1-82 AB, 82nd CAB, Fort Bragg, NC https://www.facebook.com/1stAB.82ndCAB.WOLFPACK

19 March 2021 Volume 1, Issue 1

## A message from LTC Snowden

Wolfpack and Wolfpack Families,

The Wolfpack are answering the Nation's call through their deployment to Central Command to assume the mission from Task Force Gambler in support of Operation Inherent Resolve. The Wolfpack are trained and READY for their mission; Wolfpack Families are resilient and supported. With the pandemic, we have faced challenging circumstances in the last couple months, and I expect that we will still face some in the future. The best way to meet these challenges while accomplishing our unique mission is through engaged leadership and open communication. If there are challenges that you cannot address alone, reach out to someone for help and assistance; remember YOU ARE NOT ALONE. Asking for help is the hardest thing you can possibly do, yet, it is a sign of incredible strength. I am incredibly proud of each and every Wolfpack and their family, and proud to serve in the finest Attack Battalion in the 82nd Division.

**WOLFPACK FOR LIFE!** 

James M. Snowden LTC, AV Commanding

A Message from LTC Snowden	1
CSM Coveney Says	2
SFRG/FRL Life	3
Chaplain's Corner	4
Mental Fitness Tip	4
HHC – Grey Wolves	5
Alpha – Red Wolves	6
Charlie – Blue Wolves	7
Delta – Timber Wolves	8
Echo – Black Wolves	9
Bravo 3-238 - Outcast	10
Charlie 137th - Blacksheep	11
Charlie 2–104th – Witch Doctors	12
TF WolfPack Close out picture	13
TF WolfPack Ft. Bragg	14





# **CSM Says:**

Wolfpack, I am very excited to move forward with this Team into combat. I look forward to the great work we'll achieve together. We will need the families at home behind us to make sure we do our best.

Thanks for all you do! Wolfpack for life!

**CSM Coveney** 



### SFRG/FRL Life

#### Soldier Readiness + Family Readiness = Mission Readiness

Did you know that the Soldier and Family Readiness Groups (SFRGs) have been around since Revolutionary War days? Families have ALWAYS been an important facet of military life and, yes, SFRGs as we know them to be today have changed a lot since General George Washington was around.

Readiness is based on the smallest unit being prepared - that unit is the individual Soldier. Whether the mission is combat operations, peace keeping, humanitarian or disaster relief, back-to-back deployments, or training exercises, if the Soldier's Family is not prepared, the Soldier is not prepared. When the Soldier is not prepared, the unit is not prepared; when the unit is not prepared, the Army is not prepared. While the state of being happy, healthy, and resilient is a personal responsibility, it can be greatly improved when the information and resources accessible.

The Soldier and Family Readiness Group is a key component of mission readiness.

As a command-sponsored organization, the SFRG is an important entity to network, communicate, support and prepare our Soldiers and Family members for military life. It is critical that EVERY Soldier and Family Member is well-informed and well-prepared.

Family Readiness is defined as Families who are prepared and equipped with the skills and tools to successfully meet the challenges of the military lifestyle. Soldier and Family Readiness Group (SFRG) volunteers are an integral part of the planning and preparation that goes into making SFRGs successful.

You see, SFRGs matter and we need you! Spouses, Parents, Children, and Friends - you are all welcome to join. "Family" is more than just the Family within your household. Family Support may also include friends, siblings, parents, aunts, uncles, neighbors, and more.

There are a variety of volunteer opportunities available, both as Official Statutory Volunteers and as general volunteers who help when they can, but do not hold an official, Commander-appointed SFRG position.

If you are unsure of your unit's SFRG Coordinator (formerly called SFRG Leader) contact information, or if you would like to receive more information on what volunteer positions are available and where help is needed, please contact Ligaya Hartman, Task Force Wolfpack Soldier and Family Readiness Support Assistant (SFRSA) at (910) 922-7756.

### The primary goals and expectations of the SFRG are to:

- 1) Act as an extension of the unit command in providing accurate and timely official command information to Soldiers and their Families
- 2) Connect Soldiers and Families to the chain of command and provide support between the command and SFRG members
- 3) Connect SFRG members to available on– and off– post community resources
- 4) Offer a network of mutual support

#### **CURRENT FORT BRAGG INSTALLATION ACCESS POLICY**

Effective May 27, 2020, for passes of seven days or LESS, can be approved by company commander. For passes from 8 to 30 days, they can be approved by a battalion/squadron commander. For passes from 31 to 90 days, passes must be approved by the first general officer within the chain of command. As a reminder, no passes will go longer than 90 days, so Families requiring a pass in excess of 90 days will need to reapply every 90 days.



### Chaplain's Corner

It has been a great honor to serve the Paratroopers of TF Wolfpack. I have been asked many times, "Chaplain, you wanna say something?" sometimes infront of a hundred people. I have learned never to say no when given the opportunity. Army Chaplains are known to give a "Word of the Day" or "Thought of the Day" in various settings, sometimes without notice. I am reminded in Proverbs 18:21 which informs us that death and life are in the power of our words. Therefore, I see tremendous opportunity in speaking life into people when given the chance. The "thought of the day" comes from Christine Caine, who states "Sometimes when you're in a dark place you think you've been buried, but actually you've been planted" And I am reminded that it is during the darkest nights that we see the brightest stars. Isaiah 41:10 brings comfort and peace daily for me and I hope it does the same for you, as God's promises are eternal. He says "I will strengthen you and help you. I will hold you up with my victorious right hand."

#### Be Blessed!



Chaplain (CPT) Ryan E. Hicks

### **Mental Fitness Corner**

Hi Everyone!! Now that deployment is settling in, I want to remind the families of what they might expect in their day-to-day lives and to normalize these feelings.

These are all normal feelings during a deployment, especially a first one, so don't freak out if this is going on for you during the beginning of deployment

#### SYMPTOMS OF DEPLOYMENT STRESS:

•Anger • Denial • Anxiety • Sadness • Resentment • • Distancing.

# HOW DO YOU COPE WITH DEPLOYMENT STRESS:

Take good care of yourself • Eat balanced meals • •Get plenty of rest

• Surround yourself with positive people • Avoid news reports or articles that are disturbing • Avoid spending sprees

#### **MAINTAINING A HEALTHY LIFESTYLE:**

•Avoid excessive use of alcohol or drugs (prescription and illegal) • Maintain a healthy diet • •Exercise • Develop a support group • Set boundaries and say "no" when you need to • Get plenty of rest • Keep a sense of humor – laughter is a great stress reducer • Have a Life –Socialize, Sports, Church, Chaplain • Health & Fitness – Proper Diet

WHEN TO SEEK HELP: • By now, most families should be established in a new routine. • As symptoms begin to subside, you may have a burst of energy. • If symptoms do not subside and if they interfere with your daily functioning, seek help from a Chaplain, or Behavioral Health Services on post or your local area.

### **HHC 1-82 AB Grey Wolves**



The Grey Wolves mission is in full swing, and the team is firing on all cylinders! HHC Soldiers are putting their training and hard work in preparing for this deployment to the test, and are working to make lasting impacts across the Area of Operations every day.

The team is spread out in support of a diverse set of missions, but we're still working together. Our Soldiers help manage living conditions for the TF Wolfpack team, manage the arrival of mail from our Families, and conduct operational planning and execution as the TF Wolfpack staff. HHC has even welcomed members of F/2-104 AHB, a group of Air Traffic Controllers, to help us in our mission.

Certainly, the Grey Wolves are working hard and making things happen for the Wolf Pack team, and they are essential to the mission. We cannot stress how appreciated their work is, both inside and outside the organization.

For the Families back home, you are missed already! All the well-wishes and gestures of support do not go unnoticed by any Grey Wolf.

All the best from the Grey Wolves!

CPT Andrew M. Pribble & 1SG Victor M. Alonso



CSM Coveney raises the TF Wolfpack flag above LSA Roberts after the Transfer of Authority from TF Gambler



PFC Sanniyah Bostick experiences her first helicopter flight while conducting outstation property accountability!



CSM Coveney, SSG Sadie, and 1LT Dunkelberger pack and sort mail for the entire distributed Task Force Wolfpack footprint.

# **Alpha Company 1-82 AB Red Wolves**



Alpha Company, with a few welcome additions from Bravo and Charlie Companies, hit the ground running upon our arrival. I have no doubt in my mind that the team we brought forward is absolutely the right team for the job. We trained hard and prepared well for this deployment, and we are exactly what the ground force needs.

After receiving a great handover from 4-4 AB, we immediately began executing our mission here in the Middle East. The Red Wolf Crew Chiefs have been working tirelessly to keep our helicopters in the fight. They've been coming up with creative solutions to complex problems, and they wear a smile the whole time. I couldn't be more proud.

Our pilots have been flying around the clock in support of a multitude of combat operations. They bring attack aviation expertise to the battlefield, and make the 82nd Airborne synonymous with excellence. We are all eager to do our jobs and be as safe as possible.

We greatly appreciate all of the love and support that everyone at home has shown us. Dealing with intermittent connectivity and different time zones is certainly not easy, but it makes a big difference in all of our lives.

- CPT Andy Nagy & 1SG Robert Casais



SPC Rausch and PFC Wagner sharing a quick moment away from work



SPC Magana striking a pose while scrubbing an aircraft logbook

# **Charlie Company 1-82 AB Blue Wolves**



The Blue Wolves have the Fight! Over the past few weeks, everyone has been solely focused on the handover process with the outgoing unit and assuming the mission at our outstation. It has been an incredibly busy month, but we are complete and have fully assumed responsibility at our location. The team has been working hard to keep aircraft flying, improving our living conditions, and learning our area of responsibility. I would like to thank everyone back home for your constant support through mail and care packages, they have kept morale high and made our adjustment that much easier. Thanks again for all that you do!

-CPT Shores, Blue Wolf 6



SPC Canales conducting PMCS on an MRAP that the Service Members use to conduct security checks.

The starting pistol has sounded and the Soldiers of the Blue Wolves are off and running, after a successful hand off from the Peacemakers! The Soldiers have fully taken ownership of the Operating area; they have conducted training on new equipment in order to execute the daily missions. They continue to show their professionalism in the launching, recovery and maintenance of aircraft. Sprits are high and the level of professionalism is abundant, as the Soldiers improve their living areas. –1SG Trypuc, Blue Wolf 9

# Delta Company 1-82 A B Timber Wolves



Greetings Timberwolf Family, I hope this newsletter finds you well. Your Troopers have hit the ground running here at Erbil Air Base. Last week TF Wolfpack conducted a transfer of authority with TF Gambler (4-4 ARB). This ceremony formally recognizes the passing of the mission from TF Gambler to TF Wolfpack. TF Gambler set the stage for success for our deployment and we thank them for their hard work and dedication.

Your Troopers have been keeping busy since departing Fort Bragg! In the time your Timberwolves have been deployed they have already accomplished hundreds of hours of scheduled and unscheduled maintenance as well as improving our living area here at Erbil. This week, the Timberwolves welcomed Soldiers from B/122 ASB into the team and have already begun integrating them into our family to ensure TF Wolfpack aircraft stay flying.

1SG and I assure you that your Troopers are highly motivated and are ready to accomplish any mission. Your Timberwolves could not have achieved so much in such a short time without the love and support from family and loved ones back home.

Thank you for supporting us and your soldiers, and as always feel free to reach out to our FRG leader Allison Wilkinson with any questions or concerns you have



Aircraft Inspection

### **Echo 1-82 AB Black Wolves**



Echo Company trained and prepared for this deployment and it is apparent in the performance of our Black Wolves! We have welcomed Soldiers from 122nd ASB back home at Bragg along with Soldiers from the 2–104th National Guard, into our formation. We are thankful to have them on our team!

The Black Wolves team has been working hard to keep everything running across multiple locations. Our Soldiers have been pushing fuel, ammunition, and parts to ensure that the mission continues uninterrupted.

We miss our families and greatly appreciate the sacrifices and hard work you are putting in back at home that allows us to focus on the mission here.



PFC Fisher is recognized by LTG Calvert for refueling operations

-CPT Tiffany L. Rupp & 1SG David J. Henderson

# **Bravo Company 3-238th GSAB Outcast**



As we edge closer to our redeployment date, there are a few more milestones and holidays we get to celebrate abroad. The first big milestone we encountered is the Transfer of Authority

(TOA) from TF Gambler (4-4ARB) to TF Wolfpack (1-82ARB). TF Gambler is an outstanding organization. They have left a positive mark on our formation and we are proud to have served with them. TF Wolfpack has already hit the ground running and we aim to keep in stride with their objectives and goals as we continue our mission here.

This is also the month our company has surpassed 1,000,000lbs of cargo and 3,600 passengers throughout our area of operations! Other significant accomplishes is our Safety Flight Hours Awards. This month, Soldiers that reached the 500hr incident/accident free flying mark include: 1LT Johnson, 1LT Smith, CW2 Doebler, CW2 Walker, SSG Geer and SGT Pohlman. 1000hr awards to CPT Osborne and SGT Bauman. 1500hr award for SSG Nic Coe. 2500hr Award CW3 Schapson. The biggest milestone reached for our Soldiers is the mighty 4000 Flying Hour Award to SFC Dennis Girvin! Congrats to everyone on a job well done!

We are starting to see light at the end of the tunnel as we continue the mission here. Our team has not only been hard at work flying, but also

conducting in depth maintenance to keep our fleet flying. We plan on doing a St. Patrick's Day pancake

breakfast celebration to mark off yet another holiday.

Thank you families for your continued support; we appreciate all the care packages, letters, and words of encouragement during our time here! Please don't send any packages after March 24, 2021; there's a chance it will get delayed and we won't receive them before we are home!

Take care and we will see you all soon!

#### -CPT Osborne



Routine check on a Chinook

# 137th Blacksheep - Charlie Company



There have been quite a few changes and new faces around our area of operations due to the fact that the 4-4 ARB has now been replaced by the 1-82 Attack Helicopter Battalion. We welcome the new group of Soldiers and Leaders, and look forward to strengthening our working relationship with them.

While some Soldiers are getting settled in, we are starting to seriously think about our return trip! As of a few days ago, everyone packed two of their duffle bags which have been inspected and locked in a container to start their long journey home. Though it may seem a little bit early to start packing away some of our equipment, the logistics behind moving home are already well underway.

Additional excitements include the long rumored new WiFi. Most families surely already have noticed a quality increase in the phone/video calls home. After some initial hiccups, it is running strong and is vastly outperforming the previous option.

We recently had the pleasure to award the Sikorsky Rescue Award to four of our crew members. The Blacksheep were notified of an individual experiencing a medical emergency who needed immediate medical attention from a hospital.

Unfortunately the MEDEVAC assets were already being utilized and were unable to respond. CW3 Nick Cassin, CW2 Steve Bradny, SGT Jeremiah Hanley, and SPC Alex Davis immediately volunteered. The whole company came together to help plan, prepare, and execute an extremely time sensitive mission resulting in the saving of someone's life. While this is not a mission that an Assault Company normally participates in, there was no hesitation from any of the crew. We are honored to have helped someone in such a way. As the last months overseas are drawing near, we remember to stay focused and diligent. Thank you to all friends and family who continue to support us with care packages and other acts of kindness. We greatly appreciate your support and are very excited for our return home.

-CPT Patrick O'Keefe, Blacksheep 06



Blacksheep heading to new horizon

### Charlie 2-104th GSAB

Gambler Families,

Wolfpack families and friends,

Welcome! The team members for C co, 2/104th GSAB MEDEVAC, better known as "Witchdoctor DUSTOFF" are excited to have some fresh and motivated warriors with us! We are a collection of West By God Virginia and Pennsylvania Guard Soldiers who have been providing MEDEVAC service to our corner of the battlefield since August 2020. We pride ourselves in our professionalism and the speed with which we can get out to help injured personnel, and as such are thrilled to have a new group of team members with us to carry on that tradition. Recognizing how hard it may be to make the transition to life with your loved ones here, I can promise you personally that my team and I will bring the full might of several advanced critical care paramedics, an enroute care nurse, and some of the fastest and best pilots in the world to keep everyone safe and get them home to you. Since 1964, our credo and mission have lived on in the words of MAJ Robert Kelly, and I will let them be the closing words for our introduction this month-



"When I have your wounded!"

"WHEN I HAVE YOUR WOUNDED!"

CPT Michael J McCormick

Erbil "Witchdoctors"

**DUSTOFF 69** 



Somewhere in Iraq 1/82 Soldiers are still keeping up with their fitness routine Follow our Facebook page and subscribe to our newsletter email to stay in touch with Wolfpack

# TF WOLFPACK FT. BRAGG

TF. Wolfpack FT. Bragg focuses on making Soldiers our top priority, including adhering to COVID-19 guidelines to ensure the readiness of our Soldiers.

Task Force Wolfpack-Bragg has been busy but focused during the transition to stand up a rear detachment battalion. The D/82 Grey Eagles have been the primary training focus beginning with a return from JRTC followed by a rapid turnaround into gunnery. The organization has changed some with A, B and C merging into one Flight Company, E company being supported by 122 ASB and D company providing support to 1-17 HARS. With the challenges of standing up a deployment cell in order to continue to rotate late deployers down range as well as welcoming home some members of the Wolfpack early, we have still been able to celebrate some really cool things. TF W-B hosted a hail and farewell welcoming 1LT Tipper Higgins, 2LT Tyler Paget, WO1 Daniel Lasal, WO1 Gabe Lachance, WO1 Mike Beaudoin, SFC Pratap Gurung and SFC Josias Charles into the unit. Each of these new members of the Wolfpack have taken on immensely vital leadership roles within the battalion. We also said farewell to CPT Mike McFadden and 1LT Teddy Perretti as they move on in their careers to attend Captain's Career Course. This past month we have had the honor of welcoming three new Wolf Pups into the pack! We would like to congratulate CPT Evan Riegle and his wife Ashley on their sweet baby boy Hudson, SGT Oswaldo Cortes Rojas and his wife Allison on their sweet baby girl Elaina, as well as SPC Jeffrey Ramos and his wife Amanda on their sweet baby girl Violeta!

- Wolfpack for Life!

