



For the New Guy



Pfc. Marquis Benton, intelligence analyst with Headquarters and Headquarters Company (HHC), 218th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade (MEB), takes in the view of Myrtle Beach, S.C. while aboard a UH-60 Blackhawk helicopter during his first drill weekend with the S.C. Army National Guard.

Story and photos by
Capt. Tim W. Irvin
218th MEB Public Affairs

COLUMBIA, S.C. – March 20 is the start of Pfc. Marquis Benton's first drill weekend with the S.C. Army National Guard and it has been full

of "firsts." Benton, 19, is an intelligence analyst with Headquarters and Headquarters Company (HHC), 218th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade, based out of Charleston, S.C. He completed Basic Combat Training and his Advanced Individual

Training earlier this year. With all his initial training complete he was able to attend his first drill with HHC.

Not only was this Benton's first drill but it was his first time to Charleston. Benton lives in Columbia, S.C. but traveled to the

Charleston Readiness Center to meet with his unit before convoying to McCrady Training Center (MTC). Once he arrived at MTC his supervisor, Sgt. Michael Koman, told him he was going to be able to take a ride in a Blackhawk Helicopter.

The pilots, Maj. Adrian M. Priester and Chief Warrant Officer Clint Zimmer, made sure the flight was "extra special" by doing a few maneuvers that demonstrated the aircraft's capabilities. At

one point during the flight Benton was lifted out of seat as the helicopter rapidly descended. Everyone on board enjoyed the thrill ride. When asked what he thought of his first drill Benton simply said, "It was amazing!" Benton said the highlight was definitely the Blackhawk ride.

Benton initially joined the Army National Guard for the financial assistant for college but now he's planning on becoming a warrant officer after he finishes college. 🇺🇸



Chief Warrant Officer Clint Zimmer and Sgt. James Kuhnert, both from A Company, 2nd Battalion of the 149th Aviation Regiment, S.C. Army National Guard, conduct their preflight checks on their UH-60 Blackhawk.

HHC Soldiers Honored

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

CHARLESTON, S.C. – During a ceremony Mar. 24, at the Charleston Readiness Center, four Soldiers were honored for their achievements and hard work.

1st Sgt. Jack Day, Headquarters and Headquarters Company 1st Sgt., presented Sgt. Derrick

Jenkins with the 218th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade Non-commissioned officer of the year award.

Capt. Robert Redmond, Headquarters and Headquarters Company Commander, also awarded Staff Sgt. Sandy Savage and Sgt. Sandra Gould with the Army Achievement Medal, and Spc. Ryan Kluge with the Army Accommodation Medal. 🇺🇸



1st Sgt. Jack Day, Headquarters and Headquarters Company 1st Sgt., presents Sgt. Derrick Jenkins with the 218th NCO of the year award Mar. 24, Charleston Readiness Center, Charleston, S.C.

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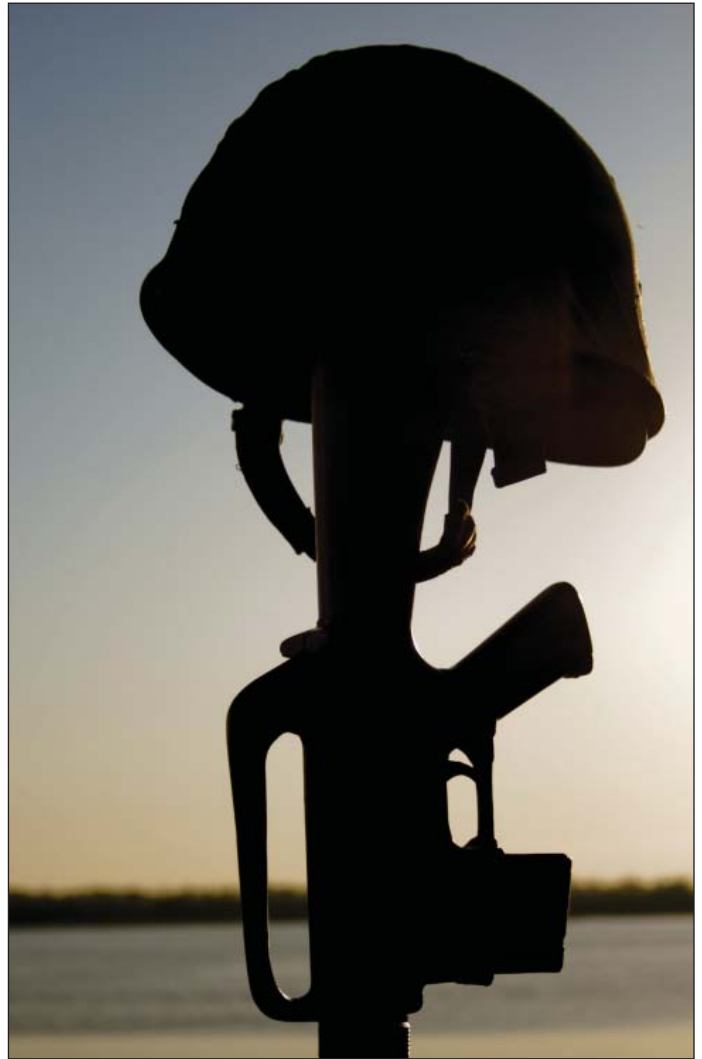
PHOTO PAGE



South Carolina Army National Guard, Honor Guard, Region three, on the set of "Army Wives" Mar. 31, Charleston, S.C. (Army photo by Sgt. Joshua S. Edwards)



Staff Sgt. Miles Spence firing an M2, 50. cal. machine gun during 218th MEB, HHC drill weekend Mar. 20, McCrady Training Center, Eastover, S.C. (Army photo by Sgt. Joshua S. Edwards)



A fallen Soldiers memorial at the Charleston Water Front Park, Charleston, S.C. Mar. 10. (Army photo by Sgt. Joshua S. Edwards)



Lt. Col. Waymon Storey, 218th MEB, Brigade Commander, speaks with Pamela Patrick White the artist who created the painting "Once More" Mar. 3, at the National Guard Association Convention, Hilton Head, S.C. (Army photo by Sgt. Joshua S. Edwards)



South Carolina Army National Guard, Honor Guard, Region three, on the set of "Army Wives" Mar. 31, Charleston, S.C. (Army photo by Sgt. Joshua S. Edwards)



Maj. Gen. Robert Livingston, speaks at the South Carolina National Guard Sergeants Major Convention, Apr. 2, Charleston, S.C. (Army photo by Sgt. Joshua Edwards)