



THE CACTUS
PATCH

QUARTERLY

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Immediate response

**Army Reserve Soldiers are first to respond to
a devastating tornado in Illinois. [Page 3](#)**

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About The Cactus Patch

The Cactus Patch Quarterly is an authorized publication for the Soldiers, Families and civilian employees of the 103rd Sustainment Command (Expeditionary). Its contents are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, Department of Defense, Department of the Army, or the 103rd Sustainment Command (Expeditionary).

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Troops assist storm recovery



The initial view as the 724th Transportation Company entered Washington, Ill., on Nov. 17. The Army Reserve Soldiers were among the first to respond to recovery efforts after an F4 tornado ripped through the town. (Photo by Lt. Col. Christopher Morgret)

By LT. COL. MONICA RADTKE
103rd ESC Public Affairs Officer

WASHINGTON, Ill.- Army Reserve Soldiers from the 724th Transportation Company were among the first to assist with recovery efforts in the aftermath of a deadly F4 tornado that ripped through Washington, Ill., on Nov. 17.

The 724th, located in Bartonville, Ill., used immediate response authority to respond to a request from Washington Fire Chief John Meyers to help police with setting up blockades on roads leading in and out of the town.

The Stafford Act and DOD Directive 3025.18 authorize military commanders to use their Soldiers at the request of local authorities to aid in the recovery from a domestic natural disaster for up to 72 hours without an official mobilization order. The primary purpose of this response must be to save lives, prevent human suffering, and

mitigate serious property damage.

“There were downed power lines and gas leaks and local authorities wanted to prevent traffic from going into those areas,” said 1st Lt. La’Darrian Smith, commander of the 724th Trans. Co.

The unit quickly notified the chain of command and received approval to send a convoy of vehicles to Washington, which is located 15 miles northeast of Bartonville.

“I was impressed with the speed of communication to gain approval for this mission and our ability to pass updates up and down the chain of command,” said Col. Jennifer Ryan, commander of the 206th Regional Support Group in Springfield, Ill.

Ryan, along with leadership from the 419th Movement Control Battalion from Bartonville, were also on site.

The 724th Soldiers used bobtail trucks and Humvees to set up blockades at four locations around Washington.

“We were shocked when we arrived on

site,” said Smith. “The town was devastated.”

Smith worked with first responders inside the emergency operation center on site, and his team of 23 Soldiers supported local law enforcement until civil services arrived later in the evening, when the unit’s help was deemed no longer necessary.

“I honestly believe the 724th helped save lives,” said Brig. Gen. Arlan DeBlieck, commanding general of the 103rd Sustainment Command (Expeditionary), in Des Moines, Iowa. “They helped keep people off the roads in dangerous areas.”

Ryan said the 724th Soldiers’ help was vital to remedy the “extensive damage” caused by the tornado. “The Soldiers were very excited to contribute and help those in need,” she said. “I couldn’t be more proud of the leadership’s response and their ability to organize a 24-person team to support the mission.”

NEWS you can USE

Useful blurbs and noteworthy features



Team 103rd ESC participated in the Army Ten-Miler on Oct. 20 in Washington, D.C. The team placed 4th out of 28 teams in the Reserve mixed category. The team is pictured with the Sergeant Major of the Army. From left to right: Lt. Col. Dennis Murphy, Maj. Aaron Radtke, Maj. Monica Radtke, Sgt. Maj. of the Army Raymond Chandler, Command Sgt. Maj. Arthur Leak, and Col. Robert Wiley.



The 956th Movement Control Team is preparing for a deployment to Afghanistan. Col. Samuel Wagner, commander of the 649th Regional Support Group, was contacted by the USO of Illinois about recognizing the 956th MCT during the Chicago Blackhawks game on Nov. 10 in Chicago. The Chicago Blackhawks and the USO recognized the deploying Soldiers during the game. Gen. Robert Cone, commanding general of TRADOC, attended the game and spoke during the ceremony.



Sgt. 1st Class Grant Jones coaches Amy Beller, from U.S. Senator Tom Harkin's office, on how to fire the M16 rifle. The 103rd hosted a visit from U.S. Senator Chuck Grassley's, U.S. Senator Tom Harkin's, and U.S. Congressman Tom Latham's offices in September.



Iowa Gov. Terry Branstad signs a proclamation dedicating the week of Sept. 22 in honor of the Iowa Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR). Brig. Gen. Arlan DeBlieck, right, along with representation from each of the services, attended the event at the Iowa state capitol in September.

Soldiers prep for deployment



FOREST PARK, ILL. - A farewell ceremony for the 300th Human Resources Company, U.S. Army Reserve, took place on Dec. 1. About 20 Soldiers from the unit are deploying to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. The Soldiers will help operate a military postal facility during the deployment. (Photo by Capt. Dan Marchik)



FORT SHERIDAN, ILL. - A farewell ceremony for the 956th Movement Control Team, U.S. Army Reserve, took place on Nov. 15. About 20 Soldiers from the unit are deploying to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. The Soldiers will oversee the air and ground movement of equipment and supplies across the country. (Photo by Capt. Dan Marchik)

103rd shows pride on the ride



Members of Team Army Reserve joined together for the Des Moines Register's Annual Great Bike Ride Across Iowa in July 2013.

Services create partnership



Petty Officer Jordan Schwenn gives flu vaccines to Soldiers from the 646th RSG as they maintain their medical readiness (Photo by Spc. Jessica Williams)

By CAPT. DAN MARCHIK
368th Public Affairs Detachment

MADISON, Wis. — A working partnership was established between units in the Naval Reserve and Army Reserve in Madison, Wis., as Soldiers received their influenza vaccinations from a Navy corpsman during their November battle assembly.

Members of the Army Reserve’s 646th Regional Support Group and Navy Operations Support Center (NOSC) that occupy the Armed Forces Reserve Center (AFRC) in Madison have different jobs, but because of their close proximity, the Navy was able to help vaccinate 10 Soldiers who needed flu shots.

The cooperation began as members from both teams met and expressed the willingness to help out where needed. Mary Johnson, staff administrative specialist with the 646th RSG, asked the Navy for their assistance in getting 646th Soldiers their required shots.

Petty Officer 2nd Class (Hospital Corpsman) Jordan Schwenn from Detachment O out of the Expeditionary Medical Force Unit at Great Lakes Naval Base, Ill., volunteered to take this mission. He traveled to Madison and administered the vaccinations, which helped the 646th RSG maintain their medical readiness.

‘In the future, this will allow us to accomplish our medical readiness mission with greater efficiency and in a creative manner.’

— Col. Robert Carlson, 646th RSG

Petty Officer 1st Class Clayton Steckel said that he looks forward to the two units working together on other activities and the 646th RSG commander, Col. Robert Carlson agrees.

“This was a great opportunity for our two units to work together,” he said. “In the future, this will allow us to accomplish our medical readiness mission with greater efficiency and in a creative manner. We are looking at other ways we can work together with our sister services in our AFRC and in the state of Wisconsin.”



Employers speak with each other and with service members from the 103rd Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) during an employer roundtable discussion held at Fort Des Moines, Iowa, in November. The discussion was an opportunity to bring major employers from the greater Des Moines area to the Army Reserve center on Fort Des Moines and educate them about the Army Reserve presence in Iowa as well as have an open discussion about the benefits and challenges of hiring Army Reserve Soldiers (as well as members of the National Guard and other services). Retired Lt. Gen. Jack Stultz, former Chief, Army Reserve, and retired Maj. Gen. Paul Mock, National Chairman, ESGR, were among the attendees. Lt. Gen. Stultz conceptualized and initiated the Army Reserve Employer Partnership Office during his tenure as Chief, Army Reserve, with the intent of linking Army Reserve Soldiers with civilian employers. (Photo by Lt. Col. Monica Radtke)

Finance unit prepares to deploy

By LT. COL. MONICA RADTKE
103rd ESC Public Affairs Officer

WAUSAU, Wis. — A farewell ceremony for Detachment 3 of the 376th Financial Management Support Unit, U.S. Army Reserve, was held on Thursday, Dec. 19, at the Wausau Army Reserve Center. Approximately 23 Soldiers from the unit are preparing for a deployment to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. The Soldiers will provide Financial Management services for U.S. Armed Forces, government civilians, Department of Defense contractors, and multi-national forces.

Wisconsin Lieutenant Governor Rebecca Kleefisch and State Representative John Spiros spoke to Soldiers and their families during the ceremony. “I’m grateful for your service,” said Kleefisch. “What you will do during the next year will help our nation.”

Representation from U.S. Senator Tammy Baldwin’s and U.S. Senator Ron Johnson’s offices also attended the event.



Wisconsin Lieutenant Governor Rebecca Kleefisch speaks with deploying Army Reserve Soldiers from the 376th Financial Management Support Unit during their December farewell ceremony (Photo by Staff Sgt. Alexander Kartanos)

A soldier in camouflage gear, wearing a helmet and sunglasses, is shown from the side, aiming a handgun. Other soldiers are visible in the background, also aiming their weapons. The scene is outdoors at a shooting range.

A new kind of range qual

**646th Regional Support Group
teams with German Air Force for
marksmanship event**

STAFF SGT. ALEXANDER KARTANOS

A Soldier with the 646th Regional Support Group attempts to qualify for Schuetzenschnur, the German marksmanship award, administered by troops from the German Air Force in September at Fort McCoy, Wis.



Soldiers with the 646th Regional Support Group show their marksmanship certificates after qualifying for the Schuetzenschnur (German marksmanship award) administered by troops from the German Air Force in September at Fort McCoy, Wis.

FORT MCCOY, Wis. — Army Reserve Soldiers are not often given the opportunity to compete for a foreign award during their monthly battle assemblies. Even more so going home with the award in hand at the end.

German Air Force personnel stationed in the United States administered the Schuetzenschnur (German marksmanship award) for Army Reserve Soldiers assigned to the 646th Regional Support Group in September at Fort McCoy, Wis.

Hauptman Guglielmo Jansen and Oberstabsgefreiter David Fischer from the German Air Force Flying Center located in Holloman Air Force Base in New Mexico made the trip and brought the 90-degree weather with them.

The idea to set up the event came from Col. Robert Carlson, commander of the 646th RSG, who never got the chance to take the test when he was stationed in Germany.

“I never got the chance to earn the badge [before], and I thought it was a great way to expose our Soldiers to another country’s military while giving them an opportunity to earn a foreign award,” Carlson said. “With our regional alignment under U.S. European Command we need to develop these relationships and conduct training events with our German and European partners.”

The two guests provided information about the 900 German Air Force person-

‘It was a great way to expose Soldiers to another country’s military while giving them an opportunity to earn a foreign award.’

— Col. Robert Carlson, 646th RSG

nel that are stationed in the U.S. and the qualifications that need to be met for the Schuetzenschnur.

The Schuetzenschnur comprises both a pistol and a rifle element. The event served as a challenge for many because the requirements are different than what is normally expected for U.S. Army weapons qualification. Firing the rifle from the standing position at targets at 200 meters was the biggest difference.

“Normally we use our [German] weapons but the time crunch didn’t allow it,” Jansen said.

The U.S. Army’s M-9 pistol took the place of the German P-8 pistol and the U.S. Army’s M-16 rifle substituted the German G-36 rifle during the competition. Jansen said they normally focus on one of the weapons and schedule the other weapon for a later date, so people are more focused.

The event is also just a piece of the

training that German military personnel must perform. Nuclear, biological and chemical training, Combat Life Saver, and rucksack marches are mandatory events.

The award comes in gold, silver and bronze based on the shooter’s score. Both officers and enlisted can be awarded but only enlisted can wear it on the dress uniform.

In the end, 28 out of 40 Soldiers who attempted the marksmanship skills test from the 646th RSG and other participating units were awarded one of the three badges.

Both Hauptman Jansen and Oberstabsgefreiter Fischer will be returning to Fort McCoy in May to administer the larger German Armed Forces Proficiency Badge test to the 646th RSG. That competition involves marksmanship as well as various physical fitness events, including swimming and a road march.



Hauptman Guglielmo Jansen from the German Air Force helps a Soldier with the 646th Regional Support Group during range qualification for Schuetzenschnur, the German marksmanship award, in September at Fort McCoy, Wis.

PATRIOT '13

Exercise brings together response teams
for a natural disaster or emergency
CAPT. DAN MARCHIK



Firefighters from the Army Reserve and National Guard help extinguish a flame as part of the Patriot 13 exercise at Volk Field, Wis., in August. This was the first time in the exercise's history that the Army Reserve trained with members of the Air and Army National Guard, and state agencies for Defense Support to Civil Authorities.



Firefighters from the Army Reserve and National Guard help extinguish a flame as part of the Patriot 13 exercise at Volk Field, Wis., in August.

VOLK FIELD, Wis. — The Army Reserve made its debut appearance in Patriot 13, an exercise that brings together response teams from local, state, and regional organizations for a natural disaster or emergency. In the past, the use of military resources have been limited to those under state control, but thanks to the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) 2012, states can now request assistance from the federal reserve component like the Army Reserve. This year's exercise at Volk Field, Wis., was the first time in the history of the exercise that the Army Reserve trained alongside members of the Air and Army National Guard and state agencies for Defense Support to Civil Authorities.

Air Force Lt. Col. Saul Hage, exercise director, said not only was it good to have the Army Reserve at the exercise, but it also provided event organizers the opportunity to go through the process of requesting a federal force.

"The integration was very well done," Hage said. "It was easy for the Patriot staff to incorporate them into the process. Patriot is about the joint environment and interagency support."

The 646th Regional Support Group, located in Madison, Wis., provided firefighting, water purification, and public affairs assets to the exercise. "I think it makes perfect sense to call on the skills and capabilities of the

Army Reserve in response to disasters and emergencies when local and state responders are overwhelmed," said Col. Robert Carlson, commander of the 646th RSG. "This is a mission our Soldiers need to be ready for and they are doing a great job here at Patriot learning how to work with the National Guard and emergency responders to help their fellow citizens."

The 753rd Quartermaster Company from Green Bay, Wis., provided water purification for drinking water as well as for chemical decontamination training. The unit's Soldiers treated water from a source on post and delivered it to various areas and participants on Volk Field.

"This was a blast," said Staff Sgt. Jesse Veaser, a water purification specialist assigned to the 753rd. "We were able to work with some of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) guys. We got to work with the Air Force as well as the National Guard guys and we gave them some training and familiarization."

Firefighters from the 826th Ordnance Company, located in Madison, Wis., and 395th Ordnance Company from Appleton, Wis., also participated in the training. The firefighters integrated with Wisconsin Air National Guard firefighters and combined efforts to extinguish a burning aircraft.

The 368th Public Affairs Detachment

from Milwaukee escorted media around the exercise site and provided video footage of the exercise events for download to media outlets not able to attend the event. The ability of the media to cover this type of event in a real-world situation is essential in keeping local and state residents informed of the response efforts and possible dangers.

The Army Reserve's overall participation in the Patriot exercise is significant because it allows states to take advantage of valuable resources and skills of Reserve units located throughout the United States. The exercise itself allows Reserve Soldiers to practice their skills with other units and adjust those skills more toward an emergency response as opposed to their war-time mission.

"I think it's important that the skills and capabilities of the Army Reserve are not just used during times of conflict," Carlson said. "We have the ability to quickly respond to local disasters and emergencies and if we can help our neighbors and communities — I think we should. It's our duty to help the citizens of our country in these situations, and our Soldiers are motivated to do just that."

Army Reserve Soldiers spent five days at the exercise before returning home. Although the weather was brutally hot and the days long, the Army Reserve looks forward to participating in future Patriot exercises.

WMU alum awarded for leadership



Western Michigan University alumni gather after being recognized for their exceptional leadership during the Haworth College of Business Awards Ceremony at the WMU campus in October. Col. Rodney Faulk, Chief of Staff for the 103rd Sustainment Command (Expeditionary), second from left, was among the recipients.

By SGT. EMILY WALTER
103rd ESC

KALAMAZOO, Mich. — Col. Rodney Faulk, chief of staff for the 103rd Sustainment Command (Expeditionary), received the Management Outstanding Alumni Award during the Haworth College of Business Awards Ceremony in October.

Western Michigan University hosted the ceremony on its Kalamazoo, Mich., campus during homecoming week. Faulk was one of 15 distinguished alumni who were recognized during the ceremony — each awarded for his or her ethical and visionary leadership.

"Col. Faulk is a true leader," said Robert Landeros, chair of the Department of Management at the Haworth College of Business. "I cannot think of a better representative of our department, or a better role model for our students."

Faulk, an alumnus of the Department of Management, was commissioned as a second lieutenant from the WMU Army ROTC program in 1986, and graduated with a Bachelor of Business Administration in 1987.

Throughout his 30-year military career, Faulk has held numerous assignments from company to brigade level, where he demon-

strated that he is the "total package" as both a leader and a manager, said Maj. Gen. Peter Lennon, commander of the 377th Theater Sustainment Command. Faulk's civilian career includes experience in project and technology management with Comerica Bank and IBM. He holds a civilian position in system acquisition and management for the Army.

Faulk said he was awestruck and somewhat embarrassed at receiving such personal recognition with the award.

"It was certainly unexpected," Faulk said. "I have always just been doing my job to the best of my ability and trying to be a good team player."

Faulk added that the award reflects the ability of him and his teammates in the military to focus on the mission at hand, and to achieve positive results with creative problem solving.

"As a manager and leader, you are accountable for the results — good or bad — of your team," he said. "I have certainly been blessed to serve with some immensely dedicated and talented people of all ranks."

Faulk also attributed the award in part to his military and civilian experiences as an Army Reserve Soldier.

Retired Col. Linda Wade, former chief of staff for the 310th Sustainment Command (Expeditionary), cited Faulk's influential leadership is one trait for which he deserved the Management Outstanding Alumni Award.

"Col. Faulk is a leader who inspires you to reach beyond your comfort zone and create products and processes that will raise the standard and sustain momentum through others," Wade said. "He values people, motivates initiative, and promotes positive competitiveness."

Under Faulk's leadership, the 310th ESC elevated from 5th to 1st place out of all the Expeditionary Sustainment Commands under the 377th Theater Sustainment Command; the 310th ESC maintained that position until its units were realigned.

Mike Lawson, senior vice president at Comerica Bank, noted Faulk's excellence in his civilian career as a demonstration of a well-rounded leader.

"I have known Rod for more than 25 years...He is successful in work and in his military career," Lawson said. "He is organized and is always looking for ways to improve and add value to whatever he is doing, work or military."

Engineers lead way in bridge-building operations

By STAFF SGT. JAMES SHELL
220th Public Affairs Detachment

FORT MCCOY, Wis. — When it comes to crossing a body of water, be it a river or a lake, the U.S. Army has always led the way with its engineer companies in the forefront building bridges unlike any construction company in the world.

During the recent Combat Support Training Exercise 86-13-01 at Fort McCoy, Wis., the 739th Multi-Role Bridge Company erected what is called a floating-raft bridge. The floating-raft bridge allows vehicles to get to their intended destination, despite obstacles such as rivers, lakes, and ravines. During their training exercise, Capt. Christopher Padin the company commander, explained floating raft bridges.

He explained a Common Bridge Transport Carrier that is like a flatbed semi-truck that is able to carry a boat about three times the size of a fishing boat. In the boat, which is on the truck, are Soldiers that make up the crew of boat operators, deck hands, and what are called “pin men.” There are 95 Soldiers and officers that belong to the 739th, out of Granite City, Ill.

It takes two to three of these Soldiers to act as guides when the semi backs down into the water about 20 feet from shore. This is when a Soldier standing near the shore pulls the “pin” from the tilted bed of the truck, and the boat goes sliding into the lake with the full crew of Soldiers. When the boat is free and clear, the boat operator starts the motor and off they go. This scenario is done with four or more boats with their crew(s) waiting in the water for the next phase of the bridge-building operation.

“As far as the actual bridge itself, we have what is called a bay and a ramp,” Padin said. “Today, we have four bays and two ramps that we will deploy into the water from the backs of trucks for this particular operation, and they are spring-loaded to open up once they hit the water.”

With the bays and the ramps folded up on the backs of the same type of trucks that delivered the boats, the truck backs down into the water the same way, and also with a Soldier standing by to pull the pin just as they do with the boats. When the pin is pulled, the ramp slides down the tilted bed and into the water. After hitting the water, the folded W-shaped ramp automatically springs open into what looks like part of a bridge that even has the traffic lines painted in the middle of ramp.

Ramps are exactly what they sound like, allowing a vehicle to either come onto the bridge or leave the bridge to drive onto dry land. A full bridge will have a ramp at either end, with bays in between that are connected to each other. The bays make up the “street” between each ramp and they, too, have the traffic lines pre-painted on them for two-way traffic.

“After the ramps and bays are discharged into the water, the crew on the boats glide up to each section of the bays and connect them together with, for instance, four bays making the bridge and a ramp at each end for traffic to drive onto the floating bridge,” Padin said. Each bay is 21 feet wide and each ramp is 18 feet long.

This type of bridge floats right up to the shoreline, where a



Soldiers with the 739th Engineer Battalion prepare to unload a bridge-erection boat during the Combat Support Training Exercise 86-13-01 at Fort McCoy, Wis., in August. (Photo by Spc. Hector Corea)

waiting vehicle is ready to drive onto it. With the ramp resting on shore, the vehicle drives onto the bridge and the boats that are hooked up to bridge, then pulls the bridge away from shore.

As the other end of the bridge’s ramp hit the other side of the lake’s shoreline, the vehicle that the Soldiers just floated across the lake may now drive off. This scenario can happen in less than an hour, depending on the number of vehicles to cross at one time, Padin said.

He added that these floating bridges can accommodate any military vehicle, to include heavy equipment transporters, Humvees, Common Bridge Transports, and even Abrams tanks.

Padin also stated that these same bays and ramps can be used to cross dry gaps on land. This can be from dry river beds to bomb craters that are in the path of a convoy of vehicles. The bays and the ramps are connected the same way on dry land as in the water. On dry land the operation moves much faster of course because the launching of boats isn’t needed.

So whether by water or land, bridge building by the 739th Multi-Role Bridge Company will get the vehicles to their intended destination.

Honoring the fallen



Sgt. Andrew Steiner
8/28/86 - 2/2/13

The Wisconsin State Assembly, specifically Rep. Jim Steineke’s office, wanted to recognize Sgt. Andrew Steiner as a Hometown Hero for his actions while assisting a disabled vehicle near Green Bay, Wis., in January 2013. Steiner was killed when he was hit by a vehicle and pushed off an overpass while assisting the disabled motorist.

Steiner’s last unit of assignment was the 826th Ordnance Company, 646th Regional Support Group.

He had recently returned from a deployment to Afghanistan in July 2012.

Andrew was the son of Douglas and Nicole Steiner; brother to Samantha



Sgt. Andrew Steiner’s family attends a ceremony that recognized Steiner has a Hometown Hero for his actions while assisting a disabled vehicle near Green Bay, Wis., in 2013 (Photo by Lt. Col. Monica Radtke)

DuBois; brother-in-law to Joshua DuBois; Uncle to Emma DuBois; brother to Kevin Armstrong; and brother to Lyssa Steiner.

Steiner’s parents and his siblings attended the event at the Wisconsin State Capitol on May 14, 2013.



A Soldier with the 395th Ordnance Company plots an azimuth (compass point) on Compass Course 3B at Fort McCoy (Photo by Rob Schuette)

Junior development course held at Fort McCoy



Soldiers from the 395th Ordnance Company of Milwaukee navigate a compass course at Fort McCoy as part of their land navigation training (Photo by Rob Schuette)

The Junior Leadership Development (JLEAD) program is designed to enhance leadership, skills, and confidence in young NCOs.

By SGT. KYLE SANFORD
395th Ordnance Company
and CAPT. DAN MARCHIK
368th Public Affairs Detachment

FORT MCCOY, WIS. — Twelve Army Reserve noncommissioned officers assigned to the 646th Regional Support Group, 103rd Sustainment Command (Expeditionary), graduated from the Junior Leadership Development (JLEAD) program at Fort McCoy, Wis., in October.

JLEAD is a program led and developed by NCOs and is designed to enhance leadership, sharpen skills, and build confidence. The course incorporates instruction taught at the Warrior Leader Course (WLC) and allows class participants the opportunity to put that knowledge into practice. The Soldiers received hands-on training as well as instruction on the responsibilities of a NCO, training the force, mentoring, counseling, awards, and administration. Soldiers were placed in situations to test their leadership skills in both the classroom and

in the field environment.

“We wanted to make the environment somewhat low-stress so we could really connect with the junior NCOs and mentor them on various aspects of leadership and accountability,” said Sgt. Kyle Sanford, who is assigned to the 395th Ordnance Company in Appleton, Wis.

LEAD emphasizes the importance of being a leader and explores the standards and responsibilities of leadership positions. The program also teaches NCOs how to grow and develop Soldiers, which is vital to the future of the Army Reserve.

Command Sgt. Maj. Nagee Lunde, senior enlisted leader of the 377th Theater Sustainment Command in Belle Chasse, La., established JLEAD as a way to build the competency and experience of the junior NCO Corps.

“I think the program was a huge success and a real eye-opener for those NCOs that have been newly promoted,” Sanford said. “They had a chance to have their feet held to the fire on what it means and what it

takes to lead a group of Soldiers.”

Sanford attended the 103rd ESC’s first iteration of the JLEAD at Camp Dodge, Iowa, in June. He was so impressed with the course that he agreed to conduct the class for his unit. Many of the other participants have been impressed with the training.

“After the graduation of this JLEAD class, a young sergeant came up to Command Sgt. Maj. Arthur Leak, [senior enlisted leader of the 103rd ESC], and Command Sgt. Maj. Gregory Swanson, [senior enlisted leader of the 687th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion], and myself, and thanked us for putting on this class,” said Command Sgt. Maj. Mary Lemburg, senior enlisted leader of the 646th Regional Support Group in Madison, Wis. “He was very impressed by the content and how much he felt it would assist him to be a better NCO.”

The program is currently taught at a company level in order to give the participants more one-on-one attention and training. The 646th RSG plans to eventually apply this training to all of its units.



Soldiers from the 180th Transportation Company stage trucks to begin a convoy from Camp Ripley, Minn., to Fort Dix, N.J. The 180th TC, based out of Muskegon, Mich., conducted a nationwide move of equipment that started in Brainerd, Minn., on Jan. 3 and ended at Fort Dix on Jan. 9. (Photo by Spc. Timothy Hose)



Retired Lt. Gen. Jack Stultz, former Chief, Army Reserve, speaks during the 103rd Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) winter ball in November.



Laura Stultz, wife of retired Lt. Gen. Jack Stultz and an advocate for Army Reserve families, speaks during the 103rd Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) winter ball in November. She initiated the Army Strong Community Centers during Lt. Gen. Stultz's tenure as Chief, Army Reserve.

