



MARCH 30, 2021 / ISSUE 31

# THE ANVIL INSIDER



A Newsletter from the 28th Expeditionary Combat Aviation Brigade

## DEPLOYMENT YEARBOOK

**\$23.10**

**ORDER BY APRIL 2**

- 1) Go to [commpe.pictavo.com](http://commpe.pictavo.com)
- 2) Put 95050 in the School ID#
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TF Anvil soldiers should be remembered for their efforts this deployment. The deployment yearbook will be used to supplement historical documentation obligations, as well as for Soldiers and their families to enjoy.

**REMINDER: This is the last week to purchase a deployment yearbook. Follow the instructions in the flyer above and order before April 2!**

### IN THIS ISSUE

- ICYMI
- Around CENTCOM
- Soldier Spotlights
- Battalion Updates

## France, Belgium, Japan and U.S. Forces Complete Group Arabian Sea Warfare Exercise

By NAVCENT Public Affairs

France, Belgium, Japan and U.S. forces conducted a Group Arabian Sea Warfare Exercise (GASWEX) in the Arabian Sea and Gulf of Oman, March 19-22.

Led by the French Marine Nationale's Charles De Gaulle carrier strike group, this combined, multilateral surface, air and sub-surface training is the first major multilateral exercise conducted since commencing their Clemenceau 21 deployment in February.

"The capability to train in such conditions of realism and complexity certainly represented a challenge but also and above all a real opportunity. It put the capabilities of the Charles de Gaulle carrier strike group with its American, Belgian and Japanese partners into high-end operations to ensure the security in any strategic area where our shared values would be at stake," said Admiral Marc Aussedat, commander of TF473, French carrier strike group.

Units involved from the Charles De Gaulle carrier strike group included the aircraft carrier FS Charles De Gaulle (R 91) and its carrier air wing (20 Rafale marine fighter aircraft, 2 E2C Hawkeye, helicopters Caiman marine and Dauphin), auxiliary ship FS Var (A 608), frigates FS Provence (D 652) and FS Chevalier Paul (D 621), Belgian frigate BNS Leopold I (F 930) and Japanese destroyer JS Ariake (DD 109), a French SSN and an Atlantic 2 maritime patrol aircraft.

"We conducted a multilateral exercise with the French Navy, the Belgian Navy, and the U.S. Navy in the Gulf of Aden, an important area for Japan's sea lines of communications," said Cmdr. EZAWA Naritaka, commanding officer of JS Ariake. "We believe this exercise was a significant effort to protect the maritime order of the Indian Ocean, while deepening cooperation and trust with the participating navies."

During the exercise, participating forces focused on the full spectrum of maritime warfare operations, practicing anti-air warfare (AAW), anti-surface warfare (ASUW), and anti-submarine warfare (ASW) tactics and procedures.

Participating forces exercised the ability to operate aircraft from different partner nation ships, hunt enemy submarines, provide layered defense against air and surface threats, and conduct long range maritime strikes against simulated adversarial forces.



*During the French carrier strike group mission CLEMENCEAU 21, exercise GASWEX (Group Arabian Sea Warfare Exercise) brings together American, Belgian, French and Japanese naval assets, in a combined, multilateral surface, air and sub-surface training. Around french aircraft carrier Charles de Gaulle appear the US guided-missile cruiser Port Royal and the US amphibious assault ship Makin Island, the Belgian frigate Leopold the 1st, the Japanese destroyer Ariake, and the French frigate Provence. GASWEX exercise aims is to improve operational effectiveness and enhance interoperability between partners*

"GASWEX was a unique opportunity for our combined forces to practice the full breadth of our mutual combat capabilities," said Brig. Gen. Farrell Sullivan, commanding general of Commander Task Force 51/5. "Our Marines and Sailors gained invaluable maritime security experience operating alongside their French, Belgian and Japanese counterparts."

U.S. forces participating in the exercise included the amphibious assault ship USS Makin Island (LHD 8) with F-35B Lightning II joint strike fighters and MV-22 Osprey tiltrotor aircraft from the 15th Marine Expeditionary Unit (MEU), guided-missile cruiser USS Port Royal (CG 73), P-8A Poseidon multimission aircraft, and U.S. Air Force E-3 Sentry airborne warning and control system aircraft.

Exercises like GASWEX 21 improve operational effectiveness and enhance interoperability of our combined and joint force.

"Partnership is fundamental to everything we do, and those partnerships are our asymmetrical advantage," said Vice Adm. Samuel Paparo, commander of U.S. Naval Forces Central Command (NAVCENT), U.S. 5th Fleet and Combined Maritime Forces. "Integrating processes, systems, and command and control functions strengthen relationships and trust - neither of which can be surged in time of crisis."



**CW3 Aaron Bowyer and CW3 Scott Parker**, pilots with 1-82nd ARB, take off for a flight mission in an AH-64 Apache helicopter.

Our Soldiers continue to maintain pressure on Daesh to prevent its reemergence and ensure its lasting defeat.

**Spc. Riley Black** is a door gunner on a CH-47 Chinook and says her favorite part of the deployment is that she has seen five different countries. She says Syria is her favorite because of the terrain and landscape.



After deployment, she looks forward to finishing her degree in business, marketing and sales from Ohio University, traveling to Puerto Rico and relaxing with family. Her favorite food is sushi and loves the movie Legally Blonde.

"Women's History Month means a lot to me because it brings awareness to everything that women accomplished and learning the history of those who preceded me in my career", said Black.

(Spotlight by Spc. Stanford Toran IV)



**Spc. Becca Rhoades** is on her second deployment and plans to take a long vacation when she gets home.

Her father, brothers and other family members have served or are serving still, and she originally joined the military to follow in their footsteps. She is working on a degree in history at American Military University and wants to become a professor.

"Womens History Month means a lot because it shows sacrifice and courage of women in the armed services and all over the world", said Rhoades.



Rhoades is a human resource specialist with HHC, 2-104th GSAB.

(Spotlight by Spc. Stanford Toran IV)



Photos by Spc. Jose Brown and Sgt. Zach Mateja



**CW2 Joanna "P.I. Jo" Bradshaw** is a UH-60 pilot and says one of her favorite parts of being in the Army is that she has been to many places, from South America to the Middle East.

She originally joined the military to grow as a person, gain experience and broaden her horizons.

"The military, like our nation, has tremendous diversity. It's good to be able to positively focus on the aspects of those differences that make us stronger as an organization", she said. "Women's History Month is a chance to celebrate the lives and accomplishments of female pioneers in their respective fields. My personal heroes include Hedy Lamar, who invented frequency hopping in WW2, Marie Curie, a pioneering chemist, and Sally Ride, astronaut and physicist."

After deployment, she plans to travel to Europe and relax with family, including her niece who will be born in June. Her favorite food is popcorn and she loves the movie *The Emperor's New Groove*.

Bradshaw is deployed with Alpha Company, 1-137th AHB.



(Spotlight by Spc. Stanford Toran IV)



Photos by Cpl. Jennifer Raley



**Lt. Col. Kevin White**, brigade deputy commander, visits Soldiers at a remote outpost. As more responsibility is placed on a brigade during deployment, a deputy commander is brought on to assist the command team.



Congratulations to **1st Sgt. Brandon Soles and Staff Sgt. Corena McGee**, who recently won the "Battle of the Battalions" cornhole tournament!



**Sgt. Brianna Carlson** graduated from West Virginia University with a degree in criminology but loves learning about the medical field and currently serves as a combat medic.

After deployment, she plans to attend graduate school where she will study forensic psychology. Her plans also include traveling, hiking and spending time with friends and family.

She says #WomensHistoryMonth highlights the impact of women in the community. Her favorite superhero is Wonder Woman because she is a heroic representation of women all over the world.

Carlson is deployed with HSC, 628th ASB.

(Spotlight by Spc. Stanford Toran IV)

# HOMEFRONT HEROES

Soldiers and families,

We know there are many ways our families “hold down the homefront” and we want to share their stories.

If you'd like to recognize a family member back home please do one of the following:

- 1) Send a message to the 28<sup>th</sup> ECAB Facebook page with a photo of the family member and a short paragraph describing why they deserve a shout out.
- 2) Email your FRG leader with a photo of the family member and a short paragraph describing why they deserve and shout out.
- 3) Contact the brigade PAO or your UPAR for assistance



#### Ideas include...

- A child who reads bedtime stories to their younger siblings
- A niece or nephew who sent care packages to their Soldier's unit
- A parent or in-law who has been stepping up to take care of the kids
- A child who broke a personal record at a recent track meet
- A spouse who threw a party for their child's birthday on their own (yikes)
- A spouse or parent who picked up a new skill or earned a degree

*“The strength of the armed forces of the United States is as much about its families as it is about its combat capability.”*

– Gen. Martin Dempsey



Follow the link below for the latest AFN TV schedule

<https://v3.myafn.dodmedia.osd.mil/>



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<https://www.dvidshub.net/unit/28cab>



For the latest Army news, visit the Army News Service at <https://www.army.mil/ARNews>

# SPORTS SHOUTOUTS



Want to send a shoutout to your favorite team? Contact your company UPAR or the brigade PAO

*The Anvil Insider: a publication by the 28th ECAB and Task Force Anvil public affairs office*

## **28th Expeditionary Combat Aviation Brigade**

Commander:  
Col. Howard Lloyd

Senior Enlisted Advisor:  
Command Sgt. Maj. Sean Livolsi



# STAY SHARP



## Woman's History Month Celebrated



Staff Sergeant Andrea Whelan was recognized as Camp Buehring's Woman of the Week during a service at the Post Chapel. SSG Whelan is currently serving as the full time Victim Advocate for Task Force Anvil. She received her recognition and Certificate of Appreciation for her exceptional volunteer service to her community, her church, and the US Army. In celebration of Woman's History Month, she was named among the women who have done great things in the past and continue to do great things in the present and future. She is pictured with the Brigade Executive Officer, Brigade Chaplain, and Post Chaplain.

## Educating Our Force

Task Force Anvil SHARP Professionals have been staying busy conducting SHARP Desk Side Briefings with Battalion and Company Command Teams, delivering TY21 SHARP Face to Face Training, and speaking with Soldiers during small group SHARP Sensing Sessions/Focus Group type settings. It is important that our Soldiers understand the tools available to them. The Brigade SARC and Victim Advocates are tasked with ensuring Soldiers and their leaders understand how to prevent and handle possible instances of Sexual Harassment/Sexual Assault as well as educating them on their reporting options. We understand that Protecting Our Soldiers Protects Our Mission.



**MSG JP Karpovich**  
TF Anvil SARC  
570-709-2325  
Signal App



**SSG Andrea Whelan**  
TF Anvil VA  
717-609-5598  
Signal App

**SPONSORED BY TASK FORCE ANVIL SHARP TEAM**



# 1-137 AHB UPDATE

Facebook: @taskforcechickenhawk



Motto:

“Rule #1: Don’t talk about Flight Club.”

03.30.2021

Issue XXXI

## Charlie Company "Blacksheep" at work in Syria



To all the friends and family of the 1-137 AHB, we would like to thank you for your continued support. As always, we remind all soldiers, friends, and family to stay in touch with loved ones. For many soldiers, this can be a challenging time, being away from friends and family.

Announcement: It is strongly recommended that families not send mail to soldiers past March 17, 2021.

If you have not already please follow the Task Force Chickenhawk Facebook Group. This is where you can stay up to date with the 1-137 AHB. Please, if you have any questions, feel free to reach out through the group for more information.

We look forward to keeping you updated on all things Task Force Chickenhawk!



# ROADRUNNER REVIEW

## Task Force Roadrunner Newsletter



### B Co Gains Leaders

B Co. recently had the honor of promoting four Soldiers to the rank of Sergeant; (*pictured left, from left to right*) SGT King, SGT Avila, SGT Douglas, and SGT Oinal. Additionally, two Soldiers were promoted to the rank of Corporal; (*pictured left, from left to right*) CPL Weber and CPL Smetana. Congratulations to these Soldiers and thank you for your hard work and dedication.

*(Photos by SGT Zach Mateja)*

### Clownin' Around



SGT Strickland of the maintenance section in HSC has been tasked out with painting their section's T-Wall design. Taking inspiration from the popular video game "Twisted Metal", their design depicts a clown using a raised metal surface (provided by the allied trade specialists).

*Happy Birthday This Coming Week To...*

SPC Sharper	SGT Roman
SPC Stout	SSG Bowman
SGT Benner	SFC Coons



### Get To Know Your Soldiers...

Name/Rank: SSG Wilman Pinto  
Hometown: Bensalem, PA  
Age: 24  
MOS: 25U  
Civilian Occupation: Full time student and works as an IT Help desk Technician

Roadrunner Review Staff  
 HSC- SPC Zachary Wynn, SGT Zach Mateja  
 A Co.- SPC Kayla Harley  
 B Co.- SPC Joyce Avila, SGT Francis Calabro  
 C Co.- SPC Jason Kopp

Goal After Deployment: Finish his bachelor's degree in computer science  
Fun Fact: He can chew through an entire 500 piece bucket of Double Bubble in just a few days

## A Co Awards and Promotions

A Co. was proud to promote two of their own to the rank of Staff Sergeant; SSG Roberts and SSG Larafritos. SPC Crostley was also recognized for his end of tour awards.



## YEARBOOK INFORMATION

TF Anvil soldiers should be remembered for their efforts this deployment:

The yearbook is now available to order! It is \$23.10 (before tax) or you can have it shipped to your home for \$33.60.

Steps for Ordering:

- 1) Go to [commpe.pictavo.com](http://commpe.pictavo.com) <<http://commpe.pictavo.com>>
- 2) Put 95050 in the School ID#
- 3) Select "Shop My School"
- 4) Both options are the same yearbook but one is for delivery to your home
- 5) Check out and pay attention to the instructions in the Delivery tab.

**\*You must purchase your book by April 2.**

The deployment yearbook will be used to supplement historical documentation obligations, as well as for Soldiers and their families to enjoy.

If any Soldiers are interested in submitting content or designing some pages, please contact CPT Travis Mueller or their UPAR.

Have a story, Soldier to highlight, cool photo, or something else for the newsletter? Reach out to your company level Roadrunner Review staff member or email [628thPublicAffairs@gmail.com](mailto:628thPublicAffairs@gmail.com)

## COVID Vaccinations

By 1LT Devon McMahon



With the roll out of the recently approved Johnson & Johnson's Janssen vaccine we have taken great strides to getting all our soldiers protected from COVID-19. We are still far from our goal of getting all soldiers eligible for it fully vaccinated. As we get closer to going home the benefits of being fully vaccinated become more real to all of our soldiers. According to the CDC Fully vaccinated people can:

- Visit with other fully vaccinated people indoors without wearing masks or physical distancing
- Visit with unvaccinated people from a single household who are at low risk for severe COVID-19 disease indoors without wearing masks or physical distancing
- Refrain from quarantine and testing following a known exposure if asymptomatic

The CDC frequently updates these guidelines as they get more information from their studies. Remember, you are considered fully vaccinated for COVID-19  $\geq 2$  weeks after they have received the second dose in a 2-dose series (Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna), or  $\geq 2$  weeks after they have received a single-dose vaccine (Johnson and Johnson's Janssen vaccine).

As we begin to learn more about vaccine protection and as more people begin to be vaccinated we may begin to get back to the sense of normalcy we were used to.

Please reach out to your chain of command or medical team if you have any questions regarding the vaccines.

**\*PLEASE NOTE: Your last chance to receive the vaccine while deployed is coming up, please contact your chain of command if interested.**



# PEGASUS POST

Checking in with HHC

March 30, 2021



***Thank you to everyone who participated in last week's brigade cornhole tournament.***

## Reminders

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