



143d Transportation Command (FORWARD)

Twists & Turns

Volume Two, Issue 3

November 2006

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"222 Supports Troops, Moves Supplies"



Spc. Christopher Bercu calls in movement over the radio inside his M915 Tractor-Trailer Truck during a recent convoy through Iraq with the 222nd Transportation Company, 57th Joint Logistics Task Force stationed in Kuwait.

Iraq- The truckers of the Arizona National Guard's 222nd Transportation Company support troops with long sustainment push convoys battling insurgent attacks over dangerous roads in Iraq.

The unit provides troops all over Iraq with vital supplies and equipment on dozens of missions spending most of their time on the road, putting transportation skills training to the test. Serving not only as drivers and members of their individual sections- filling positions like convoy commander, assistant commander, and troop commander- Soldiers of the 222nd step up and deliver critical supplies and equipment to dozens of units while employed in such leadership roles throughout their deployment.

"[During convoys] I learn to stay alert, communicate using all the new systems and put my skills to the test as best I can," said Spc. Christopher Bercu, a motor transport operator – completing one of his first missions.

For the Soldiers of the 'Triple-Deuce,' Safety is also a focal point, when long missions require performance and monitoring of maintenance on all vehicles throughout missions.

"Safety is the most important thing- Driving on the roads and throughout Forward Operating Bases, it is a huge concern," says Staff Sgt. William Kuciver, one of the unit's Convoy Commanders, speaking on the importance of safety when on missions.

See 222nd, pg. 8

“Soldiers Invent New Combat Tire Jack”

Kuwait- Soldiers of the 121 Field Artillery Battery- Maintenance section have developed and implemented a new tool to fight a common battle while on the roads of Iraq.

The tool is known as, “The Patriot Jack,” and is so successful that it is slowly reaching mass production, as they are flying off the shelves by convoy security Soldiers who see the tool as vital to mission success when such issues as changing a tire in battle become critical to timeliness.

“The Patriot Jack units fly out of the maintenance shop by the users- they see them and grab them, and now we see them mounted or stored on all the vehicles riding out on convoys,” said Staff Sgt. Steven Keusel, shop foreman for the 121 FA Maintenance Section.

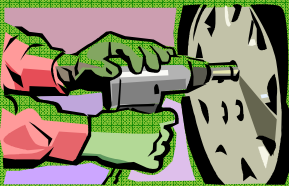
Made of wood and steel, the two-piece assembly composed of a wooden, light-weight ramp and a steel jack-stand, the tool is easy to make, saves time and easy to use.

“In the heat of battle with full battle-rattle on, it’s hard enough to work on lug-nuts and to use a manual jack is simply too much for drivers or convoy escorts,” said Kuesel.

The tool also works on all four tires and is an addition to the arsenal of battle equipment for truck drivers that is certainly here to stay.



Soldiers of the 121 Field Artillery Battery demonstrate the, “Patriot Jack,” a recent invention to assist convoy security teams with changing tires while on missions in Iraq.



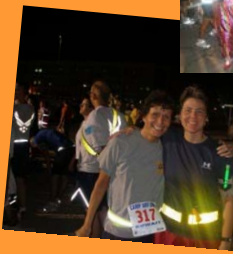
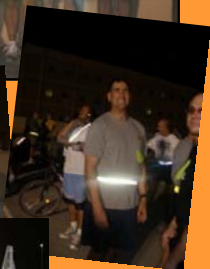
A photo of the two-piece, ‘Patriot Jack,’ assembly. The device has helped dozens of soldiers with changing tires while on dangerous missions.



Sgt. Andrew Plier, a light-wheel mechanic for the 121 FA—Maintenance Section adjusts part of the jack assembly during a demonstration under an M114 HMMWV.



HALLOWEEN FUN-RUN OCTOBER 31



Commanding General.....Brig. Gen. Keith Thurgood
Editor.....1st. Lt. Ryan J. Pace

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"336th TG hosts Demo for Commanders"

Story and Photos by 1st Lt. Ryan J. Pace
Public Affairs Officer
143D Transportation Command (FWD)

Kuwait- Battalions of the 336th Transportation Group hosted a vehicle demonstration for commanding generals of several units to review and assess equipment being fielded in combat environments by Army transporters on dangerous missions throughout Iraq.

The 57th Joint Logistics Task Force, a division of the 336 TG, organized and hosted the event inside their motor pool, involving multiple units of the 57th JLTF- to include the 24th Transportation company, 70th Medium Truck Detachment-U.S. Air Force and the 89th Transportation Company- in an effort to evaluate and improve present additions and settings on combat service support assets operating out of bases in Kuwait.

"The reason for this is to enhance survivability," said Maj. Pat Cortez, Support Operations Officer for the 57th JLTF, "Actions are done after attacks- not before."

Cortez also spoke on the purpose and breakdown of the organized event to feed information and present ideas to top commanders, such as safety and protection of troops as they move throughout supply routes, subjecting themselves to various attacks where the equipment is needed most.

Several Commanders were given opportunity to test out and evaluate equipment, while raising tough questions and receiving plenty of feedback from knowledgeable commanders and experienced troops.

"I thought the presentation was right on target; This shows what troops are doing and how far we've come to protect soldiers and reduce risks of attacks," said Maj. Gen. Thomas Robinson, Commander of the 377th Theater Support Command- overseeing the 57th JLTF and down-traced units, "This



Soldiers of the 70th MTD—U.S. Air Force, brief Transportation Commanders during a vehicle and equipment demonstration in Kuwait.

was a chance for senior leadership to see particular systems and have a great opportunity to speak to troops, while thanking them for their service."

The hour-long event highlighted features and possible modifications to showcase vehicles, non-lethal weapons and protective armor- in-

See DEMO, Pg. 9



CSM PEICES

The month of October brings football, baseball playoffs and "OH YES" the record APFT. Det 18, you've done an excellent job at making improvements on your PT scores and several Soldiers have lost a substantial amount of poundage. Great Job and keep up the good work!

This past month, two of OUR senior NCOs, MSG Collazo and SFC McNeil were selected to represent the 143d Transcom as escorts for the Joint Civilian Orientation Conference. I received several compliments from CFLCC about the professionalism and enthusiasm the two NCOs displayed. We should all be proud!

DET 18.....there is 300 million Americans **but only** 1.2 million Patriots like you defending OUR country and way of life...thanks!

CSM Mike Schultz

Command Sergeant Major

143d TRANSCOM (FWD)



"Movement Brings Victory!"

"Soldier in Iraq Reenlists Six More Years"

Story and Photos by 1st. Lt. Ryan J. Pace

Iraq- Spc. Allan Henry, a logistician for the 336th Transportation Group, reenlisted for six more years during a recent ceremony in Iraq, while serving his second deployment in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

The five-year veteran from Joliet, Illinois opted to extend his career, while currently anticipating both citizenship appointment and promotion to Sergeant in the near future and joining the ranks of a growing number of soldiers who continue to pledge their allegiance to both the Army and their Country for longer terms, while undergoing demanding and challenging times during deployments overseas.

When asked why he jumped at the opportunity to continue his career without question, Spc. Henry said, "I enjoy serving my country, the camaraderie, the experience I gain and technical skills I have learned."

Currently, Spc. Henry is working as a logistician in the 336th Convoy Support Team, which oversees control of auto parts, sustainment missions, communications and tracking movement of convoys.



Spc. Allan Henry, a logistician for 336th Convoy Support Team, raises his right hand to Maj. John Castleman, CST Officer-in-Charge, during a short reenlistment ceremony in Iraq.

for him to develop, learn leadership skills, and travel more of the world at this time in his career."



Spc. Allan Henry (left) and Maj. John Castleman shake hands, concluding the short reenlistment ceremony for Henry in Iraq. He has reenlisted for 6 more years.

"We make sure when convoys get here we work as a liaison and help them with everything from maintenance, billeting, communications, and other issues," said Henry, "We get them to the right people to solve the problem as well."

During the brief ceremony, Maj. John Castleman, Convoy Support Team Officer-in-Charge, read Spc. Henry the enlistment oath and thanked him for his service.

When asked how he felt the reenlistment would effect Henry, he said, "This is a great opportunity

HAPPY BIRTHDAY IN OCTOBER:

Maj. Michael Bircheat : Container Ops



Feature Photos



CSM Michael Schultz (left) and COL (CH) Stanely Garthwait pose for a photo after a command staff visit to meet with troops of the 121 Field Artillery Battery at Camp Navistar.



LTC Winston (left) and CW5 Maroney stand in front of a Model B1 (World War II) Tank with M4 Sherman Hull with M36 Tank Destroyer turret. In addition, only 160 of the World War II relics were made.

143D MWR & SPORTS



"Army Diver Reenlists Underwater in Kuwait"

Story and Photos by 1st. Lt. Ryan J. Pace



Lt. Gen. Carl Strock (left), U.S. Army Chief of Engineers, reads the reenlistment oath— underwater—to Staff Sgt. Eric Schultz, 544th Engineer Dive Team, during an October ceremony in Kuwait.

Kuwait- Staff Sgt. Eric Schultz, an Army deep-sea diver with the 544th Engineer Dive Team – 3rd Army, reenlisted indefinitely while underwater along with Army Chief of Engineers, Lt. Gen. Carl Strock, during a short ceremony in Kuwait.

Schultz, an 11-year veteran of the U.S. Military, having served with the Air Force and Army, has endured multiple deployments during his career, currently serving his second deployment in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom in various areas of interest, providing vital support in dangerous missions as a deep-sea diver.

When asked about his motivation to reenlist, Schultz said, "I reenlisted indefinitely, to take advantage of the good opportunity; being active duty, I couldn't see myself doing anything else, and my family supports me."

Schultz claims to have served in a variety of capacities as a salvage diver, one of four classes of experience and responsibility as an Army diver- part of a small community of the critical military specialty, deployed in various places around the globe.

"My experience here is invaluable in comparison to back in the states; Our work here is real-world, versus training scenarios back home."

Schultz and his unit participated in missions ranging from recovery of personnel and equipment to disaster relief and reconnaissance work in many different countries during his current year-long tour.

A vital member of his team, Schultz was also recognized and honored by fellow divers prior to his re-



Lt. Gen. Carl Strock shakes hands with Staff Sgt. Eric Schultz, following his reenlistment underwater, with his Army Dive Team unit for an indefinite term of service.

enlistment. Spc. Kyle Broughton, on hand as a speaker during the ceremony, spoke of Schultz and his appreciation for him remaining in service with the unit.

"It's cool and we appreciate his support- he's a great leader and he'll be around for a while," said Broughton, "For him, it will be a day he'll not soon forget."

Master Sgt. David Rossman, who completed his tour of duty in early October, was awarded the U.S. Army's Meritorious Service Medal for exemplary service in support of the 143D Transcom (FWD) and down-trace units with the mission.

(TOP) Master Sgt. Rossman (left) is awarded the Army MSM for outstanding service during his deployment in Kuwait by 143D Transcom (FWD) - HHC Commander Cpt. Jerod Bond.

(BOTTOM) Master Sgt. Rossman and Cpt. Bond pose for a photo with the Army certificate of achievement during the short ceremony before Rossman's flight home.



“Warrant Officer receives Highest Promotion”

Story and Photos by 1st Lt. Ryan J. Pace



Chief Warrant Officer- 4 Thomas Nickles was recently selected for promotion to Chief Warrant Officer-5, the highest rank among Army Warrant Officers, while serving as a Maintenance Officer in the Supply section of the 143D Transcom (FWD).

Chief Warrant Officer – 4 Thomas Nickles was selected for promotion to Warrant Officer 5, while serving a year-long deployment in Kuwait for the 143D Transcom, in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Nickles, a 32-year veteran of the U.S. Army, was selected back in April for the promotion, amongst the top five percent Army-wide, for highest position in the Warrant Officer Corps ranks.

“It felt good [the promotion]; A lot of folks have helped me out along the way and late in my career, I didn’t really think it would happen,” Said Nickles, who just returned to work from completing the required Warrant Officer Senior Staff Course- a developmental course for all newly selected WO5’s- to prepare them for a challenging yet rewarding position.

“This will mean more opportunities with my career; there’s nowhere else to go from here, just to pass the knowledge and information along,” said Nickles.

Lt. Col. Richard Biehl, Supply Officer and supervisor of Nickles, also highlighted his talents as a communicator with soldiers at all levels, and his pride in Chief Nickles performance as a senior warrant officer in his shop.

“Chief Nickles’ professional knowledge and impeccable leadership style in the maintenance field will bring a truly distinctive perspective to the newly formed 143D Sustainment Command Expeditionary,” said Biehl.

Chief Nickles’ years of hard work and development of expertise have finally rewarded the San Antonio, Texas native with a major milestone in his career. Future plans are for him to join the 143D Transcom HQ in Orlando, FL to continue his career after deployment.

NCOs of the Month



ABOVE: Sgt. David Alexander (left) and Command Sgt. Maj. Michael Schultz pose for a photo following the brief ceremony to award Sgt. Alexander an Army Achievement Medal for his outstanding work in training fellow soldiers of CFLCC on automation and trouble-shooting. He was recommended for the award by peers for his efforts to help other soldiers.



ABOVE: Staff Sgt. Wendy Joyce (right) receives an Army Achievement Medal from 143D Transcom Commander, BG Keith Thurgood during a short ceremony in Kuwait.

Staff Sgt. Joyce works in Air Operations and was also recently honored as NCO of the Quarter for 2006 before being awarded for her performance, setting the standard for other NCOs in the command.

222nd,

"Before, during and after every mission the stress on each Soldier while traveling on the supply routes is heavy and Soldiers need to keep their awareness heightened; With all the moving parts, it's a lot of stress and they need to stay focused," said Kuciver.

Security also plays a major role in completing missions, with most of the coverage provided by gun truck teams from other base camps and units, such as the 1/12th and 1/21st Field Artillery Battalions from Camp Navistar, to protect the Soldiers and supplies.

In support of each convoy, the final piece of the puzzle for convoy commanders is the civilian element of each convoy, supplementing a large percentage of each load with contracted 'white-truck' assets, hauling the remainder of supplies and equipment and relieving some of the burden from the unit and Soldiers.

In charge of the White trucks- primarily made up of Third-Country Nationals- Soldiers like Spc. Nathan Lukens, also a motor transport operator, who supervises and manages this critical part of each convoy.

"Without their help and alertness, the mission would be a fatal failure," said Lukens,

On the importance of both white trucks and safety to ensure each convoy and its' troops make it to their final destination with the entire load.

Farewell, Maj. Michael Magee!

Brig. Gen. Thurgood awards Maj. Magee an Army Achievement Medal during a dinner in his honor.



143D Transcom Soldiers enjoy a dinner with Maj. Magee prior to his departure.

Fellow members of Maj. Magee's G3 Section pose for a final photo.



A Photo History: Convoy in Iraq with the 222nd Transportation Company



A Word from the Chaplain—Prayer of the Month:

Story and Photos by Col. (CH) Stanley Garthwait

"They that go down to the sea in ships, that do business in great waters; These see the works of the Lord, and his wonders in the deep." (Psalms 107:23-24)

Recently, Chaplain Stanley Garthwait was invited by Chaplain Steve Thomas of the 595th TTG to be the guest speaker at recent prayer luncheon.



Lt. Col. Kirsti Trygstad prepares to perform on guitar and sing, during the 595th Terminal Transportation Group prayer luncheon.

The theme of the event was the change of seasons.

Chaplain Garthwait used a medley of scriptures and a power point presentation with the help of his assistant, Sgt. McCullough and accompanying music by Michael W. Smith.

There also was a live sing-along led by singer-guitarist Lt. Col. Kirsti Trygstad, performing, "Turn, Turn, Turn," by the music group, "The Byrds."

Chaplain Garthwait's main scriptural text was taken from Ecclesiastes: Chapter 3, "To everything there is a season..."



Col. (CH) Stanley Garthwait begins a presentation during the prayer luncheon with troops of the 595th TTG, marking the beginning of changing seasons both in Kuwait and back in the U.S.

DEMO,

cluding a new combat public address audio system, the medium-range acoustical device (MRAD).

Many of the devices reviewed were part of a force modification analysis conducted by commanders, particularly observing the impending issue of electricity and power requirements needed for application of the equipment and, ultimately, missions.

"As they add armor and equipment, it wears on the vehicle, brakes, suspension and tires, while risking the possibility of a roll-over," said Staff Sgt. Seymour Todd, senior mechanic for the 89th Trans. Co.

Todd was one of many soldiers who took advantage of the event to speak directly with the top leadership present, addressing issues with equipment that affect soldiers in his unit and suggestions he had to deal with them.



Staff Sgt. Seymour Todd gives a short class to General Officers in attendance during the non-lethal weapons portion of the demonstration.

Commanders reviewing presentations and testing out some of the equipment themselves pointed to how equipment has progressed, due to similar events in the past, and many continue to promote advancement of support to their soldiers- who remain vigilant in their duties of supporting others themselves in Iraq, Kuwait and other areas of interest.

"Everything goes back to safety and combat effectiveness," said Brig. Gen. Keith Thurgood, 143d Transportation Commander, "This shows how soldiers are standing on the shoulders of those who came before them."



89th Transportation Soldiers speak with Brig. Gen. Keith Thurgood, following a non-lethal weapons demonstration to observe new systems in place to deter attacks on troops in Iraq.



"Commanders have a new tool in theater"

Story and Photo by Cpt. Mike Wallace
377th Public Affairs Officer- 377th TSC



Spc. Joseph Bicchieri, 40th Public Affairs Detachment NCOIC, checks the operability of the DVIDS satellite dish atop the communication tower in Kuwait.

Getting information out about a command to the media in the past was a very long and detailed process and the greater the distance to send the information, the bigger the problem. The process has become decisively easier. Thanks to the Digital Video Image Distribution System (DVIDS), information for commanders can quickly be distributed to all the media branches.

Camp Arifjan, Kuwait, has the DVIDS system, and it provides the technology that dramatically enhances the ability to distribute media products and expands a commander's ability to inform internal and external audiences. The DVIDS is a network of satellite transmitters and a distribution center designed to help commanders conduct live interviews and distribute their products easily and more effectively to meet their strategic communications objectives without overburdening current Army communications systems, such as e-mail.

In the past, the commander of a unit would have the Public Affairs Officer (PAO) write up a press release for an event (such as a promotion, an award, or a mission-related story). The PAO would then send the story, with photos, via the internet to numerous selected media outlets. Then the PAO would follow up, trying to get each newspaper or magazine to print the article. For video coverage, the event had to be taped and sent via airmail to selected broadcast studios.

The PAOs still do the marketing piece. They still do releases, create and distribute regular products such as newsletters, newspapers, magazines, video packages, etc. By sending them to the DVIDS hub, media agencies can pull down those products themselves. It enables wider, faster distribution.

"I'm not certain anyone realizes the full poten-

tial of this system," says Spc. Joseph Bicchieri, the 40th PAD Broadcast NCOIC. "This mobile system gives us the ability to put the military in the news at anytime, and almost from anywhere."

Bicchieri refers to the portable broadcast system that he can take into the field with his recording equipment. After recording and editing footage, he transmits from the field using the DVIDS transmitting dish, or he can bring his footage back to Camp Arifjan and use the new broadcast studio at Arifjan to send the information via satellite to the main DVIDS hub in Atlanta. The new studio, though not part of the DVIDS, has a tall transmitting tower and a 2.4 meter broadcast dish that enables him to overcome most of the interference from dust storms and weather.

"That way I'm certain to go on the air no matter what the conditions," Bicchieri says. "We will also have the ability to receive video from Atlanta for use in our productions."

Bicchieri points out that people are still the most important tool, even in the age of modern technology.

"A large part of the what makes this work is the people back in Atlanta who market the stories we send," Bicchieri said, acknowledging the importance of people who push the information out to all the media outlets and follow up to ensure the Army's messages get out.

"DVIDS gives commanders the chance to send out important information to the United States via live interviews with the national media," he said. "Even though a Soldier can't come in and say 'Hi, Mom', we can record greetings for holidays, special events and shoutouts (where the Soldier cheers for his team) and have that footage sent back to the Hub for distribution."



Maj. Michael Sherman, 377th TSC Safety Officer smiles for the camera before a recent DVIDS shout-out recording.

COMMANDER & 1SG CORNER

Soldiers of the 143D TRANSCOM (FWD)

Congratulations to SFC McNeil (308), SSG Wu (291) and the 1SG (289) for scoring at least 90 points in each event to obtain an Army Physical Fitness Badge, "Army Strong". Overall we have a very good APFT score average. Each of you who have met or exceeded the Army Standard on the APFT; GREAT JOB, Keep up the Good Work. It takes dedication to yourself to make the time available to ensure you maintain your personal level of fitness.



NOV 6-8 will be the unit Individual Weapons Qualification at the range near KNB. Each section needs to ensure they conduct Preliminary Marksmanship Instruction on their assigned weapons. We will be publishing an MOI in the near future.

As we transition with the 377th TSC, we want to remind everyone that we (HHC) will be staying and continuing to support the Unit in every way possible. What does this mean for you? Nothing has really changed, keep your section informed and run all training and administrative actions through the HHC. We will also continue to conduct MWR and training functions as a unit.

UNIT SAFETY PROGRAM

Stay safe. Obey the traffic laws and regulations. Watch out for your buddies. Take care of yourselves. As we near the change in weather make sure you get rest and eat a good diet to avoid getting sick. Reminder, we have slots available for December to attend the Army Safe Driver Training (ASDT) if you haven't attended sign-up today.

Guidance has been passed down and as soon as it is available each Soldier in the HHC, 143D TRANSCOM will be required to receive a FLU vaccination. Right now it appears these vaccines will not be available until MID NOV. Yeah another shot!!!

"Do what you can, with what you have, where you are." -President Theodore Roosevelt

ARMY MRE NEWS: "Warfighters Get Group Dining on the Go"

NATICK, Mass. (Army News Service, Oct. 23, 2006) – The Natick Soldier Center's Unitized Group Ration-Express provides a group dining capability anytime, anywhere.

With a quick pull of a tab, the meals are ready in 30 to 45 minutes and provide a change of pace from Meals, Ready-to-Eat (MREs). UGR-E modules serve hot meals for up to 18 warfighters without requiring kitchen equipment, cooks, fuel or a power source. UGR-Es also reduce the costs and logistical burden associated with using a field kitchen.

"Warfighters would utilize the UGR-E in locations where they are unable to use a Mobile Kitchen Trailer, but want a group dining capability. This could be before MKTs make it to the field or if they are located too far away for the group to congregate there. UGR-Es also eliminate the need for trucks to bring them food in insulated containers," said Shari Dangel, an NSC physical scientist.

The technology most benefits small, remote units operating in austere environments. According to Dangel, prototype UGR-E's have been sent to both Afghanistan and Iraq.

Future improvements are already in the works.

An Enhancement Box, or E-Box, is also being developed to provide a supplement for the UGR-E. It will include milk, cereal, bread, and other complementary items that will increase the variety and nutrition offered by the ration.



Staff Judge Advocate: Focus on USERRA



The Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA), prohibits discrimination against persons because of their service in the Armed Forces Reserve, the National Guard, or other uniformed services. USERRA prohibits an employer from denying any benefit of employment on the basis of an individual's membership, performance of service, or obligation for service in the uniformed services.

Under USERRA, if a military member leaves his civilian job for service in the uniformed services, he is entitled to return to the job, with accrued seniority, provided he meets the law's eligibility criteria. USERRA applies to voluntary as well as involuntary service, in peacetime as well as wartime, and the law applies to virtually all civilian employers, including the Federal Government, State and local governments, and private employers, regardless of size.

In order to have reemployment rights following a period of service in the uniformed services, a military member must meet five eligibility criteria

1. You must have held a civilian job.
2. You must have informed your employer that you were leaving the job for service in the uniformed services.
3. The period of service must not have exceeded five years.
4. You must have been released from service under "honorable conditions."
5. You must have reported back to your civilian employer in a timely manner or have submitted a timely application for reemployment.

After a period of service of 181 days or more, the person must submit an application for reemployment not later than 90 days after completion of the period of service. There are four basic entitlements upon return to employment under USERRA:

- Prompt reinstatement (generally a matter of days, not weeks, but will depend on the length of absence).
- Accrued seniority, as if continuously employed. This applies to rights and benefits determined by seniority as well. This includes status, rate of pay, pension vesting, and credit for the period for pension benefit computations.
- Training or retraining and other accommodations. This would be particularly applicable in case of a long period of absence or service-connected disability.

Special protection against discharge, except for cause. For periods of service of 181 days or more, it is one year.

USERRA prohibits discrimination with respect to "any benefit of employment," and it extends this protection to any "person who has an obligation to perform service in a Uniformed Service." The law is initially enforced by an agency called the Veterans Employment and Training Service (VETS), which is a division of the U.S. Department of Labor. VETS is responsible for investigating and attempting to resolve all USERRA complaints. If the agency finds merit to the complaint, the service member is apprised of his or her right to request a referral to the Department of Justice, which is then responsible for prosecuting the claim. Prevailing plaintiffs had always been entitled to receive backpay, reinstatement, and attorneys fees. Since the passage of USERRA, however, service members may also recover liquidated (double) damages in the event of a "willful" violation.

Dancing the night away



Members of the Ballroom Dance Class pose for a photo following the recent, "Hispanic Heritage," event.

Participating in the event as a main performer, was 143D Transcom G1's SFC Philippe Chapoteau, a student and instructor.



"143D Vets Make History after 30 Years"

Story by 1st Lt. Ryan J. Pace



Photos by 377th TSC Public Affairs PAO
Capt. Mike Wallace



During a brief recent ceremony, 377th Theater Support Commander (and former 143D Transcom Commander) Maj. Gen. Thomas Robinson awarded several members of the 143D Transcom (FWD) - Detachment 18 with certificates of achievement in appreciation for over 30 years of military service.

Among members of the more than 30 service members in attendance. Maj. Gen. Robinson hosted the event, handing out the certificates to each Soldier and thanking them for their dedication and enduring support of the Army.

(clockwise from right) Maj. Gen. Robinson (left) pictured with Command Sgt. Maj. Rossie Peters, also receiving a certificate on behalf of the 377th TSC; Master Sgt. Hammontree; Lt. Col. Joseph Harden; Lt. Col. Richard Biehl; and Chief Warrant Officer - 4 Dennis Sledd.

