

Newsletter of the Regional Support Command South ★ California State Military Reserve

# Warrior Words

## A LIFE IN UNIFORM

**Daniel Saam has been a Marine, a CHP officer and now serves in the CSMR**



**A NEW BASE UNDER CONSTRUCTION**

**SOUTHERN REGION  
REALIGNMENT**

**DEALING WITH  
THE NEWS MEDIA**

**YOUR ROLE IN  
ANTI-TERRORISM**



OCT. 2011 No. 17  
Published by the  
Public Affairs  
Section of the  
Regional Support Command South



# ANCOC, SNCOC COURSES SET THIS FALL

By CW2 Richard de la Torre  
Warrior Words

The CSMR will be offering two four-day NCO courses during Fall 2011 at the Joint Forces Training Base Los Alamitos.

The first will be the Advanced Non Commissioned Officers Course (ANCOC) on Oct. 27 – 30; the second will be the Senior Non Commissioned Officers Course on Nov. 10 – 13.

The courses, open to

Soldiers statewide but with priority given to Direct Reporting Commands south of Camp San Luis Obispo, will be presented by the

1st Regional Training Company Provisional, in accordance with CSMR regulations and HQ CSMR G-3 directives.

This will be the first time these courses have been presented in Southern California.

Both the ANCOC and

SNCOC are designed to provide Soldiers with the necessary knowledge and skill sets for senior NCOs to perform at their respective levels of responsibility — platoon sergeant, first sergeant and sergeant major. The ANCOC

is targeted for E-7 and E-8 while the SNCOC is for E-9.

In addition to their obvious training benefits, the courses provide an opportunity for Soldiers to learn about, and become friends with, personnel from other units.



## IT'S TED, NOT MIKE

Due to an editing error, the officer profile in the July 2011 issue of Warrior Words listed the name of Warrant Officer 1 Porlas (at right) incorrectly. His correct name is Theodore "Ted" Porlas.

Warrior Words regrets the error.

Have a suggestion, correction or other input to us? Send them to [james.a.tortolano@us.army.mil](mailto:james.a.tortolano@us.army.mil)



## CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

**Capt. Christopher Fowler**

## GOOD LAUGHTER IS GOOD MEDICINE

Doctors and psychologists tell us that laughter is good for us. This is undoubtedly true, because the Bible says that "a merry heart does good, like medicine" (Proverbs 17:22). King Solomon, the author of Ecclesiastes, said this: "To everything there is a season, a time for every purpose under heaven: . . . a time to weep, and a time to laugh."

But the Scriptures make a distinction between good and bad laughter. And God disapproves of any humor that is coarse, belittles people, or makes light of immorality. (Sin is never a laughing matter.)

As professional Soldiers, it is essential that our speech, even our laughter, edifies or builds up others, and reflects well on the CSMR, our unit, and on ourselves. With the challenges we face, both personally and professionally, good laughter can help us get through even the toughest of days!

The Lord reminds us, though, that one day each of us will give an account (to Him) for "every idle or careless word" we speak (Matthew 12:36).

Lord, give us a merry heart. And, help us to be discerning, so that we will laugh for the right reasons and about the right things. In all settings, may our speech and laughter encourage others and be seasoned with "salt and light." Amen!



## Warrior Words

Regional Support Command South  
**COL. MARC BRESLOW**  
COMMANDING

Published quarterly by the Public Affairs Section of the  
Regional Support Command South  
California State Military Reserve  
Joint Forces Training Base, Los Alamitos.

Public Affairs Officer

**LT. COL. JAMES ADAIR**

Deputy Public Affairs Officer

**CAPT. RON ALEXANDER**

EDITOR: Staff Sgt. Jim Tortolano. STAFF: Chief Warrant Officer 2 Richard de la Torre, Staff Sgt. Richard Bergquist, Staff Sgt. John Thompson, Staff Sgt. Robert Davison, Sgt. Gregory Solman, Sgt. Randle Ide, Pfc. Duncan O'Bryan. Please send news items, story suggestions, corrections to [warriorwords@mac.com](mailto:warriorwords@mac.com), or [james.a.tortolano@us.army.mil](mailto:james.a.tortolano@us.army.mil). The next *Warrior Words* will be published in January 2012. Materials for consideration of publication should be submitted by Dec. 15. Opinions expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect those of the California State Military Reserve or the State of California. Photos from this issue may be available for viewing at [www.warriorwords.info](http://www.warriorwords.info).





**ARTIST'S RENDERING** of what the headquarters building of the Joint Forces Training Base will look like.

# A BRAND NEW BASE COMING

Los Alamitos facility is getting an extensive facelift, and the CSMR is benefitting

**By Sgt. Gregory Solman  
RSC-S Public Affairs**

No one passing through the gates of the Joint Forces Training Base in Los Alamitos can get far without seeing the unmistakable signs of makeover—but into what? And how will be the status of the CSMR units that call the base home change, if at all?

About six months ago, Lt. Col. John Goodnight, who heads up the southern region of the California Center for Military History, got a preview of the future. Goodnight was called in to a meeting with 40<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division (commander Brig. Gen. Scott Johnson. “He said, ‘I’ve got a mission for you,’” Goodnight recounts.

Johnson said that pending the construction of the new headquarters for the 40<sup>th</sup> ID and 63<sup>rd</sup> Regional Readiness Command (USAR), CSMR and the history unit “might

have a dedicated office—the old 40<sup>th</sup> ID HQ”—possibly the best-kept and nicest looking building among the older structures, which on JFTB date back to 1942.

Goodnight knew that it wasn’t going to come “rent” free. The history unit, which had already tasked to become docents of the Veterans Center museum under construction, was asked to create two additional museums, “one in the new HQ, one in the existing HQ,” in addition to the Veteran Services Center building.

After a flurry of e-mails, proposals and counter-proposals, the new spaces (better called “historical corridors” than museums, Col. Goodnight adds, because of the unique security requirements within an active military base) will focus on 40<sup>th</sup> ID artifacts related to infantry, artillery and aviation, rather



Photo by Staff Sgt. John Thompson

than a limiting historical display of the 40<sup>th</sup> ID. Goodnight says the plans will utilize the excess of materials stored on base and at an CSMR warehouse in Sacramento. A senior curator for Universal Studios with a

bachelor’s degree in history and a master’s in museum science, Spc. Jeffrey Pirtle, is coming into CSMR to work on the projects ahead, Goodnight says.

“Initially, the commanding general is looking at these corridors to be by invitation only, or maybe opened to the public eventually,” Goodnight says. “We have the blessing of the CG to do whatever I want.” The renovation of CSMR’s medical building, which was moved to the space behind the 40<sup>th</sup> ID Band building on Doolittle

Avenue, is already underway, using a combination of base resources—such as in the reconstruction of the exterior

**Continued on page 8**

# A LIFETIME IN UNIFORM: THE MANY SIDES OF SAAM

## Have weapon, will travel .... from Marine Corps to CHP to CSMR

**By Chief Warrant Officer 2  
Richard de La Torre  
RSC-S Public Affairs**

He loves the proud feeling of wearing a uniform and carrying a service weapon.

You might say he's made it his life's work.

For Staff Sgt. Daniel Saam, the CSMR has been a great opportunity to share what he has learned from his years as a Marine in Vietnam and decades with the California Highway Patrol.

"I have a high regard for those guys," he says about the Cal Guard Soldiers he helps train as part of the newly renamed 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion (Army Support), the unit under Lt.

Col Russell Nakaishi that has been known as the 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade Support Detachment (Provisional).

Saam, in trim shape at 64, has been with the Reserve a little over three

years and has helped the 1<sup>st</sup> BN with virtually anything and everything, including training in weapons, marksmanship and LMTV/Humvee driving.

The resident of Desert Hot Springs is impressed with how the Cal Guard has accepted the CSMR and has placed full faith in its close role as a support partner that offers skills and professionalism.

"At times, we are fully integrated with them," he noted.

Saam, who was born in Michigan and spent his formative years in the Coachella Valley, volunteered with the Marine Corps in 1965 just as the U.S. began escalating the war effort in Vietnam.

"I said, 'I gotta get in this war. I can't miss it,'" he remembered about his enlistment, which he notes was practically a foregone conclusion since his family had a strong tradition of military service.

In 'Nam, Saam, serving mostly as a radio operator for an artillery battery, saw moderate combat with the 1<sup>st</sup> Marine Division in and around Da Nang. Even though "it

was pretty dangerous anywhere," he recalled how he was a teen who simply wasn't scared about getting killed—a feeling that compelled him to extend his tour of duty

three times.

"I liked what I was doing," he said. "I made good money and it was exciting and interesting. Stateside it was lot of inspections and training and spit-and-polish types of things. In Vietnam, it was doing your real job. In combat, we did our job and nobody messed with you."

After three years and nine months of service in the Corps, Saam was being mustered out at Camp

**"In Vietnam it was  
doing your real  
job. In combat we  
did our job and  
nobody messed  
with you."**



Photo by Staff Sgt. Robert Davison

**STAFF SGT. DANIEL SAAM** in his latest role in the CSMR.

Pendleton when he met a California Highway Patrol recruiter on base.

One thing led to another and within a month he was at the academy in Sacramento, starting what became a 38-year career with the CHP.

During his time with the CHP, Saam worked road patrols around the Coachella Valley and served as a weapons officer handling inspections, repairs and training.

A career highlight was the awarding of the California Medal of Valor to him in 1998 by Gov. Gray Davis for helping rescue people from a fire that had engulfed a home for the developmentally disabled.

After retiring from the CHP, Saam met a CSMR recruiter at an air show in Chino. He thought that since he's very pro-military guy, why not join up? So he did.

"I think it's been a very



rewarding experience,” he said about his time in the CSMR and supporting those who serve. “It’s something you can be proud of. I highly recommend it to everybody.”

Without doubt, CSMR commanders would likewise agree that having Saam in uniform again, working with weapons, among other duties, has indeed been a very rewarding experience for the Reserve.



**AS A** young Marine.



**SAAM** (center) as a California Highway Patrol officer. California Gov. Pete Wilson is at left.

## THE RIGHT WAY TO DEAL WITH MEDIA

**By Capt. Ronald Alexander  
RSC-S Public Affairs**

There remains a right way to do something—to make something work—and a wrong way to do something—to make something not work. Investigative or breakign news works when the Public Affairs Office staff knows the rules to use when communicating with the news media.

Public Affairs NCOs reviewed four performance steps required before interacting with the media. Even when experienced public-affairs practitioners are present, for military operations in the field, in urban terrain (MOUT), or within a garrison environment, interaction with professional journalists requires specific, known protocols.

In fact, every soldier needs to learn these points: Who should participate in an interview? What role does a Soldier have



Photo by Staff Sgt. John Thompson

**PAO SOLDIERS** in a mock interview.

during an interview? What guideline does one use? How does a Soldier contact the chain of command for frag orders?

During the September UTA, the PAO staff had to complete a tactical assignment centered on a scenario, Lotus Hill, which tasked the PAO with handling the press after a violent event directed at U.S. military from an unknown entity.

the scenario; and, source while maintaining both situational awareness and Operation Security (OPSEC).

The Soldier acting as PAO must remember to state answers without

The public affairs staff had to take into consideration several responsibilities, as well as actions taken by federal troops, to prevent improper information dissemination after hypothetical attack upon a military convoy. The staff had to carefully gauge its response and determine what information to give the media, based on the values of

using “jargon, acronyms, without using slang or technical terms,” and employ clear, correct and concise remarks to all questions. The Soldier should not discuss any material not related to his/her direct responsibility and personal knowledge and ensure no “off-the-record” or “no comment” answers that could jeopardize command capabilities. Those performance measures prevent a lapse in OPSEC.

After studying, analyzing, and evaluating the Lotus Hill sequence of events, Staff Sgr. James Tortolano acted the role of the PAO. Warrant Officer 2 Rick de la Torre and Sgt Greg Solman acted the roles of aggressive media agents.

Other staff members used their cameras and videos to simulate a real press conference and acquire exercise details. Role-playing allows an

**Continued on page 8**

## Steps in A Terror Attack

- Phase 1: Begin target selection
- Phase 2: Intelligence gathers information and conducts surveillance.
- Phase 3: Specific target selection.
- Phase 4: Pre-attack surveillance and planning.
- Phase 5: Rehearsals.
- Phase 6: Action at the objective (explosions, etc.)
- Phase 7: Escape and evasion.



**NYC, SEPT. 11, 2001**

## What to Look For

- Suspicious people.
- People writing notes or sketching.
- Those showing abnormal interest in security measures.
- Those using false ID.
- Paying cash for items normally bought on credit.
- Buying or possessing large quantities of chemicals or cell phones.



Photo by Staff Sgt. John Thompson

**CAPT. ROY TWADDELL** speaks to CSMR troops on anti-terrorism.

# SOLDIERS TAUGHT THEIR ROLE IN ANTI-TERRORISM

The threats are many; the key to stopping them may be vigilance

**By Staff Sgt. Jim Tortolano  
RSC-S Public Affairs**

The best defense that America has against terrorism may turn out to be .... You.

"The threat of terrorism is real," says Capt. Roy Twaddell in his course on "Anti-Terrorism, Level One," being taught to CSMR Soldiers at the Joint Forces Training Base in Los Alamitos. "Vigilance is important. Pay attention to the things around you."

Twaddell pointed out that it was an sharp-eyed video store clerk who alerted authorities to a plan to attack the Army installation at Ft. Dix in New Jersey in 2007.

"In the last three months," Twaddell told the class in July, "every major agency has been made aware of a major threat. Three weeks ago, three Jihadists were arrested for planning a Ft. Hood-style

attack on Federal forces."

"Vigilance is important," he added. "A study showed that when they see smoke or a fire, most people will just walk away, figuring someone else will do something about it."

But not all of the threat comes from cultures across the seas.

"We have a huge problem with narco-terrorism in Southern California," he said. "Los Angeles-area gangs combined to work together on prostitution, and that grew into the transporting of drugs, while is tied to terrorism," he said.

A government crackdown on drug trafficking in Mexico has led to near-open warfare between that nation's federal government and various drug cartels.

The violence there has not only discouraged tourism (a major source of income to many Mexican communities)

but also spilled over into cities and towns north of the border.

In 2011 alone, over 15,000 are estimated to have been killed so far in the increasingly vicious conflict.

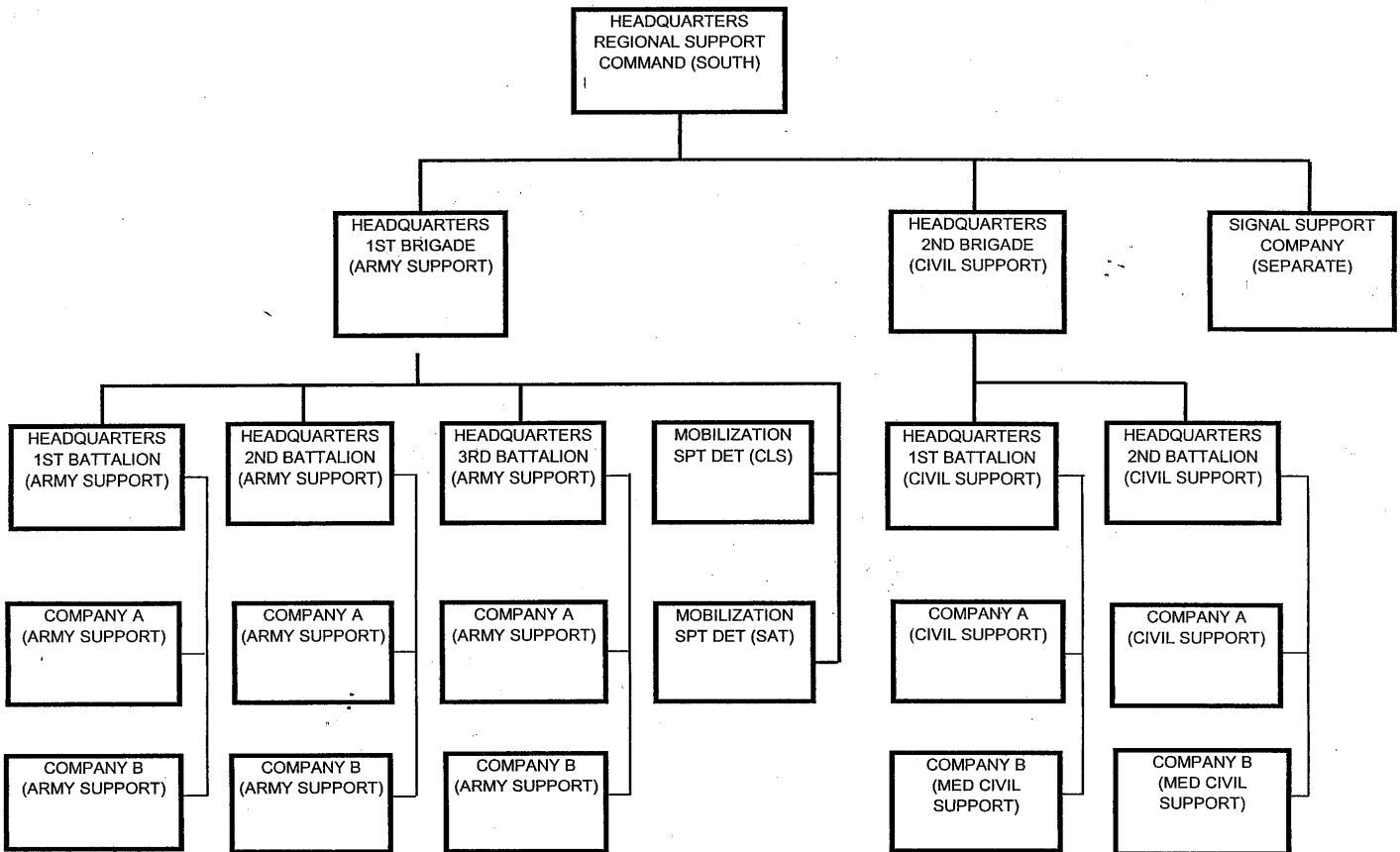
But the danger could be even closer to home.

"This base," he said, "is the least secure base in Southern California." In addition to serving as a multiple-use military facility, the JFTB hosts the USA national water polo team, has a Little League field, houses the Sunburst Academy for at-risk youths, and is visited by a wide array of civilians.

The threats to targets in the U.S. are many, ranging from vehicle and letter bombs to skyjacking and the use of biological weapons.

While he cautions against excessive concern—"do not live in fear"—he reminds soldiers that "vigilance can prevent many terrorist attacks."

## REGIONAL SUPPORT COMMAND (SOUTH)



# SOUTHERN REGION RECONFIGURED

**By Chief Warrant Officer 2  
Richard de La Torre  
RSC-S Public Affairs**

As part of a new vision of the CSMR's mission, commanders have proposed a realignment of units and responsibilities for the Regional Support Command (South).

The realignment plan, which was presented to unit and section leaders last month, is expected to slowly evolve into place over the next several years.

It is a reflection of how the Reserve has become a more practical, functional and task-

oriented state defense force that emphasizes professionalism and technical expertise.

The main changes involve re-organizing the RSC into two brigades with a total authorized strength of more than 700 Soldiers.

The 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade, under the designation of Army Support, will be comprised of three battalions and two detachments geared to continue providing maximum support to the Cal Guard and its Soldiers, particularly those facing mobilization or deployment requirements.

The brigade will focus on tactical needs such as survival

## Command Information Update

skills and common task training.

The idea, according to the CSMR commanders, is to better position the Reserve to provide the Cal Guard with what it needs most—unit-level access to resources and cost-effective supplemental and specialized training that it can't get anywhere else.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Brigade, under the designation of Civil Support, will continue to provide classic support to civilian authorities

during emergencies and disasters. With two battalions, the brigade's focus will be on security-related missions and training, and providing supplemental resources, including medical units, in times of need.

As proposed, the plan calls for no changes to the CSMR's independent commands operating in the Southern Region—the Center for Military History and the Installation Support Activity (ISA).

The CSMR's involvement with the Cal Guard's youth academies across the state will also not be impacted.



# CSMR EMERGENCY ROLE IS GROWING

By Sgt. Gregory Solman  
RSC-S Public Affairs

Capt. Frank Quiambao sees a future for CSMR. "My vision is that the State Military Reserve would participate actively in preparedness and emergency response," he says. "CSMR would be plugged in to the plans. I'm making a pro-active attempt to do it."

As lines of authority run, Capt. Quiambao might be just the man to accomplish that mission. A special advisor to the Secretary for the California Emergency Management Agency (often called "Cal EMA"), the Regional Emergency Operations Center is located in an inauspicious trailer on the east side of the Joint Forces Training Base, an office Quiambao hopes he'll never have to use—because it would typically mean something bad has happened.

Quiambao explains that the Emergency Management Agency, new in 2009, grew out of combining the authority of the Governor's Office of



WARRIOR WORDS

## CPT. FRANK QUIAMBAO

Emergency Services and state-level Homeland Security, wherein each state presents an advisor to the Federal agency.

Functions of Cal EMA include information analysis watch and warning division, which in theory would meld communications among

California Highway Patrol, the California Department of Justice, and other federal and state public safety organizations with Homeland Security, through the California State Threat Assessment System; a law enforcement and victim services division, which includes coordination of search-and-rescue; a preparedness branch responsible for implementing the Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS), among other tasks; a hazard mitigation branch; and a training division, set up to educate first responders; and an earthquake and tsunami program.

"We need to get the CSMR to train up to perform certain functions," Quiambao says. "Those specific functions could range from HAZMAT to swift-water rescue."

He added "If CSMR personnel were to train up to perform a specific duty like that, they could be put into the threat-matrix system, identified, and deployed."

## PLANS FOR A 'NEW' JFTB IN LOS AL

Continued from page 3

stairs—and CSMR personnel under the supervision of Command Sgt. Major Robert A. Jacob, according to Col. William Greene.

Dr. Greene says their unit has redone the door framing and begun waterproofing and rehabbing the ceiling in preparation for possibly opening up the long-dormant upper floor.

Will it be good enough for a sterile operating environment? "We don't want to make it so nice that they'd like to take it back from us," Greene joked.

## DEALING WITH THE NEWS MEDIA

Continued from page 5

assessment of the participants' skill set and boosts an understanding of others and a comprehension of the training variables.

Although some of the "questions" nearly overwhelmed Sgt. Tortolano, his answers provided a helpful way for all participants to examine their spontaneous reactions.

Testing soldiers using the scenario methodology pits the PAO's duties against the media's attempt to protest, verify, and control the interview.

In this case, the assertive soldier, using good judgment and professionalism, simply controls the length of the interview. ■

## HOLIDAY BALL SET FOR DEC. 10. SIGN UP!

The annual Holiday Ball will be held **Saturday, Dec. 10 at the Phoenix Club in Anaheim**. This year's theme is "The Citizen Soldier, A Proud American Tradition." Use the coupon below to get your tickets.

\_\_\_\_ I will attend the 2011 holiday dinner and party on Saturday, Dec. 11, 2011

Enclosed is my check for # \_\_\_\_\_ reservations \$50 per member/guest for \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Print name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to **SUNBURST FUND** and mail to  
CPT William Chidsey, 4 Palos Verdes Lane, Rolling Hills Estates, CA 90274.