



GLOBAL MEDIC FORT GORDON 2008

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Hospital ship comforts wounded



USNS Comfort anchored off the coast of Charleston, S.C., participates in Global Medic 2008, a joint services medical training exercise. Over 400 Soldiers, Airmen and Sailors from units around the country joined the Comfort's full-time crew of about 50 active duty Sailors and Military Sealift Command (MSC) Civilian Mariners. Every section of the ship's crew was augmented by reserve members that boarded in Baltimore, Md. (Photo by Air Force Staff Sgt. Mary Jones, 4th Combat Camera Squadron, March Air Reserve Base, Calif.)

Story by
Sgt. 1st Class Sam McLarty
3rd MEDCOM

Joint medical training surged "full speed ahead" when the USNS Comfort joined more than 30 Army and Air Force units participating in Operation Global Medic 2008.

The USNS Comfort, one of two Navy hospital ships, operated by the U.S. Navy's Military Sealift Command, dropped anchor about 15 miles off the Charleston, S.C., coast June 11. Its role in the exer-

cise is a treatment facility for simulated combat casualties.

Over 400 Soldiers, Airmen and Sailors, from units around the country, joined the Comfort's full-time crew of about 50 active duty Sailors and Military Sealift Command (MSC) Civilian Mariners. Every section of the ship's crew was augmented by reserve members that boarded in Baltimore, Md.

"When the crew came on board I said to them, you may not be accustomed to being on a ship, but you are our crew," said Navy Capt.

Bruce R. Boynton, commander, Comfort's medical treatment facility.

Despite coming from different services, Boynton said the crew meshed quickly.

"Even though you are working with a pick up crew, because you are working with medical professionals who know their roles, you can make a well-functioning team in no time at all," said Boynton.

"In the medical field, we are

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conducting more joint missions than any other time in our nation's history," said Master Chief Ken Day. "The multi-service scenarios we are given enable us to work together using less manpower, which reduces the impact on each service."

"When you are out there working with patients, they see a medical provider. It is not an Army, Navy or Air Force person they see. A doctor is a doctor and a medic is a medic," said Day.

The USNS Comfort has 500 minimal care beds and 400 intermediate care beds, as well as 80 intensive care beds. There are 12 operating rooms. The casualty reception area can intake and triage up to 50 patients at a time. The ship is designed to comfortably accept up to 300 surgical patients in any sin-



Army Lt. Col. David Savage and Army Staff Sgt. Yenny Cook gives care to simulated casualty Navy Lt. Kirt Nilsson on the USNS Comfort during Global Medic, June 11. (Photo by Army Sgt. 1st Class Sam McLarty, 3rd MEDCOM)

gle day.

Global Medic, the USARC sponsored exercise is conducted within the Army Force Generation's second year to exercise the functional operation readiness of assigned medical units in a joint and

coalition training environment.

Incorporating both live and virtual simulation, this exercise provides realistic, battle-focused training scenarios as Medical Battle Operating Systems train in their individual and collective sub-tasks.

Global Medic 2008

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256th CSH tests new mannequin

Story by
Staff Sgt. Shane Slaughter
319th MPAD

As the dying patient gasps his last breath, little is noted of his passing. Those standing around continue to discuss his future role in training advanced patient treatment to Army medics.

The patient is Simulated Mannequin 3rd Generation or more commonly referred to as SIMMAN 3G.

Joseph Huse, a technician for Laerdal, demonstrates the advanced technology built into this latest mannequin to soldiers

from Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan during Global Medic 2008.

"SIMMAN is a totally self-contained patient simulator," said Huse.

The latest in technology was built into SIMMAN 3G to accurately portray a wide-array of illnesses, traumas and treatment response.

The eyelids blink and the pupils are reactive, said Huse.

It has an air compressor to simulate breathing, he added, and fluids to simulate bleeding and sweating.

Preprogrammed ailments can be entered into

the wireless PC and SIMMAN 3G will respond automatically to incubation, drug administration and other treatments.

A complete treatment history is recorded for later review at the end of the scenario.

"Complete audio, video and full text human dynamics monitoring can be played back for review to determine what went wrong and what went right," said Huse.

Initially, 14 SIMMAN 3Gs were built. Production is set to begin in the fall based on acceptance by the military.

Soldiers in the Field

What have you learned during Global Medic?



Lt. Col. Mark Young
7239th MSU
Mount Juliet, Tenn.

**“The importance
and need for
planning, and
above all,
communication.”**



Pfc. Theresa McKiddey
256th CSH
Independence, Ky.

**“The importance
of hospital sec-
tions.”**



Sgt. Wesley Levers
1979th Med. Det.
Daleville, Ala.

**“A better under-
standing of each
level of hospital
patient care and
aftercare.”**



Spc. Cassie Gonzalez
7347th MSB
Fort Sam Houston, Texas

**“How the military
processes its
casualties.”**

Military dignitaries tour 256th CSH

Story by
Staff Sgt. Shane Slaughter
319th MPAD

During the 11th annual event of Global Medic, military officials were given a guided tour by commands supporting the Global Medic 2008 mission. They learned how

the various services are integrated into an efficient cohesive unit to ensure continued success.

Among the places visited: Mannakinville, 35th Combat Communications Squadron, 256th Combat Surgical Hospital and a follow-up briefing in the Operations Training trailer.

With approximately 2,500 personnel involved in over 600 simulated casualties, Maj. General Hasbargen said, “The training impacts readiness on several levels. In war, it does not make any difference who is injured. We care for them regardless of their branch or service.”

Command Sgt. Maj. Lanzy Williams, senior enlisted advisor said, “Global Medic is a worldwide exercise that prepares units and other components of the military to work together as a team for one common cause -- to save lives.”



Brig. Gen. David Smalley talks with surgeons of the 256th CSH while touring the combat support hospital, June 14, during Global Medic on Fort Gordon, Ga. (Photo by Army Staff Sgt. Shane Slaughter, 319th MPAD, Fort Jackson, S.C.)

If you are interested in joining the 319th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment, contact Maj. Chris Sullivan at:

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Spot Light

A Day in the Life of Global Medic 2008



Soldiers walk away from a UH-1H Huey after loading patients for evacuation during Global Medic, June 12, Bush Field, Augusta Ga.. During the exercise, casualties were airlifted from Bush Field to the USNS Comfort off the coast of Charleston, S.C. (Photo by Air Force Staff Sgt. Mary Jones, 4th Combat Camera Squadron, March Air Reserve Base, Calif.)



U.S. Air Force Captain Midori Hill gives a thumbs up for passengers and crew to board the departing C-17 during Exercise Global Medic 2008, June 13, 2008, Bush Field, Augusta, Ga. (Photo by Air Force Staff Sgt. Mary Jones, 4th Combat Camera Squadron, March Air Reserve Base, Calif.)



Servicemember waits for a UH-1H Huey to land and evacuate casualties during Global Medic at Bush Field, Augusta, Ga. (Photo by Air Force Staff Sgt. Mary Jones, 4th Combat Camera Squadron, March Air Reserve Base, Calif.)