



Indianhead



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December 18, 2009

Warrior Families pioneer transformation

By Master Sgt. Michael Pintagro

2nd ID Public Affairs Chief

Maj. "Wylie" Huffman didn't lobby for a job in Warrior Country. His branch decided for him and communicated the tidings the "old Army" way – unannounced and unsolicited permanent orders.

But surprisingly, the "old Korea" narrative didn't follow on the heels of the "old Army" assignment. Rather than embark on the "all others" tour once synonymous with 2nd Infantry Division orders, Huffman almost immediately opted to make Korea a Family adventure.

"When I first talked to my wife about it, she assumed I'd be spending a year in Korea unaccompanied," the 38-year-old native of Pickerington, Ohio, recalled. "But after I discussed command sponsorship with her she got on board immediately."

A Korean-American classmate at the Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth, Kan. first broached the subject. Research, discussion and planning followed. Command videos were played and web sites consulted. The more they learned, the more Huffman and his wife Lydia came to view Warrior Country as a Family opportunity.

During the course of their investigation, the Huffmans heard and carefully weighed the usual objections to Family life in Area I: the 2nd ID operations tempo is too high – "you spend more time in the field and exercises than you do at home;" units treat Soldiers like they're deployed; the infrastructure ranges from primitive to non-existent; the few Families in Korea fend for themselves in an alien culture that doesn't accommodate English speakers well; in short, "you're better off 'sucking up' the year and leaving the Family in a more accommodating place."

But the Huffmans rejected the conventional wis-



Pfc. William Gasper of HHC, DSTB and his 1-year-old son Connor play as they await Santa's arrival during the Christmas Tree lighting ceremony conducted Dec. 3 on Camp Red Cloud.

dom – and they're happy they did.

"I've been at places with a high optempo before, places with an even higher optempo than we have here," Wylie Huffman said. "We're certainly very busy here, particularly during the exercises; but having my Family here is incentive to manage my time well and be able to leave at 1700 or 1800 normal days. I think sometimes guys work insane hours because

their Families aren't here and there's no reason to go home. How many of them really have to be at work at 2100 or 2200?"

Wylie Huffman's sponsor, Maj. Jesse Easter, and the Division plans shop, enthusiastically welcomed the couple and their two young children, integrating

See **SPONSORSHIP**, Page 8

A 'Degree at 3' for Warriors ready to 'Fight Tonight'

"Warrior University," a new educational initiative designed to help 2nd Infantry Division Soldiers pursue higher learning and earn college degrees, launches **Jan. 15!** The program relieves Soldiers from other duties between 3 p.m. and 6 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays to attend college classes.

Maj. Gen. Michael S. Tucker, the Warrior Division commanding general, personally developed the concept and encourages all his Soldiers to embrace the opportunity. The commanding general has directed all leaders to support the program.

So make the first move: simply consult the Web site at www.goarmyed.com or drop by the education center at Camp Casey, Camp Red Cloud, Camp Stanley, Yongsan Garrison or Camp Humphreys and ask about Warrior University opportunities. A counselor will discuss financial aid issues, answer any relevant academic questions and help you get started!



VOICE OF THE WARRIOR: What would you like for Christmas?



"I'd like a plane ticket to North Carolina. That's where my daughter is and I haven't seen her since August."
Staff Sgt. Carla Barra
Warrior Readiness Center

"I'd really like to go home and see my dad in San Antonio, but an iPod Touch would be pretty cool too."

Pfc. Adrian Labuda
Warrior Readiness Center



"I want my family to be OK. My wife works at K-16 but my daughter is back in the states."
Sgt. 1st Class Rocky Marsh
Warrior Readiness Center

"I will be going home to pick-up my two daughters and bring them back to Warrior Country."

Staff Sgt. Oneesha Mitchell
Warrior Readiness Center



"A pet monkey would be great. I've loved monkeys all my life. More realistically I would like a nice digital camera to take photos while I'm in Korea."
Spc. Marquita Owens
Warrior Readiness Center

"I want to go home and be with my family. I have a lovely wife and three beautiful girls."

Spc. Antonio Vincent
Warrior Readiness Center



COMMANDER'S CORNER

Resolve to make 2010 'Second to None'

By Maj. Gen. Michael S. Tucker
2nd ID Commander

Warriors, let's resolve to usher in a New Year that's worthy of our service, our Families, our heritage and the great nation we serve.

1. Resolve to count your blessings and have a merry Christmas, a happy New Year and a festive holiday season. We're spending this season with colleagues and friends if not with our Families among warm and supportive neighbors. Due to deployments, many of us have not been so fortunate in previous years, and our fellow Soldiers in Afghanistan and Iraq are not so fortunate as you read this. So let's acknowledge this blessing with humility and gratitude.

2. Resolve to be successful cultural ambassadors. Remember, we are the face of the United States of America seen through a Korean lens. They don't view us as one demographic and occupational slice of the country – they view us as the embodiment of our entire country. So go out of your way to engage our Korean colleagues and neighbors. This culture respects honest engagement, modesty, restraint, deference and courtesy. Be a gracious guest and accentuate those qualities. The Korean culture is proud and self-confident. Learn what you can about the language and the culture, and show an interest in our host country, its achievements, its values and its people.

3. Resolve to help build the alliance. Engage Republic of Korea Army counterparts as often and comprehensively as possible. If you can turn a routine gunnery into a combined event, coordinate with ROK colleagues to make it happen. I think you'll find them eager to embrace the opportunity. And remember, the field isn't the only place we can build the team. Involve ROK brothers in arms in planning, administrative, social and cultural events as well.

4. Resolve to further your education. This will not only improve your promotion potential but develop skills and achieve credentials that will pay dividends throughout your life. If you already have a four year degree or higher, resolve to help your Soldiers reach their full academic potential.

We're committed to helping you make good on this resolution. Beginning next month, "Warrior University" will help facilitate Soldiers pursuing their education goals. Participating Soldiers will be

exempt from other duties 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays in order to attend class. Getting started couldn't be easier: go to www.goarmyed.com to initiate the process or simply drop by the education center at Camp Casey, Camp Red Cloud, Camp Stanley, Yongsan Garrison or Camp Humphreys and talk to a counselor. The counselor will discuss your education goals, available classes, degree programs and any other education issues you'd like to address.

Leaders, ensure your Soldiers know about Warrior University, know where the education center is located and the benefits of achieving an academic degree. Remember, we're trying to maximize participation in this program, so I'd ask you to encourage your Soldiers in every way possible. I think you'll find it's your most motivated Soldiers who take advantage of this opportunity. Finally, only battalion commanders may approve exceptions to Warrior University policy.

5. Resolve to better yourself with a tangible accomplishment in 2010. Take advantage of your tour in Korea and leave here knowing you accomplished a personal goal. The goal will differ for each of us according to our interests, abilities and desires, but it's important to focus on something meaningful for you.

And to give your resolution teeth, make it measurable. Rather than setting a vague goal of "being a better husband," for instance, you could resolve to plan a date night with your wife at least once every month. Instead of resolving "to spend more time with my kids" you could resolve to conduct a series of hikes or camping trips during your time in Korea.

On the completely personal side you could resolve to bench press 300 pounds, run two miles in under 12 minutes, loose 20 pounds, learn a foreign language, etc. My wife Teresa would say that a good resolution for all of us is to call our loved ones back home more often. No matter what it is I encourage you to resolve to do something this year that will make you a better person, proud of your accomplishments and your service to make 2010 a year which is truly, Second to None!



Indianhead

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Resolve to stay safe in 2010

By Staff Sgt. Danice Keathley

2nd ID Safety Office

The New Year will give us all a new start and offer some people an opportunity to correct deficiencies and weaknesses that hindered them during the past year – hence the popularity of “New Year’s resolutions.”

Many such resolutions have become so common they’ve reached the status of cliché. Countless numbers of Americans, including those in the military, resolve to exercise more, eat less, quit smoking, cut down on their drinking, get out of debt or spend more time with their Families during the New Year. In fact, when I informally asked some 2nd Infantry Division Soldiers about their New Year’s resolutions, they replied precisely along these lines!

And while I would be the last one to argue against these oldies but goodies, why not consider another resolution: let’s make 2010 the safest year ever for the Warrior Division, its people and its Families! One command sergeant major I asked was definitely in the spirit of things. He said that his resolution is to prevent any unsafe act that could possibly and needlessly endanger a Soldier’s life.

While that goal may seem a little high even for a New Year’s resolution since most of us aren’t in position to control massive numbers of Soldiers, we can all resolve to make a difference. For instance, you can implement safety controls for any particular activity. In fact, you can even implement supporting safety controls for your New Year’s resolutions! Whatever your resolutions are, you can further your goals by specific safety practices that help make your resolutions a reality.

As you make holiday plans and goals incorporate

composite risk management into the process. If you’ve resolved to spend more quality time with your Family and friends, then wear a seat belt when traveling to visit them, whether you ride by bus or car. When you wear your seat belt – a general requirement in the Republic of Korea as well as U.S. bases – and resolve to drive attentively you mitigate risks associated with driving and minimize the chances you’ll harm yourself or others. The media and civic organizations focus on drinking and driving, but that’s not the only hazard in the computer age. “Texting while driving” is becoming a deadly issue for far too many modern drivers, including Soldiers and Family members.

Even seemingly harmless resolutions like exercise and weight loss have important safety components. For instance, have you consulted a doctor or fitness expert to assess your fitness level and develop realistic goals? If your weight loss plan includes a fad diet or self-starvation, it will probably do more harm than good. If you try to meet all your fitness goals in a short time, you may place a dangerous strain on your body and risk serious injury. Are you relying on “energy drinks” and supplements rather than time, patience and motivation for your success? A gradual, realistic plan advised by subject matter experts should be part of the resolution itself.

Have you resolved to give up your vices? It’s great to quit smoking, but be aware of the challenges and understand the resources that are available to help you. Significant changes in your behavior and body chemistry will always have a major impact on how you think and feel. So consult some of the support groups available for smoking cessation, or consult your doctor.

Prepare yourself for any lifestyle changes with realistic, achievable goals made after careful planning and informed by some of the great behavioral health and

counseling resources the Army makes available to us for free. Think of all the support groups ready to help you. Their wisdom and experience is an asset you shouldn’t squander. Don’t just base your “plan” on a whim or emotional outburst!

For any health or fitness related goal, make regular medical check-ups part of the resolution. There’s no change to our health and lifestyle that won’t benefit from expert medical guidance and regular examination.

What if education is your resolution? Well, consider the risks of fatigue and stress if you over-commit yourself. Develop a realistic plan that maximizes the value of your time and energy and doesn’t take on more than you can handle. If an excessive workload makes you too tired and nervous to achieve your goals, then you’ve not only wasted the effort to improve your education but risked mission failure in your job as well. Set realistic goals compatible with your proficiency, mission, home life and other competing demands on your personal time.

Is your goal cultural? By all means take advantage of the tremendous opportunities Korea has to offer. That’s the commanding general’s vision as well as good common sense. But plan your recreational and cultural pursuits well. Take advantage of daylight hours; implement safety controls during travel; travel in safe, developed areas; bring a safety kit, cell phone and contact information; let someone know where you’re going and above all use the buddy system.

It is our common goals and commitments to one another in the New Year that encourage us to be better neighbors, better friends, and to more fully appreciate the experiences that we each will encounter working and living in the Republic of Korea. Together we strive to make the New Year, 2010, the safest and the best year ever. Have a happy and safe New Year.

Oh Christmas tree



Yu Hu Son

Maj. Gen. Michael S. Tucker, the 2nd Infantry Division commanding general, and young singers from the Uijongbu International Christian School choir illuminate the Camp Red Cloud Christmas Tree and grounds adjacent Freeman Hall the evening of Dec. 3. Around 300 Warriors and Family members, including nearly 60 children, joined the CG and choir for the festivities. An invocation, Christmas scripture reading and performances by the 2nd ID Band as well as the Christian School choir preceded the traditional lighting ceremony. A CRC fire engine rushing Santa Clause to the site of the ceremony arrived just as the choir concluded its carols. Children subsequently made their Christmas gift preferences clear to him during his appearance at the CG’s Mess. Christmas Tree lighting ceremonies were conducted at installations throughout Warrior Country.



Year of the NCO closes

Superb 2nd ID sergeants set standard



VOICE OF THE NCO:

What did you accomplish during the Year of the NCO?



"I took over (my company) in September. That was a major challenge since the majority of the company is fresh out of AIT. It put my abilities to the test, but I know I'm a stronger NCO because of the demands of the job."
1st Sgt. Melissa Lomas
A Co., DSTB

"I trained multiple MLRS crews and got them all certified."

Sgt. Michael Leonardo
1-38th FA, 210th Fires



"I monitor and train about 30 chaplain's assistants as the Division chaplain's office NCOIC. Before this assignment I was an AIT instructor. I probably trained well over a thousand Soldiers."
Master Sgt. Leigh Michel
HHC, DSTB

"Winning the Army Award for Maintenance Excellence was a great honor. So much hard work went into that from all the soldiers. I think the success of our training exercises highlights the quality of the NCO supervision as well."
Sgt. Maj. Franklin Jordan
HHC, DSTB



"My leadership skills have improved since I moved into a platoon sergeant spot. I've had several Soldiers successfully complete WLC, and I'm really proud of that."
Staff Sgt. Telly Grier
1-38th FA, 210th Fires

By Command Sgt. Maj. Peter D. Burrowes
2nd ID Command Sergeant Major

On Jan. 5th when senior Army leaders designated 2009 the "Year of the NCO," we immediately recognized the opportunities it entailed. Two decades had passed since the last "Year of the NCO" and we knew at once how beneficial it would be to take full advantage of the tremendous opportunity.

The operation order that followed stated four objectives: enhance the education of the noncommissioned officer corps; enhance physical and mental fitness; enhance leadership skills in the NCO corps; and launch several "pride in service" initiatives acknowledging the value of the NCO corps to the Army and the nation.

"As long as sergeants are working hard to set their Soldiers up for success, improving themselves, accomplishing the mission and taking care of their Soldiers, it will always be the "Year of the NCO," regardless of what the calendar says."

Command Sgt. Maj. Peter D. Burrowes
2nd ID Command Sergeant Major

As NCOs, we pride ourselves on working behind the scenes, but as this year of promise, potential and possibilities closes, it's only appropriate we spend a little time reflecting on what we achieved during our time in the "limelight."

Each of our subordinate commands approached the Year of the NCO with a vision according to their unique missions and internal dynamics, but nested with Division headquarters and the Army-wide mandate.

The guidance from Freeman Hall focused on four objectives: education; leadership; professional development and NCO esprit de corps. The objectives entailed clear, concrete steps. 1. Educate NCOs on Army programs and the tools at their disposal and maximize attendance at NCO schools. 2. Encourage NCOs to "lead from the front" in everything from physical training and uniform wear and appearance. 3. Strengthen NCO professional development programs at all levels, mentor junior NCOs, and induct qualified NCOs into the Sergeant Audie Murphy Club. 4. Conduct NCO induction ceremonies to standard, build camaraderie within the NCO corps, and tell the Warrior NCO story.

None of these were new, but the additional impetus provided by the Year of the NCO campaign motivated 2nd ID leaders from Warrior Base to Camp Humphreys.

When it's all said and done the Year of the NCO in the 2nd Infantry "Warrior" Division will be credited for several initiatives.

Command sergeants major served as guest speakers, honing their communications skills and passing along valuable insights to junior leaders.

Senior enlisted leaders from Command Sgt. Maj. Robert Winzenried of 8th U.S. Army to Command Sgt. Maj. Marvin Hill of U.S. Central Command provided mentorship, while Warrior NCOs elevated and enforced standards throughout the Division. Perhaps more importantly, they provided the mentorship, coaching and encouragement that turn solid leaders into superior ones and uncertain NCOs into confident sergeants.



Induction ceremonies welcomed every new 2nd ID sergeant into the NCO corps. The ceremonies punctuated the significance of the "crossover" from junior enlisted service to NCO leadership. Units used NCO professional development programs and sergeant's time training sessions to build and sharpen enlisted leadership skills.

NCO stories were captured and featured in American Forces Network broadcasts, the Morning Calm and each publication of the Division newspaper. I was very proud to see how diligently senior NCOs worked to showcase the accomplishments of subordinate enlisted leaders. Every article in the Indianhead demonstrated why NCOs are viewed universally as the "Backbone of the Army." Units also featured NCOs' accomplishments in local newsletters and a myriad of unit functions.

Throughout the Division, Warrior NCOs cared for, trained, and led Soldiers. NCOs were "on point," setting the example by exceeding standards. NCO runs were conducted in units from the 1st Brigade Special Troops Battalion to the 602nd Aviation Support Battalion. The motivation and the pride uplifted NCOs and encouraged them to live the words "No one is more professional than I." NCO pride shone brightly at enlisted-led social events throughout the "Year of the NCO." Half a year after the last dance step, the Division NCO "Black Tie Affair" held at the Dragon Hill Lodge is still the talk of the town!

Observers from other militaries throughout the world frequently point to an important quality that sets the U.S. Army – viewed universally as a model for professionalism, quality and success – from others. That quality is NCO leadership. Officers were historically drawn from elite circles and represented the highest caliber of talent and dedication a society could offer. Our officers likewise represent a cream of the American crop, and so is our Non Commissioned Officers. No other Army in world history has fielded an NCO corps like ours. This sets us apart. On the battlefield and off, NCO leadership makes the difference. We cannot and shall not lose this advantage!

As long as sergeants are working hard to set their Soldiers up for success, improving themselves, accomplishing the mission and taking care of their Soldiers, it will always be the "Year of the NCO," regardless of what the calendar says. Our Division is great because of its heritage, training, officers, Soldiers and legacy. It's also great, in no small part, because our Warrior NCO corps is "Second to None!"

Superlative sergeants exceed standard *Enlisted leadership excels during 'Year of the NCO'*



Pfc. Jung Ho Young

Staff Sgt. Jereld Jones, the NCOIC of the Division Medical Readiness Section, administers an anthrax immunization to Pfc. Dustyn Ferree Dec. 15 at the CRC TMC. Jones orchestrated a one-man campaign to ensure immunization readiness throughout the DSTB during the fall, staking out locations from Division headquarters to Camp Casey to track down recalcitrant Warriors. If you see him approaching with his trusty mini-cooler, surrender now and roll up your sleeve.



Pfc. Brian Glass

Staff Sgt. Randy Gray of A Co., 1st BSTB departs North Star Range after qualifying with his assigned weapon last spring. Gray was named 2nd ID NCO of the Year in the Year of the NCO.



Pvt. Lee Hyun Bae

Sgt. Arbie Melendrez, a fire support NCO with Division headquarters, briefs his team Dec. 15. Melendrez was recognized for superb junior NCO leadership during the Warpath exercise series and Warrior Stakes.



courtesy photo

Staff Sgt. Stacey Barrett of A Co., 70th BSB, 210th Fires inspects vehicles Dec. 14 at her maintenance area on Camp Castle. In addition to her duties as motor sergeant, Barrett serves as battalion EO leader and volunteers with the area BOSS as well as Dongducheon charities. She earned prestigious leadership awards and was named honor graduate of her BNCOC class.



Pfc. Robert Young

Sgt. Brandon Brown of the Warrior Band warms up on his oboe Dec. 15 in advance of an upcoming performance. Brown served not only as a stellar performer but as platoon sergeant – normally an E-7 job.

Combined air assault marks transition milestone

Story & photos by
Spc. Timothy N. Oberle

2nd CAB Public Affairs

CAMP HUMPHREYS, South Korea – Allied airmen teamed up for a dynamic combined air assault training event pointing the way toward a growing Republic of Korea Army leadership role in their national defense Dec. 5-9 at Tactical Assembly Area “Jerry,” located in Yeosu.

The 3rd Republic of Korea Army conducted the training exercise with the 2nd Battalion (Assault), 2nd Aviation Regiment, the 3rd Battalion, 2nd Aviation Regiment and the 4th (Attack) Battalion, 2nd Aviation Regiment of the 2nd Combat Aviation Brigade as part of the third phase of “Task Force Wildcard.”

The training represented an effort to strengthen the ROK and U.S. combined tactical response and to continue the progress of the ROK toward a leading role in theater defense.

During the mission approximately 20 Korean and American helicopters filled the cold December sky at the small training facility near Yeosu, carrying ROK Army soldiers on their mission to seize key terrain and prevent enemy counterattacks. The air assault training marked the first time the U.S. and ROK forces have conducted a combined air assault operation with both Korean and U.S. helicopters and was the last of three combined missions undertaken as part of Task Force Wildcard.

Other servicemembers from the 2nd Combat Aviation Brigade communicated with the command team at TAA Jerry from TAA Tom to verify conditions on the pickup zone and to communicate with the ground forces. The conduct of full scale combined training exercises under scenarios like Task Force Wildcard is a big step in the evolution of ROK forces and emphasizes their growing leadership role, said Maj. Darren W. Buss, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2-2nd Avn.

The five day training event began with preparations Dec 5 and 6, followed by a terrain board rehearsal Dec. 7, a full daylight rehearsal Dec. 8 and the actual



Soldiers with 4-2nd Avn. practice tactical ground skills during a training ambush.

night mission Dec. 9. The full rehearsal Dec. 8 focused on cold-load training and flying planned routes to make sure that the conditions were safe for the night mission Dec. 9.

Preparations began as early as June 2008, when Col. Matthew R. Lewis, the battalion commander for the 2-2 Avn., laid out his master plan for the combined air assault. “The more effective and prepared we are, the better we will be able to keep peace on the peninsula,” he said. “If we just practice in isolated units then we may run into problems if ever called upon to defend the country.”

Col. Joseph A. Bassani Jr., commander of the 2nd CAB, agreed and emphasized the importance of comprehensive U.S.-ROK integration as the ROK assumes greater responsibilities. “The overall goal for these exercises is to enhance our combined operability for the U.S. and ROK alliance,” said Bassani.

ROK military personnel communicated a similar sentiment.

“It is an honor to be part of this ROK-U.S. combined exercise representing the ROK Army,” said Capt. Lee, Jin-ah, the intelligence officer for the 4th Assault Bn., 3rd ROK Army. “It’s a great opportunity

to get to know the other party of this alliance, and this exercise will help us to understand each other and be ready for real combat situations.”

Conducting a combined training exercise is not without difficulties though. Understanding each other’s military operations is perhaps the most valuable lesson taken from the training event.

“It’s very rewarding working with the Korean Army, but it presents a unique set of challenges beyond the language barrier” said Buss. Trying to manage the combined forces and understand how each military prepares for combat can be a struggle, “but working through our differences and the complexities of a combined force makes it more rewarding.”

“The exercise also helps us understand how we can better support the Korean Army when they take the lead,” said Buss.

“Through this exercise we are able to clarify relationships, duties and responsibilities to better prepare us for possible attacks in the future,” he added, also noting it feels great to be a part of the process of transitioning from the U.S. being in the driver’s seat and at the same time helping the Koreans develop the capability to control their own nation’s security.



Black Hawks of 2-2nd Avn. land on the ground to take ROKA soldiers on board. About 20 helicopters, including Apaches, Black Hawks and Cobras from both 2-2nd Avn. and TROKA participated the combined air assault exercise conducted at TAA Jerry in Yeosu.

New ICAPS protect Warrior Families

By Sgt. Andrea Merritt

Editor

Although there has been peace on the Korean peninsula for more than 50 years, U.S. forces continue to maintain an “always-ready” attitude while stationed in the Land of the Morning Calm.

With more servicemembers bringing their loved ones to live with them during their tours of duty in Korea, they have to take certain precautions to ensure the safety of their Family members as well as their own.

Although no chemical attack is imminent, 2nd Infantry Division leaders have directed personnel with Family members in-country, whether or not they’re command-sponsored, to pick up the newest issue of the Infant-child Chemical Agent Protection System because the old equipment has expired.

The ICAPS is part of the Family Force Protection Initiative equipment set. The old version of the ICAPS was made for children ages 0 to 3, and the newest issue has been enhanced for 0- to 8-year-olds. Also included in the FFPI equipment is the XM 52 Joint Service Chemical Environment Survivability Mask, which is made for those ages 9 and up.

As part of the 2nd ID directive, Warriors are required to draw masks for their Family members from their local CIF if they have not already received them in their initial issue. If Soldiers have the old ICAPS, they are required

to exchange them for the new version.

The deadline for all 2nd ID Soldiers, U.S. civilians and Department of Defense personnel to draw or exchange their Family members’ masks is Dec. 28. It is the sponsor’s responsibility to get masks for their dependents because Family members are not authorized to draw or exchange equipment from CIF.

“This is not a new program. When I was here 10 years ago, I had to draw masks for my spouse and child at the time. If you have a Family here, you are required to draw one for your Family members,” said Capt. Allan Garcia, the 2nd ID chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear operations officer.

For initial issue of Family members’ masks, all Area I Soldiers can draw the equipment from the Camp Stanley CIF at Bldg. 2244 from 8:30-11:30 a.m. and 1-3:30 p.m. on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

To exchange the ICAPS, Area I Soldiers need to go to the Camp Casey CIF located in Bldg. 2603 from 8:30-11:30 a.m. and 1-3:30 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

Soldiers serving in Areas II and III can draw and exchange their Family members’ gas masks at the CIF in Camp Humphreys located in Bldg. T-616 from 8:30-11:30 a.m. and 1-3:30 p.m. Mondays through Wednesdays.

Regardless of which area their dependents may reside in, all Area I personnel need to draw their dependents’ equipment from an Area I supporting CIF.

When receiving initial issue, 2nd ID



courtesy photo

Capt. Allan Garcia, the 2nd ID CBRN operations officer, demonstrates the proper way to don the Joint Service Chemical Environment Survivability Mask with the help of his 10-year old daughter Allana.

personnel need to have a memorandum from their commander for CIF and a statement of understanding and responsibility to draw the FFPI equipment. Those who are exchanging the ICAPS do not need the memo or statement of understanding.

“The equipment is available and it’s just waiting for them. Sponsors, or Soldiers, owe it to their dependents and

Family members to make sure they are ready and protected in case of any emergency situations,” Garcia stated.

Though most people hope they will never need to use their CBRN equipment, having it not only ensures the safety of Soldiers and their Families in case of an emergency; but it also rings true to the Warrior motto of being ready to “Fight Tonight.”

4-7 Cav. troopers deliver special Thanksgiving meals

By Lt. Col. Russell Goemaere

2nd ID Public Affairs Officer

Troopers from 4th Squadron 7th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Heavy Brigade Combat Team joined with about a dozen American Families from Yongsan to share a special Thanksgiving season with around 350 appreciative guests Nov. 28.

The troopers and Family members, working under the direction of Chaplain (Capt.) Leo Moras, took a veritable truckload of “meals on wheels” to the Kasan Migrant Workers Center in Masan-ri Gasanmyon Ponchon-si Gyonggi, served up a traditional Thanksgiving dinner in addition to some homespun entertainment.

The Troopers rolled up at the center with turkey and all the trimmings and helped the residents learn about the American style fun and feasting that is associated with the holiday.

Many of the troopers thought there was no better way to enjoy the true meaning of Thanksgiving. “This was a great way to celebrate the Thanksgiving holiday,” said Pfc. Vernteze Vantroy, of 4-7th Cav. “The people were all very nice and it was a joy to see them enjoy a traditional American Thanksgiving meal. A few of the people came through the line like three or four times for turkey. I piled their plates and they still came back for more.”

The guests seemed to enjoy their first taste of

American holiday fare.

“The food was sumptuous,” said Enthyony Cerlacones, the president of the community, who added that it was the first time he had ever eaten turkey.

Foreign workers, many from the Philippines, as well as people from a local Korean Catholic parish attended the day’s festivities.

“It was a beautiful mixture of people and cultures and an atmosphere of thanksgiving. We are very grateful that the military picked us for this sort of sincere benevolence,” Sr. Lucia of the Sisters of Jesus Good Sheppard, who acted as a liaison at the event.

After dinner and before anyone could take the traditional post-feast nap, the American children put on a skit about the origins of the Thanksgiving holiday. The short performance was very well received and reciprocated by a traditional Korean dance routine.

“The skit the children put on was very entertaining,” Lucia said. “We were all enriched by the experience.”

Cerlacones echoed the sister’s sentiment. “It was the first time we had celebrated such an event with the American. It was a life changing event for us – a cultural experience that we hope to enjoy again.”

Organizing a large volunteer endeavor during a holiday weekend might seem like a challenge but that was not the case for the 4-7th troopers. “It was absolutely no problem for me to find enough Troopers to put this event on,” said Moras. “I think it is a testament to everyone that American Soldiers are so willing to

give up their off time to help people they do not even know.”

Local charities often work with Soldiers in the area to help spread good will to people in the area. Army chaplains act as facilitators to ensure a good fit for the command and the Soldiers involved. Moras said that he and other chaplains are always on the lookout for outreach opportunities like this one, bringing Soldiers, Families and area communities together.

“This is an important role for us as informal ambassadors in Korea,” Moras said.

“When the people see the absolute sincerity with which our Soldiers conduct themselves at events like this they cannot help but get a better feeling for all Americans in general and our Soldiers specifically.”

“I was very impressed by the Soldier’s service. They were here to serve the people in the center. They were here to make the people feel good, and they were very attentive to everyone’s needs,” Lucia said.

Anthony Gray of the Knights of Columbus, who worked with Moras to set up the event, echoed the sister’s sentiments. “We are very grateful to the Soldiers of the 4-7th Cav. for supporting this event and we look forward to working with them in the future in other charitable activities,” he said.

The Kasan Migrant Workers Center, located about 40 minutes by car from Camp Casey, was established in March 2001 to provide assistance to migrant workers. The facility also raises funds and provides relief to needy people worldwide, such as victims of the typhoons which struck the Philippines last fall.

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them into the 2nd ID Family and easing their anxieties about their life in Warrior County.

Nor did the notorious absence of “infrastructure” outside the friendly confines of Yongsan Garrison deter the motivated couple. The Huffmans settled in Yongju, strategically located between his current office at Camp Red Cloud and his next anticipated duty location at Camp Casey.

“We actually found housing within three or four days,” Wylie Huffman recalled with a smile. “We stayed a few days at the Dragon (Hill Lodge in Yongsan) and the housing office put us up at a (bachelor officer quarters) for a few more, but it was much less painful than I anticipated – I honestly expected more glitches and hiccups.”

“The apartments are wonderful – they’re very modern and spacious,” Lydia Huffman said. “There are very nice playgrounds at all the complexes. All we heard before we came was that there were no places for the kids to play but they have awesome playgrounds. They have gyms. There’s so much for kids to do over here it’s incredible.”

The local community, Wylie Huffman added, features ballet and tae kwon do institutions ideal for children and a variety of markets and other retail facilities. “We found we could sustain ourselves within a five-minute walk if we had to,” he said succinctly.

Pioneers like Maj. John Shermer and his wife Maggie blazed the trail Families like the Huffmans followed. One of the first three command sponsored Families in Area I, perhaps even first depending on the calculation method – the Shermers demonstrate how efficiently an informed, decisive and experienced couple can navigate the shoals of Family life within the Division footprint.

“We have nothing to complain about,” John Shermer, an Army gypsy raised in southwest Louisiana, said bluntly. “Things went very smoothly for us.”

The Shermers’ biggest obstacles confronted them at Fort Meade, Md. prior to their departure for Korea. Still unaccustomed to accommodating accompanied Korean tours, the transition agencies struggled with the Shermers’ options and orders for a time. “No one knew how to handle us,” he recalled. “The process was very new so they were unsure about a lot of things.”

But ultimately the major, an experienced hand in administrative combat, routed the bureaucracy and obtained orders for an accompanied tour. The support of his organization, which includes other officers with Families, contributed to his success.

“My sponsor did a good job,” Shermer recalled. Given his rank, experience and a supportive organization, Shermer and his wife “had plenty of flexibility to work Family issues.”

The Shermers offered a concise and poignant assessment of their living space. “It’s fabulous,” John Shermer said. “We love it.”

“The apartments here are all really nice, even fancy,” Maggie Shermer added. “I was very surprised just how nice the places were.”

The Shermers even managed to make a virtue of the childcare environment – often cited as an imposing obstacle to Family life in Korea. “It’s been a great experience,” Maggie Shermer said of her daughter’s enrollment in a Korean daycare facility. “She’s learning Korean and seeing many of the aspects of Korea the people who stay on bases miss.”

Junior Soldiers without the institutional knowledge or experience of field grade officers and senior non-commissioned officers more often experience the full



Master Sgt. Michael Pintagro

Staff Sgt. Israel Oros of A Co., DSTB and his 8-year-old daughter Ashley attend Mass Dec. 13 on Camp Red Cloud. The Oros’ 11-year-old son Israel Jr. regularly plays violin during Catholic services.

spectrum of “hiccups.”

Pfc. William Gasper’s story read like a caricature of the “old Korea” narrative – until he reached Camp Red Cloud. “I thought I was going to Fort Carson, (Colo.),” recalled the young New Castle, Ind. native heading an even younger Family of five. “That was the plan all along. But at the end of (advanced individual training) I was the only one without orders. When I asked what was going on they told me my assignment had changed – I ended up on orders for Korea.”

Gasper received orders for the classic “all others” tour without consultation let alone discussion of command sponsorship options. “They said I couldn’t bring my Family,” he said. “I was just a private, what could I do? I just went with it.”

After completing the assignment, travel, administrative in-processing and integration process without any discussion of Family options, a personnel clerk at Camp Red Cloud finally broached the subject of command sponsorship. Informed of Gasper’s Family situation and desire to complete his tour accompanied, company leaders and personnel clerks at Division headquarters helped the new Soldier through the process.

“Capt. (Chris) Choi and the platoon sergeant at the time were the ones who figured it out,” Gasper recalled. “They helped me complete the paperwork and get it where it needed to go.”

The administrative process posed challenges. “They managed to lose everything at Yongsan, so I had to start the whole process over again,” he said. “It

was pretty frustrating to find out months later nothing was done and I had to redo all the paperwork I already filed; and meanwhile (his wife and three young children) were sitting around in Indiana waiting, mad at me because it seemed like I wasn’t doing anything. But once the orders were cut, everything went great. They were here so fast I was barely ready for them.”

Notwithstanding the bureaucratic challenges, the determined Family arrived and thrived in Uijongbu thanks to its internal resilience and a supportive unit.

“The company, from my commander and first sergeant to the platoon sergeants and squad leader has been very supportive,” he said. “They’ve been very flexible and understanding. They’ve even babysat the kids during when I had an appointment. I’m not afraid to ask for anything.”

Now conducting a two-year tour with Division headquarters, the Gaspers give back to the organization and the Soldiers who helped reunite their Family. “We host a lot of gatherings, whether it’s Thanksgiving or Christmas or just a weekend get-together,” Gasper’s wife Lauren said. “The Soldiers love being around the kids. It’s hard for them because they miss their Families. That gives them something a bit closer to home.”

“We like it,” William Gasper said. “The kids won’t remember it, but we get out and travel quite a bit. We enjoy ourselves.”

“There have been a few times, especially when he’s working very long hours, when I’ve thought ‘was all this really worth it?’” Lauren Gasper said. “But

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we've experienced some great things we never would've seen unless we came here. Besides, I love traveling so this was right up my alley."

Virtually every command sponsored Family member identifies with Lauren Gasper's ambivalence. Indeed, all recommend a realistic, sober and balanced assessment before submitting any extension paperwork. Independent, adventurous and flexible Families tend to succeed, but not without confronting and surmounting stiff challenges.

"Area I is not fully developed like the bases to the south," Wylie Huffman said. "This is still a challenging environment. It's not for everyone."

"I'm not sure they're completely ready," agreed Lauren Gasper. "At Yongsan, there are classes you can put your children in; there's a (child development center); the commissary and (post exchange) are much larger and sell everything Families need; there are playgrounds. They're trying, and things are getting better, but this isn't on a level with other places yet."

"It's hard to appreciate what 'limited resources' means until you're living it," Maggie Shermer added. "Medical appointments, especially for pregnant women and children, can be a huge challenge. I saw one mother making trips back and forth to Yongsan with five kids. So she was buying six tickets both ways for every appointment. That's a lot of money for a low-ranking Family."

The Department of Defense Education Activity school opening next year at Camp Casey, greeted enthusiastically by most parents in the Dongducheon area, provoked a more ambiguous response in other parts of Area I. Uijongbu-area parents happy with the private schools their children currently attend regret losing funding for their kids to continue their studies in those schools.

"Now instead of walking her to school in five minutes we'll have to put her on a bus for approaching an hour each way," John Shermer said. "We regret, and I think most of the Families here regret, having an option that was working well for them taken away. The Families who came here in the last year made life choices based on what the Army told us when we moved here. A lot of people chose housing based on the proximity of the schools, and they shouldn't be penalized."

Practicalities such as transportation and communication can likewise pose daunting, if not insurmountable, challenges. Driving in the densely developed and heavily congested Seoul metropolitan area and Uijongbu corridor is not for the faint of heart. The proliferation of highways, specialized lanes and exclusively Hangul signage add to the challenge. The language barrier impacts Families more dramatically than unaccompanied military personnel, who typically spend most of their time on U.S. bases, generally appreciate.

"You don't grasp the magnitude of the language thing until you're in it," John Shermer said tersely. "Stepping off the plane and finding yourself illiterate is a challenge."

"When we moved into our apartment, they would post signs and we had no idea what they were saying," Lydia Huffman recalled with a laugh. Hangul signs, she added, "said they were changing the security code for the building. We had no idea what the signs said, so we went home one day and couldn't get into the building."

Yet command sponsored Families tend to agree that a lot – ranging from command climate to facility development – is going right. And with operational deployments within U.S. Forces Command routinely separating Soldiers from wives, husbands and chil-



Maj. "Wylie" Huffman
Aspiring ballerina and Warrior daughter Victoria Huffman, 4, practices her routine in front of the Family Christmas Tree. Her parents were surprised by the myriad children's activities available nearby.

dren for a year or more at a time, opportunities for stable Family life shouldn't be lightly discarded.

"I think we're going in the right direction," Wylie Huffman said. "This will provide Families some predictability and some stability in the future. The conflicts we're involved in aren't going away anytime soon, so I think it's particularly important to keep moving in the direction we're heading."

"It's a different paradigm – this isn't your daddy's Korea anymore," he continued. "And that's a good thing. As more people have positive experiences over here and they communicate that to their fellow Soldiers and friends throughout the Army I think more people will start coming with Families."

"It's been interesting to watch the culture change over the last year," John Shermer said. "The atmosphere at community events has changed dramatically. Take the Christmas Tree lighting, for instance. Attendance this year was much higher – there were kids crawling all over the place."

"The post continues to evolve," he added. "It'll be interesting to see how the base will look and how it will adapt to the greater numbers of Families."

"Korea gets a bad rap," he continued. "The perceptions of Korea come from the Korea of 20 or 30 years ago. That's just not the Korea of today."

The Area I infrastructure develops as more Families arrive. Institutions such as the Pear Blossom Cottage, which provides a kitchen, cooking equipment and laundry facilities as well as play places for children and valuable social opportunities, receives rave reviews from Warrior Families. PBCs support Families at Camp Casey, Camp Red Cloud and Camp Stanley.

"The PBC has been a Godsend," Maggie Shermer

said. "The facilities there are very valuable and the information passed among the wives helps just as much. Sometimes I even feel sorry for the people at Yongsan who don't have a PBC."

"It's a shelter in a very strange land," John Shermer added with a smile.

"The PBC is wonderful," agreed Lydia Huffman. "I was very thankful to find a place like that. It's very helpful, especially for the mothers with children."

Perhaps most importantly, command sponsored Warriors and Families almost unanimously agree on the bottom line.

"Even with all the difficulties I don't regret coming here," Maggie Shermer said. "This is my eighth year as a military wife and this is my favorite assignment. It's fun to be part of a culture that's so unique and so different from ours."

"This has been incredibly rewarding," she added. "If you choose to see it as an adventure it becomes an adventure. If you choose to see it as a hardship it becomes a hardship."

"It's a great opportunity if you're willing to dive in, embrace the culture and allow yourself to be immersed in it," Lydia Huffman said. "If you're open-minded and willing to take on some cultural challenges it's a phenomenal experience. This will definitely be among the best experiences we've had in the military."

"I wouldn't trade bringing them here for anything," William Gasper said. "Even if it's only for a few minutes, at least I get to see the kids every day. Even if I knew we'd have to deal with all the same issues and go through everything all the over again, I'd do it – in a heartbeat."

Facility helps Families forge new frontier Warrior Country Pear Blossom Cottage offers 'piece of home'

By Marlese Burrowes

Division Family Readiness Group

Tour normalization may be new to the 2nd Infantry Division but spouses choosing to follow their Soldier to an unfamiliar country and face the unknown is not. Korea is no exception. Until recently, Warrior Country was considered a dependent-restricted area. Even so, some Family members nonetheless accompanied their spouses to Korea. Today, while exploring the unknown, they have found a small piece of home when visiting the Pear Blossom Cottage of their area.

The cottage is designed to allow Family members to feel as if they are in their own home. The facility includes a living area, kitchen, shower, laundry room and computer section, as well as rest and play areas for children. And just like home, the tea pot is on the stove with leaves waiting to brew, the smell of fresh-baked cookies is in the air and a conversation is taking place around the table.

For many of the Family members who frequent the PBCs in Area I, the holiday season is just a little bit brighter since they can share it with one another.

As Christmas approaches, Family members and a few Soldiers use the PBC as gift-wrapping station. During one visit, wrapping paper, tape, bows, snacks and the Christmas spirit filled the PBC as Warrior Families conducted a wrapping session.

The challenges they face while here in Korea seem much less strenuous because of the sisterhood they have formed. These young ladies face each challenge confident their "sisters" will be there to support them.

Many of the young military wives and mothers one sees at the PBC feel like they are experiencing a different Korea than those who live in more developed bases to the south. They often venture out into the local economy, frequenting Korean restaurants, movie theaters and markets. They have learned to use both the subway and bus system as well as directing taxi drivers to their destination. Their children are enrolled in the local day cares, preschools and schools provided for children attending kindergarten through the 12th grade.

They are learning Korean, while the Korean children are learning English. Maggie Shermer, wife of Maj. John Shermer, and several other mothers living in



Lauren Gasper

Harmony Huffman, 3, enjoys a sip of hot chocolate on a chilly December evening on Camp Red Cloud. Harmony and her two little brothers play frequently at the CRC Pear Blossom Cottage.

Area I, has placed her daughter in a Korean preschool.

"She is learning to speak Korean and loves kimchi," Maggie Shermer said of her daughter. Bilingual teachers have been hired to assist in communication among English-speaking parents and children on the one hand and caregivers and teachers on the other.

The spouses who use the cottage represent countries from around the world. During one visit I met wives not only from the U.S. but from Singapore, Russia, Korea, the Philippines and Germany as well. They share things about their country with each other daily.

Not only are they sharing their culture with others, they are also taking advantage of the opportunity to learn more about their host country. The PBC offers Korean culture classes twice a month. Mini Richardson provides the spouses an opportunity to learn conversational Korean and offers them the chance to use what they learn in the local restaurants. The spouses refer to her as "the mom of the cottage." She makes herself available to the young mothers at any time. She is

always available to answer any questions they may have.

When English is not the first language spoken or written, something as simple as understanding the charges on a power bill or recycling your trash can become a challenge. The ladies at the cottage teach each other how to read the charges on their monthly electric bill or explain where to go for assistance to resolve a unique situation.

They also share ideas for decreasing the cost of the monthly expenses. Recycling, for instance, is mandatory for those living off post. Those who don't recycle face hefty fines. The language barrier posed daunting challenges for Families attempting to follow all the regulations. Armed with pictures of trash bags required for recycling, the spouses joined together and made a trip to their local market to find the correct bags.

Many of the Warrior Families recently joined together for Thanksgiving dinner. Claudia Figueroa, the wife of Sgt. Jaime Figueroa, explained that "the cost of making Thanksgiving dinner for two or maybe a small family with young children seemed pretty high to some of the spouses so we decided to join together for a potluck meal here at the PBC."

The ladies each prepared a signature dish that represented a country or Family favorite.

Preparing the traditional turkey for the holiday meal presented a few challenges of its own. "The turkeys that arrived from the Yongsan Commissary ranged between 16 and 17 pounds," Figueroa said. Roasting a 17 pound turkey in a Korean oven that better accommodates a 12 pound turkey was a challenge for her Family. "We had to reshape the aluminum roasting pan and force it into our small oven."

The ladies of the PBC hosted Thanksgiving dinner for approximately 50 Soldiers and Family members. The meal was served Family-style, with everyone gathered in the kitchen and making use of every available spot – including counter tops and kitchen islands as well as the three tables. Natalia Levchenko, the manager at the Camp Red Cloud PBC, said "everything was good because each dish was made with love."

For more information, call the Camp Red Cloud PBC at DSN 732-7168, the Camp Casey PBC at DSN 730-3837 or the Camp Stanley PBC at DSN 732-5400.



Pfc. Jung Ho Young

Claudia Figueroa (left) and Sandi Baldwin wrap gifts Dec. 8 at the Camp Red Cloud Pear Blossom Cottage. Warrior family readiness groups donated the gifts for junior Division Soldiers and Families.

Combined concert creates Christmas cheer

By Master Sgt. Michael Pintagro

2nd ID Public Affairs Chief

Around 1,000 2nd Infantry Division key leaders, Soldiers and Family members, Republic of Korea Army allies, local officials and neighbors from the regional community converged on the Uijongbu Arts Center to enjoy sounds of the season and usher in the holidays the evening of Dec. 9.

The 2nd Infantry Division Band, two prominent guest performers and a children's choir delivered rousing performances during the 2009 "Korean-American Friendship Holiday Concert."

The Warrior Stage Band opened the show with a repertoire of lighthearted season sounds, most instrumental but some including vocals from Staff Sgt. Scott Boyle. The band performed versions of "Deck the Halls," "Frosty the Snow Man" and "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer."

The Warrior Jazz Combo and Warrior Show Band performed similar fare, including "Christmastime is Here," "Zat You Santa Clause" and "I Saw Mommy Kissing Santa Clause," backing vocals from Sgt. Michael Milton and Spc. Carla Rance.

The Warrior Band performance culminated in a thunderous hard-rock rendition of "Arirang," a popular traditional Korean ballad. Heavy guitar chords, a crushing bass line and pounding drums backed searing vocals from Sgt. Choi Se Woong, Cpl. Lee Ki Hyuk and Pfc. Lim Ji Woong, the band's Korean Augmentation to the U.S. Army singers. Following a string of sophisticated, largely instrumental, arrangements, the number rocked a pleasantly surprised audience.

After a brief intermission a series of Korean performers took to the stage. Lee Jae Pyo, a professor at Sang-Myung University and distinguished vocalist who developed his voice in Italy, delivered classical Christmas arrangements in a powerful baritone.

Jin Mi Ryung, a popular Korean artist and friend of the U.S. military and 2nd ID, followed with a dynamic set including such favorites as "Evergreen" and "My Way."

The Little Santa Choir of Kim's Academy, led onstage and corralled into a semblance of order by chaperons, delivered the final musical performance of the evening. As an appreciative audience alternated laughter and sustained applause, the young children sang "Do-Re-Mi," "Edelweiss" and "Jingle Bells,"



Yu Hu Son

Spc. Carla Rance of the Warrior Band belts out "Jingle Bells" as the brass section provides backing sounds during the holiday concert conducted Dec. 9 at the Uijongbu Arts Center.

swayed and occasionally leapt.

Maj. Gen. Michael S. Tucker, the Warrior Division commanding general, concluded the event with gracious thanks to performers, participants and hosts. He noted unique aspects of the performers' careers and praised their contribution to the festive season and his Division's relationship with the local community.

"If you're not filled with the Christmas spirit after that performance you must be a Grinch," he said, provoking appreciative laughter and applause.

"We live together, we train together, and now I know we can make beautiful music together," he added. "On behalf of my wife, Teresa, my staff, my Soldiers and the entire Warrior Family, allow me to wish you a merry Christmas and a happy New Year that are truly 'Second to None.'"

Event organizers and leaders described the concert as highly successful.

"I'm extremely proud of the Soldiers of the 2nd ID Band," said Chief Warrant Officer II David Downer, the band commander. "Faced with limited preparation time, our Soldiers played very well, and had a lot of fun performing for such a warm audience. Our hope

is that we shared some holiday cheer with Soldiers, Families and friends of the 2nd ID."

American and Korean guests alike described the performance in festive terms.

"I loved everything," said Lt. Col. Nancy Spencer, the 2nd ID logistics officer. "I loved the music and the atmosphere – I felt like I was home again. It was like a touch of home. And the Little Santas were fabulous!"

"The Little Santas were definitely the highlight of the show," agreed Scott Patton, a civilian serving at Camp Casey. "The whole show was very entertaining – definitely a cultural experience." Patton added that he found Lee Jae Pyo's performance "truly impressive."

Korean guests came from points north and south to participate in the festivities.

"This was the first time I saw this concert performed," said Lee Seo Yeon of Yangju. "I was very surprised. I found it very interesting and very exciting. Their version of 'Arirang' was very interesting."

"The show was very interesting, very well-organized," added Kim Won Hyuk, who came from Seoul for the performance. "I was very happy with the show. The Jazz Combo was my favorite part – I was very impressed by the saxophone solo."

Kim Joo Young of Dobong described the hard-rock rendition of Arirang as "fantastic." "It's very exciting," she said of the concert. "This was my first time seeing the military band perform. The harmony of all the instruments was very impressive. The saxophone solos were particularly good."

Local organizers, the Warrior Division Band and guest Korean performers conduct the "holiday concert" annually in December. U.S. and ROK leaders and Soldiers attend alongside local civic officials and the general public.

"The concert reinforces the bonds between the military and the local community," said Lt. Col. Russell Goemaere, a 2nd ID spokesman. "Our Division partners with the people of Uijongbu in a variety of community initiatives. This is certainly a highlight of our relationship with our good neighbors in the Uijongbu area."



Yu Hu Son

"Little Santas" from Kim's Academy perform a number from the "Sound of Music" during the holiday concert held Dec. 9 at the Uijongbu Arts Center. The Santas concluded with "Jingle Bells."

WARRIOR NEWS BRIEFS

Kids Idol

Who will be the next Warrior Country “Kids Idol?” Find out 2 p.m. Dec. 19 at the Camp Casey commissary.

Children ages 5-7 are eligible to compete in the contest. To enter, simply bring your children to the commissary wearing their best Christmas dress that afternoon. Contestants will be judged on the best Christmas costume.

MLK observances

Martin Luther King Day observances are slated for 11:30 a.m. Jan. 15 at the Commanding General’s Mess on Camp Red Cloud and the Warrior Club on Camp Casey. The hour and a half long observances will honor King’s accomplishments and vision.

Sgt. Maj. Christopher Pritchard, the Division communications sergeant major, will be the guest speaker at the CRC event. For more information on the CRC event, contact Sgt. 1st Class Ray Brown at DSN 732-6549. For more information about the Casey event, contact Sgt. 1st Class James Stowers at DSN 730-2179 or Sgt. 1st Class Andrew Whittingham at DSN 730-2727.

Mailroom hours

The hours of the mailroom on Camp Red Cloud have changed. Weekday mailroom hours have

changed from 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. to 3 p.m.-5 p.m. Saturday hours remain 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. The mailroom is closed on Sundays and holidays.

Notice

If anyone has a claim against the estate of Cpl. Kris Patrick Jones, he or she should contact 1st Lt. Leonard Blue at DSN 753-8422.

Knitting class

A knitting class for all skill levels will be held every Wednesday at Community Activity Center on Camp Red Cloud. Feel free to bring your lunch and join the class any time between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. For more information, contact Sarah Colby at 010-4813-0109 or DSN 732-6246.

School bus schedule

Students enrolled in Yongsan Department of Defense Education Activity schools are provided round-trip transportation free of charge.

The school buses, which make the round-trip circuit daily during school days, transport students from kindergarten through 12th grade from departure points located on Camp Red Cloud and Camp Casey to the Seoul American Schools located on Yongsan Garrison.

Students should arrive at the departure points at least 10 minutes prior to the scheduled departure time. The transportation service is meant for

current and newly enrolled students attending Seoul American Schools.

Sponsors requiring bus transportation for their children must bring a copy of Form 600, Student Registration, to the Seoul American School Student Transportation Office to register for bus transportation.

All students must possess a school bus pass issued by the Department of Defense Education Activity Student Transportation Office in order to ride the bus.

Parents are responsible for bringing children to and picking them up from bus stops. Children in kindergarten through 2nd grade must be accompanied by a parent or guardian when they’re dropped off at or picked up from the bus stops. The schedule is provided below. For more information, call DSN 732-7359.

Camp Casey to Seoul American Schools

Leave Casey: 6:10 a.m.
Arrive SAS: 7:40 a.m.
Leave SAS: 3 p.m.
Arrive Casey: 4:30 p.m.

Camp Red Cloud to SAS

Leave CRC: 6:30 a.m.
Arrive SAS: 7:40 a.m.
Leave SAS: 3 p.m.
Arrive CRC: 4:10 p.m.

Activity bus

Leave SAS: 6 p.m.
Arrive CRC: 7:30 p.m.
Arrive Casey: 8 p.m.

Movies

Camp Casey

Show times: Fri.-Sun. 6:30 & 8:30 p.m.,
Mon.-Thur. 7:30 p.m.

December 18...Old Dogs, Couples Retreat
December 19...Old Dogs, Pandorum
December 20...Cloudy with A Chance of Meatballs, Pandorum
December 21...Old Dogs
December 22...No Showing
December 23...Couples Retreat
December 24...No Showing
December 25...Where the Wild Things Are, Armored
December 26...Where the Wild Things Are, Armored
December 27...The Stepfather, Cirque du Freak: The Vampire’s Assistant

Camp Red Cloud

Show times: Fri. 7 & 9 p.m.,
Sat.-Thur. 7 p.m.

December 18...The Blind Side, Jennifer’s Body
December 19...The Stepfather
December 20...Cirque du Freak: The Vampire’s Assistant
December 21...Where the Wild Things Are
December 22...The Invention of Lying
December 23...No Showing
December 24...Old Dogs
December 25...Old Dogs, Pandorum
December 26...Invictus
December 27...Invictus
December 28...Astro Boy
December 29...Couples Retreat
December 30...No Showing

Camp Hovey

Show times: Mon.-Sun. 7 p.m.

December 18...Jennifer’s Body
December 19...The Invention of Lying
December 20...Old Dogs
December 21...No Showing
December 22...Pandorum
December 23...No Showing
December 24...Armored
December 25...Couples Retreat
December 26...The Stepfather
December 27...Armored
December 28...No Showing
December 29...Invictus

Camp Stanley

Show times: Sun.-Mon. & Thu. 7 p.m.,
Sat., Wed. & Fri. 7 & 9 p.m.

December 18...Jennifer’s Body, Pandorum
December 19...The Blind Side, Couples Retreat
December 20...The Blind Side
December 21...Cloudy with A Chance of Meatballs
December 22...No Showing
December 23...Armored
December 24...Invictus
December 25...Invictus, The Stepfather
December 26...Old Dogs, Cirque du Freak: The Vampire’s Assistant
December 27...Old Dogs
December 28...Where The Wild Things Are

Camp Humphreys

Show times: Mon.-Fri. 6:30 & 9 p.m.,
Sat.-Sun. 3:30, 6:30 & 9 p.m.

December 18...Armored
December 19...Cloudy with A Chance of Meatballs, The Blind Side, Armored
December 20...The Blind Side, Armored
December 21...Pandorum
December 22...Pandorum
December 23...The Stepfather
December 24...The Princess and The Frog, Invictus
December 25...The Princess and The Frog, Invictus
December 26...The Princess and The Frog, Invictus
December 27...The Princess and The Frog, Invictus
December 28...Cirque du Freak: The Vampire’s Assistant

CHAPEL SERVICE TIMES

Camp Red Cloud

Protestant:
11 a.m. Sunday
Catholic:
9 a.m. Sunday
KATUSA:
7 p.m. Sunday
COGIC:
12:30 p.m. Sunday

10 a.m. Sunday
Catholic:
Noon Sunday
11:45 a.m. Tuesdays
and Thursdays
LDS Bible study:
6:30 p.m. Thursdays
Jewish:
6:30 p.m. Friday

Camp Hovey

Camp Casey
Stone Chapel
Protestant:
10 a.m. Sunday
Memorial Chapel
Gospel:
11 a.m. Sunday
KATUSA:
6 p.m. Tuesday
West Casey Chapel
Protestant:

Hovey Chapel
Catholic:
9:30 a.m. Sunday
Protestant:
11 a.m. Sunday
KATUSA:
6 p.m. Tuesday
Old Hovey Chapel
Bldg. 3592
Orthodox:
10 a.m. 3rd Sundays

Crusader Chapel
Protestant:
11 a.m. Sunday

Camp Stanley

Protestant:
10 a.m. Sunday
Gospel:
12:30 p.m. Sunday
Catholic:
11:30 a.m. Sunday
KATUSA:
7 p.m. Tuesday

Camp Castle

Protestant:
10 a.m. Sunday
KATUSA:
6 p.m. Tuesday

Castle Chapel

KATUSA:
6 p.m. Wednesday

Protestant:
10 a.m. Sunday

Points of contact

USAG-Red Cloud:
732-6073/6706
CRC Catholic:
732-6016
Hovey Chapel:
730-5119
Memorial Chapel:
730-2594
West Casey:
730-3014
Stanley:
732-5238
Humphreys:
753-7952
Castle:
730-6889
LDS chaplain:
010-5337-0872

1면에서 이어집니다

1시가 넘어 임시 야전포대 본부에 도착할 때까지 점심도 먹지 못한 기자는 임시 포대 본부 가장자리에 있는 이동 식당에서 토스트로 끼니를 해결했다. 그것도 돈이 없어 같이 간 미군 기자에게 얻어먹어야 했다.

끼니를 해결한 뒤 다시 봉고차를 타고 또 비포장도로를 올라간다. 도중에 앞바퀴가 빠져서 그걸 빼내느라 한 30분을 지체했다.

그리고 드디어 MLRS 3대가 발사 준비를 하고 있는 곳에 도착했다.

실제 발사를 보는 건 처음이기 때문에 기자는 설렘과 긴장했다. 하지만 곧 발사할 것이라는 MLRS는 시동 걸어놓은 경운기처럼 털털거릴 뿐이었다.

날씨가 너무 추워 장갑을 끼고 군화를 신었음에도 손발이 얼어온다.

그렇게 몇십분을 버티고 있는데 험비를 타고 온 토랜 대위가 “10분 후에 발사한다”고 말했다.

기자는 MLRS와 약 40m의 거리를 두고 주차돼 있는 험비 위에 올라가 촬영 준비를 했다.

토랜 대위는 “소리가 어마어마하니 험비에서 떨어지지 않게 조심해라”고

말했다. 그 말을 들으니 더욱 긴장할 수밖에 없었다.

이윽고 카운트다운이 시작됐다. 그런데 20초 전을 마지막으로 더 이상 들리지 않았다. 그때였다.

‘퍼어어엉!!!!’ 반사적으로 셔터를 눌렀다. ‘찍혔을까?’ 하고 카메라를 확인했다.

가장 빠른 속도로 촬영했지만 결국 놓쳤다. ‘카운트다운만 끝까지 해줬어도 안 놓쳤을 텐데..’ 하고 기자는 실망했다. 하지만 같이 구경하던 미군 중에 순간을 제대로 포착한 사람이 있어 그 미군의 사진을 쓰기로 했다.

정말 장관은 장관이었다.

MLRS를 보면 그 옛날 포트리스에 나오던 어떤 탱크 생각이 나곤 했는데 실제 전쟁에서 쓰이는 무기가 발사되는 모습은 그야말로 공포스러웠다.

발사음이 얼마나 큰지 포성이 메아리칠 정도였다.

또한 발사되는 순간 봉황이 출현한 듯 MLRS 주변이 순간적으로 불꽃에 휩싸이는 모습도 장관이었다.

그렇게 발사하는 모습을 보고 케이시로 돌아가는 도중 다른 포대 지휘본부에 들렀다.

그곳에서 경계근무를 서고 있던 카

투사 한 명을 만날 수 있었다.

6-37 야전포병대대 본부포대 소속 최우석 일병은 “현재 기상상황이 안 좋아 로켓 쏘는 게 자꾸 연기되고 있다”고 아쉬워했다.

로켓 발사가 늦어질수록 훈련도 길어지는 까닭이다.

그리고 그는 “2시간씩 돌아가며 보초를 서고 있는 중이다. 원래 12월엔 훈련이 없는데 새 대대장이 훈련을 좋아해 1월의 훈련을 앞당겨서 하고 있다. 현재 우리 중대에서는 6명의 카투사가 현장에 나와 원래 보직에 따라 각기 다른 임무를 수행하고 있다.” 고 말했다.

추운 날씨에 야외에서 훈련하고 있는 그들에게 경의를 표할 뿐이었다.

이렇게 시간을 가리지 않는 꾸준한 훈련이야말로 무적 미 2사단의 명성의 비결이 아닐까라고 생각해본다.

사진을 많이 찍었다면 인디언헤드 독자들께 기자의 경험을 더 생생하게 공유할 수 있었을 텐데 그러지 못해 아쉽다. 다음 훈련에는 더 다양한 사진을 찍어 실을 수 있도록 하겠다.

〈기사 _ 일병 정호영 / 기자〉



인빅투스

존 칼린의 소설이 영화로 제작되어 관심을 받고 있는 작품이다. 거기다 클린트 이스트우드라는 유명한 감독이 찍은 영화인데다 만델라 대통령과 남아공 럭비팀의 실화를 그려내 영화라 더욱 영화팬들의 기대를 모으고 있다.

남아프리카 공화국의 대통령이 된 넬슨 만델라는 나라가 아직 인종차별로 고통을 받고 있는 것을 느끼고 럭비로 나라를 통합시키려고 결심한다. 결국 1995년에 열린 럭비 올림픽에서 우승을 거두며 인종에 상관없이 남아공을 영광하게 만든 역사적인 사건을 이 영화에서 맛볼 수 있을 것이다. 또한, 만델라 대통령 역으로 맷 데이먼이 그리고 럭비팀 주장 역으로 맷 데이먼이 출연해 그들의 연기 대결도 지켜볼 만하다.

CRC ::	26, 27
CASEY ::	30
HOVEY ::	29
STANLEY ::	24, 25
HUMPHREYS ::	No Showing

인디언헤드-한글판-스태프
미 2사단장

소장 마이클 S. 터커

한국군지원단 지역대장

중령 박광철

공보참모

중령 러셀 고매어

공보행정관

상사 마이클 핀타그로

공보관

김현석

편집인

상병 한부용

기자

일병 정호영

이병 이현배

사진 전문가

류후선

인디언헤드 한글판은 미 2사단 카투사들을 위해 공보실에서 발행하는 미국방성 공인 신문입니다. 신문 내용은 미 육군의 의견이 아닐 수 있습니다. 인디언헤드지는 일일 양행 인쇄소에서 격주간지로 발행됩니다. 취재 요청은 732-8856으로 전화 바랍니다. 인디언헤드 한글판에는 한겨레체계가 기본 글꼴로 사용되었습니다.



인디언헤드가
전하는 사랑의 편지

이번 호의 주인공은 55헌병중대 PC/행정 운용병 계진성 일병과 성균대학교 생명공학부에 재학중인 여자친구 권재희양입니다.

'인디언헤드는 사랑을 싣고'는 여러분의 참여로 이루어집니다. 게재를 바라는 분은 미 2사단 공보실 한부용 상병 buyong.han@korea.army.mil 또는 732-9518로 연락주시기 바랍니다.

받는 사람

To 이세상에서 가장 사랑하는 재희에게~

자기야~ 이 세상에서 그 무엇보다 더 사랑하는 자기야~ 내가 이 세상이 사라질 때 보다 더 영원히 사랑할 자기야~ 잘 지냈지? 지금 감기가 걸려서 아름다운 단어들이 나오지 않아. 다른 때 같았으면 우리가 눈산에서 주고 받았던 그 손발의 말초 신경과 온 몸이 오그라드는 내용을 감상할 수 있을텐데 말이야^^ 그래서 평범하게 같게. 내가 카투사 합격한 날이 기억나네.. 그 때 나는 그냥 아무 생각 없이 기분 좋다고 웃고 있었지만 사실은 그것이 아니었지 1년10개월 동안의 이별이 예정되었던 것이었으니까. 한 순간도 떨어져있을 수 없는.. 한 순간이라도 떨어진다면 서로의 존재가 그리워지고.. 서로 슬퍼할 수밖에 없는 우리에게 그 어떤 곳이 되었던 군대 입대의 발표는 악몽과도 같았지. 친구들은 우리를 부러워했지. 하지만 한시라도 서로가 곁에 없으면 허전해지는 것은 어쩔수 없는 것 같아. 그래서 내가 수원에 내려가지 못할 때는 자기가 보산에 올라와줬어. 그리고 함께 행복한 시간을 보낼 수 있었지. 나는 이런 자기의 노력에 항상 고맙다고 느껴. 평소애 고맙다는 말 한마디도 하지 않았지만, 왕복 6시간이 걸리는 거리를 서슴치않고 나에게 달려와주니 우리 서로가 행복해질 수 있잖아^^ 정말 고마워. 항상 나를 생각해주고 군인인 나의 입장을 생각해줘서 항상 고마워. 내가 전역하면 이제 내차레인거 알지? 그 때부터는 졸업한 자기가 바빠질 테니 내가 자기에게 송송송 달려갈게^^ 그리고 이세상에서 그 무엇보다 포근하고 따뜻하게 안아줄게^^ 아..이제 389일 남았지^^? 이제 남은 1년동안 서로 잊지도 잊할 시간을 보내고 1년뒤 멋진 모습으로 발전한 후에 보는거야. 그리고 다시 서로 함께하며 아름다운 사랑을 만들어가구~ 자기야~~ 사랑해~~♥♥♥♥♥

우편 업서



받는 사람

To 사랑하는 내 사랑 진성에게~

자기야~ 이렇게 편지 쓰는게 얼마만인지 모르겠다. 자기 KTA에 있을 때만해도 '전역할 때 까지 열심히 써줘야지!' 하고 생각했는데 어찌보니 그 후론 거의 써준 기억이 없네~ 지난 3월 눈산에서 울며불며 난리치고 올라왔을 때는 매일같이 편지를 써냈는데 말이지. 미안해요^^; 자기야, 재희가 12월을 맞아서 자기에게 할 말이 있어. 일 년을 너무나 소중한게 만들어줘서 고마워^^. 올해 나는 자기 덕분에 정말 많은 잊지 못할 추억을 만들었어. 자기를 기다리면서 가장 붓꽃이 오래 떨어지는 기나긴 봄을 보내고, 편지라는게 얼마나 애절한 건지도 알게 되었지. 어느덧 여름이 와 너무 보고 싶었던 자기를 위해 요리도 못하면서 밤새서 도시락도 싸고, 이쁘게 보이려고 신지 않던 구두도 신었던 패밀리데이..... 그 때 본 자기 모습은 너무 멋지게 변해 있어서 아직도 잊혀지지 않아. 처음 외박을 나왔을 때 오랜만에 세상에 나와서 좋아하던 입이 귀에 걸린 자기 얼굴, 그 때 마침 우리 300일 이어서 기념 여행간 남이섬. 그리고 그 후로 매일은 아니지만 매주 썸간 날들. 내가 공부해야 되는 날애 외박 나오면 묵묵히 도서관도 따라오고^^ 이 모든 추억들 자기가 없었으면 평생 없었을 소중한 추억들이야. 가끔 내가 괜히 땀방피워서 싸우기도 했지만 그래도 우리만큼 항상 이쁜 사랑하는 커플은 없을 꺼야~그지?! 자기야. 우리 여기까지 왔어~ 매일같이 있고 싶지만 그럴 수 없는 조금은 힘든시간을 10개월이나 지나왔어. 아직 견뎌온 시간보다 견뎌야 될 시간이 더 많지만 우린 잘 할 수 있을꺼야. 내년에 내가 너무 정신없고 바빠도 조금 이해해주고 옆에 있어줄 수 있지? 데이트 장소도 100% 도서관이어도 말이야^^. 우리 1년만 더 씩씩하게 버텨서 나는 졸업해서 원하는 곳 가고, 자기도 전역해서 또 한 번 잊을 수 없는 멋진 여행 가자~! 세상에서 제일 이쁜 올 자기~ 너무나 사랑해요~~♥

6-37 야전포병대대 MLRS 발사 훈련 현장을 가다



<Capt. Ruxberry Kraig>

지난 12월 8일 경기도 포천의 야외 훈련장에서 6-37 야전포병대대가 다연장 로켓 (Multiple Launch Rocket System) 을 시험하는 훈련을 가졌다.

지난 12월 8일, 경기도 포천의 야외 훈련장에서 6-37 야전포병대대의 MLRS 발사 훈련이 있었다. 이번 훈련은 이번 달 4일부터 시작하여 약 2주 동안 진행될 예정이다. 기자가 그 현장을 찾아간 날은 추운 날씨에 비바람이 몰아치는 날이었다.

기자는 10시 40분에 CRC를 출발해 11시 30분에 캠프 케이시에 도착했다. 6-37야전포병대대의 에스코트를 받기 위해서였다. 그리고 십여분이 지난 후 국산차 봉고를 풀고 그들이 기자를 데리러 왔다. 하사 한 명과 대위 한 명이였다. 하사는 운전을 하고 대위는 앉아서

갈 뿐이다. 대위에게 이번 훈련에 대해 물어보았다. 하지만 그도 신참이라 훈련에 대해서 자세히 알지 못했다. 결국 현장에 도착할 때까지 훈련의 기본 정보를 얻을 수 없었다.

경기도 포천을 알리는 이정표가 지나고도 한참 달려 어느 산골로 들어간다. 비포장 도로가 끝없이 펼쳐지는 첩첩산중이다. 훈련 취재를 온 건지 오프로드 드라이브 체험을 하러 온 건지 모를 지경이었다. 케이시에서부터 약 1시간을 달려 겨우 현장에 도착했다. 현장에는 총 6대의 MLRS가 훈련에 임하고 있었다. 가장 먼

저 찾은 곳은 임시 포대 본부였다. 텐트 안에 통신장비들과 야영에 필요한 물자들을 갖추고 훈련을 지휘하는 곳이었다. 그곳에서 만난 6-37야전포병대대 A포대 사령관 고잉 스토폴(CPT Goings Torran) 대위는 “이번 훈련은 개발 완료 후 실전배치할 무기의 성능 시험이며 총6대의 MLRS가 훈련에 동원된다”고 말하고 “총 82발의 로켓 발사를 실험할 계획이다. 춥고 굳은 날씨지만 모든 장병들이 새 무기의 성능 실험에 흥미를 가지고 최선을 다하고 있다”고 덧붙였다.

(4면에 이어집니다)

인디언헤드가 만난 사람들

"크리스마스를 즐기는 방법 혹은 추억"



55헌병중대 선임병장
병장 백세훈



55헌병중대 선임병장
상병 양성우



55헌병중대 행정/PC운영병
일병 이중훈



55헌병중대 근무헌병
이병 최원빈

나는 4년전 크리스마스가 가장 기억에 남는다.

보통 크리스마스는 여자 친구나 주위 사람들과 보낼 계획을 세웠었는데 그때는 교회에서 3달정도 뮤지컬을 볼 수 있어서 공연한 성금으로 볼 수 있듯 돕기를 했었다.

학교 시험기간이 겹치는 등 긴준비 시간동안 힘드는데도 있었지만 7백만원정도를 모으게 해 노숙자들에게 나눠드렸는데 방한복을 나눠드렸는데도 기억난다.

초등학교 6학년때에, 어렸을 적에 아무것도 모른 상황에서, 12월 달에 약 1달간에 유럽으로 여행을 했었을 때입니다.

크리스마스 기간에는 프랑스 파리에 있었는데, 성탄절 특별 행사로 길거리 연주가들과 성당에서 나온 성가대들의 크리스마스 캐롤, 그리고 에펠탑 꼭대기에서 저녁에 본 파리의 야경과 그 밑으로 보이는 큰 크리스마스 트리는 성탄절의 느낌을 물씬 느낄 수 있었습니다. 비록 가족과는 같이 하지 못하였던 여행이었지만, 군복무를 성공적으로 맞추고 난후에 다시 한번 가고 싶은 곳중에 한곳입니다.

저는 작년에 군입대를 앞두고 가족과 함께 크리스마스를 보냈습니다.

작년 3월에 태어난 늦둥이 동생이 처음 맞는 크리스마스였기 때문에 즐거운 추억을 남기고자 가족들과 함께 요리를 하고 크리스마스 트리를 만들었습니다.

한껏 장식한 트리에 불이 들어오는 순간 동생이 지었던 미소는 온 가족을 미소짓게 했습니다.

크리스마스에 특별한 계획이 없다면 가족과 함께 시간을 보내는 것도 소중한 추억으로 기억될 것 같습니다.

고등학생때 있었던 일입니다. 크리스마스에 교회에서 일일 산타클로스를 했었습니다. 산타복장을 하고 제 친구는 루돌프 복장을 하고 차를 타고 다니면서 유치원생 아이들과 초등학교 아이들한테 선물을 나눠주러 다녔습니다. 아이들이 가정형편이 좋지 않았지만 교회에서 보면 밝고 귀여운 아이들이었습니다. 집 초인종을 누르고 기다리면 어린 아이들이 뛰어 나오는데 순진하고 천진난만 그 표정을 잊을 수 없을 것 같습니다. 좋은 선물은 아니었지만 정말 좋아하는 아이들을 보면서 피로가 싹 사라지는 것을 느꼈었습니다. 그때 이후로는 크리스마스에 놀기만 하면서 보냈지만 제대 후에 기회가 된다면 또 아이들한테 기쁨을 주는 역할을 하고 싶습니다.

미 2사단, 제 3 야전군과 합동 훈련 가져



<Spc. Tim Oberle/2nd CAB Public Affairs>

지난 12월 5일부터 9일까지 “제리” (“Jerry”) 훈련장에서 열린 한미 합동훈련에서 한국군 제 3 야전군의 장병들이 훈련 도중 임무에 대해 얘기하고 있다.



<Spc. Tim Oberle/2nd CAB Public Affairs>

지난 12월 5일부터 9일까지 “제리” (“Jerry”) 훈련장에서 열린 한미 합동훈련에서 제 2 항공여단 장병이 헬기를 이용한 훈련에 앞서 점검을 하고 있다.

focus

55헌병중대 선임병장 문병관 병장

인-자기소개를 부탁드립니다.

문-나는 08년 4월 군번으로 내년 3월에 전역한다. 삼수 끝에 서울대 법학과에 들어갔지만 1학기도 다니지 못하고 바로 입대했다. 친구들과 만나서 술마시는 것을 좋아한다. 나는 사람만나는 것을 좋아하고 인간관계를 대단히 중요하게 여긴다.

인-부대에 대한 소개를 부탁드립니다.

문-우리의 주된 업무는 Areal을 순찰하면서 치안 업무를 맡는 것이다. 병사들이 일으키는 사건, 사고를 처리한다. 순찰 근무시 항상 수갑과 곤봉을 소지하며 실탄이 장전되어있는 M-9 권총도 갖고 다닌다. 캠프 스탠리와 레드 클라우드에서는 12시간을 교대로 근무하며, 캠프 케이시에서는 8시간을 교대로 근무한다. 전쟁을 대비한 훈련을 받기도하는데 우리는 주로 VIP를 에스코트하는 훈련을 받는다. 또한 7종류의 총기를 다룰줄 알아야 한다.

인-자신이 군대에와서 달라진점이 있다면?

문-매우 건강해졌다. 입대전에 운동을 하겠다는 의지는 있었지만 실천을 하지 못했다. 하지만 입대 후 자율적으로 운동하는 습관이 생기게 되었다. 또한 전에는 약간 이기적인면이 있기도 했는데, 여기와서 소대원들과 함께 훈련하다보니 나에게 관심을 갖게되고 배려심이 생기게 되었다.

인-순찰중 기억에 남는 에피소드가 있다면?

문-헌병으로서 제일 처음으로 맡았던 근무가 가장 기억에 남는다. 선임이 근무 스케줄을 잘못 짜는 바람에 나는 신병기간임에도 불구하고 갑자기 근무를 하게 되었다. 그날은 주말이었고, 비도 엄청나게 쏟아지는 날이었다. 새벽 4시까지 근무를 했는데, 캠프 케이시 주변을 순찰하던중 술집앞에서 싸우는 미군들을 발견하게 되었다. 내가 다가가자 미군은 갑자기 도망치기 시작했고 나는 그를 쫓아가서 넘어뜨리고 수갑을 채웠다. 그러자 그 미군이 머리를 땅에 세게 박으며 자해를 시도하려해서 나는 많이 당황했었다. 자대배치를 받은지 얼마 안되어 생긴 일이라 기억에 남는다.

인-기억에 남는 미군이 있다면?

문-동남아시아 계통의 타오라는 미군이 기억에 남는다. 당시 그는 일병이었고 나는 이병이었다. 우리는 훈련 때 같은 팀이었고 같은 아시아인이어서 그런지 뭔가 통하는 것이 있었다. 같이 인천에도 놀러갔었는데, 차이나 타운에 들러서 밥도 먹고 자유 공원에 가서 맥아더 장군 동상도 보여주었다. 또한 인천상륙작전이 실제로 행해졌던 장소도 보여주었다.

인-후임들에게 하고 싶은 말

문-연말이라 사건도 많고 근무 스케줄이 안좋아서 힘든건 알지만 조금만 참고서 열심히 임무에 임해주었으면 한다. 내가 도와줄수 있는것은 최대한 도움을 줄테니 혹시 힘든일이 생기면 내게 말하거라.

<기사 및 사진_이병 이현배/기자>





MLRS 발사 현장에 다녀오다

2면

미 2사단, 한국군과 합동훈련 가져

3면

미 2사단, 지역사회와 연말 콘서트를 즐기다



<류후선/사진전문가>

지난 12월 9일 의정부 예술의 전당에서 열린 2009년 한미 친목 콘서트에서 미 2사단 군악대가 1000여명이 넘는 미 2사단 장병들, 경기도 공무원들, 그리고 지역 시민들을 위해 크리스마스 캐롤을 연주하고 있다.

지난 12월 9일 1000여명 정도의 미 2사단 주요 지휘관들, 장병들과 가족들, 한국군 관계자들 그리고 지역 공무원들과 시민들이 의정부 예술의 전당에서 열린 콘서트를 보기 위해 모였다.

2009년 한미 친목 콘서트 (Korean-American Friendship Holiday Concert)를 위해 미 2사단 군악대, 유명한 음악인 두명, 그리고 어린이 합창단이 훌륭한 공연을 선보였다.

이번 공연은 여러 종류의 크리스마스 캐롤로 시작되었다. 미 2사단 군악대는 이날 “장식하세”와 “빨간 코 루돌프” 등 여러 신나는 음악을 연주하였다.

이 공연에 이어 군악대의 라틴 음악 연주자들이 나와 또다른 크리스마스 캐롤들을 연주하고 마이클 밀튼(SGT Michael Milton)병장과 칼라 랜스(SPC Carla Rance)상병은 그 음악에 맞추어 노래를 불렀다.

이런 분위기는 한국 민요인 아리랑을 최세웅 병장,

이기혁 상병 그리고 임지웅 일병이 록 버전으로 불러 완전히 고조되었다. 그러자 관중들은 이런 편곡에 놀랐지만 즐거워하는 분위기였다.

약간의 휴식 시간 이후 한국 연주자들이 무대 위로 올라왔다. 이탈리아에서 음악 전공을 하고 온 상명대학교수인 이재표씨가 힘 있는 바리톤 목소리로 크리스마스 음악들을 불렀다.

미 2사단의 좋은 친구이자 한국의 유명 가수인 진미령씨가 다음에 나와 인기 있는 곡인 “에버그린”과 “마이 웨이”를 부르기도 했다.

이날 저녁의 마지막 공연은 리틀 산타 합창단이 맡게 되었다. 이 귀여운 합창단이 무대에 오르자 관중들은 얼굴에서 미소가 사라지지 않았고 박수로 그들을 격려해주었다. 이 어린아이들은 “도레미,” “에델바이스,” 그리고 “징글벨”을 울동에 맞추어 노래를 불렀다.

모든 공연이 끝나자 미 2사단의 사단장인 마이클 S.

터커(MG Michael S. Tucker)소장이 연주자들, 관계자들, 그리고 기획자들에게 감사의 말을 전하려 무대 위에 올랐다. 또한, 그는 각 연주자들의 독특한 경력에 대해서 언급하면서 그들이 미 2사단과 지역 사회의 관계가 발전하는데 큰 역할을 한다고 칭찬을 하기도 했다.

그는 “이 공연들을 보고 크리스마스 시즌 느낌을 받지 않은 사람들이 있다면 그들은 분명히 그런치일 것이다”고 말해 관중들의 웃음을 자아냈다.

그는 “우리는 같은 장소에서 살며 같이 훈련도 받고 있으며 이제는 같이 아름다운 음악을 즐길 수 있다”고 말하며 “내 아내인 테레사(Teresa)를 대신해서 모든 장병들에게 메리 크리스마스라는 말과 새해 복 많이 받으라는 말을 전해주고 싶다”고 덧붙였다.

이번 행사의 기획자들은 콘서트를 큰 성공이라고 평가했다.

미 2사단 군악대장인 데이비드 다우너(CW2 David Downer)준위는 “우리 군악대가 매우 자랑스럽다”고 말하며 “바록 연습 기간이 짧았지만 열광적인 관중들 앞에서 멋진 음악을 선사하는 동시에 그들도 이 공연을 즐겼다. 우리가 연말 연휴의 즐거움을 장병들과 가족들, 그리고 미 2사단의 친구들과 함께 나누었으면 한다”고 말했다.

관중들 또한 이 공연이 즐거웠다고 말했다.

미 2사단 군수장교인 낸시 스펜서(LTC Nancy Spencer)중령은 “오늘 모든것이 좋았다”고 말하며 “음악과 이 분위기가 마치 내가 고향에 돌아간 듯한 느낌을 받게 했다. 특히 오늘 리틀 산타 합창단이 정말 환상적이었다”고 덧붙였다.

캠프 케이시에서 근무중인 스캇 패튼(Scott Patton)은 “오늘 공연의 하이라이트는 당연히 그 합창단이었다”고 동의하며 “오늘 모든 공연이 매우 신났다”고 덧붙였다.

이 공연을 보기 위해 의정부와 그 주변에서 한국인들도 구경을 왔다.

양주시의 이서연씨는 “이런 콘서트에는 처음 와본다”고 말하며 “오늘 공연을 보며 정말 놀랐다. 굉장히 흥미롭고 즐거운 콘서트였으며 특히 아리랑 연주가 인상적이었다”고 덧붙였다.

서울에서 이 공연을 보기 위해 올라온 김원혁씨는 “오늘 공연은 잘 기획되었고 흥미로웠다”고 말하며 “오늘 군악대의 재즈 공연이 가장 맘에 들었다”고 덧붙였다.

도봉구에서 온 김주영씨는 하드코어 록 버전의 아리랑이 훌륭했다고 말했다. 그녀는 “이번이 처음으로 군악대가 연주하는 것을 본 것이다”고 말하며 “악기들간의 조화가 인상적이었다고 말하며 색스폰의 솔로 연주가 특히 좋았다”고 덧붙였다.

지역 사회와 미 2사단 군악대는 매년 12월 한국 연주자들과 함께 콘서트를 연다.

미 2사단의 대변인인 러셀 고메어(LTC Russell Goemaere)중령은 “이 콘서트는 미군과 지역사회의 관계를 강화시킨다”고 말하며 “우리 미 2사단은 의정부시의 주민들과 여러 활동을 한다. 그 활동들 중에서도 이 콘서트가 의정부 지역과의 좋은 관계를 확실히 보여준다”고 덧붙였다.

<기사 _ Master Sgt. Michael Pintagro / 2nd ID Public Affairs Chief>



<류후선/사진전문가>

지난 12월 9일 의정부 예술의 전당에서 열린 2009년 한미 친목 콘서트에서 이재표씨가 1000여명이 넘는 미 2사단 장병들, 경기도 공무원들, 그리고 지역 시민들을 위해 노래를 부르고 있다.