



STEEL SPIKE EXPRESS

ADSEQUOR - "TO ACHIEVE"



11th En Bn

SFC Paul R. Smith Memorial Run



46th En Bn

Sergeant First Class Paul R. Smith distinguished himself by acts of gallantry and intrepidity above and beyond the call of duty in action with an armed enemy near Baghdad International Airport, Baghdad, Iraq on 4 April 2003. Fearing the enemy would overrun their defenses, Sergeant First Class Smith moved under withering enemy fire to man a .50 caliber machine gun mounted on a damaged armored personnel carrier(5). In total disregard for his own life, he maintained his exposed position in order to engage the attacking enemy force. During this action, he was mortally wounded. His courageous actions helped defeat the enemy attack, and resulted in as many as 50 enemy soldiers killed, while allowing the safe withdrawal of numerous wounded soldiers.

MEDAL OF HONOR

To honor and remember this fallen hero, we will hold a short memorial ceremony and then an 11.46 km run on the 6th Anniversary of his death, beginning and ending on the actual battle site.



Nearly 1,000 Runners Joined the "Steel Spike" Battalion for the SFC Paul R. Smith Memorial Run, 5 April 2009. The Run Was To Honor a Hero, Medal of Honor Recipient, and Fellow Engineer Killed in Combat in 2003.



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Whether At Work or At Play the "Steel Spike" Battalion Strengthens Bonds with Iraqi Soldiers & Citizens. More Inside!



Commander's Observations

Welcome to the latest edition of the Steel Spike Express!

April has come and with it Easter, continued mission success, Soldier's advancing both professionally and personally, and all of our Team completing one more month of this deployment. April has also brought our own version of Spring Cleanup here in Iraq, with a tremendous effort accomplished across the battalion. As with a home that has been lived in for many years, a base camp has a tendency to collect stuff – which can then become a hazard to Soldier health and safety, as well as “hide” needed tools, equipment, and materials. Through the hard work and sweat of our Soldiers, since our arrival the battalion eliminated many problems in our living and work areas, and this April push about completes the effort. A special notice to the Alpha Company Gator team for their focus during this last two weeks.



LTC Matthew Zajac
Battalion Commander
46th ECB (H)

Another special thanks goes out to the perseverance and hard work exhibited by 1SG Roman and MAJ Stinnett for their efforts in making a truly memorable race happen. On 5 April, the battalion emplaced a memorial and sponsored an 11.46 kilometer race in honor of SFC Paul R. Smith, a fellow engineer leader awarded the Medal of Honor who was killed in 2003 here on Victory Base while defeating an enemy counter-attack. As a runner with race experience across the world, I can state that this race's organization and execution ranked up with those of several city marathons I've run, and it is certainly one of the most memorable race events I've been a part of.

Last, in an effort to defeat “rumor control” let me address a sudden mission change. The Battalion received the mission to send a concrete team to Afghanistan, and while those Soldiers selected to accomplish this mission will depart Iraq, their deployment length will not change from the Battalion's. Those Soldiers will return from Afghanistan to Fort Polk in the fall along with the rest of the Battalion returning from Iraq. This is a very small group of Soldiers, drawn from only HSC and A Company, and when the exact team is identified I will send their names through the Family Readiness Group leaders and Rear Detachment command team.

As always, this newsletter endeavors to keep us all connected by sharing what our Soldiers are accomplishing and, just as importantly, what is happening across the several Family Readiness Groups that make up our Team. If you have ideas, events, or topics that you'd like to see included, don't hesitate to ask. Send your ideas to myself at matthew.zajac@us.army.mil or to our Public Affairs Officer 1LT Yarber at janeene.yarber@mnd-b.army.mil. Finally, my sincere appreciation for all of our volunteers in the Family Readiness Groups, and for your dedication to supporting our Soldiers and their Families.

STEEL SPIKE – ONE TEAM!



LTC Zajac and CSM Thibodeau "helping" the HSC maintenance team change brakes on a 20-ton Dump Truck.



LTC Zajac presents LTC Foley a trophy for finishing in 1st Place during the SFC Paul R. Smith Memorial Run, 5 April.



CSM's View



CSM Thibodeau takes a photo with MNC-I CSM Grippe, 9 April.

Happy Easter,

Last month was extremely busy as we integrated the 277th into the Battalion, and they have taken off running. The Soldiers of the Battalion are once again spread out to multiple locations through Baghdad ensuring Security Agreement time lines will be met. The Battalion also welcomed our new S3 Major Erickson who joined us from Afghanistan and has the required hair cut needed for success. (No pressure Spike 6).

The BN sponsored a memorial run for Medal of Honor recipient SFC Paul Smith. The run was the idea of 1SG Roman, a friend and former comrade of SFC Smith. The event was one of the best organized and conducted at Camp Victory. 1SG Roman along with Major Stinnett spent several hours planning and coordinating the event.



**CSM Frank Thibodeau
BN CSM
46th ECB (H)**

A special thank you to Mrs. Stinnett for getting some of the supplies needed from the states to Iraq. The Run had close to one thousand participants and was an awesome tribute to a true American hero. The Battalion was also chosen to have the honor of hosting four Medal of Honor winners later in the month, as they tour Iraq to meet and thank Soldiers.

Thank you for all of your support!

Spike 7

By the way with enough encouragement and emails to Spike 6, we might get a new photo of him without hair!

Chaplain's Corner

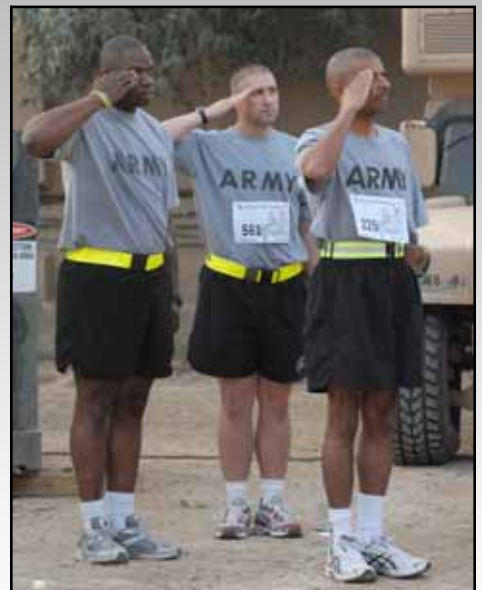
Romans 2:14,15 (NASB) "For when Gentiles who do not have the Law do instinctively the things of the Law, these, not having the Law, are a law to themselves, in that they show the work of the Law written in their hearts, their conscience bearing witness and their thoughts alternately accusing or else defending them..."



**CPT Jerry Wagner
BN Chaplain**

The Bible teaches that although Gentiles (People other than Jews), did not have the written Law, they still had conscience. God given conscience tells us that we are in the green, or accuses us of wrongdoing.

As we continue on the "downhill slide" of deployment, I encourage you to listen to your conscience to help guide you in making ethically and morally correct decisions.



As Jiminy Cricket would say - And always let your conscience be your guide!"



HSC "SPARTANS"

My beloved Spartan Family:

I just wanted to take the time to express my highest appreciation to each and every one of you. As I prepare to relinquish my command authority in May, I do it with sadness, but full of cherished memories that will last me a life time. I have spent 4 years in the 46th ECB(H) growing from a young captain to now a seasoned and experienced captain. This company has been a major factor in my success as an officer.

Working directly with Soldiers has been my joy! As commander, I had the ability to impact lives on a daily basis and I did not take that responsibility lightly. I'd like to thank all the Spartan Spouses/Families for allowing your Soldiers to serve! Deployments are difficult on Families and we together have weathered through it all, hurricanes, births, injuries, and unfortunately death of loved ones. Just when you thought you couldn't do it or just when you thought you couldn't give anymore, you grew stronger and gave 110%. I appreciate all the support you have been to the Soldiers and myself.

I want to personally thank Mrs. Shari Baye! She came in young and new, yet determined and steadfast. THANK YOU for the long hours and the trips back and forth with Joseph in tow. Your strength as a mother, wife, and devoted volunteer has been an inspiration. All the spouses that put in time and volunteered have impacted Soldiers in ways they may never know, but I KNOW and WILL NOT FORGET!



CPT Angela Smoot
HSC Commander

My deepest gratitude to the HSC Spartan Soldiers and Family for a lifetime experience that I will cherish always! Continue to stay strong and hang in there until the end. My prayers are with you always.

And last but, not least....you know I have to say it, Please take the opportunity to contact Mrs. Shari Baye (337-208-3045), the Spartan FRG leader for any updates or events. And as always, "It's a Family Affair"!



1SG Steven Hall
HSC First Sergeant



HSC XO, 1LT Clements tries to keep the pace with HSC CDR CPT Smoot, 5 April during the Memorial Run.

SPARTANS!! Never Retreat!!!

Spartan 6 Out



1SG Hall shows his "Spartan Spirit" during the Memorial Run held on Camp Victory, 5 April.



HSC runners and supporters take a photo before the Paul R. Smith Run, 5 April.



SSG Bowie descends into a tunnel beneath Route Vernon.



HSC EQ PLT Soldiers tie down a roller to a trailer before heading out on mission, 7 April.



The S6 section grounds an antenna on HSC's Tactical Ops Center.



SGT Clark (Battle NCO), is geared up and ready for the day!



SFC Dean calls running cadences to keep Soldiers motivated during the SFC Paul R. Smith Run, 5 April.



HSC EQ PLT Soldiers secure a bobcat on a trailer before heading out on mission, 7 April.



HSC Soldiers participate in the Memorial Run for SFC Paul R. Smith by rucking, walking, and running, 5 April 09.





ALPHA "GATORS"

"The best thing to give to your enemy is forgiveness; to an opponent, tolerance; to a friend, your heart; to your child, a good example; to a father, deference; to your mother, conduct that will make her proud of you; to yourself, respect; to all men, charity. " Francis Maitland Balfour

April brings about another month of Gator contributions in Multi-National Division Baghdad. I am very proud of what our Soldiers have accomplished. After nearly 168 missions in support of Task Force Gold Spike and Task Force Gold Forward, the security detail mission for First Platoon wrapped up mid-March. In less than 5 days, the unit had refit and pushed back out to begin vertical construction in support of the 3-82nd Airborne.

Second Platoon completed the construction of a Battalion Aid Station for 1-5 Cavalry and began work on a gym/Dining Facility for A Company 5-73rd Armor. The Earthmovers of A/46th installed over 150 concrete barriers to improve force protection at a Joint Security Station. They also had some fun demolishing concrete walls and an old concrete range to make way for expansion at a Joint Security Station.



CPT Reyn Landreth
A CO Commander

Our maintenance section continues to boast high operational rates despite being under-strength, and our company security team conducted over 20 successful missions.

This month we welcomed 2LT Brent Vance and his wife, to the Gator team.

I'm also excited to announce the Gator initiative to donate shoes to our Iraqi counterparts. Please send new or slightly used athletic shoes or boots to:

Shoes for Soldiers
A/46th ECB (H)
APO AE 09344

Please donate if you can. We truly have much to be thankful for.

Happy Easter! And Go Gators!



1SG David Roman
A CO First Sergeant

1SG Roman & SFC Ritter hang the memorial sign for SFC Paul R. Smith. 1SG Roman helped to organize all the activities to pay tribute to his former friend & fellow engineer.

CPT Landreth shows her "Gator Glory" during the Memorial Run.



1SG Roman explains to runners gathered at the battle site, the actions of SFC Paul R. Smith and how he defended 100 troops before being fatally wounded.





SSG Miller gives PVT Ingram maintenance paperwork to complete repairs in the A CO motor pool, 1 April.



SGT Makii uses a loader and chains to yank jersey barriers from a trailer for disposal in the barrier yard.



SGT Nakhonexay demolishes a bad ceiling of plaster, 4 April.



CPL Theilan nails in wood at a project site.



An A CO Soldier moves T-wall barriers.



SPC Ackerman & SPC Gardner move a forklift into position at the A CO motor pool, 1 April.



SPC Ortiz uses a saw to make cuts in wood.



BRAVO "BEAST"

I would first like to say Happy Easter to everyone!

Last month our "BEAST" Soldiers continued their deployment stride, with their heads held high and chest sticking out. Although we are approaching the fourth quarter of our deployment our Soldiers constantly request to keep swinging hammers, operate equipment, and to maintain the force. Sometimes they even look sad when they don't get to play with their toys. Needless to say every project we touch and every site we visit the other units are always appreciative and amazed at the efficiency of our Soldiers.

During the month of March the "BEAST" continued to set standards. We accomplished our annual retention goal in less than six months, and exceeded the standard by 31%. SGT Dixon our reenlistment NCO has done an outstanding job interviewing, counseling, and motivating Soldiers to reenlist. This month the "BEAST" also exceeded the company goal of sending every Soldier on a four day pass within our deployment time frame to Freedom Rest. For those who don't know, Freedom Rest is a lavish vacation spot with swimming pools, and every game imaginable. Although this may sound easy it took a lot of coordination and personal management from the company leadership in order to not interrupt projects.

Headquarters Platoon continued planning, resourcing, and supporting our forward elements. They have also started planning our redeployment as well as the casing of Bravo Co. colors. The Convoy Support Team kept us moving. Within hours of notice these guys are always ready to roll. Unfortunately SFC Ramirez was needed to fill a Platoon Sergeant position in another company, but he will always be a part of our team. The Maintenance Platoon conducted a cross training with Iraqi mechanics. Despite having a language barrier our maintenance team trained four Iraqi Army (IA) mechanics on how to repair and service their HMMWV. Both "BEAST" mechanics and IA mechanics where enthused about the training and are looking forward to working together again. 1ST Platoon and our Earth Moving Platoon have both been diligently working on a high priority Brigade Mission. The 1ST Platoon electricians have installed over 20 miles of electrical wire in less than a month.



CPT Christopher Beal
B CO Commander



1SG Gregory Williams
B CO First Sergeant

The Earth Movers are consecutively working four projects at one time: entry control point, helicopter landing zone, range, and an artillery firing area. They have also conducted several route sanitation (road debris removal) missions; which have help reduce hiding spots of road side explosives devices.

Last, but definitely not least 2ND Platoon consecutively built a gym, dining facility, aid station, dish washing B-Hut, and MWR building all in one month. Their hard work resulted in over 6,000sq feet of climate controled work space. Needless to say our elite teams of engineers have been conquering the construction efforts throughout the Baghdad, Iraq area.

**Lean Forward and
Rock Steady "BEAST"!**

BEAST 6 and BEAST 7: OUT!



Iraqi Mechanics trained for a week with B CO mechanics and take a photo with 1SG Williams, CPT Beal, and SFC Nalls.



Congratulations to SGT Williams for Reenlisting for Six More Years of Service!



SFC Ramirez, SGT Eugin, and SGT Bradshaw Enjoy Freedom Rest.



"Beast" Soldiers get a great start during the SFC Paul R. Smith Memorial Race, 5 April.



SGT Pride, PFC Mcteer, and PVT King take a break from conducting monthly inventories.



SFC Alcorn leads the pack during the Memorial Race, 5 April.



2ND Platoon Builds a 32' X 72' Gym.



Congratulations to SGT Navayra for Reenlisting! He's shown here with B CO leadership & Soldiers.



277th EN CO "DIRT DEVILS"

Greetings DIRT DEVIL FAMILIES AND FRIENDS!!!

The 277th had a very productive month, first of all the 277th issued out two (2) Army Achievement Awards (AAM) to SPC Andrew Leach, and SSG Guteierrez for exceptional leadership at NTC. The 277th also promoted several Soldier's, we promoted PV2 Lane to PFC, promoted the following to Specialist are, PFC's Elicea, Hubbard, Johnson, Tatro, and Wicks.

We have two new NCO's in the company and two new SSG's as well, SGT Trevino, and SGT Pence, SSG Burnett, and SSG Cranford. GOOD JOB DIRT DEVIL's, and CONTINUE TO MARCH!! ALL these Soldier's are well deserved in thier promotions. I personally look forward in promoting more professional Soldiers in the 277th.



CPT Gordon Robbins
277th EN CO Commander

As we get our feet wet here in Baghdad, the 277th looks forward to leading the way for others to follow!

The DIRT DEVILS took on several projects in the short time we have been here, completing 9 of 11. Dirt Devils got a lot of stick time and also taught some of the Iraqi Army how to operate equipment and ground guiding procedures. Over all the Dirt Devils has a very productive month!!

I do wish to thank the whole Battalion for supporting us in equipment, knowledge, and guidance. This BN lives up to their motto "Steel Spike, ONE TEAM"!!!

DIRT DEVIL SEVEN.....OUT!!!!



1SG Thomas Fleischhauer
277th EN CO First Sergeant

HOOAH Dirt Devil Family!

We have been in Baghdad over a month now and are working missions as well as completing all of our other daily tasks. All 154 Soldiers deployed with the 277th have officially earned their combat patch; it is the 420th Engineer Brigade patch that we always wear on our shoulder. I know that a lot of the unit already had earned the 420th patch but after thirteen years in the unit, I am very pleased to finally earn mine. Things have finally settled into a bit of a routine and are starting to flow well. It is very nice to be completing actual missions and be officially done with training. The real missions aren't necessarily easier than training, but they are much more fulfilling. I enjoy traveling to the different projects and seeing the improvements that our Soldiers have made for the quality of life of Soldiers on the smaller bases we work at. There is a definite sense of pride in the work that is done by the Soldiers on the project and for me as well. I am definitely very proud of all the 277th Soldiers; we are doing great things and will continue to do so for the rest of the deployment. That is the main reason I enjoy being an Engineer so much, the satisfaction of knowing your work improves the lives of the Soldiers who deserve it the most. An Engineer gets to live side by side with the Soldiers doing the toughest jobs, and when you leave you have the satisfaction of leaving the place they call home better than before.

We have had several big accomplishments in the past month. Our Convoy Security Team was validated by the 46th EN BN Commander, LTC Zajac. This validation will allow us to escort our own movements off of the FOB. Congratulations are in order for SFC Jordan and SGT Deahn as well as all the Soldiers on the CST for a job well done. We also had two new promotions to SSG, SSG Burnett and SSG Cranford, both very deserving NCO's. We have had several promotions to SGT and a large number of promotions to SPC. This is a reflection of the great work the company is doing here in theater and it is nice to be able to recognize these well deserving Soldiers with promotions.

The 277th had the honor of participating in a 11.46km memorial run here on Camp Liberty on April fifth. The run was dedicated to SFC Paul R. Smith, a Medal of Honor recipient who was killed in battle on the fourth of April in 2003. The run began at the battle site with a brief account of SFC Smith's heroism by 1SG Roman of A CO. It was a definite opportunity for our Soldiers to reflect on the differences in security for this area in the last six years, and the Soldiers who made the sacrifices required to create that safety. It was a well organized event through a beautiful course complete with palaces and lakes enjoyed by all who participated. We even got a free t-shirt for participating.

The 277th deployed family is doing very well in their temporary new home. I hope all is well where you are, and want to wish everyone a Happy Easter. **Dirt Devil 6 Out.**

April 2009

Steel Spike Express



SSG Arispe & SGT Bartholomae ground guide engineer equipment. Insert: SPC Castillo operates an excavator to remove excess dirt on Camp Liberty.

277 & B CO Guidon Bearers during the SFC Paul R. Smith Memorial Run, 5 April.



SGT Deluna ground guides a bulldozer while an Iraqi engineer practices the proper technique.

SSG Arispe surveys progress made by a heavy equipment scraper.



After 11.46km, the 277th Guidon Bearers cross the finish line of the SFC Paul R. Smith Memorial Run.

SGT Deluna shows an Iraqi engineer the proper way to ground guide heavy equipment during joint training.

April 2009

SPOTLIGHT ON SUCCESS



PFC Lomotey, B CO, is commended by the 319 Field Artillery BN CDR.



PFC Murphy, B CO
"Soldier of the Month"



SGT Thomas, SGT Dill, & SSG Lacey, reenlist 30 March @ the B CO motor pool.



SGT Dusenberry, A CO, along with "Beast" Soldiers receive awards at JSS Zafraniyah, March 2009.



SGT Williams receives a Certificate of Achievement from LTC McRae for his work at JSS Zafraniyah.



SGT Coburn, B CO, reenlists for 6 More Years!

46th Engineers In the News...

<http://www.google.com/url?sa=X&q=http://newsblaze.com/story/20090208100255zmil.nb/topstory.html&ct=ga&cd=YxgnMHIFNm4&usg=AFQjCNHXEJ4PqkmjSkCzHZgvtJEE-DpXQ>
(6th IA and MND-B engineers improve airfield)

http://www.flw-guidon.com/index.php?option=com_search&searchword=army
(A CO Cleans Up On First Joint Route Sanitation Mission)

<http://www.google.com/url?sa=X&q=http://newsblaze.com/story/20090221092054zmil.nb/topstory.html&ct=ga&cd=Oj9RtjuPiAA&usg=AFQjCNHStaC3ehoSrEpVHWzKThnzadIVew>
("Steel Spike" Engineers Achieve Mission, Fun)

<http://www.google.com/url?sa=X&q=http://newsblaze.com/story/20090226125723zmil.nb/.html&ct=ga&cd=Uuab9HI6WXs&usg=AFQjCNFU1dvo3XMmWISDJJu8-oKSpIsla>
(Engineers Build Towards Drawdown)

<http://www.google.com/url?sa=X&q=http://newsblaze.com/story/20090221094912zmil.nb/topstory.html&ct=ga&cd=uxzSLphKHOK&usg=AFQjCNHZ2IH-B3OldoBdSXXKvExAE50GBtg>
(Engineers build at JSS Saab al Bour)



1LT Janeene Yarber
"Scoop Spike"
Public Affairs Officer

For photo & news submissions to the "Steel Spike Express" contact your FRG or email me:
janeene.yarber@mnd-b.army.mil



Steel Spike Birthdays & Fun

May

5/01	SSG	MCILQUHAM	5/18	SPC	CARROLL
5/01	PFC	ROBERSON	5/20	SPC	BLANCO
5/01	SSG	COLLINS	5/20	PV2	BOUIE
5/01	PFC	CALLAHAN	5/20	SPC	SKEELS
5/01	SGT	BETTES	5/20	PFC	PELATO
5/02	SGT	DAVIS	5/20	PV2	PRIDE
5/03	SFC	MARTINEZ	5/21	PV2	SEPULVEDA
5/03	PFC	BEASLEY	5/21	PFC	FLUECH
5/04	PV2	POLAND	5/22	SSG	BOWIE
5/04	SSG	SMILEY	5/22	SFC	ALCORN
5/06	PV2	PATTERSON	5/22	SPC	SEELY
5/07	PFC	ORTIZ	5/23	PFC	MARKWELL
5/07	PFC	STEFFES	5/23	SGT	SLAGLE
5/08	SPC	RACHAL	5/23	CPL	LEWIS
5/08	SPC	CLAIR	5/23	1SG	ROMAN
5/09	SSG	GARDNER	5/24	PFC	BUCKLES
5/10	CPL	KELLER	5/24	SPC	HOLIK
5/11	SSG	FOUNTAIN	5/25	SPC	HURLEY
5/11	SGT	GARNER	5/25	SGT	BARNHORST
5/11	PFC	MASON	5/26	SPC	MARATITA
5/11	SPC	WHITEHOUSE	5/27	SGT	DIXON
5/11	SGT	STREET	5/27	SSG	PORTES
5/13	SGT	LOPEZ	5/27	SSG	COLEMAN
5/13	PFC	MULHOLLON	5/28	SPC	OLIVER
5/13	SFC	KILGORE	5/28	PFC	LEHMAN
5/13	SPC	RECORD	5/28	SGT	VERSLUES
5/13	SGT	CAIN	5/28	PV2	DAVIS
5/14	PFC	REECE	5/30	SPC	DOWELL
5/14	PV2	FOX	5/31	SPC	JAMES
5/15	SPC	SMITH	5/31	PV2	HENDERSON
5/16	PV2	DUNN	5/31	SPC	WARREN
5/16	SPC	VERNER			
5/16	SSG	ROACH			
5/16	CPL	FULTON			
5/16	SPC	CHILLOGALLO			
5/17	PFC	HURST			
5/17	1LT	JEFFERSON			



"Beast" Soldiers enjoy the pool at Freedom Rest in the International Zone.



HSC Soldiers pose for the camera before taking part in the 7.1 mile run to honor SFC Paul R. Smith, 5 April 2009.



"Steel Spike" Soldiers play a game of Basketball with the 6th Iraqi Army engineers, 8 March.



And Now a Word From...

Greetings from Camp Liberty and Baghdad, Iraq!

I arrived here on April 1st (no joke) to assume the duties and responsibilities of Battalion S3 Operations Officer from Major Michael Stinnett, who in turn assumed the duties and responsibilities of Battalion Executive Officer. I spent the previous eight months at Bagram Airfield, Afghanistan, where I served as Assistant Brigade S3 and Chief of Operations with the 1st Maneuver Enhancement Brigade, also out of Fort Polk. Since arriving here at Camp Liberty, I have been busy learning about the Battalion, the Companies, and their current and future operations from the excellent leaders and Soldiers on the "Steel Spike" team.

The Battalion is very busy completing numerous and varied projects in support of our partner units all across our supported area of operations. There are a lot of moving pieces, but the team in place has been doing a great job managing it all and always accomplishing the mission.

Like so many other "Steel Spike" Soldiers here in theater, I look forward to returning home to reunite with family, loved ones and friends later this year, when our mission here is complete. My beautiful wife Kyusuk, for whom I am deeply grateful for her enduring love and support (especially throughout this deployment), and I look forward to meeting and serving with the Soldiers and families of the "Steel Spike" Battalion. We thank you, Soldiers and family members, for your sacrifice and service in support of Our Nation. I am excited to be part of the 46th Engineer Combat Battalion (Heavy). "Steel Spike - One Team!"

MAJ Jared Erickson

Greetings Steel Spike Family!

For those who do not know me, I'm MAJ Mike Stinnett. I've been in the Battalion as the S3 for the past 15 months and have now been assigned as the Battalion's Executive Officer.

The Soldiers and leaders of the Steel Spike Battalion have made a huge impression throughout the Baghdad Area of Operations and it has been an honor to work with everyone as the Operations Officer. I look forward to the new roles and responsibilities as the Executive Officer.

To the families back home, rest assured, your loved ones are doing an outstanding job with every new challenge and are making a difference in the lives of both the deployed US Forces here, as well as those of the Iraqi people and Soldiers that they interact with on a daily basis.

MAJ Michael Stinnett



MAJ Stinnett & MAJ Erickson take a photo together after running the SFC Paul R. Smith Memorial Race on Camp Victory, 5 April.

April Promotion Board and NCO/Soldier of the Month Board



"RIGHT FACE!" SPC Hitt demonstrates Drill & Ceremony movements during the 1 April Promotion Board.



Senior NCOs from the 46th ECB (H) and the 225th Engineer Brigade evaluate Soldiers during the Promotion and Soldier of the Month Board, 1 April.

Happy Easter!



Check out my swag daddy (SGT Ridings)



CONGRATULATIONS!!!
Mrs. Lisa Otto April's Volunteer
of the month!



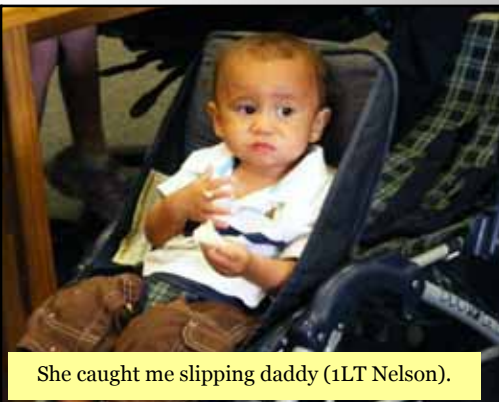
I saved some food for you daddy (SGT Ridings)



Lisa Otto & Shannon Wagner.



Getting an early start on the egg hunt.



She caught me slipping daddy (1LT Nelson).

Thank you to Mrs. Tekesha Saint-Val for providing photos of Fort Polk's FRG Easter Celebration!



Megan & Sarah Wagner.



"Where are the eggs???"

To submit photos of your FRG event, contact your FRG Leaders or send to: janeene.yarber@mnd-b.army.mil
(Please provide names & date of the event)



"Ummm, ummm good..."



WELCOME! 12 New "Steel Spike" Soldiers Wait for Their In-Brief from CSM Thibodeau & LTC Zajac.



"Steel Spike" Soldiers hand out water to runners at one of the many water points during the 7.1 mile race, 5 April.



CW2 Washington, 1LT Tate, and MSG Fletcher at LTC Zajac's Surprise Bday Party, 28 March

Free Admission to Disney for Active Duty & Retired:

<http://www.prnewswire.com/mnr/disney/36573/>

Checkout the Website Link For More Information!

Happy Birthday LTC Zajac!



FRG LEADERS

NAME	COMPANY	CONTACT #	E-MAIL
SHARI BAYE	HSC	Cell: 337-208-3045, Hm: 985-414-2926	46hsc.family@live.com
LISA OTTO	ALPHA COMPANY	Cell: 337-208-3189, Hm: 870-405-3579	aco46th@hotmail.com
JENNIFER HENRY	814TH	Cell: 563-663-2770	henrys2000@bellsouth.net
MEGYN JEFFERSON	BRAVO COMPANY	Cell: 334-598-1141, Hm: 302-542-7317	megyn24@hotmail.com
BRENDA LEACH	277TH EN CO		brenda.a.leach@us.army.mil

KEY FRSA

NAME	COMPANY	CONTACT #	E-MAIL
CINDY DRISCOLL	Family Programs Assistant, G1	Wk: 337-531-6047, Cell: 337-353-8371	cindy.driscoll@conus.army.mil
KATHERINE BROWN	1st MEB FRSA	Wk: 337-531-1675, Hm: 337-353-7634	katherine.brown@conus.army.mil
TEKESHA SAINT-VAL	46th ECB (H) FRSA	Wk: 337-531-4682, Cell: 337-353-7919	tekesha.wall@us.army.mil
DEBORRAH CISNEROS	TRADOC FRSA	Wk: 334-255-0679	deborrah.cisneros@us.army.mil
VIRGINIA BAUGHN	277TH EN CO	Wk: 979-822-9063 x 358	virginia.baughn@usar.army.mil

REAR DETACHMENT CDRs

NAME	COMPANY	CONTACT #	E-MAIL
CPT HARVEY DICKERSON	HSC / A CO	337-718-3785	harvey.dickerson@us.army.mil
CPT MARK BORN	B CO	360-402-6137	mark.born1@us.army.mil
SSG RANDALL LACEY	277TH EN CO		randall.lacey@usar.army.mil