick charged them to make use of the opportunity to leave a lasting impression in the lives of Soldiers throughout their careers.

"We as leaders have an awesome opportunity to make a difference in Soldiers' lives. They look up to us and in some cases want to be like us," Riddick said. "We have to be willing to become coaches, teachers and mentors. We have to coach, teach and mentor them to be better Soldiers, better leaders, better fathers and mothers, and most of all better people. The measure of your success will be the number of people you touch along the way who will never forget you for what you did for them." 

'Tusker' armor roll through sands

Story and photos by
Spc. Giancarlo Casem
Desert Voice editor

The smell of gun powder quickly wafts away in the cool breeze. The otherwise quiet flatlands are pounded with the sound of thunder — the “Tuskers” have arrived.

Soldiers of the 4th Battalion, 64th Armor Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division, conducted final checks on their Bradley Fighting Vehicles at Camp Buehring, Kuwait, Oct. 31.

The Soldiers, nicknamed “Tuskers,” took the opportunity to prepare not only their vehicles, but also themselves.

“Today we have the battalion’s Bradley’s confirm their zeroes. Before we ride up north, we want to make sure the optics and the rounds are looking at the same place,” said Sgt. 1st Class Alfred McKenzie, a master gunner for Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 4th Bn., 64th Armor Regt. “Where we aim and where we shoot at is the same place, it’s the same concept as zeroing a rifle.”

For many units, training on Third Army/U.S. Army Central ranges at Camp Buehring provides a final opportunity to fine-tune their weapons

systems. This pre-combat check is vital and a lifesaver, McKenzie said.

“The benefit that I see is that you have the facility to do it in,” said McKenzie, a Columbus, Ga., native. “Before going to combat, you want to stop and test fire your weapon and, if possible, make sure you have a good zero. That way, you don’t have to do it the first time you make contact. You know once you make contact with the enemy, you have confidence that the weapon works and that where you are aiming is where the round is going.”

For the Tuskers, the additional training at Camp Buehring builds upon a skill set already set in place prior to their deployment back at their home station of Fort Stewart, Ga. That training ensured things went smoothly for the Tuskers as they faced new challenges in Kuwait.

“Things went really well and really smooth,” said 1st Lt. Adam Kerr, E Co., 4th Bn., 64th Armor Regt., executive officer. “We did a lot of training at Fort Stewart, so this is all a refinement of our systems.”

Due to the long trip across the Atlantic Ocean, the Tuskers want to make sure their weapons systems perform just as they did before they were packed and loaded onto a boat.

“It is absolutely essential that we make sure our weapons systems work, you never know what could go wrong on the boat,” said Kerr, a native of Chesapeake, Va. “You can never check too many times before it’s the real thing.”

A helpful tool the Tuskers can rely on during their deployment is their previous combat experience as a unit. That experience, especially of the noncommissioned officers, is a huge benefit, said Maj. Peter Sicoli, 4th Bn., 64th Armor Regt., executive officer.

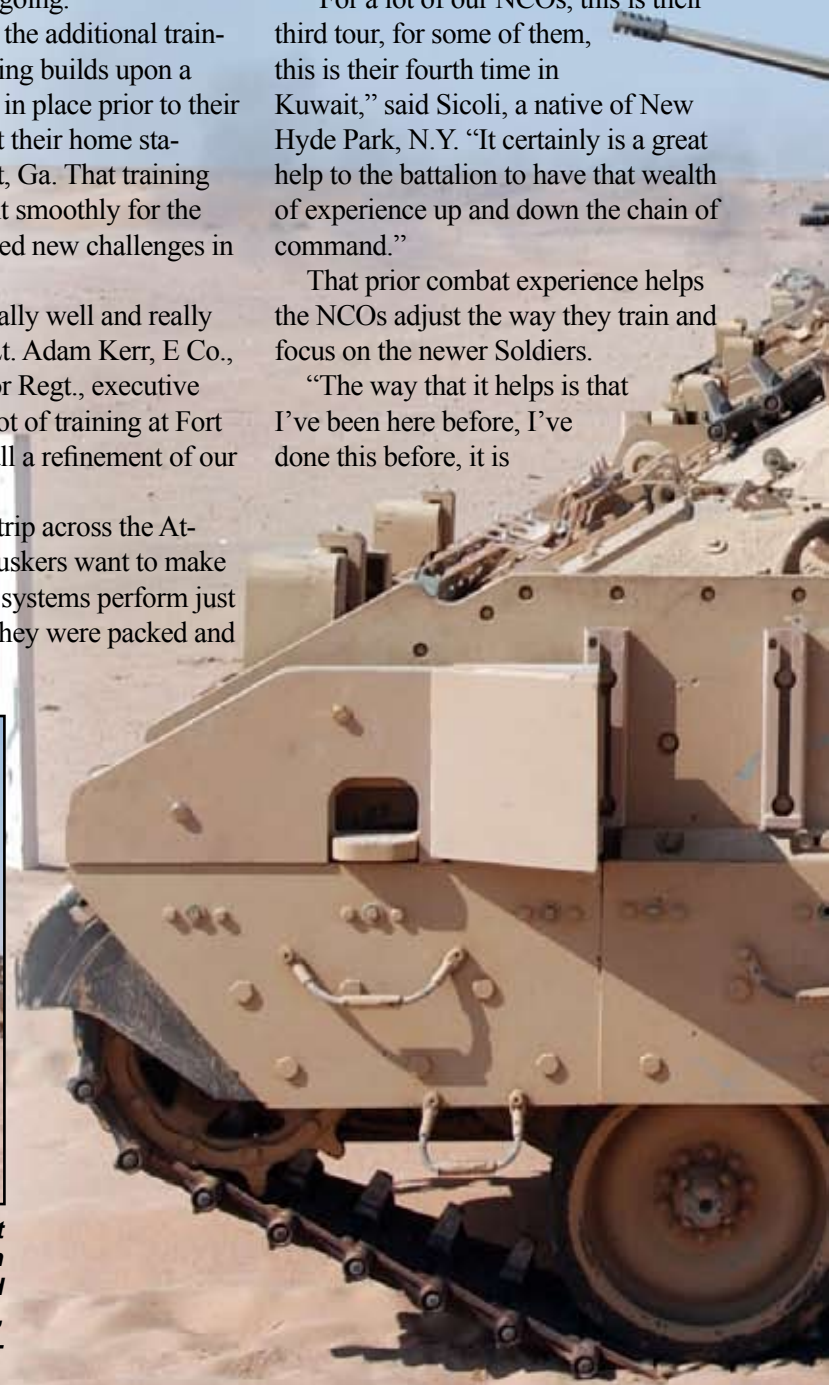
“For a lot of our NCOs, this is their third tour, for some of them, this is their fourth time in Kuwait,” said Sicoli, a native of New Hyde Park, N.Y. “It certainly is a great help to the battalion to have that wealth of experience up and down the chain of command.”

That prior combat experience helps the NCOs adjust the way they train and focus on the newer Soldiers.

“The way that it helps is that I’ve been here before, I’ve done this before, it is



A Bradley Fighting Vehicle maneuvers off the firing line at Camp Buehring, Kuwait, Oct. 31. The Bradley belongs to 4th Battalion, 64th Armor Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division. The “Tuskers” of 4th Bn., 64th Armor Regt., conducted live-fire training to zero their weapons systems prior to movement to Iraq.



to conduct final checks in Kuwait

nothing new to me,” McKenzie said. “To a lot of the guys who don’t have combat experience and have never been here before or maybe this is their first time in the desert, they have a lot of apprehension. Having already been here, I know that all this is doing is preparing us to make sure we are properly prepared to go up north.”

One aspect of the deployment that the Tuskers have to adjust to is the weather. The weather in Kuwait has started to cool off, which is a stark contrast to Southeast Georgia. When the battalion deployed, the seasonal change had yet to hit

the training ranges amidst the swamps of Fort Stewart.

“In some ways, it is better here,” Sicoli said. “Before we left, it was still in the 90s with 100 percent humidity.”

This change of climate forces leaders to make sure their junior Soldiers are acclimated and able to adjust, he said.

“It’s not easier, just different,” Sicoli said. “They are handling it well. We’re

just making sure our NCOS are checking their guys and drinking water.”

After all the fine-tuning and tusk-sharpening, the Tuskers are eager to start their mission in Iraq.

“We’re excited to be here, excited to move on with our mission,” Sicoli said. “We’ve been planning this for a while. It is good to be finally on the ground. Having gone through all the goodbyes, now we’re looking forward to the mission.” **A**



Sgt. 1st Class Alfred McKenzie, a master gunner for Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 4th Battalion, 64th Armor Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division, attempts to dislodge a 25 mm round stuck inside the receiver mechanism of the Bradley Fighting Vehicle's 25 mm cannon at Camp Buehring, Kuwait, Oct. 31. The "Tuskers" of 4th Bn., 64th Armor Regt., conducted live-fire training to zero their weapons systems prior to movement to Iraq.

Small footprint made in Yemen by f

Story by
Air Force Staff Sgt. Jennifer Redente
CJTF-HOA public affairs

AL-MUKULLA, Yemen – Three female servicemembers from Combined Joint Task Force–Horn of Africa inside the Third Army/U.S. Army Central area of responsibility participated in a veterinary civil affairs program Oct. 20-22.

The servicemembers trained 40 Yemeni herdswomen to increase their knowledge on how to better care for ruminant animals.

The three women: Capt. Joanna Buckley, Bahrain Veterinary Services officer-in-charge; Navy Chief Petty Officer Suzanne Eisinger, a chief sonar technician for surface warfare; and Staff Sgt. Jennifer Brooks, 489th Civil Affairs Battalion civil affairs liaison officer, spent two days in a classroom environment and one day conducting hands-on training with women from the Yemeni coast of Hadramout and the Yemen valley to better educate them on animal husbandry and treatment of herds.

“Being a strictly female team aided us by putting the participants at ease and helped the exchange of information and learning to be more open,” Buckley said.

The only men in the room were translators and Abdallah Almaqtari, a veterinarian from the Yemen Ministry of Agriculture.

“The women take care of all the herds in their villages, which can be a very difficult task under even the best circumstances,” Eisinger said. “The women who attended were very enthusiastic and inquisitive about what we could teach them.”

The servicemembers educated the women on common diseases found in goats, sheep, cattle and camels. Information also included parasite control, general parasite examinations and signs that might point to



Capt. Joanna Buckley shows Yemeni herdswomen how to properly inoculate a goat. Buckley days in Yemen educating 40 herdswomen. The Iberia, Mo., native is the Bahrain Veterinary S

mammary gland inflammation.

While the training only used goats, the methods taught apply to all animals, which will assist animal caretakers who attended the class.

To further aid the women with their tasks of treating animals, supplies and equipment were handed out.

“We provided a bag to each participant with tools necessary for animal care,” Buckley said.

Items from the bag included multi-vitamins, de-wormers, antibiotics, hoof trimmers, reusable herd injection syringes, stethoscopes, thermometers and anti-septic.

“During the practical, the students were taught about each of the items in the bag and how to safely use them and clean them,” Buckley said.

The practical training was in a quarantine facility using a local herd of 40 goats. Each woman conducted a full examination of a goat to identify common ailments found in animals such as mouth ulcers, skin lesions and signs of gastrointestinal disease.

To give the herdswomen hands-on training with the injection syringe, the herd was inoculated with a multi-vitamin and treatment for

Female Third Army servicemembers



Photo by Chief Petty Officer Suzanne Eisinger

was part of a three-woman team who spent three Services officer-in-charge.

internal parasites.

"The most difficult task was delivering a dose of multi-vitamin intra-muscular using a large multi-dose syringe," Buckley said. "This type of syringe is designed to treat several animals in one herd quickly because the syringe will hold a large volume of medication, but then only dose out the desired amount each time. Learning to operate this piece of important equipment was challenging, but successful."

Even though the mission was to train herds women, the servicemembers had their own educational experiences.



Photo by Capt. Joanna Buckley

Yemeni herds women look through their bags of equipment handed out by a three-woman team from Combined Joint Task Force-Horn of Africa who spent three days in Yemen better educating 40 Yemeni women on how to care for herds. The course included how to properly use and clean the equipment in the bag in addition to giving a full examination.

"I gained a better understanding of how important herd health is for a family and a community that truly depends upon animals for income and food," Buckley said. "I learned that a basic foundation of animal husbandry can greatly help these women improve their herd's profitability."

"I also learned how much I take for granted the education that is available to women in the United States," Buckley said. "The women who participated in this program were eager and willing to learn so that they could increase their knowledge and their confidence. I was fortunate to play a small role in that."

Buckley also hopes the 40 wom-

en who attended the VETCAP, take what they have learned out of the classroom and pass it on to others.

"Ideally, these women will be able to return to their hometowns and teach other women so that herds may be more profitable and so the women may be able to develop a marketable skill," Buckley said.

The VETCAP the servicemembers participated in is similar to civil military operations taking place across the Horn of Africa. More than 1,800 U.S. and coalition servicemembers are deployed to Djibouti to serve in the operational effort to prevent conflict, promote regional stability, and protect coalition interest in order to prevail against extremism. 

Soldiers inducted into Sergeant Audie Murphy Board

Story and photo by
Master Sgt. Michele Hammonds
1st TSC public affairs

Fifteen Soldiers were inducted into the Sergeant Audie Murphy Club, an elite organization for noncommissioned officers, in a ceremony on Camp Arifjan, Kuwait, Nov. 6.

The ceremony which took place in the Training and Activity Center recognized Soldiers throughout Third Army/U.S. Army Central in Iraq, Afghanistan and Kuwait for their outstanding performance, leadership and professionalism.

The Soldiers inducted into the Audie Murphy Club were: Sgt. Sadat Allhasan, 1st Sustainment Command (Theater); Staff Sgt. Adegboye Adebayo, 14th Movement Control Battalion; Staff Sgt. Macio Brown, 44th Chemical Company; Staff Sgt. Mark Fernandez, 25th Signal Battalion; Staff Sgt. Patrick Gonzales, 14th Movement Control Battalion; Staff Sgt. Richard Green, 1188th Terminal Transportation Battalion; Staff Sgt. Keisha Hall, 1st TSC; Staff Sgt. Oscar Llamas, 2nd Transportation Battalion; Staff Sgt. James Lowry, 25th Signal Battalion; Staff Sgt. Thomas Michleski, 67th Signal Battalion; Staff Sgt. Karee Roberts, 1st TSC and Staff Sgt. Sherman Winston, 1188th Terminal Transportation Battalion.

The new inductees received the club medallions, Certificates of Achievement, Army Commendation Medals and command sergeant major coins by members of the official party at the ceremony.

Command Sgt. Maj. Don Harbin, Area Support Group-Kuwait; Master Sgt. Donald Newson; 14th Movement Control Battalion; and Master Sgt. Carla Sanders, 1st TSC, received honorary induction into the SAMC. They received club medallions and Certificates of Achievement.

More than 200 military and civilian employees attended the event, which was hosted by 1st TSC and sponsored



1st Sustainment Command (Theater) Command Sgt. Maj. Luis J. Lopez, left shakes hands with Staff Sgt. Patrick Gonzales of the 14th Movement Control Battalion after he received his induction into the Sergeant Audie Murphy Club at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait, Nov. 6.

by Area Support Group-Kuwait. Command Sgt. Maj. Luis J. Lopez, 1st TSC command sergeant major, was the guest speaker for the ceremony and a member of the official party. Lopez who has nearly 32 years of military experience has earned memberships in the Sergeants Audie Murphy and Morales Clubs. He offered words of encouragement to the new inductees.

"You are now one step higher on the ladder for a fast-tracking NCO," Lopez said. "NCOES system provides us with a well rounded MOSQ (Military Occupational Skill Qualification) NCO, but if you want to go the extra mile you have to go above the 60 percent mark, like these fine Soldiers have done."

"He or she studies hard at home after work and on weekends to get an education, so he can get ahead. He attends the NCO board and is well liked by everyone in the unit."

Lopez told the audience that the 60 percent Soldier only does enough to

get by.

The SAMC is named after Sgt. Audie Leon Murphy, who became a legend by making a name for himself as a war hero on the battlefields during World War II – earning every medal for valor, including the military's highest award, the Medal of Honor.

As if in response to Lopez's comment to the new inductees to recruit the next candidates, Gonzales, a new inductee, said he planned to do just that.

"It's such a great relief to accomplish such a difficult task and knowing that I got something I earned made it even better," said Gonzales, 31, and a resident of Edna, Texas. "I am going to recruit and live the Audie Murphy motto, 'we lead from the front.'"

Editor's note: The ASG-Kuwait AUSA Chapter donated one-year memberships to all the inductees and the Grainger Company presented complementary gifts. 

Thanksgiving Prayer Breakfast

ZONE 1 DFAC, SPORTS ROOM

NOV. 21

6:30 a.m. – 8:00 a.m.

POC: Chap. (Maj.) Reed 430-1367
Sgt. 1st Class Jarmon 430-1369

O6 and above should R.S.V.P.
no later than Nov. 14.

Just One Question...

“What are you most thankful for?”



“I’m most thankful for my family and our way of life. I’m very fortunate.”

Lt. Cdr. Jake Miller
 Deployment Distribution Operations Center
 CENTCOM Theater Tracking
 Lewisberry, Pa.



“I’m thankful for the family I have. God gave me the ability to do this job and the people I work with.”

Maj. Duane Beyer
 1st Sustainment Command (Theater)
 Distribution Management Center Officer
 Madison, Wis.



“I’m thankful that I’m able to wake up every morning and I’m thankful for my Family and that I’m able to serve in the military.”

Capt. Bridgette Payton
 Third Army/U.S. Army Central G-3 CIMA
 Operations officer
 Baltimore



“I’m most thankful for the grace of God. Also, I’m thankful for his protection and his blessings.”

Sgt. 1st Class Ted A. Lewis
 1st Sustainment Command (Theater)
 Medical logistics specialist
 Clinton, Miss.



“I’m most thankful for my Family. They are always there for me. When I’m down, I call them and they cheer me up.”

Staff Sgt. Chrystel Drummonds
 HHC, 1st Sustainment Command (Theater)
 Paralegal
 Lafayette, La.

Corrections

In the Oct. 24 issue, Spc. Armando Montalvo was mistakenly cited as a member of Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 40 instead of the 35th Integrated Signal Battalion.

In the Nov. 7 issue, Petty Officer 2nd Class Jennifer Marquette was mistakenly cited as a member of the Emergency Medical Facility–Kuwait instead of Expeditionary Medical Facility.

Why I serve:

Sgt. Ebony Payne
1st Sustainment Command (Theater)
Paralegal



The Tulsa, Okla., native explains why she chose to join the military.

“I joined the Army for a multitude of reasons. Mainly so that I can see all sides of life – the different cultures and to experience combat after 9/11.”

What's happening around Kuwait ...



A dime a dozen

Photo by Master Sgt. Michele Hammonds

General officers from Kuwait, Iraq, Afghanistan and stateside gather for a photograph in front of the Area Support Group – Kuwait headquarters at a daylong logistics conference held at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait, Oct. 25. (Left to right) Brig. Gen. Kevin Leonard, 1st Sustainment Command (Theater) commanding general; Brig. Gen. Gregory Couch, 316th Expeditionary Sustainment Command commanding general; Brig. Gen. James Hodge, Director, Operational Sustainment, Third Army/U.S. Army Central and commanding general Army Materiel Command (SWA); Brig. Gen.(P) Michael Schweiger, 1st TSC deputy commanding general (Support); Maj. Gen. Charles Fletcher, Transportation Command commanding general; Brig. Gen. James Kessler, 2nd Marine Logistic Group commanding general; Brig. Gen. Kenneth Dowd, Central Command J4; Rear Adm. Mark Harnitchek, director CENTCOM Deployment and Distribution Operations Center; Brig. Gen. Luis R. Visot, 1st TSC, DCG (Operations); Brig. Gen. Steve Anderson, deputy chief of staff, Resources and Sustainment; Maj. Gen. Timothy McHale, incoming deputy chief of staff, Resources and Sustainment; and Brig. Gen. Rodney Anderson, Combined Joint Task Force 82, DCG(S).



Changing hands

Photo by Petty Officer 1st Class Victor Jefferies

Cmdr. Mark Schwartzel, left, Navy Customs Battalion Tango commander, from San Diego, Calif., assumes command from Cmdr. Paul Bender, Navy Customs Battalion Sierra commander, from New Jersey, in a change of command ceremony at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait, Oct. 13.



A job well done

Courtesy photo

Capt. Bryan Ash receives the Soldier's Medal, Army's highest award for heroism and valor outside of combat duty, from Lt. Gen. R. Steven Whitcomb, commander, Third Army/U.S. Army Central, in a ceremony at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait. In September 2006, Ash saved a man's life at the risk of his own, by entering an overturned burning van to pull a civilian to safety.