



Crossed Bayonets



2nd Lt. Zack Featherston, D Co., 4th Battalion, 118th Infantry Regiment, Platoon Leader, assists local civilians during a wellness check on the Muskatatuck Training Center, July 15.

Delta Company Assists Local Citizens in Training Exercise

Story and photo by
Sgt. Joshua S. Edwards
218th MEB Public Affairs

JENNINGS, Ind. – Delta Company from the 4th Battalion, 118th Infantry Regiment, South Carolina Army National Guard, conducted house to house wellness checks at the Muskatatuck Urban Training Center (MUTC), July 15, during the Vibrant Response training exercise, which simulated a nuclear attack in downtown Indianapolis.

The 218th makes up the main body of forces for the Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and high Explosive (CBRNE), Consequences Management Force or CCMRF.

Nearly 3500 Army Active duty, Guardsmen and Reservist along with Airmen, Sailors and Marines responded to what could have been the worst act of terrorism to ever occur on U.S. soil.

D Company was tasked with

searching for people who were not able to leave their home after the blast, due to illness or injury.

The exercise was conducted in a mock residential neighborhood with abandoned vehicles and what looked to be a burning home as smoke rose into the sky. The scene of devastation added to the realism of the training.

Each Soldier, from Private to Lieutenant, agreed that the training was realistic and a sense of urgency was felt during the scenario.

“Practice makes perfect,” said Spc. Leonard Stroud, an Infantryman with D Co., 4-118th Infantry, “You can never learn too much and here we are learning new things every day.”

“The role players really did a great job of adding to the scene, they kept us on our toes,” said Spc. Jimmie Dixon, a health care specialist with Headquarter and Headquarters Company, 4-118th.

See DELTA on page 5

The BSB is on the Move

Story and photo by
Sgt. Joshua S. Edwards
218th MEB Public Affairs

JENNINGS, Ind. – The 218th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade filled Jennings Fairgrounds and in the near by Muskatatuck Urban Training Center in preparation of the training exercise Vibrant Response 10.2 being conducted July 12 through 24.

Before the training begins, a massive movement of equipment and machines

had to be completed first.

That is where the 218th Brigade Support Battalion (BSB) comes in.

The BSB drove nearly 35 vehicles for three days and nearly 800 miles to reach Camp Atterbury, Ind. to begin the training exercise according to 2nd Lt. Lane Stover, A Co., BSB, Supply Officer.

The BSB did all this with only one vehicle break down according to Stover



A Co., 218th Brigade Support Battalion, 218th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade, South Carolina Army National Guard, works well into the night delivering equipment to Forward Operating Base Jennings, July 14, Jennings, Ind.

THE MOST IMPORTANT EVALUATION

By Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Joel Burke
218th MEB Chaplain



Those of us who serve in the military know that every year, Soldiers receive a yearly evaluation. For enlisted Soldiers a yearly NCOER is done to evaluate how well a Soldier is doing.

Officers have a yearly OER that is an evaluation of how well they have done the previous year.

These evaluations are important reports that can help or hinder a Soldier's promotion. What is written on a Soldier's yearly evaluation is important.

Let us realize that our lives are being evaluated daily by God himself.

The great judge will evaluate our lives and judge us according to our deeds. In Revelation we read, "Books were opened, the book of the living."

The dead were judged according to what they had done, as recorded in the books."



(Rev. 20:12) Think of our lives as being under the observation of God and our deeds recorded forever.

Obviously the most important evaluation is the one that will be given to us by God himself in the final judgment.

Every day is an opportunity for us to do well in the sight of God.

Let us never overlook an opportunity to do good deeds.

Let us never overlook an opportunity to serve God and please him.

Let us avoid sinful ways and seek ways to live a more righteous life. In doing this, we will ensure ourselves of a positive evaluation when we stand before God.

Live well and hear the words from God, "Well done, my good and faithful servant." ✕

Brigade Keeps Soldiers and Airmen Fed

Story by
Staff Sgt. Kimberly D. Calkins
218th MEB Public Affairs

NORTH VERNON, Ind. – As Soldiers and Airmen converged on North Vernon, Ind., for training exercise Vibrant Response 10.2, the 218th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade (MEB) met the demand of feeding approximately 1100 Soldiers and Airmen twice daily.

Twenty-seven Soldiers from seven different units worked together to provide two hot meals, breakfast and dinner, for residents of Forward Operating Base (FOB) Jennings. Each meal was created using Unitized Group Rations (UGR), consisting of seven breakfast and fourteen dinner menus. Military personnel were provided an Atterbury Training Ration (ATR), prepackaged meal, for lunch.

The Food Service Soldiers worked 12-hour shifts out of two types of kitchens, a Mobile Kitchen Trailer (MKT) and a Containerized Kitchen Trailer (CKT).

"We cook with red lights instead of fluorescent, so we keep the mosquitoes and bugs away," said Staff Sgt. William Dudley, CKT night shift Food Service member. Dudley, is member of Headquarters and Headquarters Company (HHC), 1st Battalion, 118th Infantry Regiment, Union, S.C.

In order to feed 1100 personnel, Food Service works from a 14-day

Soldier Retires after 23 Years of Service

Story and photo by
Staff Sgt. Kimberly D. Calkins
218th MEB Public Affairs

CHARLESTON, S.C. – Sgt. 1st Class James W. "Jay" Lamb, a Columbia, S.C. native, retired June 30, from the South Carolina Army National Guard (SCARNG) with 23 years of military service.

His last assignment, which he held since July 2008, was with Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 218th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade located in Charleston, S.C., where he was an Intelligence Sergeant.

His assignments include Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 151st Field Artillery (FA) Brigade (BDE), Sumter, S.C.; Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 218th Mechanized Heavy Separate Brigade (Mechanized), Newberry, S.C.; and Headquarters Service Company, 1 of the 151st Aviation Battalion, Eastover, S.C.

Lamb began his military career in 1987 when he enlisted as an Intelligence Analyst in the SCARNG, spending a significant number of years service under the 218th Enhance Separate Brigade. He served in Iraq from 2006-2007 with the 151st FA BDE, which was attached to the



Sgt. 1st Class James "Jay" Lamb and wife Cindy, stand proudly with a token of appreciation gift containing the flags of the Military Intelligence and former brigade colors of the 218th Enhance Separate Brigade, Charleston Readiness Center, Charleston, S.C. on June 26.

Headquarters of the 1st Cavalry Division. He was awarded his third Army Commendation Medal for his efforts as the division's Field Artillery Intelligence non-commissioned officer in charge, as well as the division's Order of the Combat Spur.

"There have been many Army mottos that I have lived by over the years, but out of all of them, 'Duty Above All' is my personal favorite," said Lamb.

Lamb is currently employed as an armed nuclear security officer for the VC Summer Nuclear Plant in Jenkinsville, S.C.

After 23 years, he plans on spending his drill weekends with his wife Cindy and doing Civil War reenactments ✕

menu worth of recipe cards.

"The recipe cards are set to serve 100 people, measured in pounds, gallons, containers," said Staff Sgt. Peter Charpentier, Food Service non-commissioned officer, 178th Engineer Battalion, Rockhill, S.C.

"I was glad to come on this mission and work with all the different battalions and brigade."

Each food service team worked together for preparation, cooking, and cleanup of the meals.

"We prep the night before. There are certain things you have to have in place before the cooking begins," said Staff Sgt. Jermaine Davis, HHC, 218th MEB, Food Service Specialist.

After the prep work was complete, the Food Service Specialists spent nearly three hours cooking the meals. They are able to keep prepared food for four hours before it has to be discarded.

After the long days cooking in the field, the MKT and CKT, along with the dish washing facility, were packed up in preparation for returning to South Carolina ✕



Signal Troops Pitch in to Support Medical Company

Story by Sgt. LaNovia Hamilton
111th Signal Company

JENNINGS, Ind. – Soldiers from the 111th Signal Company from North Charleston, S.C., conducted a mass casualty training exercise with the 251st Area Medical Support Company, from Darlington, S.C., during operation Vibrant Response, July 15, Forward Operating Base Jennings.

Signal Soldiers were tasked with the duty of being litter barriers for the purpose of the mass casualty exercise.

“It was awesome training, and I would like to do it again,” said Staff Sgt. Marilyn Salas, a Chemical Operations Specialist, 111th Signal Company.

“It was fast paced and interesting training,” said Sgt. Michael Anderson a Cable and Wire Specialist, 111th SIG Co.


With the added support from the Signal troops all the simulated casualties were delivered safely, all made a full “recovery” 



Photo by Sgt. Joshua S. Edwards

Soldiers from the 111th Signal Company, carry litters of “injured personal” during a simulated mass casualty exercise at Forward Operating Base Jennings, July, 15.



Imagine waking up to discover your entire world has changed. You

“I am riding
for those who
can’t...”

don’t know if you can get out of bed, see clearly, or even take care of your family. For many people living with MS, this is reality. Multiple sclerosis (MS) usually strikes adults between the

ages of 15 and 50. It is a chronic disease of the central nervous system affecting the brain and spinal cord, causing blindness, paralysis, and loss of movement. The symptoms are vast and unpredictable bringing uncertainty to those living with the disease and the future.

I am riding for those who can’t...

The National Multiple Sclerosis Society is kicking off the Bike MS: Breakaway to the Beach September 25-26, 2010. I am planning to ride in the event and I’m asking you to join me in the movement to create a world free of MS by making a contribution. Regardless of the amount every contribution counts. Your support will help the Mid-Atlantic Chapter continue to offer programs and services to the more than 8,000

individuals in the chapter who live with MS. You and I are essential in this movement to create a world free of MS as there are over 400,000 people in the United States who live with MS. The MS Society need people like you to join the movement, people who can contribute by giving their time, treasure and talent.

The Bike MS Ride raises money for MS research projects and client programs (40% for important national research and programs and 60% that stays in the local chapter for programs that assist those individuals in this region living with the MS). The funds also help to raise awareness about the disease and to educate the public about the FDA-approved drugs now available which may delay or reduce future disability in many people with Multiple Sclerosis. Sponsoring me and contributing to the National MS Society is what YOU CAN DO to help move us even closer to a cure. Join the movement and help create a world free of multiple sclerosis.

If you don’t feel comfortable making a donation on-line, please stop by and see me at the CRC, 3rd floor, room 387 or you can send your donation ,payable to National MS Society, to:

LTC Frederick Pasley
203 Burnham Court
Charleston, SC 29414

Hope to see you at the finish line.

P.S. If you would like more information about the National Multiple Sclerosis Society, how proceeds from the Bike MS Ride are used, or the other ways you can get involved in the fight against MS, please visit www.nationalmssociety.org/ncp



Soldiers and Airmen Visit Youth Home

Story and photo by
Staff Sgt. Kimberly D. Calkins
218th MEB Public Affairs

NORTH VERNON, Ind. – Members of the 218th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade (MEB), Charleston, S.C. conducted a humanitarian mission, delivering toys to Jennings Villas, a home for youth, in North Vernon, Ind. on July 19.

Maj. Linda Riedel, Civil Affairs Officer, Headquarters and Headquarters Company (HHC), 218th MEB, Charleston, S.C. and Capt. David Brooks, Fire Support Officer for HHC, 4th Battalion, 118th Infantry Regiment, Mullins, S.C., wanted to reach out to the community of North Vernon, who has given great support to the Soldiers during exercise Vibrant Response 10.2.

Riedel and Brooks first collected toys from McDonalds and were told by an employee about Jennings Villas. They continued on their mission to discover the safe house for youth, ages six to eighteen.

“The community has been very giving and hospitable,” said Riedel, who collected donations from McDonalds, Wendy’s, Wal-mart and Dollar Store in Seymour.

When Riedel and Brooks approached the youth home, they were greeted by Pam Israel, Health Services Director for Jennings Villas.

“Prior to Jennings Villas, children used to sit in the county jail until they were put into foster care,” said Israel. “Concerned citizens got together and created the home, opening in 1983.”

The home, funded by the state of Indiana, is licensed for ten children, housing both girls and boys. The children are often placed there because of educational or medical neglect, safety reasons, or parents are on methamphetamine. If children are unable to reunite with family, they will go into the foster care system.

“Children can stay here one night or as long as a year,” said Israel. “Some return, some do not, others make me a godmother.”

When she is not performing her normal health service tasks, Israel is providing



Members of the 218th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade, Charleston, S.C. conducted a humanitarian mission to deliver toys to Pam Israel, Health Services Director for Jennings Villas, a home for youth, in North Vernon, Ind. on July 19.

opportunities such as the toy delivery by 218th MEB personnel. One of the Soldiers who delivered toys included Pfc. Rachel Clark, HHC, 218th MEB, Charleston, S.C.

“I learned a lot about Civil Affairs and enjoyed interacting with the kids,” said Clark, who is a Human Resource Information System Management Specialist.

Clark demonstrated how to use the Blue Force Tracker (BFT), a convoy tracking and communication device in most military vehicles.

Other demonstrations included showing how the military reacts to Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and high yield Explosives (CBRNE) by donning a chemical mask and the Joint Service Lightweight Integrate Suit Technology, (JLIST) suit.

“This mask is used to protect us if we were ever under a chemical or biological attack,” explained Spc. Shari Mazyck, CBRNE Specialist and member of the 108th Chemical Company, North Charleston, S.C.


A few of the kids tried on the mask while one young lady was brave enough to put on the whole suit and mask.

Other National Guard Soldiers and Airmen present gave their personal experience in their respective components, here and abroad.

This included Senior Airmen, Christopher Linton and Staff Sgt. Monica Real, members of 202nd Rapid Engineer Deployable Heavy Operational Repair Squadron Engineers (REDHORSE), Jacksonville, Fla.; and Pfc. Colby Conley, Internment Resettlement Specialist with 387th Military Police, New Albany, Ind.

As they were leaving, sentiments of appreciation were not only given by the residents, but also by Dennis Beasley, Director for Jennings Villas Group Home.

“We really appreciate what you have done for us,” said Beasley, who has served twenty years at Jennings Villas and recently returned from a two year sabbatical.

The appreciation was felt more by the Soldiers and Airmen for being able to interact with the kids and have direct contact with the citizens of North Vernon, who have shared their community with us during Vibrant Response 10.2 



Promotions and Awards

Stories and photos by
Staff Sgt. Kimberly D. Calkins
218th MEB Public Affairs



Sp. Thomas Crider, 218th MEB, Equipment Operator, was promoted to Sergeant on June 26, at Charleston Readiness Center, Charleston, S.C.

CHARLESTON S.C. – Sp. Thomas Crider, a Holly Hill, S.C. native, has been promoted to the rank of Sergeant in 218th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade (MEB), Charleston Readiness Center, Charleston, S.C. on June 26.

“I am very proud to be serving in the 218th MEB,” said Crider, “I look forward to the opportunity of serving with and upholding the traditions of the 218th MEB as my career progresses.”

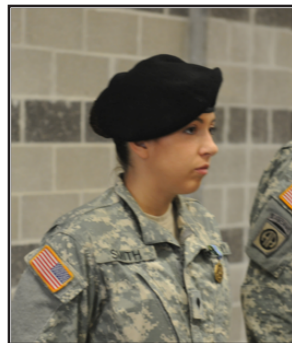
Crider is an Army Engineer and previously served as an Armor Crewman. He has been a member of the South Carolina Army National Guard for five years with four years prior service in the Army.

The promotion brings Crider into a new position as a non-commissioned officer.

He is currently the Radio Telephone Operator for the 218th MEB Battle Captains.

Sp. Jessica Smith, a Newberry, S.C. native, and Sp. Ryan Kluge, formally of Poughkeepsie, N.Y., both Health Care Specialists with the 218th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade (MEB), Charleston Readiness Center, Charleston, S.C., received the Army Achievement Medal on June 26.

The award was presented to Smith for tracking all Chemical, Biological, Nuclear, Radiological and High Explosive

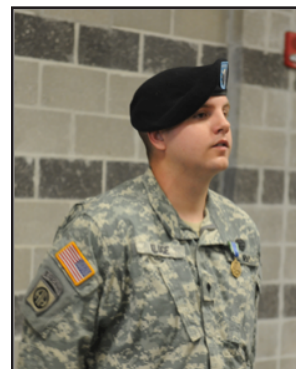


Sp. Jessica Smith, 218th MEB, Health Care Specialist, was awarded the Army Achievement Medal, Charleston Readiness Center, Charleston, S.C.

(CBRNE) Consequence Management Response Force (CCMRF) training conducted for Headquarters Company, 218th MEB, and training all Soldiers who missed the original training, and counseling service members in medical readiness.

“Since I have been in the South Carolina Army National Guard (SCARNG), it has been a pleasure to assist others with training,” said Smith, who has been a member of the SCARNG since August 2007. “I enjoyed having an important role in the CCMRF mission, and I was glad to make an impact.”

The award was presented to Kluge for supporting 1st Battalion, 178th Field Artillery, Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, Georgetown, S.C. He trained nearly 170 personnel for the Combat Lifesaver Course as well as medical support during



Sp. Ryan Kluge, 218th MEB, Health Care Specialist, was awarded the Army Achievement Medal, Charleston Readiness Center, Charleston, S.C.

1-178th’s annual training before their deployment to Afghanistan in 2009.

“I was happy to train my fellow comrades as they prepared to go overseas,” said Kluge.

Kluge served overseas supporting Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan in 2007-2008 and has been a member of the National Guard for five years.



DELTA continued from pg. 1

The Guardsmen had to render first aid to the civilians with minor injuries and evacuate those with more severe injuries, all this under the scrutiny of local media.

The news media played a vital role in the training and allowed the on-scene commander to know what it is like to have the eyes of the world watching the actions of the him and his soldiers conducting the training.

“It was perfect for the type of training we are doing; it gives everyone the right perspective and adds a lot of pressure, it makes you think about what you are doing and saying,” said Capt. George W. Palmore, D Co., 4-118th Infantry, Company Commander.

Palmore said, “This is the kind of training we need, it not only prepares us for this type of scenario, but also in a real world hurricane or combat mission.”

For the latest news and information.
Search 218th MEB.

FOLLOW US ON

facebook

facebook.
com/218thMEB

