



# GLOBAL INFORMANT

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## *CAMP PARKS*

News and Information in Support of Global Medic 2008



# Global Informant

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## Words from BG Bugno

To Everyone Who Participated  
in Global Medic 2008:

Many events in our world are unpredictable and beyond our control. Risk is inherent in all human endeavors, especially in military operations. We can not always control events or risks, but we can control our response.

“Change favors the prepared mind” and training is what prepares us to respond. You have participated in an outstanding training exercise and excelled. Thank you.

As we prepare to return to our homes and units, remember to take the time to review the lessons learned from your participation in Global Medic 2008. Internalize and share these lessons and be prepared to improve. Thank you for your efforts.

BG Craig A. Bugno



BG Craig A. Bugno

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# Another Father's Day in the Field

*Story and photos by Spc. Matt Wisnieski, 362nd MPAD*

Father's Day may have come and gone while Soldiers were doing their two week training at the Global Medic Exercise; however, the fathers among those Soldiers did not forget.

One such Soldier is Staff Sgt. Stanley J. Hammond, a Unit Supplier for the 7305<sup>th</sup> Medical Training Support Battalion out of Sacramento, Calif. Hammond, not only has seven children, but also five grandchildren. As Father's Day came closer, he said his thoughts and prayers were with his family.

"I'll be talking to my children on the phone and my grandchildren," Hammond said. His family has spread across the United States over the years but that does not mean Hammond would not be sending his love.

Yet to Hammond, another family seemed just as important. "The Soldiers are also my children," Hammond said and the Soldiers are who he spent his Father's Day with.

Hammond has had a extensive career in the Army. He originally joined in 1974 and left in 1983. At that point, Hammond had three children. When he rejoined in 1998, he had six children and since then Hammond has added one more.

Hammond deployed twice to Korea early in his career with the Army. Recently, he has volunteered to do two tours in Iraq. Through it all, Hammond said, he has had great family support.

When he talked to his family he said he would "be



Staff Sgt. Stanley J. Hammonds, a Unit Supplier for the 7305th Medical Training Support Battalion out of Sacramento, Calif., goes over the training schedule with a Soldier from his unit. Hammonds spent Father's Day with his unit here at Camp Parks, Calif., during their Extended Combat Training, June 7-21.

sending them my love and appreciation. Their support allows this to happen...the Army thing." Hammond loves being in the Army and he sincerely appreciates his family supporting his choice to stay in. This also allows Hammond to support his Soldiers. He said being there to help train the Soldier is his life and his heart. He said he always wants to give back because the Army has given him so much.

"The military made me who I am today: a positive individual. When I first joined I was a hot headed little punk," Hammond said. He wants to be known as a man who cares now; A man that is truly compassionate.

Hammond says it best, "When it's all said and done, I hope someday, someone will stand up and say that I was not just a

*"Father's Day," see page 8*

*When a Soldier is Wounded in the Field, Their First, Best Hope is a Well Trained...*

# Combat Medic

*Story and photo illustration by Sgt. Jeremy Fowler, 362nd MPAD*

In the twilight hours, Soldiers march tactically down a rocky road. The sun begins to rise and soon crests over the brown grassy hills. The formation strays from the road and approaches a village that seems quiet during these early hours of the morning. As they scan the area looking for threats, moans break the silence. The moans become louder, attracting the attention of the Soldiers. Smoke pours out of the ramshackle structure as they approach and a squad breaks off and begins clearing the building. The groans are now followed by a cringing ‘help!’

The building is cleared, but at the rear they find the source of the moans a Soldier is down. He’s wounded in the leg and bleeding severely... and he is not alone. The team has happened upon a mass casualty scenario. To make matters worse, enemies are creeping in. Instinct and training take over, it’s time to save a life; it’s time to call for a medic.

This was the scene for participants at the lanes training exercise that was conducted at the Camp Parks Reserve Training Area June 12, 2008 as the culmination of the second Combat Medic Advanced

Skills Training (CMAST) course offered here.

Twenty Soldiers participated in the course, which acts as the last step in completely certifying medics to be duty qualified combat medics. Training for medics does not end there, however. They must re-certify in a number of courses every two years to demonstrate that they maintain the proficiency required to take care of patients in both tactical and non-tactical conditions. The CMAST training program is essential to the ability of combat medics to effectively save lives on today’s battlefield.

A training team from the 352nd Combat Support Hospital (CSH) has recently started offering the course to medics under the 2nd Medical Brigade (MB). Due to the nature of the training, the course took an incredible amount of work to be certified from the Army Medical Command (AMED) schoolhouse. But due to the dedication and determination of Sgt. 1st Class Robert P. Thompson, and the NCOs on his training team, Camp Parks can now offer something more to its Soldiers, something that will help save lives.





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## FEATURES

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Thompson functions as the training noncommissioned officer for the 352nd and has spent numerous hours producing a training program so that he could offer this life-saving training. Prior to it's being offered here, the 2nd MB and 352nd CSH would have to send Soldiers to Fort Lewis, Washington, the nearest facility offering the training. By offering CMAST at Camp Parks, more Soldiers can take the training, now mandatory for all combat medics.

"It's keeping the local Soldiers local," said Thompson. This will save the Army money while training these Soldiers to standard, he added.

Command Sgt. Maj. Robert Ramirez, the Command Sergeant Major of the 2nd Medical Brigade, which supervises the 352nd, tasked Thompson with standing up a local CMAST course and took note of the effort that Thompson put into building the course into what it has become.

"Sergeant Thompson has been the rock behind all of this. He took a program and got it certifiable from the Army Medical schoolhouse...That is very unique, because in order to get certified, you have to have certified instructors, you have to have a program that shows you are testing all of the TC3 clinical skills, and you have to have the means of showing your testing abilities to the Army Reserve Center School in San Antonio," said Ramirez, "I think it is a great concept for the Army Reserve."

The current instructors of the course are NCOs from the 352nd that deployed to Camp Bullis, Texas

in December of 2006 with the mission of becoming Army instructors. There, they spent their entire deployment training Soldier-medics scheduled to deploy. With these returning NCOs, Thompson now had the leadership to offer the CMAST program.

Experienced, capable, instructors were only part of the puzzle - Thompson had to find a suitable location to offer the training.

With the help and support of Camp Parks and the Regional Training Site-Medical (RTS-MED) located here, Camp Parks became the area of operations for the course. Thompson is able to utilize on-site classrooms for the instruction of the material and testing part of the course. He also uses one of the several military operations in urban terrain (MOUT) sites located here for practical exercises and simulated combat scenarios. This has become an effective way to teach Soldiers the skills they need to train for tactical care under fire.

The classroom material teaches medics combat casualty care methods that have been developed in reaction to current situations in Iraq and Afghanistan. In addition to standard care for lacerations and other injuries, medics are taught the finer points in utilizing new devices such as the Fast1™, which can quickly place a catheter in the sternum of the patient.

Students also learn techniques for airway management, needle chest decompression and hemorrhage control, battlefield medicine that has become prevalent today. The course also covers:

*"Combat Medic," see page 10*



Matt L. Sagaser, an instructor at Camp Parks from Mantica, Calif., adds imitation blood to a simulated laceration on Sgt. Rosa I. Vazquez's, a dental specialist with the 7215th from Aurora, Colo., forearm. Vazquez and other Soldiers added makeup and realistic injuries as they acted as casualties while supporting a training mission for the healthcare professionals from the 2nd Medical Brigade.

## INCOMING\*WOUNDED!

*Photos by Spc. Matt Wisnieski and Sgt. Jeremy J. Fowler, 362nd MPAD*

To add realism to the Global Medic 2008 training exercise at Camp Parks, Calif. mannequins, along with Soldiers who acted as live patients, were moulaged with makeup to simulate wounds. The live Soldiers were able to act and give feedback to their care providers as observers rated the care they received.

The Global Medic exercise taxed the command, communications, support and operations of the 352nd Combat Support Hospital and served as a large scale training exercise for the unit.

Soldiers had react to receiving comrades, civilians and detained enemy combatants, wounded both mentally

and physically.

They had to prioritize casualties according to their medical needs, then treat and stabilize them in a field environment.

From June 12-16, medics participated in a variety of training scenarios, ranging from simulated mass casualties to tactical medical rescue.

Throughout, they've gained knowledge, from the use of the latest medical technology, to the most innovative surgical techniques. When these Soldiers return to their units, they will be better equipped to care for... incoming wounded.





Soldiers from the CMAST Course evacuate a wounded casualty during the lanes training exercise held June 13.



(Above) Maj. Eleazar Lawson, commander and head surgeon from the 1980th Forward Surgical Team, stitches up a simulated shrapnel casualty during a mass casualty exercise that took place at Camp Parks, Calif. 15 June, 2008.

(Left) Maj. Mark Koransky, from the 1980th Forward Surgical Team, removes shrapnel from a simulated casualty with severe chest trauma.

*"Father's Day," cont. from page 3*

Soldier, but a humanitarian and a person that did his best." And Hammond could not do anything but his best for his Soldiers and his family.

Hammond got out of the military in 1983 to support his family. He worked for the Department of Defense but wanted to ensure his family stayed tight as his wife, also in the military, was being deployed.

In 1998, Hammond joined the Army National Guard and in 2007 he joined the Army Reserves. He is still a family man though.

"My 7 year old daughter loves that her dad is in the military. She has [Advanced Combat Uniform] ACU pajamas and lots of Army stuff," Hammonds said. His 14-year-old and 16-year-old boys are all about the military too.

"They want to sign up already," he said. Hammond has been giving them some training and has even used video games as weapons training.

"My older kids want me to retire. They told me that I did my part," said Hammonds. Two of his children have served in the military, one as a Marine

and the other as a Soldier.

"I tell them that I will retire when they close the casket on me," Hammonds said. For Hammonds, the Soldiers are also part of his family. He never wants to see a Soldier unable to do their mission and his training and teaching keeps him going.

"I volunteered to do the two tours in Iraq," Hammond said. When his family asked why he volunteered, he replied that he wanted to make sure that his Soldiers were able to do their job. "I want to make sure they have everything to get the mission done,"

he said.

It's all about giving back and teaching for Hammonds. "I'm thankful for the opportunities to teach some young Soldiers and I hope they learn and pass it on," he said.

This Father's Day, Hammond may have had seven children and five grandchildren to phone, but he also had hundreds of Soldier's that he needed to teach.

Hammond always remembers and tells everyone else that, "Without family we are nothing."

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*"I'm thankful for the opportunities to teach some young Soldiers and I hope they learn and pass it on,"*

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-- Staff Sgt. Stanley J. Hammond

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# Nutrition Specialists Serve Up Miracles

*Story and photos by Spc. Matt Wisnieski, 362nd MPAD*

CAMP PARKS, Calif. — Nutrition care specialists with the 2nd Medical Brigade (MB), from Fresno, Calif., have had a rough time supporting the military medical professionals during the Global Medic Exercise. Each day, the cooks expect to make food for and serve upwards of, 400 Soldiers for breakfast and dinner. This would not have been unusual except the kitchen was not staffed fully.

Right now, the kitchen staff has six people; they should have 14 Soldiers, said Staff Sgt. Robert F. Weaver, a nutrition care specialist with the 352nd from

Oakland, Calif. Weaver is the noncommissioned officer in charge of the cooks during the exercise. He said one shift should take care of breakfast and the other should handle dinner, but there are not enough Soldiers to do that.

"I'm exhausted because we're short handed...we've been working 3 a.m. until 10 p.m. everyday," said Spc. Isaac M. Olivas, a nutrition care specialist also with the 352nd. The job is extremely labor extensive.

Weaver said that he and his Soldiers had to keep doing their duty though. People count on them. "We feed the troops and the

patients at the hospital," Weaver said. There are no days off for this crew. "It has been challenging," he confessed. Weaver said he did find pride in the fact that the kitchen crew could handle their duty with half the staff.

Even though the kitchen staff was short handed and the Soldiers were exhausted, it did not mean they were not enjoying their time at Camp Parks. "I'm happy to be here. I want to make sure the [military medical professionals] are trained," said Olivas.

Weaver agreed. He has

*"Miracles," see page 10*



# Gore, Moans, Costumes and Makeup

## Soldiers Dress as Casualties to Help Train Military Medical Professionals

*Story and photos by Spc. Matt Wisnieski, 362nd MPAD*

**W**hat do a multitude of makeup, no-name actors and fake blood all have in common? No, these items are not just in zombie movies. Soldiers wore makeup, donned mock injuries (called ‘mouflage’) and acted the part as casualties to make a training scenario more realistic. The 2nd Medical Brigade’s (MB) medical professionals treated the performing casualties during their extended combat training during the Global Medic Exercise.

During the exercise, Soldiers from the 2nd Medical Brigade were utilized to make the exercise as real as possible.

“About 35 people are being used as live role players and the mouflage team,” said Maj. Juan B. Morales, a nurse with the 3rd Medical Brigade (MB) out of San Antonio, Tex. Morales was the officer in charge (OIC) of setting up live casualties and dummies during the Global Medic Exercise.

It seemed only right to step up the level of training, said Morales. “We’re training for the future,”

To ensure the exercise was valuable, a team was assembled at Camp Parks for adding makeup and mouflage to the casualties. Matt L. Sagaser, an instructor at Camp Parks from Mantica, Calif., added gel effects to appear as war wounds. Sagaser said the mouflage, along with the acting, helped the military medical professionals visualize their objective. “This is better than what they could do at a unit; we have the time and skills to make this look real,” said Sagaser.

For Sagaser, this was an exercise that he and his team had to give their all to make sure the Soldiers

were properly trained. “I want to give the medics and others a chance to really practice their skills,” he said.

Spc. Bryan R. Fraser, a combat medic with the 352nd Combat Support Hospital from San Jose, Calif., said he had been fooled by some of the makeup, the bruising especially. Fraser deployed to Iraq as a field medic in 2003 until 2004.

Lt. Col. Fran D. Patterson, a nurse with the 228th Combat Support Hospital (CSH) from San Antonio, Tex., was fooled as well. “A casualty came in with a black eye and I did a double take. I had to ask the actor if it was real or not,” said Patterson. She also deployed to Iraq from 2003 until 2004 and as a civilian, works as a flight nurse.

Patterson said she had seen a lot of trauma in both her military and civilian careers. Patterson, too, had participated in training similar to Global Medic at Fort Gordon, Ga. “Comparably, this is the best I’ve seen,” she said.

The casualties need to bring out the drama of the situation and make

it real. No matter how good the mouflage and makeup looked, the acting also had to be on par. “This is all about role-playing,” said Morales.

Sgt. Rosa I. Vazquez, a dental specialist with the 7215th from Aurora, Colo., was a part of the mouflage team and said she was happy to be able to support the 2nd MB with such a high level of reality. The mission was a very exciting experience, she said. “good step for learning.” For her, the more realistic the situation was, the better the training.

Behind the scenes, it may look like Camp Parks is shooting a zombie flick. However, the Soldier actors, along with some makeup and mouflage, are instead making the Global Medic Exercise real for the Soldiers of the 2nd Medical Brigade.



Matt L. Sagaser, an instructor at Camp Parks from Mantica, Calif., works on a simulated laceration using gel effects. Simulated injuries were coupled with Soldiers acting as casualties for the 2nd Medical Brigade’s healthcare professionals to train on proper medical procedures.

*“Miracles,” cont. from page 8*

been attached to medical personnel over the year and he said he has learned that these Soldiers are incredible. The doctors could be doing the same job in the civilian world for much more money, but they still choose to help Soldiers. “I’m happy to support them any way possible,” Weaver said.

What got Olivas and his crew through the day was simple. It was a combination of the servicemembers he supports and the staff working alongside him.

“They are grateful,” said Olivas. He said seeing Soldiers

happy to get hot chow made it all worth while.

The kitchen crew has incredibly close bonds as well. “We’ve been friends for many years,” Olivas said. He said it was easier because he was working with a great set of Soldiers.

Weaver only has good things to say about his staff. “They are hard working, funny and just overall fun people that always find a way to get the meal done and enjoy doing it.”

It seems that the military medical professionals of the

2nd MB are blessed to have such a great set of nutrition care specialists. While the Global Medic Exercise was all about tactical and clinical training for the medical Soldiers, the cooks were always there to give them some hot chow even if they were short staffed. After all, you can’t fix a stomach wound if your’s is empty.

“I like being able to support the Soldiers,” Olivas said. And day in and day out, Olivas and his fellow Soldiers did all they could to support the medical staff during the Global Medic Exercise.

*“Combat Medics,” cont. from page 5*

learning to use chemical coagulants such as Quick-clot™, and understanding the benefits of applying a tourniquet to casualties bleeding extensively. This will help these medics stabilize patients until they can receive care at a medical facility.

“The important part is that it is training medics to be better medics... A lot of medics... don’t know all of this newer up-to-date stuff that we are learning,” said Master Sgt. Diana Williams, an instructor from the 352nd.

Staff Sgt. Timothy E. Baldwin, an Army Reserve combat medic from the 1980th Forward Surgical Team, was impressed with the training:

“I’m really excited about a lot of the new stuff that they taught me... I can tell by the training that it was devised by people who have been there. You are getting people ready to go save lives and it’s being thought up by people who have... It’s great training,” he said.

Baldwin, was given the position of “senior medic” for the first part of the lanes training. He was in charge of overseeing the care of all the wounded Soldiers while trying to provide care in the simulated hostile situation.

“My initial reaction to it, being the senior medic for the first portion of it, was pure panic,” said

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*“You are getting people ready to go save lives and it’s been thought of by people who have...”*

-- Staff Sgt. Timothy E. Baldwin

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Baldwin, “but it’s a very good experience and I would like to be able to go through it again... having training like that available to Soldiers all the time, that would be great!”

And that’s just what the training team from the 352nd CSH and Thompson plan to do. I

want to get the word out to the 2nd MB and other local units, said Thompson.

“I’m going to implement more classes here... It keeps me going knowing that you can [indirectly] save somebody’s life or limb on the battlefield,” said Thompson. “It will eventually save a lot of Soldiers’ lives.”

Thompson said that one of the most satisfying things about training medics is that: “One day, hopefully that they may save somebody’s life on the battlefield. In other words, they may save somebody’s son, daughter... They will have the skills to let them return home safely.”

So, as the smoke clears, and the casualties stabilized, the Soldiers evacuate the injured. An ambulance is dispatched to relieve the wounded; and due to the expert care they have received from their newly-trained medics, the casualties will live to fight again. The medics move on with the mission. One more casualty is not an option.



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# Job Well Done: A Thank You from Col. Navratil



Col. Sharon Navratil

Greetings to all of the nursing personnel participating in this year's Global Medic exercise. I want to recognize each of you for your strong work and dedication to making this exercise a success. The success of GM 08 was dependent

on each of us doing our jobs and doing them right. As we know, a hospital can not function without the participation of many sections. Since we have the largest number of personnel, we are frequently called upon to assist others, this team work is what makes a hospital provide excellent care/treatment and prompt evacuation for our soldiers needing a higher level of care. I appreciate all the efforts of the 396/322/352 CSH'S, their DRU's and the Navy participants. I am proud to serve with all of you.

## Osama Argues for Arab-Americans

*Story by Sgt. Micah Wright, 362nd MPAD*

From June 13-17, 2008, here at Camp Parks, Calif., the 145th Multi-Functional Medical Battalion (MMB) is taking part in Global Medic 2008, a scenario-based simulation exercise designed to develop both clinical and tactical skills.

The battalion personnel manager for the 145th MMB during the exercise is named Osama and he hopes that he serves as a good ambassador for his heritage. "There are good Arab-Americans around, and they are willing to serve in the U.S. military," he said. Of course, this isn't the Osama that is so often mentioned on the news. Capt. Osama Ismail, a Soldier with the MMB, has spent his career *saving* American lives.

"Many Army Soldiers get shocked when they find out my name is Osama and I'm a Muslim," said Ismail. But when I deployed, many Soldiers told me that they'd learned a lot from me, he said. "The media sells really well and they only show the bad part of the Middle East. Sometimes, when they get to talk to someone like

me, they figure out... there are good Arab-Americans."

Ismail was raised in Kuwait, before moving to the United States when he was a teenager.

In 2001, Ismail decided to join the U.S. Army Reserves. "I'm an immigrant... and when I came to this country, well, the country has done a lot of things for me," he said. "I thought...this is only the patriotic thing to do.

Ismail explained that he had also decided to join up for the adventure. "When I was going through the process, the recruiter told me I'd get to see the world... Ironically, I got shipped back where I came from."

In 2004, Ismail was deployed to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom, where he served as the Joint Blood Program Officer. Throughout his deployment, he ran the blood mission for the entire theater.

In this position, Ismail supplied blood to NATO allies, local nationals, and every branch of the U.S. military. "We were the first

to deliver fresh frozen plasma to the front lines," he said.

During Global Medic, Ismail is sharing some of the knowledge that he gained there with the Soldiers in his unit. "This is the kind of experience that you want to share in the training exercise here... so people will know what to expect when they go down there. They get to see what kind of medical care we actually do in-theater when we deploy," he said.

For this reason, as well as his sense of patriotism, Ismail is avid about recommending the Army. "Right now everybody recognizes we're at war and there might be a little hesitation [about joining]," he said. "In reality, the Army is a big school and I learned so many things in the Army, seen so many people grow up..."

During his time in the Army, and throughout Global Medic 2008, Ismail has demonstrated how valuable Arab-Americans are to the country. As his career shows, there is more to the Middle East than is shown on the nightly news.



