



**READY. SET. GOAL! A NEW YEAR FOR A NEW YOU!** Pg. 2

**COLONEL'S  
CORNER** pg1

 **Task Force Blackjacks** pg. 3

 **Task Force PISTOLEROS** pg. 4

 **TF Workhorse** pg. 5

12 memorable moments  
of **2012** pg 7

 **Our Host Nation** pg 6

**Partnership and Mission  
Photos** pg 6

**News From the Theater - Camp Buehring, Kuwait  
January 2013**



Col. McLemore - 35th CAB Commander

## COLONEL'S CORNER

Soldiers and families throughout the 35th CAB

It continues to be my pleasure to serve with the greatest Soldiers the Army has. 35th CAB continues to do amazing things in partnerships, exercises and operations. We have far exceeded my own expectations and those of our higher headquarters. Each of you has stepped up and challenged yourself and developed outstanding leadership skills.

We are about 75% complete with our entire mobilization. We are in double digits on days left to the Transfer of Authority. While this is absolutely very exciting, I challenge each of US to dig deep and stay focused on the mission at hand as we must continue to be the professional Soldiers that we have always been, ensuring

all operations are done safely and effectively. For those going home in a few months, I also challenge each to remember that we have units that continue to serve here after our departure and that we must never forget this and continue to plan accordingly to ensure their continued success and ensure the success of the 36th CAB as they prepare to assume this great mission. Each Soldier's actions within the 35th CAB is a direct reflection upon yourself, your unit and the United States Army. We are ambassadors as we conduct each partnership or exercise and help maintain stability throughout this region.

I want to thank each and every family member, friend, co-worker, organization or individual who has been ever so generous through the Christmas Season.

The gifts and packages have been absolutely amazing. Our mail room has been inundated with packages, cards and let-

ters which have all brought the biggest smiles on your Soldiers face. Thanks so much for this great kindness that our friends and families have shown to the Soldiers of the 35th CAB.

I am absolutely proud of each and every Soldier as you work your daily routines. Your professionalism and great attitude is what makes this mission a success. Thanks to all of you and your families for your hard work, dedication, sacrifices and support.

Sincerely

Col. Mark McLemore

Santa Fe 6



Newsletter provide by:  
35th CAB PAO  
1st. Lt. Kerri Brantley

with contributions from:

Spc. Sean Howard 4-501ARB  
1st. Lt. brittany Adair 935ASB  
Maj. Willie Jones 2-135GSAB

santafepao@gmail.com  
318-438-4739

"Just don't give up trying to do what you really want to do."

~Ella Fitzgerald~

Back home or deployed we all have some desire to use the New Year as a starting point to make changes in our lives. It is important to have goals set for yourself to improve your life.

According to USA.gov the most popular resolutions are:

**Drink Less Alcohol.** One researcher Brene' Brown says you cannot isolate feelings, so using alcohol to numb the bad feelings, also takes away your good feelings. If

you have decided that you want to stop drinking, there is a world of help and support available. Some resources can be found at [www.militaryonesource.com](http://www.militaryonesource.com) or the Army Substance Abuse Program, ask your local TMC for assistance.

**Eat Healthy Food or Lose Weight.** Over 66 percent of adult Americans are considered overweight or obese by recent studies, so it is not surprising to find that weight loss is one of the most popular New Year's resolutions. Setting reasonable goals and staying focused are the two most important factors in sticking with a weight loss program, and the key to success for those millions of Americans who made a New Year's commitment to shed extra pounds.

**Get a Better Education or Get a Better Job.** Have you vowed to

make this year the year to learn something new? Perhaps you are considering a career change, want to learn a new language, or just how to fix your computer? Whether you take a course or read a book, you'll find education to be one of the easiest, most motivating New Year's resolutions to keep. In the Army, we know that learning never stops - it is rewarding learning new things. Job sources [www.USAjobs.gov](http://www.USAjobs.gov), [www.indeed.com](http://www.indeed.com), or

spend this year getting a handle on their finances. It's a promise that will repay itself many times over in the year ahead. Dave Ramsey has proven points that work [www.daveramsey.com/](http://www.daveramsey.com/) or try the envelope system [www.wisebread.com](http://www.wisebread.com) > Frugal Living > Budgeting.

**Manage Stress.** Given the hectic, stressful lifestyles of millions of Americans; it is no wonder that "enjoying life more" has become

a popular resolution in recent years. It's an important step to a happier and healthier you! Consider learning a new hobby, going to a spa, or try a new comedy club or other



By: 1st. Lt. Kerri Brantley  
35th CAB PAO

[www.armycivilianservice.com](http://www.armycivilianservice.com).  
Education resources: [www.military.com/education](http://www.military.com/education) or [www.gibll.va.gov](http://www.gibll.va.gov).

**Get Fit.** No doubt year after year this is one of the normal resolutions. Studies show that it reduces the risk of some cancers, increases longevity, helps achieve and maintain weight loss, enhances mood, lowers blood pressure, and even improves arthritis. In short, exercise keeps you healthy and makes you look and feel better. Even better if you workout with a friend and hold one another accountable. Here are some popular workout programs: [www.crossfit.com](http://www.crossfit.com), [www.zumba.com](http://www.zumba.com), [www.gymsandfitnessclubs.com](http://www.gymsandfitnessclubs.com).

**Manage Debt or Save Money.** Was money a big source of stress in your life last year? Join the millions of Americans who have resolved to

performing arts venue.

**Quit Smoking.** If you have resolved to make this the year that you stamp out your smoking habit, even if you've tried to quit before and failed, don't let it get you down. On average, smokers try about four times before they quit for good. Start enjoying the rest of your smoke-free life! Some helpful resources: [www.smokefree.gov/](http://www.smokefree.gov/) or [www.ucanquit2.org/](http://www.ucanquit2.org/).

No matter what your goals, desires or resolutions do not give up! When you feel like saying I won't, or when people tell you that you can't do it, or that you shouldn't try, or that your goal is impossible to reach, or the risk is too high, or the challenge too much...don't listen... prove that you will succeed. Best of luck to your goals in the year 2013!

# TASK FORCE BLACKJACK

BRAVO COMPANY 1-106TH  
"MAD DOGS"  
By 1SG Daren Cagle

After 3 Battalions and 1 major move, space became an issue within the Company. During a sling load training exercise it was noted that there were several abandoned buildings at the far south end of the airfield. After conveying our intent, it was determined that B Co. could have the building free of charge but it was a "as is" deal. There was to be no budget for the building and zero material support. After e-mails were sent, countless hours chasing paperwork, finding the ever elusive airfield personnel and finally just walking up the guy running crane, the building was moved. Following acquisition and dealing with 30 knot winds the building was set down without incident. Demolition was immediately set upon with gusto and determination. A wall was removed, seemingly a mile of Cat 5 was torn out and electrical wire was removed without any regards to where it went or what it did. The

first thing to be done was rewiring the building to "code." Shortly thereafter the bar began to take shape, and with the input from "Mrs. Maintenance," it was decided to go with a Tiki Bar theme. The bar went up quickly with no regards to any further improvements. Guidelines were yellow pieces of duct tape slapped on walls with locations of important things such as blenders, speakers, TV's etc. A door was installed on the south side of the building to gain easy access to the deck - mind you there was no deck or any plans for a deck. A few days later, a deck was installed that could support a M1. Load tested and commander approved the deck morphed around the building to encompass the front of the building. Electrical work included rewiring all outlets, replacing light fixtures and load center panel. A 30KW generator borrowed from friends in low places powers the building. During this time the building inherited the name "THE DOG HOUSE." Small refinements



such as tables and chairs were made from scraps of lumber found on Camp Buerhing. Up to this point, not a single dime had been spent until a 1LT said "This place would rock with some green Astro turf." Deals were made, money exchanged hands in a dirty envelope, and 500 SQ FT later we had floor covering. Some of the finer points that have been installed are a dart board, a retractable movie screen and several flat screen TVs. Support from back home donated a PS3 and a Christmas tree. Fully Stocked with food items sent in Care Packages ensured that members of the unit can grab a quick snack before starting their mission on the Trail. The "DOG HOUSE" has become a place for Mad Dogs to kick back, watch a movie, kill a Zombie or 500, play some cards or relax on the deck with an ice cold near beer.



To determine Mustang suit sizes for crew members to use during over water ops in cold weather. A Company took a short break from doing Mustang Suit Fitting when someone asked how well the suits retain body heat. The ALSE techs filled the suits with air to show how well the suits can retain heat produced from your body.



First flight as a new Pilot In Command for CW2 Rafford (he is pictured on far right)



MAJ Brown and Santa (CH Nagel) at Christmas Celebration.



Army Personnel Recovery

# TASK FORCE PISTOLEROS



Photos:  
(Above) preparing for flight to Ali Al Salem.  
(L) CW2 Josh Eastlee and 1LT Jeff Garcia over the objective during partnership flight with Kuwait.  
(R) Kuwaiti aircrews led the Vasqueros in the exercise, showing them Kuwait City from the sky.



Full Speed Ahead  
By: Spc. Sean Howard  
4/501st UPAR

Soldiers of 4th Battalion 501st Aviation Regiment have made a very smooth transition into deployed life here at Camp Buehring. With the final members of the "Pistolero" family arriving on the 13th we are now all back together and ready for any task or mission that is sent our way.

Each and every Soldier in our unit have been working hard, diligently accomplishing their tasks with precision and professionalism known to be the standard of the mighty "Pistoleros". Our Aviators have been flying and training



non-stop. From completing local area orientations to deck landing qualifications, they have definitely been getting in some flight time. With all of this stacked on top of their assigned additional duties and the constant studying and learning being an aviator requires, they have surely been keeping very busy. With every hour of flight logged in each aircraft, there is a group of maintainers working hours on end to keep our helicopters in mission ready condition.

Throughout late December through early January, our own Charlie Company "Pale Horse" Soldiers were relocated to Camp Arifjan to support our aviators in their deck landing qualifications coordinated



with US Naval forces. With their return we said farewell to Bravo Company, who in support of regional security and Kuwaiti partnership missions have been relocated to Ali Al Salem. With enough of the support company assistance to maintain themselves, they are now a fully functioning cell in our split base operations.

In summary, our Soldiers have stood up as a unit and have proved yet again nothing is too difficult for us to handle. With morale high and our goals clear, all that's left is to do our jobs and await the day our relief arrives and we are allowed to go home to our loved ones.



# TASK FORCE WORKHORSE

YIPPIE! We are less than 100 days from returning home! Hello once again to the Family and Friends of the 935th ASB! January has been a busy month, but busy is GOOD, the 935th continues to support partnerships throughout Joint Security Area Georgia with Soldiers and equipment from each Company. These partnerships are very critical to the overall 35th CAB mission and we are happy to be a part of it. Each Soldier comes away with an understanding of how other Countries train their Soldiers and a friendship that could last a lifetime.

We had one final WLC in December before the Holiday's, so Congratulations to Spc. Joseph Barnes, Spc. Jesse Miller, Spc. Danielle Fitzgerald, Spc. Gary Knerr, and Spc. Jacob Ogden. Outstanding Job! The WLC is on hold until February or March as they rotate instructors so we may not get another course in before our departure. The ability for Soldier's to complete the WLC while deployed has been a GREAT benefit. The challenges Soldiers have to deal with in a M-Day status at home and difficulties even getting a class date makes this course in Kuwait SO MUCH

## MORE IMPORTANT!

We conducted day, night and NBC individual and crew weapons qualifications. It is ALWAYS fun to put on our Chemical Mask and shoot our rifles.....can you say CHALLENGING! All these missions and training are critical to what we do as Soldiers and also to our missions while we are deployed. Staying busy also makes the days fly by! All the training and classroom instruction the Soldiers have received on deployment helps the Army, National Guard and Civilian Employees. Civilians pay a lot of money to attend many of the classes we are getting for free.

Some things are worth repeating. We want to take one more opportunity to thank all the families, friends and organizations that have sent letters, cards and care packages to the Soldiers of the 935th ASB. All these people and organizations put in much of their free time and a lot of effort putting many care packages together to send to Kuwait and put smiles on the faces of each and every Soldier. So, THANK YOU once again for thinking of us!!



Don't forget we are on Facebook at 935th Aviation Support Battalion to see all the awards, promotions and reenlistments in the WORKHORSE Battalion.

We have now completed January, so in less than 100 days we will all be back to our homes in Missouri, Illinois and South Dakota. We deeply miss all our Family and Friends, but duty calls and we wear the uniform! 449th is about 30 days from reporting to Fort Hood.....AWESOME, we will be ready to greet them when the plane lands. Put a highlight on Mother's Day, you should have a Soldier at home able to celebrate with you! The CSM and I wish you all the best in 2013, talk to you next month! WORKHORSE!  
LTC Roger Bodenschatz  
CSM Javier Acosta



Bravo Company Soldiers send their thanks for the many care packages they have received since the beginning of deployment



Bravo and HSC had many Soldiers re-enlist at the end of December.



HSC Staff and all Company Commanders send thanks care packages sent during the Holiday season.



Soldiers enjoyed a day navigating an off-road drivers course



## Our Host Nation

By: 1st. Lt. Kerri Brantley

The 35th Combat Aviation Brigade is deployed to the host country of Kuwait. We are here developing and maintaining long-standing relationships with the Kuwaiti military to preserve peace and promote stability and security in the great country of Kuwait.

We have lead many partnerships with the Kuwaiti Air Force. We have conducted over water missions, live-gun-nery ranges, fueling exercises, leader engagements, deck landing qualifications, and various simulated exercise with the Kuwaitis.

The missions have all been successful and inspiring for both countries. The partnerships we are developing are absolutely the foundation for continuing peace and security of our Kuwaiti friends.

Not only have we been working diligently alongside our Kuwaiti counterparts, but we are moving a group of Soldiers, Pilots and AH-64 Apache helicopters to work with them every day. We also have had multiple opportunities to visit the local economy and visit some really neat tourist attractions. The architecture in Kuwait is quite beautiful.

It is a welcome break when given the chance to walk around a mall or eat at a restaurant. The memories and experiences here are some that will not be soon forgotten.

## Fun Facts about Host Nation:

**Name:** Kuwait, officially the State of Kuwait, is a sovereign Arab state situated in the north-east of the Arabian Peninsula in Western Asia.

**Capital:** Kuwait City

**Currency:** Kuwaiti dinar

**Population:** 2,818,042 (2011)

**Government:** Monarchy, Constitution, Hereditary monarchy, Emirate, Constitutional monarchy

**Official language:** Arabic Language

## Partnership and Mission Photos



Flying in formation to new duty location, B Co 4-501st ARB says goodbye to Camp Buehring.



HHC 35th CAB and 935th ASB Weapons qualification



1st. Sgt. Gordon and B Co 4-501st ARB in formation at opening of new facility at Ali Al Salem.



UH-60L on Short Final to The USS Benfold supporting Deck Landing Qualifications (DLQ) in north Arabian Gulf.



CW5 Stephan Hunnicutt, CW4 Rick Stone and SFC Dale Adkins Picture from the cockpit of the C-12 en-route to Afghanistan for Battlefield Circulation of VIPs



Above: Cpt. Nelson and Sgt. 1st. Class Wells at training site. Below: Sling load rehearsal with the sustainment command here on Camp Buehring, Kuwait.

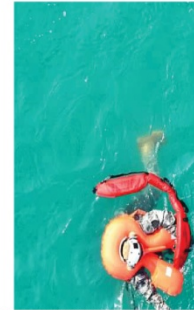




35TH CAB FLAG FLIES  
OVER CAMP BUEHRING,  
KUWAIT .



Sgt. Maj. of the Army Chandler visits the troops  
of the 35th CAB.



C CO MEDEVAC conduct  
first live hoist, Maj. Stevens  
leads the way.



Deck Landing Qualifications



pg. 3

Colonel's clone fundraiser!



935th TOA Ceremony.

## 12 memorable moments of 2012



Missouri Gov. Jay Nixon visits  
troop in Kuwait.



Innovating aviation training  
Over water Personnel Recovery.



FIRST ever Zombie Mud  
Run at Camp Buehring!!!



Said goodbye to 1-126th GSAB  
and hello to 2-135th GSAB.



Proper Exit a recovery program for  
Warriors wounded in battle came to  
visit the 35th CAB, amazing experience.



DUNKER training in state-  
of-the-art facility, required for  
air crews to fly over water.