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February 6, 2009

2-8 Inf mechanics keep mission rolling



Photo by Sgt. Rodney Foliente

Spc. Marcelo Rodriguez, tank system mechanic with Company F, 2nd Combined Arms Battalion, 8th Inf. Regt., 2nd Bde. inspects a vehicle's batteries at COP4.

SGT. RODNEY FOLIEN
2ND BCT, 4TH INF. DIV.



COMBAT OUTPOST 4 – Imagine Soldiers having to walk across Iraq to get to their missions, let alone accomplish them. They would not only have to carry their combat loads, which can be upwards of 80 pounds, but they would also have to carry extra water, food, communications equipment, ammunition, medical supplies, as well as

.50 caliber machine guns.

That would be the case if Soldiers of the 4th Infantry Division, at Combat Outpost 4 in Diwaniya didn't have their vehicles to rely on. Behind each vehicle, which many Soldiers may take for granted, are the mechanics. Smeared with grease, smudged with grime, they do the dirty work to keep the wheels turning for their fellow Soldiers.

"We've got to put 100 percent into our job because we've got to keep the whole fleet up. If we don't do our job

well, and if we fail, then our (fellow) Soldiers fail in their missions," said Spc. Marcelo Rodriguez, tank system mechanic attached to Company D, 2nd Combined Arms Battalion, 8th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team.

"Without us, vehicles wouldn't be working and Soldiers wouldn't be doing patrols and accomplishing their missions," agreed Pfc. Kris Crites, tank mechanic, Company F.

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Soldiers learn money skills, find peace

SGT. FRANK VAUGHN
MND - C



CAMP VICTORY – Financial prosperity is not just about money and where it goes. It is a lifestyle choice that requires knowledge of key financial principles and the ability to delay the need for gratification.

That is the philosophy of the Financial Peace University program currently offered by the Special Troop Battalion, 10th Mountain Division Chaplain's Office located in the Hope Chapel Complex, said Capt. Mike Jones, STB chaplain.

The program, authored by Dave Ramsey, covers all aspects of financial management, including saving, spending wisely, making shrewd deals with salespeople, insurance management, investing and donating money to charities.

"Most financial programs focus on one aspect of financial management," said Jones. "They are good at what they do but they're limited in scope. FPU covers everything."

Saving money is especially important to Spc. Cheryl Thomas, flute and piccolo player for the 10th Mtn. Div. Band.

"I don't have any debt now," said Thomas. "My goal coming into this class was to push my savings goal higher."

The Fort Drum, N.Y. resident is well on her way to reaching her goal.

"When I get home from Iraq I will be able to buy a car with cash," said Thomas. "I have learned from Dave Ramsey that I don't need to buy anything on credit to establish good credit, and I don't need credit at all when I have saved enough cash to buy anything I need."

The program teaches limiting

spending when trying to save money.

Sgt. 1st Class Kimberly Schmitz, Command Group, 10th Mtn. Div. noncommissioned officer-in-charge, said she wants to learn how to spend wisely.

"My daughter has a lot of 'I wants,'" the LaJunta, Col. native said. "Ramsey teaches that we all have that little kid inside of us as well. I am learning the importance of delayed gratification—sleeping on a buying decision before doing it."

Financial Peace University is making a difference in the lives of Soldiers, said Schmitz. She wants the program to expand.

"I think this training should be mandatory for all Soldiers," said Schmitz. "Especially younger ones who are just getting started."



Photo by Sgt. Frank Vaughn

Capt. Mike Jones, STB chaplain, leads a class discussion during the Financial Peace University program sponsored by his office. The program covers several aspects of financial management including savings, investing and donating to charitable institutions.

THE Mountain View

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Task Force 449



Media queries please contact TF Mountain Public Affairs at MND-Center_PAO@iraq.centcom.mil

ROLLING

From page 1

The job of maintenance is extremely important and the unit has no one else to rely upon.

Our work contributes significantly to the success of the unit, said Crites, who comes from Arcadia, Fla.

Crites described one of the things he likes best about his job: "I get dirty every day." He grinned, adding, "I like that. I also like to fix things; taking them apart and putting them back together."

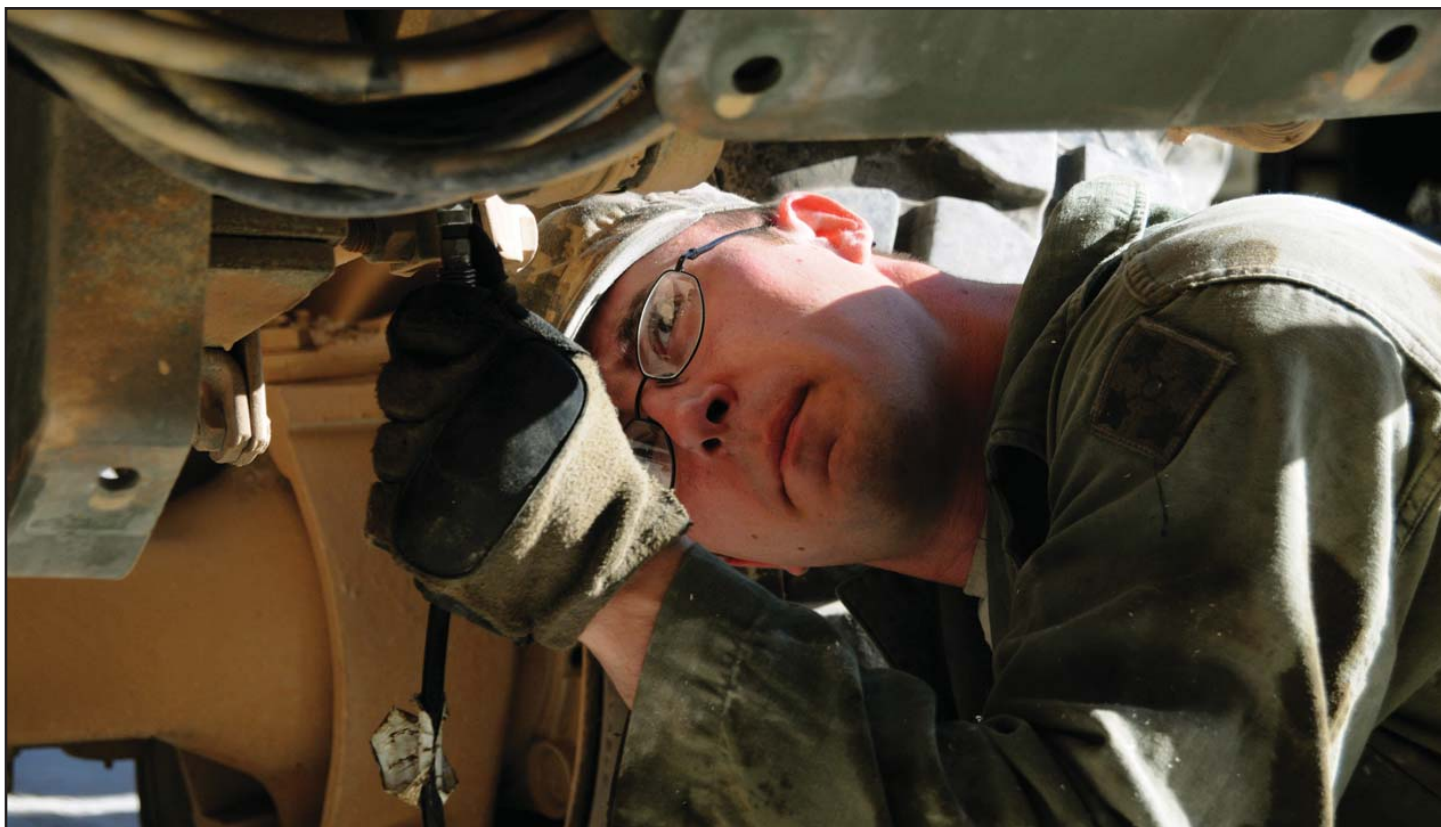
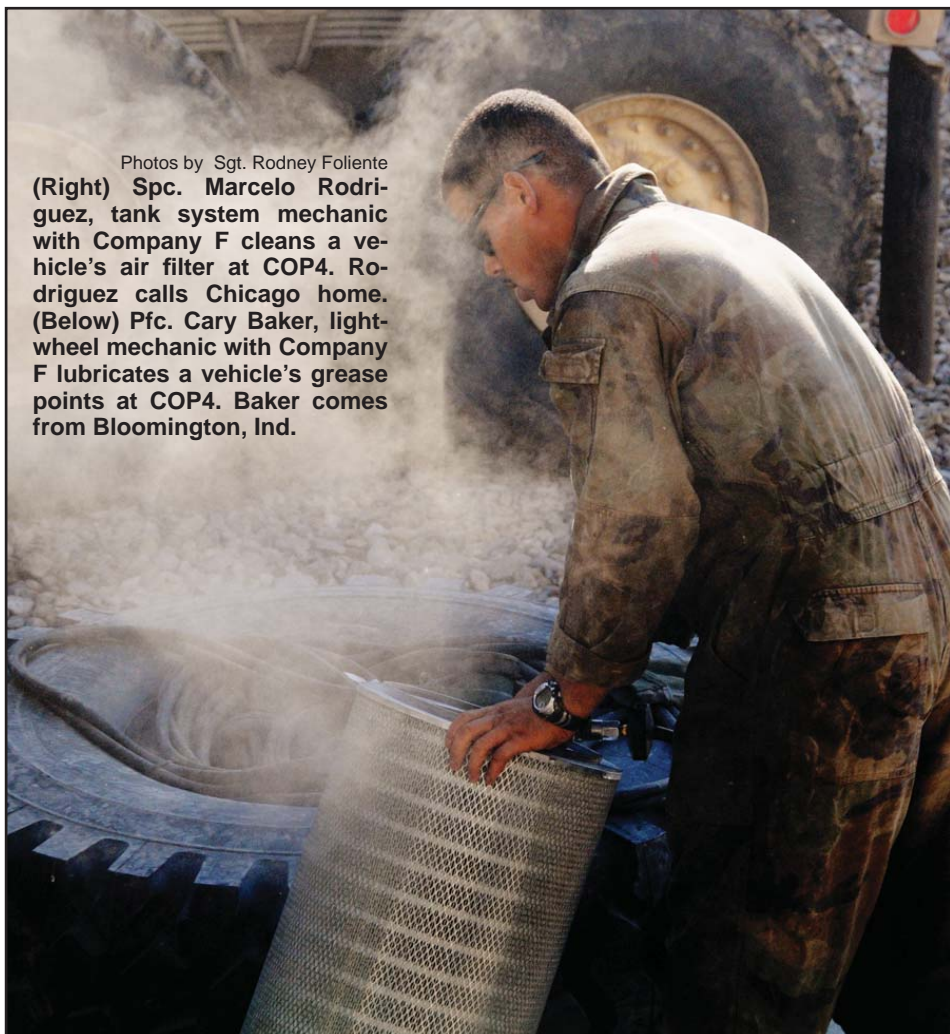
His curiosity got him in trouble with his parents since he was 4 years old because he often took apart things the family wanted or needed, continued Crites, with a laugh. When he got older, he joined the Army and continues to do what he has always enjoyed.

"There's pride in knowing you're keeping everything running. The other Soldiers depend on you," said Pfc. Cary Baker, light-wheel mechanic, Company F. Baker comes from Bloomington, Ind.

"I love my job. It's a lot of responsibility on us, but we're up to it. Just one bolt can mess up a lot of things," said Rodriguez, who calls Chicago home. "It's hard work with long hours, but doing something for your Soldiers and your country ... you can't help but feel proud."

Photos by Sgt. Rodney Foliente

(Right) Spc. Marcelo Rodriguez, tank system mechanic with Company F cleans a vehicle's air filter at COP4. Rodriguez calls Chicago home. (Below) Pfc. Cary Baker, light-wheel mechanic with Company F lubricates a vehicle's grease points at COP4. Baker comes from Bloomington, Ind.



Staff Section Round-up

IG Corner: Are You Using Corrective Training Correctly?

Recently, we've received some calls about the implementation of corrective training. Corrective training is a tool commanders have at their disposal to use before deciding to impose nonjudicial punishment. Using corrective training can ensure Soldiers don't repeat the same behavior. These mistakes are serious enough for leaders to make a key point to young subordinates without the use of UCMJ. Corrective training will ensure a Soldier will think twice about his/her actions.

It will also build a subordinate into a leader that has an impeccable attention to detail. Now this leader can pass on the traits of outstanding leadership from Soldier to Soldier. Army Regulation 600-20, 4-6(b) states that one of the most effective corrective measures is extra training or instruction.

Scope-Corrective training is implemented by having Soldiers with training deficiencies take extra training or instruction in subjects "directly related to the shortcoming."

The scope of corrective training is narrowly tailored to the Soldier's deficiency. AR 600-20, para. 4-6(b) provides that the "training, instruction, or correction given to a Soldier to correct deficiencies must be directly related to the deficiency. It must be oriented to improving the Soldier's performance in his or her problem area."

Corrective training is limited in its scope. Other limitations which apply to corrective training include:

Nonpunitive - An important limitation in applying corrective training is that command must ensure the nature of

training or instruction is not punishment.

AR 600-20, para 4-6(b) states corrective training should not be used in an "oppressive manner to evade the procedural safeguards applying to nonjudicial punishment." FM 27-1 also provides some guidance to commanders on corrective training.

It states commanders should not use extra training and instruction as punitive measures. Commanders must distinguish extra training and instruction from punishment or even the appearance of punishment. One rationale is that if a Soldier perceives corrective training or instruction as punishment, all training and instruction will be degraded and their value jeopardized.

Time-Corrective Training should continue only until the training deficiency is overcome.

Procedure-Corrective training should be supervised by the first-line leader.

The following are examples of corrective training:

A Soldier appearing in improper uniform may need special instruction in how to wear the uniform properly.

A Soldier with unclean personal or work equipment may need to devote more time and effort to cleaning the equipment. The Soldier may also need special instruction in its maintenance.

So commanders, use this tool and use it wisely and you may just "save" a Soldier.

Thanks, Your IG Team



10th Mountain Division 10 Mile Climb to Glory Combat Relay

- Five Soldier team event (within the same organization)
- Each leg runs two miles
- Each team member will hand off the weapon and ruck to the next leg
- Uniform: patrol cap, service uniform, boots, 30-pound Ruck & Weapon (M4/M16)
- Awards given to the first three teams to finish

Feb. 15 at Lost Lake on Camp Victory
Participants should be there at 5 a.m., starts at 6 a.m.

Registration with Master Sgt. Glynn Honts by email at glynn.honts@iraq.centcom.mil
or DSN 485-3841

Headline Round-up

World News:

France paid homage to the author behind fiction's most famous boy magician by inducting Harry Potter series author J.K. Rowling into the country's prestigious Legion of Honor Feb. 3. French President Nicolas Sarkozy bestowed Rowling with the honorary title of "knight" in the legion during a ceremony in a gilded hall in the Elysee presidential palace. Created by Napoleon Bonaparte in the early 19th century, the Legion of Honor is France's elite national merit society. Although foreigners cannot be officially inducted, they are routinely made honorary recipients. Other foreign celebrities who've been inducted into the Legion of Honor include American actor Jerry Lewis, director Steven Spielberg, singer Barbra Streisand and Brazilian architect Oscar Niemeyer.

Entertainment:

Miley Cyrus, who caught flak last year for baring her shoulders in Vanity Fair and flashing a bit of skin in some candid snaps, has landed in the middle of another photo flap. This week, a picture surfaced showing the "Hannah Montana" star, 16, and some pals, including her 20-year-old maybe-boyfriend Justin Gaston, pulling their eyes to the side as they posed with an Asian friend. That gesture didn't sit very well with the OCA, a group that says it's "dedicated to advancing the social, political, and economic well-being of Asian Pacific Americans in the United States."

Odd News:

CLEVELAND - Police in Cleveland say a man called 911 because he felt he was in danger — then asked the dispatcher to hold on while he made a drug deal. Police Lt. Thomas Stacho said Feb. 3 that Alejandro Melendez was arrested after the call and was charged with possessing cocaine. Police said Melendez called 911 late Jan. 31 and reported that two men with guns were watching him. Police records show he hung up, so the dispatcher called back. Melendez answered and asked the dispatcher to hold on, but the dispatcher could still hear what was being said. A voice can be heard on the recording of the call saying: "What you need? A 10-pack? You need a 10-pack? All right." Police say "10-pack" is slang for a bundle of heroin. The dispatcher called police, who found Melendez at the location he gave, had the dispatcher call his cell phone again, and said they found cocaine in his trousers.

Quote of the Day

"Trust the instinct to the end, though you can render no reason." - Ralph Waldo Emerson

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For the
answer to
today's puzzle,
go to:



[www.taskforce
mountain.com](http://www.taskforcemountain.com)

AROUND THE COMMUNITY

Lion's Den

Feb. 6

Texas Hold'em @ 8 p.m.

Fridays

"Gospel Hour: Moments of Joy"
@ noon

Fishbowl Gym

Feb. 6

Full Body Aerobics @ 6 a.m.

Abs class @ 7:30 p.m.

Feb. 14

Valentine's Day fun run.

Registration from 7 a.m. - 8
a.m. Race start @ 8 a.m.

March 27

Relay for Life HOPE Ceremony
@ 8 p.m.

March 28

Cancer awareness 5K/10K walk/
run. Free t-shirt and
continental breakfast. Race
begin @ 7 a.m.

Freedom Chapel

Violin teacher needed. Contact
Col. Andrew Baan (Andrew
baan@iraq.centcom.mil) for
more information.

Slayer

Feb. 7

R & B group "FRESH" is
performing on Slayer's
gazebo in front of the
fishbowl gym @ 7:30 p.m.

Liberty

Feb. 22

Sweet 16 5 K Run. Race begins
at "Z" Lake @ 7 a.m. FREE
T-shirts to the top 115
finishers. POC: Spc. Daniel
Balderas 485-0411 or
daniel.balderas@iraq.cent-
com.mil

Babylon Theatre

Feb. 16

Newcomers Brief @ 1 p.m.

Feb. 17

Fire Warden Course @ 1 p.m.

Feb. 18

Fire Extinguisher Class @ 1 p.m.