

TRIPLE NICKEL TRIBUNE

"Willing and Able!" - "Always Ready"



NEWSLETTER OF THE 555TH ENGINEER BRIGADE
JOINT BASE LEWIS-McCHORD, WASHINGTON



Summer

Message from the Commander

Colonel Timothy Holman,
"Able 6"

Triple Nickel Team,

Welcome to the summer edition of our newsletter. We're excited to show you the wonderful work being done by our Willing and Able Soldiers, Families and leaders across the Triple Nickel Brigade this summer.



The last three months have been intense with unrelenting training and seeing the brigade reorganize. The Triple Nickel said goodbye to the 14th Engineers on 6 August as they moved to 2-2 SBCT to establish a Brigade Engineer Battalion.

We welcomed home the 129th and 707th EOD Companies, and the 22nd Clearance Company, and deployed multiple companies to NTC to execute their Certifying Training Event (CTE).

Partnership has been a pivotal part in the brigade's success, working with USACE, the City of Roy, and our Reserve counterparts. We have some great events coming, most importantly welcoming home the 570th Engineer Company.

As we approach the fall and look forward to the holidays, my hope is that you got a chance to spend time with your Families. All I ask is that you take the work ethic and determination that you have shown this summer forward. Excellent work this summer, Triple Nickel, keep it up!

Willing & Able!
- Col. Holman, 'Able 6'



129th EOD Soldier SPC Jason Leger holds his daughter following the 129th's Redeployment Ceremony.

Amid training and transformations, 555th Soldiers remain priority

Story by 1Lt. Bryan Perrenod
555th Eng. Bde. Public Affairs

JBLM — The 555th Engineer Brigade approaches the fall with many tasks complete, and many more ahead, in spite of this the "Triple Nickel's" main focus is the care of its Soldiers.

This summer we welcomed home the 707th and 129th EOD Companies and the 22nd Clearance Company from their deployments. The focus for these Soldiers has been spending time with their families and reintegrating into the brigade.

The 570th Engineer Company is still deployed, and the brigade is looking forward to welcoming them home from their deployment.

At the same time, brigade restructuring continues on schedule, with the 557th Engineer Company preparing to inactivate, first among several Triple Nickel construction units inactivating as the brigade transforms in line with Army downsizing.

In August we saw the conversion of the 14th Engineer Battalion (HHC and FSC) to a newly formed

Brigade Engineer Battalion under 2nd Stryker Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division. The other companies under the 14th remained with the Triple Nickel, assigned to the 864th Eng. Bn.

The brigade has upcoming events like the Turkey Bowl in November for Soldiers and Families to have a chance to come together. Also in November is the annual Santa's Castle ruck march, where Soldiers will have the opportunity to donate toys for Families to enjoy during the upcoming holiday season.

All the while, training continues, in order to ensure Soldiers are combat ready for the next Triple Nickel mission.



"Triple Nickel" Family Day showcases Soldiers' work

www.Facebook.com/555enbde



At A Glance...

- ◆ 555TH PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMS CONTINUE TO GROW
- ◆ FULLY IMMERSSED IN TRAINING TO PREPARE FOR FUTURE MISSIONS
- ◆ UNITS PREPARE FOR REDUCTIONS AND OTHER CHANGES AS BRIGADE TRANSFORMS AND DOWNSIZES
- ◆ FAMILY DAY HELD IN AUGUST TO SHOW WHAT WORK EACH TRIPLE NICKEL SOLDIER DOES AND LET FAMILIES INTERACT WITH THE EQUIPMENT
- ◆ 555TH CONSISTS OF 3 BATTALIONS AND OTHER DETACHMENTS AT JBLM

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Command Sergeant Major's Corner Command Sgt. Maj. Stanley Hood, "Able 7"

Triple Nickel Family,

This summer provided many challenges, in the form of restructuring and preparing the Brigade for future missions, and I have been impressed that the Brigade's Soldiers have met



this challenge.

Yet with all of these requirements, our level of effort and the pace of our training have continued to accelerate, with events such as Raven's Challenge, Ulchi Freedom Guardian, and multiple NTC rotations.

Our Soldiers continually raise the bar and set the standard. The 864th Engineer Battalion has been working tirelessly with our community on multiple projects such as the Mud Mountain Dam. SGT Lobato and PFC Wagner—two outstanding warriors were recently selected as the Brigade's NCO and

"As our guest speaker he provided great words of wisdom for the Brigade's NCOs"

Soldier of the Quarter, with Sgt. Lobato taking the Division NCO of the Quarter. Phenomenal Job!

I would like to thank CSM Kendrick, the Engineer Regimental CSM, for joining us during the Brigade's second NCO Induction Ceremony. As our guest speaker he provided great words of wisdom for the Brigade's NCOs and our brigade will be better for it. Please check out the photos of the ceremony on Facebook.

I want to also thank the Families for all the support you provide!

*Willing and Able,
CSM Hood, 'Able 7'*

Triple Nickel Welcomes new Soldiers into the NCO Corps!



By U.S. Army Lt. Bryan Perrenod
555th Eng. Bde. Public Affairs

JBLM, Wash — The 555th Engineer Brigade hosted an NCO Honor Day September 25th to welcome newly promoted Sergeants into the Corps of the Non-commissioned Officer.

The NCOs all participated in an Esprit de Corps run and finished the day with an Induction Ceremony.

During part of his keynote speech, guest speaker Regimental CSM Butler J. Hendricks said to the

new NCOs:

"You got to lead by example, there is no way around it, you got to develop your subordinates that is one of your important fundamentals as a non commissioned officer, you got to figure out what is the art and science of mission command, understanding the commander's intent and make it happen, and the last thing is know your subordinates."

"Congratulations to these new Noncommissioned Officers and thank you CSM Kendrick for supporting the Triple Nickel."



The Triple Nickel Tribune is an authorized newsletter for members of the 555th Engineer Brigade, a subordinate unit of 7th Infantry Division, I Corps. Contents are not necessarily endorsed by the Dept. of the Army, DoD, or U.S. Government. Content is reviewed, edited, and approved by the Brigade Public Affairs Officer. For questions, comments, or submissions, please contact the Brigade PAO.

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YOU ARE THE NEWS!

This newsletter belongs to the **WILLING AND ABLE** members of the 555th Engineer Brigade...

Send us photos, stories, and ideas for future coverage, and see your unit's accomplishments highlighted on our Facebook page and in future editions of the Triple Nickel Tribune!

[Facebook.com/555enbde](https://www.facebook.com/555enbde)

1st Lt. Bryan Perrenod. Reach me by email at bryan.r.perrenod.mil@mail.mil

Announcing the winners of the Brigade NCO and Soldier of the Quarter Competitions!

SGT Christopher Lobato
HHC, 864th EN BN

PFC Andrew Wanger
571st SPR CO, 864th EN BN

The quarterly competition evaluates Soldiers on their knowledge, professionalism, and military skills over the course of several days.

SGT Lobato went on to win the Division NCO of the Quarter and PFC Wanger placed second for Soldier of the Quarter!



Community Matters: Triple Nickel Hosts City of Roy

By U.S. Army Lt. Bryan Perrenod
555th Eng. Bde. Public Affairs

JBLM, Wash. — The Mayor, Karen Yates, and the City Council of Roy along with the Police Chief, Darwin Armitage and police officers visited the Triple Nickel on July 10th.

The Brigade invited the community leaders of Roy to come to JBLM and see what the Soldiers of the Triple Nickel do. Each unit had a part, from briefing the capabilities to displays and presentations of Soldiers and equipment.

The day started off with the leaders of Roy receiving a presentation from the commanders of each of the units. Each talked about the mission of each of their units and how they all come together under the Triple Nickel.

They then proceeded to the 110th Chemical readiness bay where the 110th Chemical Battalion and 3rd EOD had set up displays and demonstrations of their Soldiers and equipment

Soldiers from the 110th Chem showed them their detection equipment and how they would respond to a chemical threat. Sgt. Mullinax demonstrated confined space gear, showing how they would reach a site that was located in a cave or other confined locations.

Their next stop was 3rd

EOD, where SGT Kehl explained all the various ways items can be turned into IEDs. The Roy Council was able to then see the equipment EOD teams use to locate and disarm these devices, demonstrating this with their robots. The Roy Council then got to try on the Bomb suite and compete in a race using the EOD robots to reach an explosive device.

After completing this, the Council was shown the Cannon and Castles DFAC and enjoyed a quick lunch before heading over to 864th Engineer Battalion's Motor pool.

There they were shown the route clearance and construction equipment the 864th uses to complete its mission. This included a demonstration from Sgt. Lampman on the 864th's survey and design equipment. The council was impressed by the wide array of equipment and knowledge of the Triple Nickel's Soldier.

At the end of the day, the Council was presented with appreciation awards, in thanks for all Roy has done to support the 555th Engineer Brigade.

Editor's Note: The Brigade thanks Roy for always supporting the Triple Nickel.



Council members of Roy compete in a Robot Race hosted by 3rd EOD to see who could reach the bomb first.



The Command Teams of the Triple Nickel and the City Council of Roy outside of the Brigade Headquarters.



Soldiers from 110th Chem show the Council of Roy their decontamination equipment and how they would respond to a chemical threat



Soldiers from 864th show the Council of Roy the Husky and explain its mine detecting capabilities.



In the News: Major transition for 555th Engineer Brigade

By **Melissa Renahan**
The Ranger (Tacoma)

JBLM, Wash — The more things change, the more they stay the same ... but for the soldiers of the 555th Engineer Brigade on Joint Base Lewis-McChord, the changes will be piling up in the coming months as companies redeploy, a battalion is transferred to another brigade and other companies are inactivated as part of the Army's restructuring.

"The brigade headquarters knows this is a major transition," said Maj. Travis Rayfield, executive officer for the 555th. "The priority is always to make sure that the soldiers we send into combat are ready but this is the secondary focus," he continued. "It's a major leadership challenge and a morale challenge, but we have been proactively addressing this and planning for this since last November."

To that end, a physical and virtual town hall meeting was held in April to ensure that soldiers, as well as their families, were well educated about the upcoming changes. The chain of command has also remained available for counseling and information, both in person and via social media

One of the largest changes is occurring in the 864th Engineer Battalion; as of Aug. 6, the 864th will have nine companies under its umbrella as it takes over four companies from the 14th Combat Engineer Battalion.

"The biggest challenge is to ensure the staff is ready to handle this increase," explained

864th commander Lt. Col. Steven Sattinger. "We will be going from six hundred to eleven hundred soldiers overnight."

However, the battalion's growth will only be temporary, as three of the companies will be deactivated in the new fiscal year, which begins Oct. 1.

"In the company closest to inactivating, you can see the challenges and the stress," Sattinger said, referring to the 557th Horizontal Construction Company, which is set to inactivate in mid-October.

Those 159 soldiers in the 557th will be managed individually to align with the needs of the Army, whether that means moving into other engineer jobs on JBLM, PCSing to other units throughout the Army, reclassifying under a new Military Occupation Specialty (MOS) or even choosing to end their time of service.

"We are trying to take care of the soldiers, recognizing that each one of them is an individual. There is no cookie-cutter solution," Sattinger added. "It is tough, but it is worth it to do it this way."

As such, Sattinger and his staff are urging the soldiers with shrinking MOSs to utilize ACAP and other JBLM/Army resources so that they can see that there are other viable options outside of the military.

"Orders may not be in hand yet, but soldiers who are staying at JBLM do know and by mid-August, one hundred percent of the personnel should know their next move," stated Rayfield.

The 617th Horizontal Construction Company and the 585th Vertical Construction Company



555th Engineer Brigade commander Col. Timothy W. Holman addresses his soldiers about some of the upcoming changes within the brigade during a formation

will be inactivated in 2015, leaving the 864th with six companies.

At the same time, the 864th is expanding, the 14th Combat Engineer Battalion will deactivate and then reactivate as the 14th Brigade Engineer Battalion (BEB) and fall under the 2/2 Stryker Brigade Combat Team. The activation of the 14th BEB will bridge the engineer gap that brigade combat teams are currently experiencing by making engineer assets more readily available. These soldiers will be capable of providing signal, intelligence and anti-tank assets, as well as engineering assets.

The incorporation of the 14th BEB into 2/2 SBCT supports the Army's 2020 concept by expanding maneuver units' war fighting capabilities and lethality, while still implementing an overall reduction in forces. The 3/2 SBCT will also be acquiring its own BEB in the future, but that battalion will be stood up from the ground and not the result of transfers from the 555th.

Yet, despite all of these changes, the 555th Engineer Brigade remains steadfast and

mission-ready. "We are tasked with both decreasing the number of engineers in the 555th footprint and continuing to support the Army's missions, but we can do it," Rayfield stated. "The mission does not stop, the tempo does not slow - the engineers are there until the end."

Soldiers from the 22nd Clearance Company, which redeployed in June, were faced with transitioning to the 864th upon their return even though they deployed as part of the 14th. Most recently, the 129th EOD Company returned from a 9-month deployment in support of the International Security Assistance Force mission in Kuwait and Qatar. The approximately 40 soldiers provided ordnance disposal and counter IED tactics that enabled their teams to eliminate and reduce chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear and high yield explosive hazards from the area of operations.

"The priority is always to make sure that the Soldiers we send into combat are ready"

<http://www.northwestmilitary.com/news/news-front/2014/08/Major-transition-for-555th-Engineer-Brigade-at-Lewis-McChord/>



Mud Men of the 617th Engineers

By **Melissa Renahan**
The Ranger (Tacoma)

JBLM, Wash — Although it is located 40 miles from where the 617th Engineer Company is based at Joint Base Lewis-McChord as part of the 555th Engineer Brigade, soldiers have been hard at work on the Mud Mountain Dam Road Improvement Project for the last month.

The work has involved improving a two-mile stretch of road adjacent to the Mud Mountain Dam near Enumclaw, from adding a ditch to aggregate distribution to road compaction.

That being said, while the 617th Engineer Company is equipped with the soldiers, capability and the time to handle the Mud Mountain project, it was only through a partnership with the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) from the Seattle district that the resources and task became available.

The project, which was

planned primarily at the company level and executed at the platoon level, has been underway since July 21 with direct USACE coordination. Throughout the process, there have been approximately 10 to 15 soldiers remaining onsite at a time with organic assets, rotating in and out in weeklong increments.

"This is the first time that we've partnered with the USACE in the two years I've been here," said 1st Lt. Alexander Sackmann, who has been serving as the project manager to ensure that the soldiers have what they need to complete the mission.

"We are a horizontal construction company, so this is crucial to our training and in line with our skills, but we don't always get this sort of opportunity," Sackmann continued. "We cannot do many construction projects around JBLM due to how densely populated it is." "It was real-world training in an open area so we're capable of



Soldiers with the 617th Horizontal Construction Company assist Seattle USACE with the construction of a road for the Mud Mountain Dam complex.

doing so much more," agreed Staff Sgt. John Thompson. Best of all, the improvements that have been made will allow for the safe transfer of salmon when they run upstream this season, according to Thompson.

"We want to continue the partnership in the future with

the USACE because they have been great to work with throughout the project," Sackmann explained, citing USACE team members Rick Emry, Dan Johnson, Sam Stables and Mike Bartholet, specifically.

3rd EOD Battalion Participates in Raven's Challenge

By **U.S. Army Lt. Bryan Perrenod**
555th Eng. Bde. Public Affairs

Satsop Wash — The 3rd EOD Battalion participated in the annual Raven's Challenge exercise on July 25th. The 710th EOD Company was one of the units in the harbor exercise that took place in the Puget Sound near Olympia WA. Raven's Challenge is a joint exercise ran by the ATF and involved over 300 Officers, Agents, and Soldiers from all over Washington State.

The Joint exercise is conducted nation-wide and is meant to bring different agencies and experts together to share skills

and lessons learned. The exercise featured multiple staged attacks, from a terrorist bus bombing to an IED laden boat.

Soldiers from the 710th EOD Company working with ATF agents and Coast Guard responded to an attempted bombing with a boat near the port of Olympia. Arriving on the scene, the Coast Guard isolated the boat and then Soldiers of the 710th EOD entered the craft to assess the situation. They successfully located and disabled all of the IEDs on the craft.

Staff Sgt. Daryl Neumann, EOD Team Leader, talked about the mission "We received our mis-

sion from the Coast Guard. We went out there and were able to board the boat. After searching the boat we came across several IEDs which we took care of."

"We were able to get a lot of good training off of that and kind of get to see what it was like to work off of a boat. I've never done demo off of a boat before."

Neumann continues, talking about the importance of the exercise. "We need to do this more, to integrate more with the teams. With the local civilians teams out here, because there is a lot of information that we can share with them and a lot of information they can share with

us. I have been involved with Raven's Challenge for the past two years and the training out here has always been excellent."



710th EOD Soldier disarms an IED on a derelict boat while participating in Ravens Challenge.



By U.S. Army 1st Lt. Kathryn Marr
14th En. Bn. Public Affairs

The Rugged Battalion was surrounded by change and transition this quarter. We started off with continued preparation for NTC and our transition to the Brigade Engineer Battalion (BEB). We welcomed home the 22nd Engineer Clearance Company (ECC) "Hooligans" from Afghani-

"Our Soldiers embodied the very essence of being Rugged"

stan, while continuing to support the 570th Sapper Company "FIDO" who are currently con-



Lt. Col. Douglas Brown, Battalion Commander, awards the 14th Engineers hard working Soldiers the Army Achievement Medal for their success at NTC.

14th Engineer Battalion Quarterly Update

ducting a Route Clearance mission in Afghanistan. Towards the end of the quarter, we saw two changes of command with the 571st Sapper Company and 610th Engineer Support Company (ESC) where we farwelled CPT James Perkins and CPT Robert Wilkins and welcomed CPT Jason Shinar and CPT Michael Yuengert as the new commanders.

In June, we sent HHC and FSC to the National Training Center (NTC) for a rotation with 2-2 Stryker Brigade Combat Team (SBCT) where we supported 562 EN Co (A Co) as well as four US Army Reserve/ National Guard companies from Guam, California, New Mexico and Nevada and were responsible for all engineer efforts.

Our support to 2-2 SBCT included the emplacement of protective and defensive obstacles, protective positions for Strykers and various weapon systems, and multiple anti tank ditches. Our Soldiers embodied the very essence of being Rugged which resulted in the presentation of several awards, certificates, and coins. Our NTC rotation was beneficial to the



Lt. Col. Douglas Brown, Battalion Commander, leads a discussion of engineer battlefield tactics as the battalio prepares for a summer rotation at the National Training Center with 2-2 Stryker Brigade.

unit on multiple levels by providing our Soldiers with quality training, preparing us for the transition to a BEB, and allowing

"We will continue to look out for our fellow Engineers across Able Field, but are excited to begin a new journey"

us to build relationships with 2-2 SBCT.

We ended the quarter by not only fare welling LTC Douglas Brown as our Battalion Commander, but also fare welling the 14th Combat Engineer Battalion. The 22nd ECC, 570th and 571st Sapper Companies, and 610th Engineer Support Company (ESC) have moved across Able Field to become Pacemakers, as the 14th BEB welcomed new companies with Engineer, Signal, Military Intelligence, and Infantry Soldiers.

The 14th BEB, Commanded by LTC Michael Baim, now falls

under 2-2 SBCT and will support and enable the brigade to "Seize the High Ground." Although we are no longer "Willing and Able" we will remain proud of the 14th Combat Engineer Battalion's (Corps) (Wheeled) honorable history and all we have accomplished with Triple Nickel. We will continue to look out for our fellow Engineers across Able Field, but are excited to begin a new journey as 14th BEB.

Rugged!!

The Triple Nickel is sad to see the Rugged Battalion leave the brigade, yet we know this is the start of a new chapter in the 14th's history. The brigade knows the 14th BEB will serve the 2-2 SBCT with the same dedication and skill it has shown as the 14th En Bn. while under the 555th Engineer Brigade. While the 14th will be missed, you are not forgotten and will always have a place in the history of the Triple Nickel.

*"Rugged"
"Willing and Able"*



864th Engineer Battalion Quarterly Update

By U.S. Army Cpt. Annmarie Caasi
864th En. Bn. Public Affairs

Greetings Pacemaker Soldiers, Families, and Friends,

Saying that we have been busy doesn't do justice to our Soldier's constant achievements and accomplishments. As always, our Soldiers want, and deserve, to be led well; to train hard; to maintain themselves and their equipment; and to have fun while doing it. Here in the Pacemakers, we seize that opportunity and Set the Pace every day.

The Pacemakers completed RESET in style and received rave reviews from the 7th Infantry Division command group for our maintenance program and Campaign on Property Accountability. Now, as the

weather starts warming up, you can expect to find Pacemakers dressed in full gear running and crawling around all of JBLM's training areas. From multiple live ranges, to weekly Sergeant's Time Training, and company field training exercises, it has been extremely refreshing to conduct hands on training with the Soldiers.

We welcomed the 22nd Engineer Clearance Company (Hooligans) back home from their deployment. It was heartwarming watching Families reunite with their loved ones. Awesome job Hooligan

Nation!

Please continue to keep the 570th Sapper Company (Fido) in your thoughts and prayers as they are still deployed in Afghanistan. While balancing con-

stant missions with daily operations, Fido never falter to succeed. Instead they continue to excel and it is showcased throughout their Soldier's accomplishments, promotions, recognitions, and re-enlistments. Keep up the hard work Fido and we look forward to welcoming all of you back.

Additionally, the battalion continued to grow in numbers as we integrated the 610th Engineer Support Company (Ghostriders) and 571st Sapper Company (Rock) into the family. Concurrently, our construction companies continue to prepare for inactivation, starting with the 557th Horizontal Company in October. We are working hard to make the transition an easy as possible



for all our Soldiers and Families affected by the restructuring. I encourage you to get involved with your company Family Readiness Group if you have any questions.

But the Pacemakers not only

work hard, we play hard as well. The Battalion had their Family Organization Day on July 02 to kick summer vacation. The Companies enjoyed a friendly sports competition to determine the winner

of the Commander's Cup. Congratulations to the 617th Horizontal Company (Trailblazers) for winning the Commander's Cup. Trailblazers definitely know how to "Clear the Way." Families and friends enjoyed great food and games, taking advantage of the beautiful weather. The biggest success of the day was seeing the Battalion Commander and Command Sergeant Major in the dunk tank!

As the summer comes to an end and the new school year is upon us, we encourage you to enjoy what the great Pacific Northwest has to offer; but always remember to stay safe. Thanks to all of you who dedicate your personal time in support of the unit; you are essential to our success.

"It was heartwarming watching families reunite with their loved ones"

"They continue to excel and it is showcased throughout the Soldiers accomplishments"



1SG Goodman uncases the color of the 22nd Clearance Company during their redeployment ceremony, marking the unit's return to JBLM.



By U.S. Army 1st Lt. Kurt Peterson
3rd EOD Bn. Public Affairs

The summer months are here and Soldiers of 3D Ordnance Battalion (EOD) are ecstatic to serve in their beautiful surroundings. Nighthawk Soldiers are eager to complete their ongoing Homeland Defense, VIP Protection missions, and robust training exercises.

One EOD team from 710th Ordnance Company (EOD) and two from 759th Ordnance Company (EOD) left the California mainland for a Joint Training Exercise on San Clemente Island. Their cooperation with Naval EOD Teams from Third Fleet's Carl Vinson Strike Group was a huge success. The 759th participated in a multitude of similar joint training events and insist the lessons learned keep the

3d EOD Battalion Quarterly Update

Battalion's EOD teams sharp. HHD Soldiers exhaustively prepared vehicles and equipment for Field Training and Convoy Operations at Satsop, Washington. The 'Hawkeye' detachment honed their field craft skills, Warrior Tasks, and carried out TOC/TAC Operations. Raven's Challenge VIII directly followed the FTX, closing out the month of June with back to back training events.

710th Ordnance Company joined HHD at Satsop to train alongside federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies in support of the ATF and FBI. Raven's Challenge VIII tested interoperability by simulating a weeklong CONUS bombing campaign. Our EOD teams completed 24 Homeland Defense training lanes in the process. They weren't alone, 25 more Soldiers assisted by serving in support roles throughout the training area.

The battalion is proud of our eight Soldiers who earned German Army Proficiency Badges in June. PFC Ryan Smith earned the Gold Badge, a testament to his outstanding marksmanship and



3d EOD Soldiers conduct patrols to prepare for their Field Training Exercise at Satsop Washington.

athleticism, congratulations! The challenge was enjoyed by all and we look forward to the next training iteration.

The 53D Ordnance Company took to the California deserts of Fort Irwin enduring 100 degree temperatures at NTC rotation 14-08 and the Group Team of the Year (ToY) Competition. They finished strong and 53D's victory at the Group ToY Competition is evidence of their rigid training plan's value.

Their winning EOD Team led by SSG Alexander Burdge, continues onward to the Department of the Army ToY Competition in August. Appreciation and special credit go to

759th Ordnance Company (EOD) for hosting and organizing the entire event; mission accomplished!

Delighted Nighthawk Families gathered to reunite and celebrate at the 129th Ordnance Company (EOD) redeployment ceremony. Our expert 'Cobra' Teams circulated throughout a multinational operational area that included Kuwait, Qatar,

Jordan, and Kyrgyzstan. They partnered with Coalition Army and Naval forces during their nine month deployment. Over 260 EOD missions were accomplished without a single incident.

This quarter California buzzed with Nighthawk activity, and not just at Fort Irwin. Our recently promoted Chaplain, MAJ Rickie Wambles, spearheaded a Strong Bonds retreat with the help of SSG Angel

Ramos. Eleven Soldiers spent time with their spouses at Big Bear Lake for a three day retreat. Looking forward, the 3D Ordnance Battalion (EOD) focuses on the

redeployment of our 707th and 787th EOD Companies. Their safe and timely homecoming from Operation Enduring Freedom is nearly here. Battalion's capable and energetic Family Readiness Groups are hard at work guiding loved ones through the journey. Tremendous gratitude is owed to our FRG leaders, thanks for your fellowship at the Steering Committees and monthly meetings.

"53D's victory at the Group ToY Competition is evidence of rigid training."



3d EOD Soldiers from the 129th are welcomed by their Battalion Commander after redeploying from Afghanistan.



110th Chemical Battalion Quarterly Update



Soldiers from the 110th conduct a mission at NTC as part of their Certifying Training Event

By U.S. Army LTC Brant Hoskins
110th CHEM Bn. Commander

In the past couple of months we have had some awesome things happen in the Iron Dragon Battalion. The first big event was the 9th Chemical Company being recognized by the U.S. Army CBRN School with the MG William Sibert Award for being the best Chemical Company in the active component of the Army.

This was followed up by SSG (P) Hector Pena of the 172d Chemical Company winning the 20th CBRNE Command NCO of the Year Competition. SSG Pena will be going on to the FORSCOM competition in September where he will compete against some of the best Soldiers from across the Continental United States for top honors and to represent FORSCOM at the All-Army competition. This was great work by the Soldiers and leaders of 9th CM CO

and SSG(P) Pena and it is reflective of the contributions of our Soldiers and teams. It is easy to be proud of the 110th Chemical Battalion (TE).

Perhaps somewhat naively I figured that once the battalion completed its rotation to the National Training Center in June things would slow down for our team but this simply has not been the case. Even as I draft this article, we have another CRT deployed to NTC, Soldiers work-

“I am so proud of our Soldiers, Leaders and Iron Dragon Families for the efforts of the past three months.”

ing a tough remediation project in Stockton, Utah, and NCOs supporting an exercise in Korea. In addition, August and September are our biggest months for company and team evaluations and certifications. During this period, the 172d CM CO and multiple CBRNE Response Teams (CRT) will undergo grueling field exercises to ensure they are both ready for deployment and mission requirements.

The fall and winter will be equally busy times for the battalion as we participate in a few separate major exercises across the globe. The first exercise will enable some of our team members to travel to multiple Asian countries and share our tactics, techniques and procedures for combating WMD with our partners and friends. The second exercise involves joint training with the British Army in Cyprus. This will be followed up next spring by a joint exercise with the British Army at Dugway, UT and JBLM, WA.

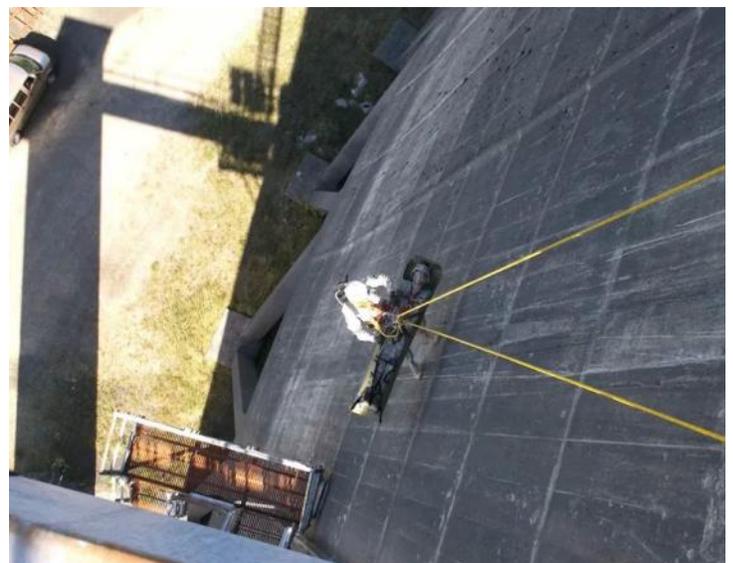
While work has been busy we have been able to take a little time off and enjoy the summer with each other, our Families and friends. On 31 July, we held the annual Iron Dragon Organization Day at Shoreline Park here on JBLM. Activities included a BBQ, the first Spouses’ Challenge, and Commander’s Cup competition. Congratulations go to SPC Michael Franklin and SPC



Kayla Franklin who narrowly edged CPT(CH) Bielefeld and his wife for top honors and to the 9th CM CO for successfully defending their Commander’s Cup title.

Please join me in welcoming CPT Benjamin Hormann who took command of the 172d CM CO from CPT Marcie Blasingame on 23 July and to CPT Derek Taylor who took command of the HHC from CPT Christine Miller on 15 August. We are glad to have them on our team and are looking forward to continued great things from their organizations. Thank you for what you do every day to defend our nation. I am proud to be a member of your team.

Iron Dragon 6



Soldiers from the 110th conduct patient recovery training, retrieving injured Soldiers using rappelling equipment.



Brigade Headquarters & Headquarters Company (HHC) — Command Update



HHC 1SG Kerry Wiles grills chicken for the Soldiers and Families during the Triple Nickel Family Day.



HHC Soldiers Sgt. Hayes (left) and Kids with Staff Sgt. Benjamin (right) show their Families some of the jobs that they do including operating the HHC Command Post.

Greetings Families and friends of the Triple Nickel HHC!

Welcome all the new Families and Soldiers to HHC! This quarter HHC conducted key training in support of our overall readiness and mission. More so, I am happy to share that the BBQ for "Bring your Family to work day" turnout was high and the weather was nice, as with most of this summer.

As HHC Families refocus their energies back to school and school activities, lets continue to build on Families and make them stronger. Some of the upcoming Family events we are working

towards are; a unit/community food drive, planning for the annual holiday party, and a possible kid friendly Halloween event.

In the near future HHC will try to provide a list of helpful education resources and agencies for school aged children supporting Soldiers and their Families.

**Willing and Able!
Strength in Numbers!**
-Capt. Nathan Magee
Commander
-1st Sgt. Kerry Wiles
Company 1st Sgt.

110th Chem Bn. Trains to neutralize WMDs

By U.S. Army Lt. Bryan Perrenod
55th Eng. Bde. Public Affairs

JBLM — The 110th Chemical Battalion conducted a joint training exercise on 20 August 2014 with the 502nd MI Battalion. The mission was to secure and exploit a suspected WMD facility.

The morning started off with a Chemical Response Team from the 9th CM Company and security elements infiltrating the site via CH-47 Chinook Helicopters. Soldiers of the 9th CM Company quickly secured their LZ and then moved to locate and secure the suspected weapons factory.

Achieving surprise they quickly overcame the minimal resistance at the site and secured the area. After establish-

ing security, suspected weapons manufacturers were secured and questioned by Soldiers of the 502nd MI Battalion.

The operation then proceeded to the critical portion of the exercise, locating and exploiting any WMDs or material used in their manufacturing.

The teams were able to locate the equipment used to manufacture WMDs and seized multiple caches of material used in their manufacturing. By conducting analysis on the site and with assistance from the 502nd MI Battalion, the 110th Chemical Battalion was successfully able to identify the hazardous material and safely contain it for removal and eventual decontamination.

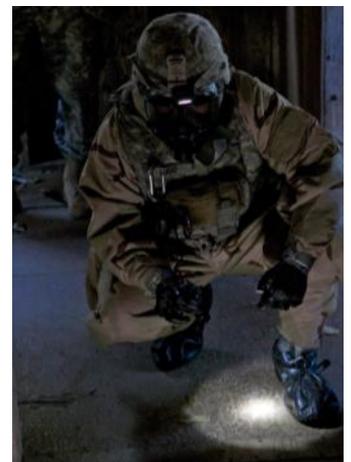
The last part of the exercise was when the Chemical Re-

sponse Team and security left the site to their extraction point, taking the seized material and information with them. They were able to reach the landing zone and successfully exfiltrate from their mission.

This exercise was a lead up to a much larger one scheduled in October. This exercise will involve the 110th Chemical Battalion and the 201st Battlefield Surveillance Brigade. The 110th Chemical Battalion must be ready to respond to any emergencies from WMDs to chemical contamination. Operations like this ensure the Soldiers skills are kept sharp and their knowledge maintained.

Incorporating intelligence gathering and exploitation of the site is important to preparing for real world events. The ability to

build a pattern makes follow on operations easier and enables the unit the ability to deal with threats before they arise.



110th Chemical Soldier searches the area to find signs of WMD material.



'Willing and Able Justice'

Public Service Announcements from the Brigade Legal Office



Military Justice News: Recent Courts Martial

A Specialist from 610th Engineer Support Company, 14th Engineer Battalion, was found guilty at a General Court Martial of one specification of adultery. The Soldier was sentenced to be reduced to Private (E-1), and to perform hard labor for 3 months.

A Sergeant First Class from Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 555th Engineer Brigade, was found guilty at a General Court Martial of one specification of sexual assault, and one specification of maltreatment of subordinates. The Soldier was sentenced to be reduced to Private (E-1), and to be discharged from military service with a bad-conduct discharge.

A Specialist from 610th Engineer Support Company, 864th Engineer Battalion pled guilty at a Summary Court Martial to one specification of larceny. The Soldier was sentenced to be reduced to Private (E-1), forfeiture of two thirds pay per month for one month; and to be confined for 25 days.

For Your Information

The 555th Engineer Brigade legal office can provide notarial services and draft powers of attorney on a walk in basis.

Please return all adjudicated actions to your battalion paralegal before the first of each month for accurate reporting.

Contact Information

The 555th Engineer Brigade legal office is located in Building 12737 in room 213. Our numbers are: Paralegals – (253) 967-4019; Senior Paralegal NCO – Staff Sergeant Goins (253) 966-9362. Submit your comments or suggestions about this content via e-mail to david.i.goins.mil@mail.mil.

Sales of artwork, \$20, benefit the 555th Able Soldier and Family Fund

The 555th Able Soldier & Family Fund helps support our Triple Nickel Soldiers and their Families during their times of greatest need, assisting those deployed and Families of our Fallen troops.

The Able Fund commissioned world-renowned combat artist Patrick Haskett to create a print titled "Clear-Hold-Build." This print, shown to the right, depicts the 864th Engineer Battalion constructing a combat outpost in Afghanistan.

This print is being offered at \$20, with proceeds going directly to the Able Fund.

More information, including how to order, is available at 555Soldierfund.com.



CLEAR - HOLD - BUILD

ARMY ENGINEERS CONSTRUCT A COMBAT OUTPOST IN AFGHANISTAN IN SUPPORT OF COUNTERINSURGENCY OPERATIONS

FROM THE PAINTING BY PATRICK J. HASKETT

UNITED STATES ARMY ENGINEER REGIMENT



555th Medical Corner

A public service announcement from the Triple Nickel Medical Team

Fall time Health Tips to keep you safe as it cools down

- ◆ Wear proper rain gear to stay dry, use layers to stay warm
- ◆ Use fireplace, wood stoves, or other combustion heaters only if they are properly vented to the outside
- ◆ Never use a charcoal or gas grill indoors—the fumes are deadly
- ◆ Never leave lit candles unattended
- ◆ Keep as much heat as possible inside your home
- ◆ Check the temperature in your home often during severely cold weather
- ◆ Eat well-balanced meals to help you stay warmer

Flu Season Is Here Get Vaccinated Today

Who should get the vaccine?

EVERYONE 6 MONTHS AND OLDER

Everyone **6 MONTHS OF AGE AND OLDER** should get the flu vaccine. Seasonal flu vaccines have a very good safety track record.



PEOPLE AT HIGH RISK

It is especially **IMPORTANT TO GET THE VACCINE IF YOU, SOMEONE YOU LIVE WITH, OR SOMEONE YOU CARE FOR IS AT HIGH RISK** of complications from the flu.

- ✓ Children & Infants
- ✓ Pregnant Women
- ✓ Seniors
- ✓ People with Disabilities
- ✓ People with Health Conditions
- ✓ Travelers & People Living Abroad

How should I get the vaccine?

There are **TWO TYPES** of vaccine, the flu shot and the nasal spray. Both protect against the same virus strains.

FLU SHOT



Made with inactivated (killed) flu virus

Given by needle

Approved for use in healthy people older than 6 months and people with chronic health conditions

NASAL SPRAY



Made with weakened live flu virus

Given with a mist sprayed in your nose

Approved for healthy people between the ages of 2 and 49, except pregnant women

Can I get the flu from the vaccine?

NO, YOU CAN'T GET THE FLU

NO, YOU CAN'T GET THE FLU from the flu vaccine. The flu vaccine protects you from the flu, not the common cold. But you may experience some side effects.



MILD REACTIONS

MILD REACTIONS such as soreness, headaches, and fever are common side effects of the flu vaccine.



When should I get the vaccine?



Get your flu shot or spray **TODAY**. Flu season usually peaks in January or February, but it can occur as late as May. **EARLY IMMUNIZATION IS THE MOST EFFECTIVE**, but it is not too late to get the vaccine in December, January or beyond.

Where can I get the vaccine?

Visit FLU.GOV and use the **FLU VACCINE FINDER**.





SGT Harrison Newest Audie Murphy Award Winner!

SGT Harrison, of the 864th Engineer Battalion, 555th Engineer Brigade was the latest Triple Nickel NCO to be inducted into the Sergeant Audie Murphy Club. SGT Harrison received the award in recognition of his service and leadership of his Soldiers.

Congratulations SGT Harrison for your accomplishment and being the latest to exemplify outstanding leadership!

Chaplain's Closing, Major Kelvin Todd

Army Strong. Since 2006 this is our slogan, our mantra. We



also have our Army Values. Personal Courage, while last in our list of Army Values, is by far not the least. Army Strength is

founded on our Army Values that are internalized in each Soldier. When each Soldier is brought together in a unit, the collective strength of living the Army Values by each Soldier in that formation fashions the Army Strong principle, the Army Strong reality for every Army unit.

While our Army Strong principle has been around for some years now, the truths of this reality have actually existed for centuries. In another context akin to military operations, a leader of the Lord's people was instructed to be Strong and Courageous.

This strength and courage was directly tied to knowing and following God's plan, as laid out in the first five books of the Bible. Joshua was to go into the Promised Land and take what God had given them. But Joshua's strength and courage came from knowing and obeying God's commands. Joshua and God's people were to meditate on these commands daily and not turn from them to the right or left. There was no need to fear.

We, as a military community, can and should be courageous.

This courage comes from knowing and living our Army Values, knowing and doing our Army jobs and mission. As Joshua enjoyed strength and victory when he was faithful, we can know the same strength and spiritual victory when we follow close to the Lord every day. My fellow Soldiers and Family members of faith, Be Strong and Courageous!



We Remember.

Whether November 11th or any day of the year, we remember and honor those who served their Country.

VETERANS DAY 2014

To honor our Veterans, the Triple Nickel will have a wreath laying ceremony November 7th at Memorial Park on Joint Base Lewis-McChord.

Photo courtesy of thelightisall.com

TRIPLE NICKEL



Questions or comments? Email
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555th Engineer Brigade

Mission

The 555th Engineer Brigade provides technical and tactical expertise and Mission Command to modular formations. The brigade plans, supervises and coordinates combat, general, and geospatial engineering in support of unified land operations.

Vision

A Disciplined unit, built on Trust, Committed to team, Family and Fun.
Ready, Willing and Able.

'Willing and Able'

Values



Trust – I will always display impeccable character and tell the truth regardless of the outcome.

Discipline – I consistently do the right, necessary, and sometimes painful tasks in order to accomplish the mission.

Family – I will always be available for my Family to meet their relational, spiritual, and emotional needs.

Commitment – I am committed to doing my mission to the highest possible standards; I will never quit on myself, my family, or my unit

Fun – I will frequently laugh and always make my job and home enjoyable places to work and live.

Imperatives

Leader Development – Utilize engaged leaders to Teach, Coach, and Mentor in order to develop the next generation of adaptive leaders that possess creative and critical thinking skills; Develop leaders, enabled by Mission Command, that are capable of operating in any Volatile, Uncertain, Complex, and Ambiguous environments.

Training – Plan tough, realistic, and well resourced training; focus from the "Basics" to Mission Essential Tasks to develop individuals, teams, and leaders to provide World-Class Engineer Support to Unified Land Operations.

Maintenance and Logistics – Treat maintenance and logistics as training by assigning ownership and enforcing accountability of our resources and readiness.

Health of the Force – Provide our Soldiers and their Families the BEST (Medical, Sponsorship, Resources, Protection, Resiliency) the Army has to offer.

Readiness – Resilient Soldiers and Families, Disciplined Soldiers and systems, Superior Training, Personnel Readiness, and Disciplined Supply and Maintenance Programs.

