U.S. Army photos by Spc. Karen Sampson177th Armored Brigade Public Affairs

Soldiers of the 370th Terminal Supervision Team of Sinton, Texas, and 389th Port Management Team of Houston, Texas, gather with their Families and leaders from their higher headquarters in Louisiana, for a farewell event July 13, in preparation for both units upcoming deployment. Command and senior enlisted leadership serve generous helpings of grilled fare to Soldiers and their Families.

Families gather to bid farewell to Texas reserve

By SPC. KAREN SAMPSON
177th Armored Brigade
Public Affairs

Texas reserve Soldiers of the 370th Terminal Supervision Team from Sinton, and 389th Port Management from Houston gathered with Family and leaders from their higher headquarters in Louisiana for a farewell event July 13in preparation for their upcoming deployment.

Leadership from the brigade, battalion and the deploying units served generous helpings of grilled fare while Soldiers relaxed to enjoy the company of their Families. Sparkling patriotic decorations and cake added to the festive atmosphere.

The celebration opened with singing of the National Anthem by Staff Sgt. Raymond Boseman from New Orleans and 370th TST Section Sergeant. Boseman is a police officer in his civilian career.

"Morale is high and we are glad Families could participate," said 1st Sgt. Rita M. Whitehead, native of Albany, La., and 370th TST Transportation Supervisor.

"I am certainly grateful to have both of my grandchildren here," she said , holding both of the infants in her arms.

The 370th TST and the 389th PMT unit responsibilities are to manage and transport cargo in and out of ports.

Both units will deploy in support of the 595th Transportation Brigade already on ground in various areas of the Middle East providing logistical support.

Staff Sgt. Michael A. Jones, a native of Long Beach, Calif., and 389th PMT Documents Noncommissioned Officer in Charge, said the deployment is a good opportunity for the unit's junior enlisted Soldiers on their first deployment.

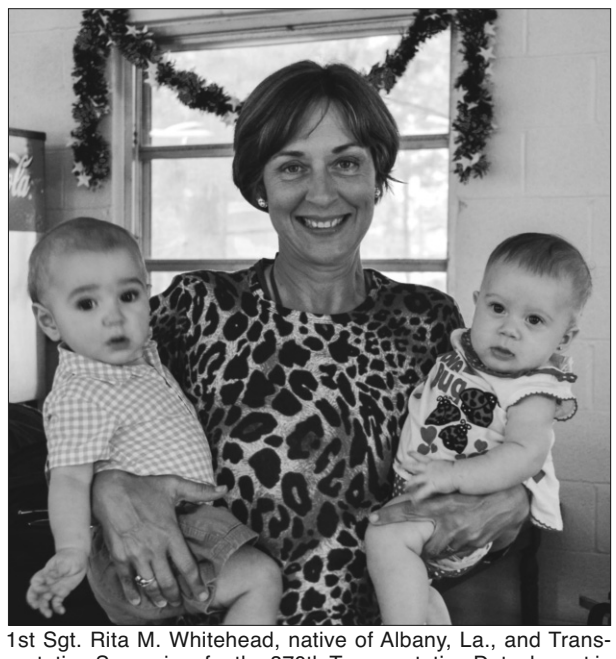
"Our Soldiers will operate outside of their scope, but still within their skill set which helps develop more knowledge to take with them," said Jones.

During the event many of the Soldiers, including Jones, received certificates of appreciation and some Soldiers were awarded the Army Achievement Medal for their performance during the mobilization process.

"Although an informal event, we wanted Families to see the Soldiers being recognized for their dedication to the mission," said Lt. Col. Stephen F. Torres, Commanding Officer of 1192nd Deployment Distribution Support Command. The 1192nd is the battalion headquarters for both units.

Torres presented the awards accompanied by Command Sgt. Maj. Lawrence Rounsaville, Senior Enlisted Advisor of the 1192nd DDSB and Command Sgt. Maj. Herlon M. Stephens, Senior Enlisted Advisor of the 1190th Transportation Brigade.

See **TEXAS**, Page 8



1st Sgt. Rita M. Whitehead, native of Albany, La., and Transportation Supervisor for the 370th Transportation Detachment is spending quality time with her two infant grandchildren, Parker and Avlynn.