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The Griffin Gazette

Wings of Victory

JULY 2012

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12th CAB Female Engagement Team Training Pays off in Afghanistan

MAZAR-E-SHARIF, Afghanistan – Late in June, 12th Combat Aviation Brigade's female engagement team (FET) conducted their first mission in Samangan province, Afghanistan.

The mission was conducted in two parts. The first part took place June 19 and was an assessment of a Woman's Center and an Orphanage. The second part was a follow-up June 28 to deliver supplies and conduct further assessments at other sites.

Originally formed in January 2012, months of training and preparation finally came together as the six member team left the wire together for the first time, and culminated in a success that



LT Imelda Rodriguez and SGT LaToya Congress perform the FET Mission in Samangan Province, Afghanistan

will leave a lasting impression on northern Afghanistan.

Their mission is simple; visit facilities dedicated to helping women and children, assess their needs and find solutions to help them. Dur-

ing their two missions, the team visited the Samangan Director of Women's Affairs, an orphanage, an education center, a prison for women, a detention facility for teens
(continued on page 2)

Longbow Apache Pilots Learn to Land on Navy's USS New York

3-159th 'Quickstrike' Attack Reconnaissance Battalion (ARB) met the USS New York in the Persian Gulf on June 22nd, bringing with them a lot of firsts.

The battalion became the first

to land an AH-64D Longbow Apache aboard the vessel when they partnered with the Navy crew to train the Army pilots how to land on the deck of a ship.

"We've never had an Apache aboard this ship until today," said Navy Capt. Jon Kreitz, commanding officer of the USS New York.
(continued on page 5)

TF Griffin
Camp Marmal
Afghanistan
APO AE 09368



The FET meets with orphans in Samangan

“Everyone on this team just wants to help. They’re the most passionate Soldiers I’ve ever seen,”

FET TEAM (cont)

and a women’s center in Hazrat-E-Sultan. The results were profound.

When 12th CAB developed their FET mission, the first aviation unit in the Army to do so, six women from different backgrounds and specialties volunteered for the special assignment. The volunteers had to meet certain requirements and undergo a selection process in order to join the team.

In charge of the team are two field artillery officers, 1st Lt. Heather Severt and 1st Lt. Imelda Rodriguez. Other members of the team include Sgt. Lindsey Fulton, a medic with 5th Battalion, 158th Aviation, Sgt. Raaya Lock and Spc. Mackenzie Almand, both UH-60 Avionics repair-

ers, and Sgt. LaToya Congress, an air traffic controller.

“We come from different backgrounds, but we’re well rounded as a team,” said Fulton.

Despite their different backgrounds and the fact they had not worked together before, the women gelled quickly. Their initial training took them to Grafenwoehr, Germany in a joint effort with 173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team’s own female engagement team. They immediately came together as a group. “The 173rd was really impressed with how well we worked together as a team,” said Rodriguez.

Each of the women on the team expressed the same sentiment. “Everyone completes each other,” said Severt.

They are very comfortable with each other, relaxed and joking when they’re not working

and serious when they are. “I count us a family,” said Congress. “When we are down to business, we are down to business.”

The training itself was very involved. It was based on the experiences of previous teams. It consisted of classroom instruction, role-playing exercises and videos of what the women could expect to see and hear about when they started to interact with Afghans. The role-play was difficult because everyone’s watching you and you get nervous. The videos were very harsh, said Lock. “But it was all to prepare us for what we would actually see.”

As the officer responsible for training the team, 1st Lt. Rodriguez did a lot of reading before-hand. What she didn’t expect is how similar the reading and the training would be to the actual experience. “There were no surprises whatsoever,” she said.

The morning of June 19, the team went to an orphanage in Samangan province, where they met with the orphanage director. The director gave the team a tour of the facility, which was built with donations from India. The orphanage is equipped for 200 students to attend classes, though fewer children, all boys whose parents were killed in the war, stay there full time. The students learn math, religious studies and the Dari language. The staff would like to teach a

FET TEAM (cont)

wider selection of subjects, including English and some basic computer classes, while two teachers and some volunteers are available, more are needed.

The next stop for the team was the Hazrat-e-Sultan Women's Center where the local Director of Women's Affairs, is the administrator of the facility. The team spoke with the director about women's issues in Samangan and her efforts to bring social services to the province. The center provides education for more than 300 children in rural areas, although more teachers are needed. The Hazrat-e-Sultan facility provides medical care and educational opportunities for children on site, as well as legal advice for women in need.

Upon returning to Marmal, the team identified a source for many of the supplies needed for those facilities, and even though they made no promises and the women they were helping had no immediate expectations, ten days later the team returned to Samangan with supplies for the orphanage.

The second mission started early in the morning of June 28. The FET met with Samangan Provincial Governor Khairullah Anosh. The team asked permission to visit a girl's school and a detention facility for women.

We may have other missions, or go on to other teams, but we're going to remember this experience for life.

Anosh agreed, but first escorted them to an education center consisting of a high school for

who spoke English and wanted to talk to them. One girl had studied English for seven years. The school library had books in Dari and English. It was obvious to the team the students wanted to learn and succeed. They even met one girl who walked three hours each way to get to school.

The next stop was a detention facility for teens where three women were being held for having premarital relations. Two adult women guarded the teens and although the teens were careful about what they shared, they did say that they would

rather be in a detention facility than to be at home. The FET members brought hygiene supplies and clothing to the detainees before they left.

The final stop of the day

was the Samangan Orphanage where the FET delivered toys and school supplies for the orphans.

The FET members found much of their cultural sensitivity training was aimed at interactions in front of men. Many of the men they met were confused about how to interact with them, but once behind closed doors, the team bonded instantly with



FET members Sgt Lock, Sgt. Congress and SPC Almand engage with the locals of Samangan Province



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FET TEAM (cont)

Afghan women. “Women are women, regardless of culture,” said Severt.

The women talked about their families, about their hopes and about the outside world. “The women were different. They were very curious. They asked questions, they giggled a lot, and they blushed a lot,” said Fulton. “16 years ago they didn’t have this problem. The women in their 30s remember what it was like before the Taliban. They all want to learn more about the outside world.”

Everyone who was a part of the mission agreed that the team’s professional presence was going to leave a positive impression in the area. Several of the women made new friends and hoped to see them again at a women’s

shura at Camp Marmal. “We may have other missions, or move on to other teams, but we’re going to remember this experience for life,” said Lock.

“We come from different backgrounds, but we’re well rounded as a team,”

The training they received in Germany prepared them for what they would encounter in Afghanistan, but it was the team members themselves who made the mission a success.

“Everyone on this team just wants to help. They’re the most passionate Soldiers I’ve ever seen,” said Fulton. “All the girls have big hearts.” ○

- The first FET was founded as an improvised team to support a specific operation of Marine Combat Logistics Battalion-3 in February 2009.
- It was comprised of a team of females who provided the simple search function of the Lioness Program in Iraq, in which female service members searched female local nationals at checkpoints.
- In July 2009, Task Force Leatherneck established a similar FET following an incident in which trapped insurgents escaped a compound by dressing in burkas and walking through a Marine cordon.
- In January 2010, the FET mission became a consistent presence alongside Civil Affairs personnel in key population centers.
- FETs engage the local population, give them information about what US Forces are doing, provide humanitarian assistance and gather information about the area of operations.

The Griffin Female Engagement Team delivers supplies to the Samangan Orphanage



Apaches on USS New York (continued from Page 1)

“We take every chance we get to do something special and today is no different”.

After flying from their base of operations in Camp Buehring, Kuwait over the Persian Gulf, the 3-159th ARB Commander Lt. Col. Steve Mur-

Seven and a half tons of steel from the remains of the Twin Towers was used in the Construction of the USS New York

phy and his crew of four pilots arrived at the USS New York. The pilots took turns landing the Apache helicopter on the ship. They performed deck landing qualifications and can now train other pilots in the battalion. “We are the first active duty group to perform this kind of mission,” said Chief Warrant Officer Four Thomas Higgins, ‘Quickstrike’ battalion aviation safety officer.



“It’s a really big deal actually, because this type of training is usually limited to Special Forces”.

The mission was conceived in January when Battalion Master Gunner Chief Warrant Officer 3 Glenn Blanche trained with the 1st Brigade Combat Team of the 1st Cavalry Division. Since then it was a developing opportunity for the battalion.

“Not only do we qualify our pilots, we fill a major capabilities gap for the Navy,” said Higgins. “The armament and flight

capabilities of the Apache are widely varied from the Cobra helicopter and give traditional blue water Navy a kind of security they’ve never had”.

The training took place over two days and will continue through the ARB’s deployment to Kuwait as part of their mission in support of Operation Spartan Shield.

In addition to the training benefits, getting to see the USS New York was a once in a lifetime opportunity.

“I was a Marine for over ten years and never even got on a ship,” said Higgins.

The United States Navy commissioned the USS New York as the fourth amphibious transport dock ship in their worldwide fleet. As an amphibious transport unit its primary mission is to deploy for rapid transport of personnel and equipment.

The USS New York deployed to the Fifth Fleet in the Persian Gulf on March 27, 2012



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An AH-64D Longbow Apache helicopter lands on the flight deck of the USS New York in the Persian Gulf (top)



The USS New York sails in the Persian Gulf during its maiden voyage.

USS New York Commanding Officer, Navy Capt. Jon Kreitz (center) meets with Lt.Col Steve Murphy (left) and Chief Warrant Officer 4 Tom Higgins (right).

USS New York (cont)

for its first deployment. It is commanded by Kreitz and operated by a crew of just over 300 sailors. When carrying a combat unit, the full personnel capacity of the ship can reach over 1100 sailors and Marines.

Equipped with four medium speed diesel engines, the USS New York can reach speeds above 22 knots, or about 25 miles per hour. It is armed with two MK 31 missile launchers and a dozen mounted machine guns. Despite a length of 684 feet and displacement of 24,900 tons, the USS New York can maneuver with the best of them.

“You wouldn’t believe it but this ship has the sharpest turn radius in the fleet,” said Kreitz. “Sharper, faster and better even than the cruisers. This ship is one of a kind”.

But its most striking feature may be the use of steel from the World Trade Center buildings in New York. Over seven and a half tons of steel from the remains of the Twin Towers were melted down and used in the construction of the vessel. Throughout the ship



there are numerous tributes honoring those who lost their lives in the September 11, 2001 tragedy.

The USS New York is already a unique vessel for this reason, but now it becomes the first vessel to host this kind of advanced aviation training with an Army Attack Reconnaissance Battalion.

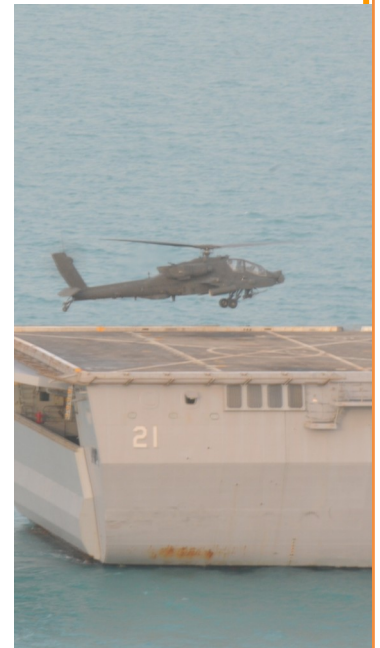
“I have mentor pilots who’ve never done anything like this,” said Chief Warrant Officer 4 Heath Hielsberg. “To be a part of the only active duty squad flying onto boats is fascinating”.

Other pilots involved with the

training included Chief Warrant Officer 3s Kevin Martin, Stephen Buckley and Jeffrey Wedgewood.

“It is a great accomplishment to be the first to land on the

An AH-64D Longbow Apache lands on the deck of the USS New York in the Persian Gulf



USS New York,” said Murphy. “It is an awesome ship, and it’s an honor to have our crews land on her”.

3-159th ARB will continue to operate over the gulf for the duration of its deployment, to include aerial gunnery and flight training missions. ○

Memorials like this one are posted throughout the USS New York.



Deployment doesn't stop Fourth of July celebrations

Soldiers from the 12th Combat Aviation Brigade celebrated Independence Day with barbecues and basketball at Camp Marmal.

The celebrations took place through-out the day at the American dining facility, at the USO on base here, and at the Task Force Ready headquarters.

The American dining facility was decorated in patriotic red, white and blue ribbons for the event. A Styrofoam replica of the U.S. Capitol building and the Statue of Liberty were sculpted by civilian dining facility employee

Anel Tankic and placed prominently in the dining room. Soldiers feasted on all-American barbecue including ribs, barbecued and fried chicken, hot dogs, bratwurst, baked beans and corn bread. Cakes with American flags and ice cream were offered as desert and Sol-

diers from every American and coalition unit on Marmal came to celebrate.

Soldiers assigned to the 12th CAB's Task Force Ready gathered at the airfield early in the evening for a unit celebration with the atmosphere of a home-style picnic. The companies fired up their grills while Soldiers threw Frisbees, footballs and baseballs, and played lawn games cornhole and ladder toss, as well as several games of darts. Task Force Ready Soldiers relaxed as the evening's entertainment allowed

them to forget about their duties for a few hours and celebrate the holiday with their friends and coworkers.

On the other side of the base, the Marmal USO hosted an evening of excitement as well. Employees and volunteers held a Barbecue and basketball tour-



A Styrofoam replica of the U.S. Capitol building and the Statue of Liberty were sculpted by civilian dining facility employee Anel Tankic

ament at the USO tent. A DJ played music while Soldiers gathered around for the festivities. Three basketball courts adjacent to the USO tent were surrounded by spectators as teams consisting of Soldiers from several different units on Marmal, including some coalition partners, played several hours of double-elimination basketball.

As the sun set, spotlights were turned on and the Soldiers were able to enjoy the festive atmosphere into the night. In all, despite being thousands of miles from home, Soldiers were able to share the Independence Day celebration with their fellow service members and Coalition Partners. ◊



Soldiers with the 12th CAB played games of Catch (top left) and Basketball (bottom left) as part of the Fourth of July festivities



1LT Scott Peterson and SPC Victor Rosario enjoy some of the food grilled during Task Force Ready's Barbecue.

Phase teams keep 12th CAB in the air

Soldiers with Bco 5-159th GSAB reattach the rotor blades to a CH-47 Chinook helicopter

It's a long muggy ride from Bear Village where the Soldiers stay, to the flight-line, made worse by the dust from the road clogging the air conditioner on the bus, but it's a ride the Soldiers of Task Force Professional take every day.

The Soldiers of Bravo Company, 412th Aviation Support Battalion, work in shifts as they conduct the detailed inspection of 12th Combat Aviation Brigade's aircraft called Phase Maintenance Inspections. Phase maintenance inspections occur at regular intervals on all aircraft in order to keep them in the air. With one maintenance team for each of the three types of helicopters within the brigade, and dedicated shops for the individual systems on the aircraft, Bravo Company operates two twelve hour shifts each day, with some of the individual systems personnel working as many as 14 hours each day.

It's like rebuilding the aircraft from the ground up, said McNeal. It's a lot of work.

A Soldier with Bravo Company 412th ASB inspects the rotor blades of a CH-47 Chinook helicopter undergoing phase maintenance.



It's a lot higher pace than in garrison, but this is the mission: getting the aircraft fixed. "It definitely keeps [the Soldiers] busy. They get their fair share of work," said Staff Sgt. John Frey, a section sergeant within the armament and electrical shop.

In addition to the daily shifts, B Company Soldiers have to pull the standard guard duties that come with being deployed. The strain can add up, with the grueling pace of opera-

tions, but Bravo Company is meeting the challenge.

But the Soldiers from Bravo Company dug deep. Establishing a good daily rhythm, and building on their unit cohesion; they attacked the job with the grit and determination of true Professionals. The team turned out a UH-60 Phase Maintenance Inspection level 1 and 2 in two weeks, said Staff Sgt. Joseph McNeal, a maintenance NCO with Bravo Company.

It's a very demanding job. As a platoon leader and aviation maintenance tech, Warrant Officer Gustavo Flores knows that. For Flores and the other leaders in Bravo Company, the mission is to find ways to improve their morale and performance. As an aviation maintenance technician, and their platoon leader, Flores looks for ways to improve their performance by finding new tools and procedures for





them.

The Soldiers work hard, and I try to alleviate their workload, said Flores.

The Phase Maintenance Inspection process can take anywhere from two to six weeks, depending on the individual aircraft, and which phase it is in. Phase inspections take place at regular intervals, depending on the airframe, from 125 hours of operation, to 200, 400 and 500 hours.

It begins when a unit submits a work order through maintenance channels and the aircraft arrives at the hangar. The first person to examine the aircraft is the technical inspector who conducts a 100% inspection of all parts from the ground up. Subsystems are confirmed by serial number, and the total hours of operation for each part are carefully logged in order to track its lifespan.

Following the technical inspection, the aircraft is released to the maintenance operations section, which

performs additional inspections and power-on tests in order to find faults that may have been missed. Once these tests are completed, the phase team begins dismantling the aircraft, removing every system for individual inspection. The phase team consists of 12-14 people per aircraft, with five to seven people per shift. Tearing down the aircraft is a process that can take up to 24 hours.

The team works on a single aircraft around the clock until that aircraft is ready to fly again. Each part is cleaned and tested during this process. Parts are repaired or replaced during this process, which can take anywhere from five to ten days. Once every piece has been thoroughly checked, it is re-installed.

It's like rebuilding the aircraft from the ground up, said McNeal. "It's a lot of work".

During the rebuild, Soldiers like Sgt. Chris Huesing, a CH-47 Chinook Helicopter Repairer, and squad leader in Bravo Company, are on the aircraft constantly during their shift. Every part must be checked and checked again during the process. Hydraulics and fluid levels must

be constantly monitored, the electrical systems tested, and the power-train must be assessed for the smallest problems.

After being removed and inspected, the helicopter's rotor blades go through a process called track and balance as they are reattached. This is done to ensure they all return to the same point with every rotation. During power-on tests, different systems are monitored for vibrations, in a process taking several days after the tear-down inspection is completed.

When the tear-down and rebuild process is complete, the helicopters go through a series of maintenance test flights, to ensure the repairs were completed safely and effectively before the aircraft is returned to its unit.

For the aircraft, that is the end of the process until the next scheduled phase maintenance inspection. For the Soldiers of Bravo Company, there's already another aircraft in line. ○



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Sgt. Chris Huesing and Sgt. Ashley Garza prepare to conduct start-up tests for a CH-47 Chinook helicopter undergoing phase maintenance.

SPC Joseph Zimmer of 412th ASB works on a UH-60 Blackhawk undergoing phase maintenance.

GRIFFIN SIX SENDS



Greeting to all Griffins,

Wow, what a summer it has been! Currently the Griffin Brigade is spread throughout 32 different locations including Kuwait, Europe and Afghanistan. I could not be more proud of everyone's efforts as we continue first class mission support from all of these sites! I continue to be humbled by the amazing work of all at every one of these locations. I also continue to be amazed by the support back in our communities in Germany, and the entire "Griffin Nation" throughout the world. Thanks to all, as it takes all to accomplish our extremely important mission every day.

I think everyone know we lost two GREAT Griffin Soldiers and American Heroes. CPT Jay Brainard and CW5 John Pratt were killed in action on 28 May. I would like to thank everyone for rallying around each other as well as the Brainard and Pratt Families. The true test of an organization's character comes out during times of adversity. The 12th CAB Family in its

entirety stepped up and demonstrated the highest of character, and Joyce and I would like to extend our personal thanks to all during this extremely tough time. CPT Jay Brainard and CW5 John Pratt will never be forgotten and the Brainard and Pratt Families will always be a part of the Griffin Family.

This deployment presents many different challenges for all. I want to reiterate there are many resources and outlets to help whatever challenge or problem you may be facing. The Rear Detachment, your Chain of Command, and Family Readiness Groups can always assist with getting you linked up with services to help work through issues or challenges presenting themselves. There is absolutely nothing wrong with reaching out for help if you require it. I personally highly encourage this and can assure you we will all do everything to help you work through any problems you are facing. Deployments affect people differently. I want all to know I am extremely proud of everyone's service, not just those wearing a uniform, but also those holding down the home front. I understand the stresses involved as well, and ask all to get out and meet folks, establish support bases, and get involved with the community as this will aid in all getting through the deployment together.

The 12th CAB will be redeploying Soldiers early as part of the overall reduction in forces throughout Afghanistan. Most of these Soldiers will come from the CAB Headquarters and 412th ASB. We are working with all to provide as much predictability

on these reductions. I would ask all to understand this continues to remain a 10 month deployment, and even if a Soldier comes home as part of the reductions, all must be prepared to redeploy if mission requirements dictate. The deployment does not end until every Soldier is home early next year. If you have questions about your Soldier please contact your Rear Detachment and they will be able to provide all the proper information. Thanks for everyone's patience and understanding as we have worked through this mandated reduction.

I continue to get out and see all of our Soldiers spread out all over Afghanistan. In every single instance, I am inspired. Everyone is working very hard, in some very challenging situations, and making us all very proud. It is extremely humbling to see the incredible efforts across Afghanistan, and everyone back home should be very proud of your Soldier. Joyce and I would like to THANK all again for all of your support and we are honored to stand shoulder to shoulder with all as we continue to face the future.

Hope all are able to take some time and get out and enjoy Europe or whatever plans you may have. Please continue to be safe! Thanks again for all you do every day.

COL Jay Voorhees
"Griffin 6"

COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR'S CORNER



Hello Griffins

On the 19th of July we conducted the Sergeant Morales Board. The brigade has been given expressed rights to conduct this board in lieu of sending Soldiers to a nominative level CSM board. What does this mean for NCOs? If you are one of the NCOs chosen to participate, you will only have to attend your battalion board and then the brigade board. Your packet will get vetted by the USAREUR CSM himself and voted on whether or not it has the merit to be inducted into the club.

The Sergeant Morales Club is a board designed to recognize outstanding NCOs in USAREUR. Seven Outstanding NCOs were selected from their Battalions to attend this board and SSG Mitchell from Task

Force Storm (originally 412th ASB) endured the inspection and interview process. Great Job! We are scheduled to conduct another board on the 23rd of August.

The weather is getting hotter, Soldiers are working harder and the Aircraft are flying like champs! Believe it or not, the temperatures are expected to get slightly higher as we get further into the summer months. September is when we can expect those highs to start dropping. With the anticipated temperatures comes the heightened chances of heat injuries to come around and affect our force. Sometimes we get mission focused so much, that we neglect the basic things like hydration. I challenge leaders to get out and enforce their hydration plans. Each and every Soldier in this Task Force is an important member of the organization and now more than ever will one Soldier falling out affect another. Take care of your fellow service members and push through this summer surge safely.

Finally, I would like to commend each and every one of you in your professionalism throughout this rotation. We are ex-

tremely proud to be part of this Brigade and I hope you feel the same. This unit has done great things since arriving in country and I am constantly getting thanks from Coalition Partners to Combat units throughout Afghanistan and Kuwait. Keep up the great job and take time to call your Family and thank them for the support. This Country, Army and brigade owes a debt of gratitude for their sacrifice.

CSM MICHEAL
CLOWSER

“Griffin 7”



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For more information on the Sergeant Morales board, please see Army Europe Regulation 600-2 at <https://aepubs.army.mil/pdfpubs/AER600-2.pdf>



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WINGS OF JUSTICE

UCMJ Summary By TF GRIFFIN LEGAL TEAM

On Camp Marmal, A Soldier was found guilty of failing to obey a lawful order from a noncommissioned officer, who was then known by the accused Soldier to be a noncommissioned officer an order which it was his duty to obey. This is in violation of Article 91, UCMJ. The Soldier received punishment of 14 days extra duty.

On Camp Marmal, Afghanistan, a Soldier was found guilty of making an official statement with intent to deceive. This is in violation of Article 107, UCMJ. The Soldier received a punishment of 14 days extra duty and 14 days restriction.

On Camp Marmal, Afghanistan, a Soldier was found guilty of failing to obey a lawful order from a noncommissioned officer, who was then known by the accused Soldier to be a noncommissioned officer an order which it was his duty to obey. This is in violation of Article 91, UCMJ.

On Camp Marmal, Afghanistan, a noncommissioned officer was found guilty of

disobeying the order of his commissioned officer. This is in violation of Article 90, UCMJ. The NCO received seven days of extra duty On Camp Marmal, Afghanistan, a noncommissioned officer was found guilty of fail to go at the time prescribed to his appointed place of duty, to wit: Entry Control Point, Camp Mike Spann, at 1800 hrs. This is in violation of Article 86, UCMJ.

On Camp Marmal, Afghanistan, a Soldier was found guilty of negligence discharge of a service rifle in the FARP of Camp Marmal, Afghanistan, said conduct being prejudicial to good order and discipline and of a nature to bring discredit upon the armed forces. This is in violation of Article 134, UCMJ. The Soldier was reduced to the rank of Specialist, forfeiture of \$745 pay per month for two months, and extra duty for two months. An appeal was denied.

On Camp Marmal Afghanistan, a noncommissioned officer was found guilty of being disrespectful in language toward Sergeant First Class P.A.V., a noncommissioned officer, then known by him to be a superior non-

commissioned officer, who was then in the execution of his office, by saying to him, "(Expletive Deleted) you, SFC P.A.V.," or words to that effect. This is in violation of Article 91, UCMJ. The NCO received a punishment of reduction to Specialist.

On Camp Marmal Afghanistan, a noncommissioned officer was found guilty disobeying a lawful order from Staff Sergeant O.O. C., then known by him to be a noncommissioned officer, an order which it was his duty to obey. This is in violation of Article 91, UCMJ. The NCO received the punishment of reduction to Specialist.

On Camp Marmal Afghanistan, a Soldier was found guilty of failing to obey a lawful order issued by Colonel K.J.L., to wit: paragraph f(1)m First Sergeant's Barracks Program, dated September 2011 by failing maintain his room in a clean, safe, functional, secure, and neat condition. This is in violation of Article 92, UCMJ. The Soldier received the punishment of 14 days extra duty. ○



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FACES OF THE GRIFFINS



THOUGHTS FROM THE CHAPLAIN



I found this letter on the dining facility floor, and am looking for the writer of this letter so I can get it back to him. As I keep searching for the author here in Afghanistan, I thought the letter was worth sharing with you all back in the rear. I hope you are encouraged by it...

Dear Mary,

We had a briefing by the chaplain the other day. You know, one of those you have to go to kinda briefings the Army makes us do? Anyway, even though I was half asleep at the beginning, some of the things he said made sense. In fact, some of them hit me hard.

First of all, he said I should appreciate you more. I don't tell you enough how much I appreciate you and what you do as an Army wife to support me and the kids. You're amazing!

Second, when I get back, I want to do a few things to help our marriage grow. Like, every day I want to do something to show you I love you. I want to spend more time with you alone, you know, like have a weekly date night instead of going out with my friends. I've been selfish and want to stop. The chaplain also said some things that made me realize that I was "that guy," that I am often critical of you and pick at you for small, stupid stuff. I'm sorry about all that, Mary.

I realize in a new way that you are a real gift to me and I want to be that kind of gift to you. Can't wait till this deployment is over and we can build our marriage to be even better!

Love,
John



Camp Marmal Weekly Religious Services



<u>Sunday</u>	<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>	<u>Saturday</u>
1030 Protestant Service, Camp Marmal Chapel, Chaplain Levine	1900 Prayer meeting, Camp Marmal Chapel	1900 Women's Bible Study, Camp Marmal Chapel	1845 Men Bible Study/ Accountability group, Bear Village Chapel	1930 Gospel Service Choir Practice, Camp Marmal Chapel		1930 Gospel Service Choir Practice, Camp Marmal Chapel
1330 Gospel Worship Service, Camp Marmal Chapel, Chaplain Kim		1900 Bible Study, 412 th BN Conference Room, Chaplain Collier	1900 General Bible Study, Camp Marmal Chapel	1900 Men's Bible Study, Bear Village Chapel, Chaplain Levine		Muslim prayer, Saturday thru Thursday, noontime (time varies) Camp Marmal Mosque
1600 Latter-Day Saints, Bear Village Chapel, Lay Leader			2000 Latter-Day Saints Bible Study, Bear Village Chapel Lay Leader			
1830 Catholic Mass, (in English) at German Chapel						
1900 Protestant Service, Camp Marmal Chapel, Chaplains Levine and Collier						
2000 Latter-Day Saints, Bear Village Chapel, Lay Leader						

As of 15 JUN 2012



Sponsored by the 12th CAB UMT
POCs: Chaplain (MAJ) Levine and SSG Tisdale
DSN: 424-6662/6223/6229
cell: 078-819-2508