

FAMILY

Family Newsletter for the 49th Military Police Brigade, California Army National Guard



(from left to right), Brig. Gen Donald Currier, 49th MP Brigade commander; Calif. Gov. Schwarzenegger; Capt. Edward Bombita, 49th MP Brigade headquarters company commander and 1st Sgt. Ben Jandreau, 49th MP Brigade headquarters company first sergeant discuss the proud history of the "Eagle Hat", after the breakfast with the troops at the Sports Oasis DFAC, Camp Victory, Iraq. The hat was loaned to the MP company by Angie Lindburgh, a member of the Vintage Valley Blue Star moms, Vacaville, Calif, whose been a long-time supporter of the MP company.

49th MPs meet with Calif. Gov. Schwarzenegger

By 1st Lt. William Marquez
49th MP Brigade Public Affairs Officer

BAGHDAD, Iraq – On Nov. 17, while visiting Camp Victory in Baghdad, Iraq, California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger shared breakfast with Soldiers from the 49th Military Police Brigade of Fairfield, Calif. Schwarzenegger visited the troops to show his support and bring attention to the California

"You and your families are sacrificing a lot for our country."

-- Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger

Guardsmen's service to their nation.

Schwarzenegger previously visited troops on USO-sponsored tours to Bosnia in 2002 and Iraq in 2003.

"He's been wanting to visit the

troops for the last few years but hasn't had the opportunity," said Schwarzenegger communications director Matt David. "He thought now would be a good time to make a short trip over there."

Schwarzenegger visited the 49th as the brigade is two months into their deployment to Iraq. Their mission is to direct more than 5,000

See **GOV VISIT**, Page 4

49th Soldier raises Golden State Flag

BY SGT. KENNETH BINCE
49TH MILITARY POLICE BRIGADE
PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE

CAMP LIBERTY, Iraq --When he learned in April about his upcoming deployment, then-Lt Col. Rudy Arruda, a Yreka native, started preparing, like most people, by informing his family, friends and co-workers about his news.

He has worked for the California Department of Fish and Game for over 20 years. "I'm part of a team of game wardens and officers called Squad 2100," said now Col. Arruda, California National Guard, 49th Military Police Brigade, deputy commander. "My team is responsible for the Northern California region of the state consisting of Del Norte, Humboldt, Lassen, Mendocino, Modoc, Shasta, Siskiyou, Tehama and Trinity counties."

As the months went by and the deployment date got closer, the tight knit group of Squad 21 came up with an original idea. "In mid-June my friend Larry Harris surprised me with a California flag," said Arruda.

Upon closer inspection Arruda noticed the edge of the flag that attaches to the flag pole, was signed by a number of his fellow officers. "A few members of the squad thought that it would be a great idea to fly the flag over Iraq and give the California Soldiers, serving in Iraq, a remembrance of home, and I agreed," said Arruda.

Not long after the transfer of authority from the 8th MP Brigade to the 49th MP Brigade, the flag was raised over PAD 19 Camp Liberty, Iraq on October 12. "It was great to see it go up over the compound,"

said Arruda. "Now anyone that comes and goes past our area, they will know where we are from and see that we're from the great state of California."

Since the flag raising a month ago there has been nothing but positive responses. "It's great to have a daily connection to home. It feels a lot like we are at home at the armory in Fairfield," said Staff Sgt. Tim Ramirez, a resident of Rio Vista, Calif., headquarters company operations non commissioned officer.

"It's remarkable to see that the bear flag made the long trip with us to Iraq," said Spc. Daniel Greene, a Dixon, Calif. resident and 49th personal security detail Soldier. "Every day that we go out on mission we roll out the front of the complex and see it flying there, underneath the US flag. It's like we have our own little piece of California here."

"During our last deployment here to Iraq the only flag I remember us having was a green one, which represented our weapon status, said Staff Sgt. Greg Knott, a Sacramento, Calif. resident and 49th communications non commissioned officer.

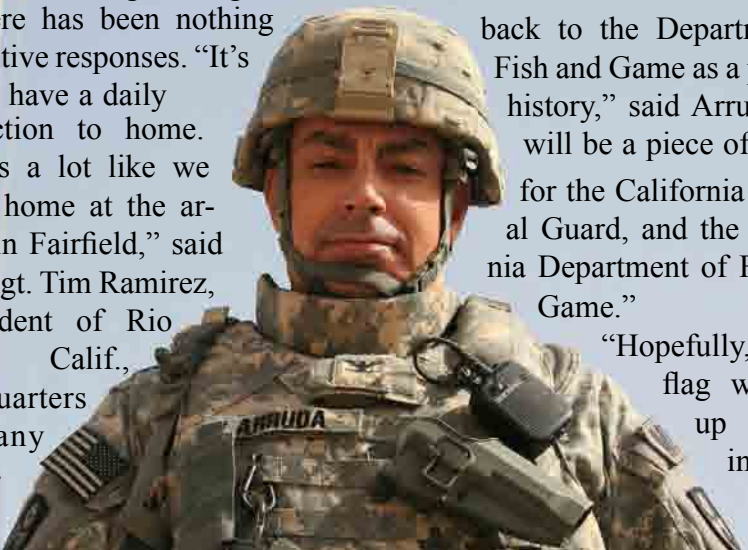
"So this is an improvement."

"When I see the flag here," said Sgt. Deanna Gray, a Sacramento, Calif. resident and 49th human resource sergeant. "I think of the last family vacation I went on with my husband and son to Disneyland right before I mobilized for Iraq."

Once the 49th's mission here in Iraq is complete in August of next year, Arruda plans to lower the California flag down, and take it with him back home. "What I would like to do is present the flag back to the Department of Fish and Game as a piece of history," said Arruda. "It will be a piece of history for the California National Guard, and the California Department of Fish and Game."

"Hopefully, the flag will end up being displayed at the Yreka office back home," said Arruda. The flag having traveled over 16,000 miles may ultimately become a piece of history as well a symbol of the sacrifice and service of the Citizen Soldier.

Col. Rudy Arruda, California National Guard, 49th MP Brigade, proudly displays the California flag that was presented to him by his coworkers at the California Department of Fish and Game Yreka office. Arruda, a native of Yreka, Calif., is a deputy commander of the 49th and the officer in charge of the Iraqi Police Service, Police Transition Team for Baghdad, Iraq.



From the 49th MP Brigade Commander

"I am enormously proud of the contributions and sacrifices of each of our Soldiers..."

Families and friends,

Moving is a significant emotional event in anyone's life. So, it should be no surprise that moving to Iraq with a military unit can cause some anxiety. We knew our mission would change and it would probably take a while for us to get the right folks into the right positions.

We've spent the last 30 days moving in, learning our mission, and re-evaluating our individual assignments so we can better accomplish our Iraqi Police-training mission throughout the country. Your Soldiers have done a superb job. Granted, there has been some personality friction as people get to know each other, but not as much as one might expect, considering the circumstances. Although our Soldiers are working longer hours than they might have expected, there are ample opportunities for unit morale events, such as movie nights, softball tournaments and karaoke.



Brig. Gen. Donald Currier

These events contribute to our sense of camaraderie and community as we conduct our mission. The HHC Command team of CPT Bombita and 1SG Jandreau are doing a fantastic job of improving our living conditions and looking for ways to boost Soldier morale.

Speaking of improving morale, we recently shared breakfast with Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger. He took the

time to shake each of our Soldier's hands before eating. He then thanked us for our service, told a few jokes and described what he's tried to accomplish for veterans in California. He stuck around long enough to pose for photos with each of our Soldiers before leaving for his meeting with the Iraqi Prime Minister. It was a tremendous boost to the morale of our Soldiers to spend some time with

their governor. I know he was sincere when he spoke to us about understanding the sacrifice of each of our Soldiers and their families.

One of the things we are working hard to do is to build our team and make it consistently stronger. Each of us contribute to the larger effort, but we rarely see our work pay off in tangible results. Instead, our work tends to make incremental improvements. This can cause individuals to question the worth of their contribution and the need for the sacrifices they've made along the way. I think it's important to reflect on the fact our work is important and that, although it is difficult to see the immediate fruits of our labor, we are a part of this nation's history that will be playing out for many years to come. Our contribution to the war as a team is significant. Our impact to other Soldiers on our team can be profound. I am enormously proud of the contributions and sacrifices of each of our Soldiers and their families. You have a lot of which to be proud.



ABOVE: Pvt. 1st Class Johnathan Duke, intelligence analysis, shakes the hand of Calif. Gov. Schwarzenegger as the governor heads to his seat at the breakfast for the 49th MP Brigade Soldiers, Sports Oasis dining facility, Camp Victory, Iraq, Nov. 17.



ABOVE: Chief Warrant Officer 3 Jonathan Cosmos shakes the hand of Calif. Gov. Schwarzenegger as the governor walked through the crowd of U.S. servicemembers before the scheduled breakfast event for the 49th MP Brigade at the Sports Oasis dining facility, Nov. 17, Camp Victory, Iraq

Cont. **GOV VISIT**, from Page 1

BELOW: Master Sgt. David Evans gets a pat on the back from Calif. Gov. Schwarzenegger, as the governor makes his way to a side room where the 49th MP Brigade Soldiers are waiting to meet, greet and eat breakfast with the VIP.



ABOVE: Sgt. 1st Class Melissa McDonald, (left), Calif. Gov. Scharzenegger, (center), and Staff Sgt. Jonathan McDonald, (right), pose for photo, following the scheduled breakfast event for the 49th MP Brigade in at the Sports Oasis dining facility, Nov. 17, Camp Victory, Iraq

servicemembers as they train and develop the professionalism of the Iraqi Police. During the deployment, the 49th will build on the training they provided the Iraqi Police during a previous deployment in 2005 to 2006.

In addressing the 49th Soldiers, Schwarzenegger thanked them for their sacrifice: "All of you are doing a tough job. You and your families are sacrificing a lot

for our country. America is a great nation because men and women like you have defended America for hundreds of years."

Brigadier General Donald Currier, commander of the 49th Military Police Brigade, commented on how valuable the governor's visit was to his troops' morale. "Time is more important than money, and Gov. Schwarzenegger is always very generous with his time when it

comes to our troops," Currier said. "What he shared with our soldiers this morning will go a long way."

Specialist Ferrell Mapp, of Sacramento, expressed his excitement and echoed the sentiments of his commander: "This morning was fantastic. It's great that he came all the way out here to show us how much he supports us."

From the Company Commander

Sentinel Families and Friends,

With November's arrival comes the first full month of our unit being in charge of our mission. All sections are just about settled into their routines, or 'battle rhythm.' The mission remains a challenging one, but we faced every hurdle that with enthusiasm and our Soldiers continue to surpass them.

Our compound is quickly becoming our own, as many Soldiers are taking ownership of different areas and activities. Of note are Buxton's Bistro, a small area where Spc. Buxton always has coffee brewing, and Brunson's Boiler Room, gym where many of our Soldiers work on improving their fitness. The HHC is also working hard on making conditions safe and comfortable for all Sentinels. Since we are at the start of the rainy season, improvements such as boardwalks and laying down gravel are being done to keep the mud around our area to a minimum. We are even adding a bit of color to our compound by redoing paint jobs that need a fresh coat and encouraging our Soldiers to give certain areas their personalized touch. SPC Moreno, our artist extraordinaire, is leading the charge with his renditions of the 49th patch. These grace the outside of the chapel and the motor pool connexes, and will soon grace the front of our compound.

The next project our Sentinels will help with, will be the repainting of our movie area benches. Yes you heard right, Movie Area! We were lucky to have inherited this outdoor movie area from the previous unit, so now that we have started using it, our Soldiers will be helping to make it our own! The first part will be a



Capt. Edward Bombita

total refurbishing of our benches. They are sturdy, but uncomfortable and plain looking. The HHC has challenged all sections to take ownership of one bench and fix it to make it their own. This has turned into a contest that we hope will generate much more pleasant seating arrangements. I ask all of you to get involved and suggest to your Soldier ways to improve the benches and send them anything you think might make them better. Also don't forget to send your Soldier goodies for his or her movie night! The FRG leadership to sent us an oil popcorn machine, so if you can send any supplies for the machine, that would help us out tremendously. I will keep all of you updated on the progress.

Aside from movie nights we are also having other activities. Our Softball team made a valiant effort in the last tournament, but did not last long. No problem though. With the gear we received from all of you, they will practice and do better in the next

tournament.

The activities committee, headed by SFC McDonald, has laid out the first draft of the year's event calendar and there are many great ideas on how to make our Soldier feel more at home. The first was a concert/BBQ where our unit band 'Those Guys' played and Soldiers got a chance to test their Karaoke skills. I am sure that many of you will get a taste of this through videos and pictures. Enjoy them and know that these events help make our Soldiers feel more relaxed and able to focus more on the mission.

As you can see we are keeping busy with work and fun events. However, I want to remind you that what really keeps us going is your continuous support. My heartfelt thanks to all that have sent things to the unit and to our Soldiers. It really means the world to us. I especially want to thank our FRG who goes the extra mile to provide support to us and to all of you. Please help them keep the unit and all of you well informed and able to function properly.

One final note. We are all looking forward to the holidays and the packages with the many goodies and gifts from all of you. If you want to make sure they make it here on time, please mail them by the last full week of November. With holiday mail volume, will come more delays.

I hope all of you remain healthy and safe. Rest assured we are doing all we can to do the same for your Soldier. Have a Happy Thanksgiving and a Merry Christmas.

Soldiers run for Veterans in Baghdad's "Run for the Fallen"

By 1LT William Marquez, 49th Military Police Brigade PAO

BAGHDAD, Iraq - On Nov. 14, at Camp Slayer in Baghdad, Iraq, Soldiers of the headquarters company, 49th Military Police Brigade, of Fairfield, Calif. ran in the 5K "Run for the Fallen." They ran in memory of veterans who lost their lives, or were wounded, while serving their country in combat.

According to the "Run for the Fallen" website, the mission of the organization is to "raise awareness about the lives of those who fought, to support organizations that help wounded veterans and the families of those killed, and to aid the healing process of those Americans whose lives

have been affected by the war."

Sgt. Maj. Brad Schneier of Multi-National Corps - Iraq was instrumental in bringing the "Run for the Fallen" to Camp Slayer, and his goal for the Camp Slayer run mirrors the purpose of the "Run for the Fallen" organization. "This run is a great way to commemorate Veterans Day. Every runner runs for a wounded or deceased veteran; and Americans back home, in different parts of the country, show their support by running at the same time we are running," said Schneier.

Soldiers of the headquarters company of the 49th, responsible for supervising the training of Iraqi Police in all

regions of Iraq, showed their support for veterans who made the ultimate sacrifice. Capt. Jacquelyn Atkinson, who helped bring together her 49th colleagues to participate in the run, is an endurance athlete and runs as often as she can; but for her, this run is different than the other runs. "This is the run that helps me remember the veterans who we lost. Every year, I run and I write their names down. I will never forget," said Atkinson.

During the run, Atkinson, and other Soldiers of the 49th, wore a runner's bib with the name of a deceased veteran. Most of the 49th soldiers running in this event ran for Sgt. 1st Class Isaac Lawson. Lawson was a soldier in the 49th who was killed by an impro-

vised explosive device while serving as an Iraqi Police trainer in 2005 and 2006. Ben Jandreau, the 1st Sgt. for the headquarters company of the 49th, ran to remember Lawson. "This run helped me remember the sacrifice of Sgt. Lawson. It also helped me remember the man. He brought people together. He never allowed personal issues get in the way of the mission," said Jandreau.

The 49th started and finished the race together, carrying their guidon throughout the run. At the end of the run, the Soldiers of the 49th took a group photo to remember the day, and they signed a "Run for the Fallen" poster to remember the veteran.



49th MP Brigade holds first prayer breakfast

CAMP LIBERTY, Iraq -- More than 25 Soldiers from the 49th Military Police Brigade, and the 336th MP Battalion held their first prayer breakfast at the 1st Calvary Division dining facility here on Oct. 24.

Lt. Col. Daniel Viveros, 49th Military Police Brigade chaplain, and 1st Lt. Paul Dordal, 336 MP Battalion chaplain, were in attendance along with 49th MP commander, Brig. Gen. Donald Currier, 336th MP Battalion, commander Lt. Col. Marc Garcia and 49th MP Brigade, Command Sgt. Maj. Robert Liles.

Just a few days after the brigade arrived here, Chaplain Viveros was looking for activities and events for the brigade to support. "Command Sgt. Maj. Liles suggested having a prayer breakfast, and to have it open to all units that wish to attend," said Chaplain Viveros.

The event started off with Liles welcoming Soldiers. The first scripture reading was by Spc.

Daniel Greene, from the personal security detachment, who read Psalms 91:1-7. Sgt. Deleal Gladney, from the brigade personal section, played a contemporary Christian song.

Chaplain Dordal recited the opening prayer. Next was Lt. Col. Peter Cross, the brigade's executive officer, reading the second scripture of Hebrews 11:1-3, 32-34 and 38.

Staff Sgt. Frank Tsai, the 49th's chaplain assistant, and event organizer, gave a heart-felt testimonial of how he came to Jesus and accept Him as his personal savior.

Chaplain Viveros presented the main message with a story based on Mathew 14:22-23, where the disciple Peter asked Jesus to walk and join him on the stormy Sea of Galilee.

Gen. Currier gave closing remarks, and Chaplain Dordal the benediction. Lastly, the participants sang "God Bless America" before



Lt. Col. Daniel Viveros, 49th MP Brigade chaplain, delivers a message of faith, Mathew 14:22-23, to more than 25 Soldiers from the 49th MP Brigade and 336th MP battalion during the brigade's first prayer breakfast held at the Division dining facility, Oct. 24.

departing the dining facility to start their day.

Events like this are very important. "The Army concentrates on developing and maintaining its Soldiers' physical and emotional fitness. But that doesn't go far enough. You also need a spiritual fitness level to complete the person," said Chaplain Dordal.

"We must encourage our Soldiers to pray and share their concerns with

one another," added Chaplain Viveros. "And to be accountable to each other in times of need. This prayer breakfast helps this process happen."

The next prayer breakfast is scheduled for mid-December.

49th MP band "Those guys" throw Veteran's Day concert



Staff Sgt. Mathew McVey, a native of Vacaville, Calif., 49th MP Brigade, headquarters company supply sergeant, plays his bass guitar during a performance celebrating Veteran's Day, Camp Liberty, Iraq.

By Sgt. Kenneth Bince

49th Military Police Brigade Public Affairs Office

In large black letters the poster read, "Those Guys", live at Isaac's, PAD 19, Lawson Memorial Pavilion, live music and karaoke, Wednesday, Nov. 11 at 1930 Hours, Veteran's Day celebration. The green 11 inch by 17 inch horizontal poster had 5 black silhouetted musicians with yellow glowing outlines, playing their instruments.

On Nov. 11 "Those Guys", a group Soldiers from the 49th Military Police Brigade headquarters company, held a Veterans Day concert for more than 50 civilians, third

country nationals and U.S service members at the Sgt. 1st Class Lawson memorial pavilion located at the brigade's headquarters, Camp Liberty, Iraq.

The 5-member musical group is made up of Capt. Edward Bombita, the 49th's headquarters company commander and drummer, Staff Sgt. Gregory Knott, 49th's data systems integrator, lead vocalist and guitarist, Staff Sgt. Mathew McVey, the 49th's supply sergeant and guitarist, Spc. Johnathan Spradling, 49th's equipment repair parts specialist and guitarist and Pvt. Fermin Maturin, the 49th's postal clerk and keyboard player.

"The creation of the band, "Those Guys", was never planned, it just happened," said McVey. "Back at the Fairfield armory, we, (Knott, Spradling), individually decided to pack our guitars, amps and mics into sergeant Eastland's tri-wall containers and ship them to Iraq."

The original idea was to play the instruments in the Soldier's personal living areas during down time for recreational purposes, said McVey.

"Once I arrived here in October at PAD 19, I started looking for a good place to setup and jam. The chapel on the compound was picked out as the spot, because it had a lot

of room, and it already had some good theater provided equipment; it had a public address system, a drum set and a keyboard, and that's all we needed for equipment," he said.

On Oct. 14 the tri-wall containers arrived at the brigade's compound. A few days later the 49th's Soldiers were once again in possession of their personal musical equipment. Finally, Oct. 17, the group started playing in the chapel.

Back in early May, while on the advanced leader's recon to inspect the brigade's headquarters area, Bombita took notice of the instruments in the chapel. "I saw the drum set there, but I never entertained any thoughts of playing in a band until Knott, McVey and Spradling starting playing in the chapel for fun," said Bombita.

"After a few days of playing after work, these guys needed a focus or a goal to move them to the next level," said David Chellson, 49th MP Brigade, equipment repair parts sergeant and soundman for the group. "So, I suggested that we have a show for the headquarters company Soldiers Thursday night Oct. 22."

The first show at the pavilion lasted more than 30 minutes, and "Those Guys", played a 5 song set. "We sounded pretty good for only practicing for a few days," said Spradling. "I was surprised by how many people showed up to listen to us and hang out."

With the success and positive response received, the group set its crosshairs on another date. "I really



Staff Sgt. Greg Knott, (right), a resident of Sacramento, 49th MP Brigade, a data systems intergrater and Spc. Johnathan Spradling, a resident of Dixon, 49th Mp Brigade, equipment repair parts specialist, play a song at the Veteran's Day celebrations at PAD 19, Nov. 11, Camp Liberty, Iraq.

thought that Veterans Day would be a perfect day to hold another show," said Chellson. "The date was far enough out that we would have more time to practice, and this time we could put the word out so that more people could come and celebrate the holiday with us all."

About a week before the event, Chellson and Spradling worked on a design for a poster to promote the show. "We had a lot of good ideas, and they all came together at the right time to produce a good product," he added. "I placed the posters in high-traffic areas, building entrances, bulletin boards and the dayroom."

The evening of the eleventh went off without a hitch. "Those Guys" outdid themselves as they performed for more than 50 minutes as they played 10 songs. Dozens of Soldiers, a few civilians and third country nationals, enjoyed

themselves as they listened to music and dined on food provided by a generous Egyptian contractor.

"I had a great time," said Spc. Jakeya French, 49th human resources specialist. "We have been working long hours every day for the last 6 weeks, so this was such a great break from the same daily routine."

"It seemed like a terrific way to get everyone here together to enjoy some music and have a good time," said Knott. "And it seemed like everyone here enjoyed themselves."

The musically inclined Soldiers of the brigade conceived their plans months ago to bring their passions or hobby and a reminder of home along with them to a foreign land. With the original intent to create a personal escape or release from unrelenting realities of Iraq, "Those Guys" achieved their goals through hard work, perseverance, dedication and the unselfish act of sharing their escape with others.



Pvt. 1st Class Elvin Jenkins, (left), a member of the personal security detail, Staff Sgt. Arlyce Baty, (center), a human resource sergeant and Sgt. Dawoud, (right), the brigade's command sergeant major's personal security detail, enjoy the music at the Sgt. 1st Class Lawson Memorial Pavillion, Nov. 11, PAD 19, Camp Liberty, Iraq.

Administration of Barack H. Obama, 2009

Proclamation 8444—Military Family Month, 2009

October 30, 2009

*By the President of the United States of America
A Proclamation*

No one pays a higher price for our freedom than members of our Nation's military and their families. As sons and daughters, husbands and wives, and mothers and fathers are deployed, military families endure with exceptional resilience and courage. They provide our troops with invaluable encouragement and love, and serve our Nation in their own right. During Military Family Month, we honor the families of our Armed Forces and thank them for their dedication to our country.

Though only a small percentage of our Nation's population, our troops bear the great responsibility of protecting our people. They, along with their families, serve us every day with courage and dignity. Ensuring that military families receive the respect they deserve and the support they have earned is a top priority for my Administration.

The strength of our Nation is measured not just by our success on the battlefield, but also by our ability to support those families who have made so many sacrifices for us. Time and again, military families have shown their heart in the face of adversity. We have a solemn obligation to ensure that while our men and women in uniform discharge their duties, we do all we can to promote and preserve the well-being of their families. We must also support the families of our wounded warriors and our fallen heroes who have paid the ultimate price for the freedoms we enjoy.

This month, we celebrate the tremendous contributions of military families, convey to them our deepest respect and appreciation, and recommit ourselves to their support.

Now, Therefore, I, Barack Obama, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim November 2009 as Military Family Month. I call on all Americans to honor military families through private actions and public service for the tremendous contributions they make in the support of our service members and our Nation.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this thirtieth day of October, in the year of our Lord two thousand nine, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-fourth.



BARACK OBAMA

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 11:15 a.m., November 3, 2009]

NOTE: This proclamation was published in the Federal Register on November 4.

Categories: Proclamations : Military Family Month.

Subjects: Military Family Month.

DCPD Number: DCPD200900867.



Oct, 24

LEFT: Spc. Michael Hays, becomes the 1st Soldier to reenlist in theater from the headquarters company here at Camp Liberty, Iraq, Oct. 20. Hays, a human resource specialist, from Vacaville, Calif., extended for 6 more years. Maj. Wayne Hutson, (Personnel, officer in charge) presided over the ceremony.



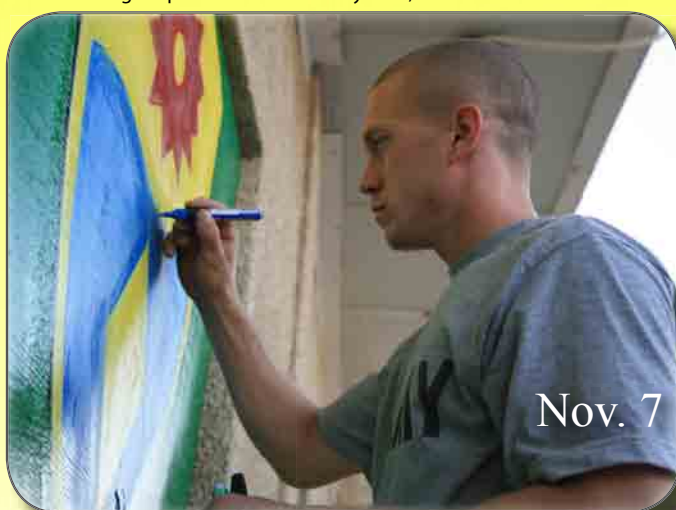
Nov. 4

Chief Warrant Officer 3 John Ferrara, 49th MP Brigade, safety officer, is congratulated by Brig. Gen Donald Currier, 49th MP Brigade commander, following his promotion ceremony held, Nov. 4.



Oct, 28

LEFT: Truvy, a 2-year-old German sheppard and black Labrador mix therapy dog from the 93rd Military Police Battalion, home base Fort Hood, Texas, shakes the hand of 1st Lt. Jason Carlisle, 49th Military Police Brigade, personal security detail officer in charge, at the brigade's headquarters, Camp Liberty, Iraq, on Oct. 28, 2009. Sgt. Tiann Smith, (center), chaplain assistant, is Truvy's caretaker and friend,



Nov. 7

ABOVE: Nov. 7, Spc. Nathan Moreno, a light wheel vehicle mechanic, from Dixon, Calif., helps personalize the brigade's compound located on PAD 19, Camp Liberty, Iraq,



Nov. 1



Nov. 23

49th MP Brigade Commander Donald Currier presents Staff Sgt. Greg Knott a marble for his outstanding dedication while supporting the brigade's communication networks in Iraq. This is Knott's fifth marble award since he has been in the headquarters company.

Maj. Donnie Miller, left, logistics officer and catcher for 49th MP Brigade "Pride" team watches Spc. Rommel Vazquez, 49th MP Brigade, personal security detail Soldier, hit a single during a softball game between the "Pride" vs. "Power" matchup at a softball field next to the brigade's compound located on PAD 19, Camp Liberty, Iraq, Nov. 1. Also in the photo is Lt. Col. Paul Rogers, "the man with the cast", is the equal opportunity officer for the brigade, softball coach, and umpire for this game.

The 49th Military Police Brigade has an award-winning family readiness association that is available for all who need support any time of the day, and any time of the deployment. The following services are also provided to families while Soldiers are federally activated:

Operation Ready Families Program

www.calguard.ca.gov/readyfamilies

Military OneSource

www.militaryonesource.com

National Guard Family Program

www.guardfamily.org

Army Family Program

www.myarmylifetoo.com

Military and Family Life Consulting Program

www.mhngs.com

The Military Family Forum

www.MilitaryFamily.com

Tricare Medical Services

www.tricare.osd.mil

California Transition Center for Combat Veterans

www.thepathwayhome.org

American Red Cross

www.redcross.org

Till You Come Home Foundation

www.tillyoucomehomefoundation.com

The 49th Military Police Brigade's Facebook Page is up and running. Become a "fan" to follow the 49th and its subordinate units throughout their Operation Iraqi Freedom deployment.



**Stay in touch with us
while we are
away!**

MAILING ADDRESS:

Rank, Soldier's Name

49th MP Brigade

Camp Liberty

APO, AE 09344



49th Military Police Brigade Chain of Command

Brig. Gen. Donald Currier
COMMANDER

Command Sgt. Maj. Robert Liles
COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR

Col. Grace Edinboro
DEPUTY COMMANDER

Col. Rudy Arruda
DEPUTY COMMANDER

Lt. Col. Peter Cross
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Capt. Edward Bombita
HEADQUARTERS COMMANDER

1st Sgt. Ben Jandreau
HEADQUARTERS FIRST SERGEANT

Sandra Bombita
FAMILY READINESS GROUP LEADER

PUBLIC AFFAIRS TEAM

1st Lt. William Marquez
PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER

Sgt. Kenneth Bince
PUBLIC AFFAIRS SERGEANT

Spc. Edward Siguenza
PUBLIC AFFAIRS SPECIALIST

THE FAMILY NEWSLETTER IS PUBLISHED BY THE 49TH MILITARY POLICE BRIGADE PUBLIC AFFAIRS TEAM AND SPECIFICALLY DESIGNED FOR FAMILIES AND FRIENDS OF THE BRIGADE BASED IN FAIRFIELD, CALIF. THIS EDITION AND THOSE THEREOF ARE PRODUCTS OF THE 49TH MP BDE'S EFFORT FOR OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM WHILE SERVING ON ACTIVE DUTY IN IRAQ. VIEWS AND OPINIONS EXPRESSED IN THIS PUBLICATION ARE NOT NECESARILY THOSE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY, DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE OR THE CALIFORNIA STATE MILITARY DEPARTMENT.

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