

FRONT & CENTER

Keep it simple....

Isn't it amazing what a simple thing can do to wreak havoc on a mission or make a mission an overwhelming success?

On July 24, 1943, during War World II in Europe, the Royal Air Force used a simple household item to disrupt German radar screens preventing them from identifying enemy aircraft. They accomplished this mighty feat during Operation Gomorrah, a raid of Hamburg, Germany.

During this raid, the Royal Air Force Fleet tossed bales of aluminum foil, an everyday household item, overboard which resulted in constant false echoes on the German radar screens. This simple, yet enormous tactical maneuver saved countless Allied forces bombers. Only 12 of 791 Allied bombers aircraft were shot down during this operation.

Summer time is a time of transition. We have hosted several change of command and change of responsibility ceremonies this summer to include the recent 155th Armored Brigade Combat Team headquartered in Tupelo. Congratulations to the incoming commander, Col. Jeffery P. Van. I want to wish good luck to Col. John M. Rhodes in his future endeavors.

I want to congratulate and bid farewell to the outgoing commanders, Col. Dale Kuehl, 177th Armored Brigade, as he continues his military service with a new assignment with First Army as the operations director at Rock Island Arsenal, Ill. and Col. Christopher Forbes, 158th Infantry Brigade, on his new assignment as the U.S. Security Coordinator in Jerusalem, and Col. James Grady, Medical Task Force Shelby, as he transitions to his new assignment as the Chief of Clinical Operations, European Regional Medical Command, Sembach, Germany. I want to wish all of these gentlemen and their Families success in their transition and future endeavors.

Good luck and Godspeed to Command Sgt. Maj. Andrew Swanson, 177th Armed Brigade on his retirement. I wish you and your Family well in your future endeavors.

Please welcome to our ranks the new command team for 177th Armored Brigade, Col. William Chlebowski and Command Sgt. Maj. Matthew McDowell; 158th Infantry Brigade, Commander Col. Paul K. Kreis and incoming Command Sgt. Maj. Jerome S. Sligh, and the incoming commander for

Medical Task Force Shelby, Lt. Col. Brett Venable. Congratulations to all of you on your new assignments and welcome to our team. I look forward to serving with all of you.

The Annual Training cycle is well under way for our National Guard units from Mississippi and elsewhere. The Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps is in full swing and we continue to mobilize and demobilize units for missions around the world.

Team, we continue the task of preparing service members for their mobilization missions as we welcome the 79th IBCT SFAAT, California Army National Guard; 203rd Transportation Company, Minnesota Army National Guard; 1174th Transportation Terminal Battalion, New York Army National Guard; 370th Transportation Company, Texas (Army Reserve); 1180th Transportation Company, California (Army Reserve) and the Special Operations Detachment – Joint, Maryland. These are just a few of the units that will be passing through our gates as they train and prepare for their upcoming missions supporting Overseas Contingency Operations.

This month, we will welcome

home members of the 29th IBCT SFAAT, Hawaii Army National Guard; 56th IBCT SFAAT, Texas Army National Guard; 1175th Transportation Company, Tennessee Army National Guard; 179th Military Police Company, Rhode Island Army National Guard, 993rd Transportation Company, Florida (Army Reserve); 56th Infantry Battalion Texas (Army Reserve). Thanks to all of you for your continued support and sacrifice during your deployment.

As we enjoy the summer weather, remember safety first as you and your Family have fun in the sun with all the outdoor activities available this time of year. If your activities take you out to the lake or the beach, always use proper safety equipment for boating or water skiing and ensure young children swim with parents or experienced swimmers. Prevention and awareness make accidents more avoidable.

Thanks team, for your dedicated support as we continue the mission of mobilizing and demobilizing America's heroes in support of contingency operations around the world. It is an honor and a privilege to assist America's finest patriots as they embark on their journey for



Col. Brad Smith

the continued fight for freedom. Thank you for all that you do and keep up the good work.

May God continue to bless you, your Families and this great country.

“SOLDIERS FIRST”!

SOLDIER

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Security courses

The Department of Defense Defense Security Service (DSS) Center for Development of Security Excellence (CDSE) offers security education, training and certification. Courses offered by CDSE are available to U.S. government employees and military members. Some courses are also available to employees of companies that have government contracts. There is no charge for any CDSE course; however, some courses require purchase of textbooks. The American Council on Education's College Credit Recommendation Service (ACE CREDIT) has evaluated and recommended college credit for 13 CDSE courses. For more information, contact the Camp Shelby Education Center at 601-558-2029 or email: John.f.junkins.naf@mail.mil

DANTES changes

DANTES Subject Standardized Testing (DSST) will discontinue paper-based DSST testing at education centers effective Aug. 31. The decision to eliminate paper-based exams is based on a steady decline over the past year. DSST exams will still be available after Aug. 31 at National Testing Centers. Soldiers interested in DSST testing at Camp Shelby Education Center before testing is discontinued should contact the Camp Shelby Education Office at 601-558-2029 or email John Junkins at John.f.junkins.naf@mail.mil

VOW requirements

Camp Shelby Soldiers transitioning from Active Duty must coordinate with the DPCA Plans/Ops Office and the ACAP counselor in Building 1441 to start their demobilization process as well in advance of the end of their orders as possible. Ideally that would be six months prior to the end of the order, but no less than 60 days from the order end-date.

The Veterans Opportunity to Work Act requirements may be completed online or in the

classroom setting. Soldiers may complete the requirements online or attend the classes which are held every Thursday in Building 1613 beginning at 7 a.m. Attendance to the classroom version must be coordinated with DPCA Plans/Op and the ACAP Counselor prior to attendance. If you complete VOW via virtual means, you must schedule an appointment with the ACAP Counselor for review of the documents produced in order to be cleared to continue the demobilization process.

For more information, call the Camp Shelby ACAP Office at 601-558-2298.

H2H

Are you, or is someone you know looking for a job? Hero2Hired (H2H) is a Department of Defense program created to help Guard and Reserve members find employment. In addition to searchable job postings of military-friendly employers all over the country, H2H provides many other valuable tools to find a job, all in one place. Visit www.H2H.jobs and sign up today!

SIFT testing available

The Selected Instrument for Flight Training (SIFT) has replaced the Army Flight Aptitude Selection Test (AFAST) and is now available at Camp Shelby Education Center. SIFT Testing requires a completed DA Form 4187 with verification of a GT score of 110. For more information contact John.f.junkins.naf@mail.mil

NRA Life of Duty

The National Rifle Association is offering free annual memberships for military service members, law enforcement officers and first responders through the Life of Duty program. For more information or to sponsor a membership, go to the NRA Life of Duty website at <http://www.nralifeofduty.tv/#/home>

Military HOMEFRONT

This is the official Department of Defense web site for reliable Quality of Life information designed to help troops and their Families, leaders and service providers. Whether

you live the military lifestyle or support those who do, find what you need! - www.military-homefront.dod.mil/

VWIP program

Oak Arbor, a division of Pine Belt Mental Health, has received a VWIP grant and is partnering with Pearl River Community College Workforce Development to provide services focused on enhancing the employability of eligible veterans within the Perry, Lamar and Forrest County areas. The programs will be Pipefitting, Commercial Truck Driving, EMT, Electrical and Welding. Additional training will be offered in Forklift training and Microsoft applications. Those completing the respective program will also get a Career Readiness Certificate. ACT scores are not required; only high school or GED. CDL training doesn't require high school or GED. EMT, CDL and Welding will be in Hattiesburg. Pipefitting will be in Poplarville. The program will pay for tuition and supplies. The point of contact at Oak Arbor is Latibiyatta McLendon, at tbuckhalter@oak-arbor.com or 601-545-2925; at Pearl River CC POC is Deborah Hewitt at dhewitt@prcc.edu or 601-554-5503. For more information, contact John.f.junkins.naf@mail.mil

MS degree in....

A team from the USM Center for Logistics, Trade and Transportation delivered a presentation on the MS Degree in Logistics, Trade and Transportation April 18. This unique degree is in demand and could pave the way for a career on the Mississippi Gulf Coast and other areas. For more information on this and other educational programs, contact the Camp Shelby Education Office at 601-558-2029 or email Mr. John Junkins at John.f.junkins.naf@mail.mil

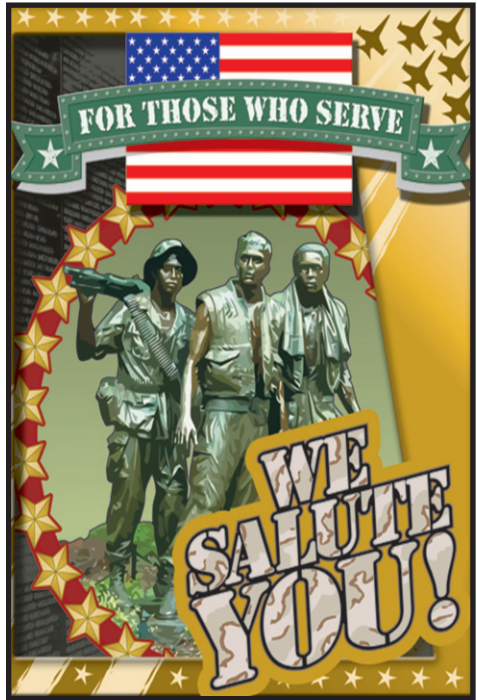
College Credit Exams

The Camp Shelby Education Center has fifteen (15) college credit exams (undergraduate) which are available at no cost for Soldiers. Each exam is worth three semester hours. Online study guides are available

through AKO and Petersons. For a listing of the exams and web site study guides, send an email request to John.f.junkins.naf@mail.mil

AARTS Transition

The Army/American Council on Education Registry Transcript System (AARTS) is in the process of transitioning to the Joint Services Transcript (JST). The JST will produce a FREE uniformed transcript of all military training and experiences to Service members from all branches. The new electronic transcripts will include Enlisted, Warrant Officer and Officer training, joint military training, and DANTES-funded standardized test scores. The transition to JST is expected to be completed by January 1, 2013. During the transition, the process of requesting an AARTS transcript via GoArmyEd or the AARTS website will not change. The AARTS Team will continue to provide updates on the more information contact John.f.junkins.naf@mail.mil or call 601- 558-2029.



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