# ALWAYS ENGAGED

VOL. 5/NO. 1 • SPRING 2011

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#### **MIRC COMMAND TEAM**

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**ON THE COVER** — Soldiers with the 373rd MI BN stack and prepare to storm a building in search of the local bomb maker during pre-deployment training at Regional Training Center-West. Photo by Maj. Annmarie Daneker, MIRC Public Affairs Officer.

**READINESS COMMAND** 

## THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE MILITARY INTELLIGENCE ALWAYS ENGAGE READINESS COMMAND

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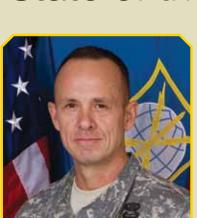
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## COMMANDING GENERAL

### State of the MIRC



What is the state of the MIRC? I think the state of the command is...strong, and each of you is playing a large part in our success. Each day in command and with every formation that I visit, I am amazed by your talent, ability to balance the many competing priorities and how proudly you contribute our share to the fight.

#### Let me restate the command's current priorities:

- Provide Support to OEF, OND and other Global **Operations.** First and foremost, this means meeting our ARFORGEN requirements, which are numerous and intense. We do not expect this pace to decrease in the next few years and already have new battalions on the patch chart. In addition to our FORSCOM requirements, I think we have an obligation to look for additional pockets of capacity and talent and see if we cannot bring those to the fight. We did this with a group of 25 young officers who were assigned to Special Operations in Afghanistan; the war fighter told me that this support is "a monumental success" and has "made a significant contribution to the effort". If we want to remain an operational reserve, these are the types of initiatives that we have to undertake. Also important is our continued value-added reach-back intelligence support that so many of our formations participate in. It may be less visible than our deployments, but it is equally as valuable.
- Implement DP 142. Otherwise known as MI Rebalance, this is a new strategy for reshaping Army Intelligence. Once some of the last decisions are made by the Army's most senior leadership, we anticipate finalizing a comprehensive implementation plan that will ultimately touch 80% of MIRC units. We will grow as a command by as many as 500 spaces, stand

up new Brigade and Battalion tactical formations and retain a large percentage of our strategic structure. We will hold a series of "town hall" meetings in person, via WEBINAR, and VTC to communicate the impact clearly to all. Foremost in my mind is making sure any transitions are smooth and keeping the impact on our people squarely in mind.

- Balance Combat Readiness and Intelligence Support. Combat readiness has dramatically increased across the MIRC in the past 18 months and your great work is to be complimented. But one of the things that makes our formations unique is the reach-back, real world intelligence we produce. Our best units and command teams are able to find balance here; make sure your pendulum is not swinging too far to one direction.
- Shape the Force. Shaping the Force is not about a reduction in force. While our senior positions have been streamlined, shaping the force is fundamentally about all things that touch all of our people career management, opportunities, schooling, retention, bonuses and the like. We have implemented numerous processes to board key positions for both AGR and TPU Soldiers. Our Career Management Office is fully functioning and setting the standard for a possible USARC-wide implementation. We are rebalancing our AGR positions and generating new concept plans for our MSC headquarters. As budgetary realities force us to clean up bad habits and be more efficient, shaping the force is about making the most of our most precious asset our people.

I want to thank you for all of your hard work and dedication to the mission. I am honored to serve with each of you and know that I have the best job in the Army Reserve!

Brig. Gen. James "Boe" Young Commanding General Military Intelligence Readiness Command

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### FROM THE

## COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR





It is with mixed emotions that I have been selected for another assignment and will be leaving the great Soldiers of the Army Reserve Intelligence community soon. My assignment to the Military Intelligence Readiness Command began in September 2008 and will end in April 2011 with a transfer to the 3rd

Medical Command (Deployment Support). During that time there has been much growth, improvement, and positive change at the MIRC but there have also been some sobering reminders of the seriousness of our profession and the fragility of life.

The MIRC has undergone considerable positive organization change in the last 28 months that has brought our intermediate level command structure more in line with a traditional Army organization. The addition of the 648th and the 208th RSGs to the MIRC family has given our TOE Battalions a robust intermediate level command and control organization that is nicely suited to meet the needs of our go-to-war formations. Also during the past 2+ years the Theater Support Command (TSC) and the Combat Support Command (CSC) have experienced changes in structure that have better enabled them to meet the needs of their subordinate units. Rounding out the subordinate Command and Control structure of the MIRC are the CENTCOM and EUCOM Army Reserve Elements who have not seen too much change since my arrival but have done a fantastic job leading our Soldiers in support of each Combatant Command. I believe that the command structure of the MIRC is in great shape and is set up for success for many years to come.

The people of any organization are the cornerstone, the heart and soul that makes a unit effective or not. At every level within the MIRC ranks I have seen true professionals executing their daily duties to prepare for combat or actually conducting combat operations. I have seen an

outstanding family support structure that is ready and able to provide assistance to our Soldiers' families when and where it is needed. We have the most dedicated squad leaders, platoon sergeants, first sergeants, sergeants major, command sergeants major and commanders in the Army! The Soldiers and civilians of the MIRC are of the highest quality and the most professional I have had the privilege to serve with. Examples of these professionals are Staff Sgt. Elizabeth Carroll and Spc. Steven Antolik, winners of the 2009 MIRC Best Warrior Competition, and Sgt. Daniel Acree and Spc. Aaron Thomas, our 2010 winners. Other examples include Staff Sgt. Cheryl Barksdale and Sgt. 1st Class Steven Watson, who were the winners of the Army Reserve Association Scholarship for outstanding Army Reserve Soldiers/students the last two years. This year, in addition to the MIRC Best Warrior Competition, there will be a MIRC Combatives Tournament and the initial selection board for the MIRC Sergeant Audie Murphy Club. All of these events are ways for us to challenge our Soldiers physically and mentally and to reward those who are the best of the best. Our ranks are filled with quality Soldiers performing admirably throughout this country and around the world.

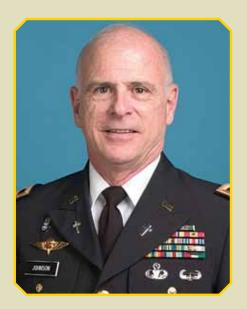
During my time at the MIRC we lost one Soldier Killed In Action in Afghanistan. It was a very sad day when I learned that Cpl. Christopher J. Coffland died on Nov. 13, 2009, while serving in the 321st Military Intelligence Battalion. It is very important for all of us to remember those, like Cpl. Coffland, who paid the ultimate sacrifice in a far off and dangerous place.

I thank each and every one of you for your service to the MIRC and to our Army. Hang tough and I look forward to seeing you on the high ground.

Command Sgt. Maj. Jim Murrin Command Sergeant Major Military Intelligence Readiness Command

## FROM THE CHAPLAIN





Have you ever noticed how some very simple things make our lives so much better?

All of last winter's ice and snow bring us a real life example of how living moral and ethical lives not only make our existence orderly but are also good for us.

Consider this: lines in a parking

lot help us manage our lives so that there are places for others and room for everyone. When it snows, and the plow clears the lot but the snow covers over the lines, then everyone parks wherever they want. Parking becomes rather haphazard and the otherwise large lot holds fewer cars. Worse, because there are no lines, then the traffic patterns narrow, often becoming snarled and difficult for everyone. This causes us frustration with others and sometimes leads to unnecessary conflict.

I've taken hundreds of teenagers on retreat over the years. Before we go, I always give them a list of the rules

(usually in an old English 10 Commandments format). When the kids moan and complain, I explain that the rules are there so that everyone has fun at the retreat. Everyone complains about the rules until the rules are broken and they are the ones who suffer — then they want justice! Better the rules were never broken.

Morality is a gift from God, not to ruin our lives but to give us goodness and happiness. When the lines of morality are understood and followed, people thrive. This is the way God intended. There is room for many others and there are far fewer conflicts in our lives when we live such lives.

After all, the things we all want—respect, faithfulness, honor, forgiveness, and grace—all come from living moral lives that make room for others on God's earth.

Men and women living moral lives don't make those mistakes that tear families apart, ruin careers and break down one's health. So let me encourage you to live out your faith in God in such a way that everyone around you knows that you are a person of integrity, morality, and respect.

Chaplain (Col.) Wylie Johnson Command Chaplain Military Intelligence Readiness Command

### **Do You Know About Strong Bonds?**

Strong Bonds is a unit-based, chaplain-led program designed to enrich the lives of our Soldiers and their Families by strengthening the bonds of our many relationships. The 3-day weekends are free and provide a combination of training and free time. The retreats are broken up into three categories: Single Soldiers, Couples, and Families.

Go to strongbonds.org to get more information on the program, upcoming events, and to register.



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### Companies Aim to Improve -

## Marksmanship



Story by Command Sgt. Maj. John Elam, 377th Military Intelligence Battalion command sergeant major

Hard work paid off for the three companies of the 377th Military Intelligence Battalion (MI BN) when over 95 percent of more than 300 of their Soldiers shot qualifying scores with their rifles during a single training weekend.

Focusing on the basics, the battalion conducted weapons qualifications during a three-day multiple unit training assembly. Ranges were conducted at three different locations because the companies are located in three Florida cities: Orlando, Jacksonville and Miami.

Previously the three companies had conducted Primary Marksmanship Instruction (PMI) classes for the M16A2 rifle in preparation for the range. One of the basic techniques taught for trigger control was an exercise in which a dime or washer is placed on the rifle barrel. For each Soldier to be a "Go" at this station, he or she had to successfully dry fire the weapon three times in a row without the dime falling off.

"This really teaches you to focus on trigger pull," said Staff Sgt. Cesar Rivera during the training.

A class on battle sight zero was taught as a necessity. Because the battalion has more Soldiers than weapons, some Soldiers had to share a weapon. Other classes included how to zero an M16A2, familiarization with the four fundamentals (steady position, aim, breathing and trigger squeeze), shot-group analysis, and 25-meter target analysis. During the Basic Rifle Marksmanship class, the Soldiers received instruction on familiarization with the M16A2 and its parts, immediate and remedial action, and SPORTS (Slap, Pull, Observe, Release, Tap and Squeeze). Additional blocks of instruction included classes on range safety procedures and how to clear a live weapon.

"We focused our PMI training on a back-to-thebasics mind-set to ensure all of our Soldiers had a better understanding of how their weapon functioned as well as improve their operational proficiency when qualifying," said 1st Sgt. Richard Hall, Bravo Company first sergeant, when asked about training objectives.

Since none of the battalion's companies are collocated with an active Army installation, reserving a range that meets the battalion's needs and time-line can become an issue. In Orlando, the Headquarters and Headquarters



Pfc. Juan Diaz, left, and Pfc. Tatiana Pantoja, both with the 377th Military Intelligence Battalion, proudly show of Diaz's shot groups during the battalion's recent weapons qualification. *Photo by Chief Warrant Officer 2 Ned Harris.* 

Detachment and B Company fired their Soldiers' individual weapons at a local law enforcement range on the grounds of a state prison. At that range, Soldiers qualified on the alternate table for the M16A2 and the M9. The range was large enough to accommodate a zero range and qualification ranges for the M16A2 and the M9 simultaneously.

During the weapons qualification, the instructors set up training stations at the range. Remedial training continued for Soldiers slated to fire with the companies but who were not assigned. Normally the battalion qualifies Soldiers from other Army Reserve Temporary Duty Assigned units that do not have weapons. The instructors conducted the target box exercise and the dime/washer exercise. Soldiers also utilized the Engagement Skills Trainer 2000 and the Laser Marksmanship Training System. Soldiers who had trouble zeroing their weapon received remedial training at the range before trying to zero their weapon again.

The battalion tries to conduct as much training as possible during an event like this because the biggest training challenge is the limited number of days an Army Reserve Soldier performs duty during the year. Typically an Army Reserve Soldier has only 24 battle assembly days and 14 days of annual training...a total of 38 days...to complete all required training, administrative tasks and everything else required of a Soldier. Because of these issues, the training is mostly conducted at the basic level. ◆

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## TUSKEGEE AIRMAN SPEAKS AS PART OF BLACK HISTORY MONTH

### **★ ★ ★ Retired Officer Is One of 47 Tuskegee Airmen Still Alive ★ ★ ★**

Story by Staff Sgt. Arthur Gordon, Maintenance Section, HHD, 377th MI BN



It was standing room only as the Soldiers gathered in the auditorium to hear stories from a living hero, Lt. Col. (retired) George E. Hardy, who is one of the original Tuskegee Airman. He was asked by the 377th Military Intelligence Battalion (MI BN) to speak to the unit's Soldiers in celebration of Black History Month.

His soft spoken voice and relaxed demeanor made the hardest subjects presented to him on this day seem easy. He described the prejudices of the time when he was in Alabama and explained how people could not believe that he was an aviator.

Mr. Hardy remarked that even after WWII that he still experienced racism and recalled an incident during the Korean War in which he was removed from a combat mission by his commander, who was white, as he was completing preflight checks. It hurt him as an officer and gentleman. Sadly, that aircraft was shot down with no survivors. Later someone told him that his commander saved his life. To this comment he replied 'I would like to think that I could have saved my crew's lives.'

But on this day, Soldiers and speaker all sat reflecting on one man's career and realizing at the same time just how far along things have changed in our military and our country. Mr. Hardy entered active duty service in July of 1943, became an aviation cadet at Tuskegee Army Air Field (AAF), Ala., in December of 1943, and graduated as a pilot in September of 1944. He received additional combat flying training at Walterboro AAF, S.C., and in March of 1945, he was assigned to the 99th Fighter Squadron, 332nd Fighter Group stationed in Italy. He flew 21 combat missions over Germany. Following his return from overseas in August of 1945, he served at Tuskegee AAF and Lockbourne AAF, Ohio, and was discharged in November of 1946. Mr. Hardy was recalled to active duty at Lockbourne Air Force Base, Ohio, in June of 1948. Hardy stayed there until he retired in April of 1971 after finishing a tour in Vietnam, flying over 70 combat missions.



Lt. Col. (retired) George E. Hardy, center, meets with Lt. Col. John Harris, far right and Sgt. Maj. Morris Bacon, far left, as part of the 377th MI BN's celebration of Black History Month. *Photo supplied by unit*.

Later that day, Lt. Col. John Harris and Command Sgt. Maj Morris Bacon took Mr. Hardy out to lunch and then back to the unit for a visit with the enlisted troops. Pictures were taken and new friendships established that will be remembered for years to come. Mr. Hardy drove off into the sunset with a 377th coin and a warm feeling in his heart for sharing his memories with fellow Soldiers. •

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# Website Links Unemployed Vets, Spouses to Jobs

By Terri Moon Cronk, American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — Unemployed veterans, wounded warriors, reserve-component service members and their spouses searching for jobs can find one-stop shopping at a Web portal designed just for them.

Operated by the Army Reserve, the military-friendly Employee Partnership of the Armed Forces at <a href="http://www.EmployerPartnership.org">http://www.EmployerPartnership.org</a> lends assistance not only to those looking for a job, but also to public and private employers who are ready to hire former service members and help to support the troops, said Maj. Gen. Keith L. Thurgood, deputy chief of the Army Reserve.

"It's all about connecting supply and demand," Thurgood said.

Employers are attracted to veterans because they are highly skilled leaders from the finely tuned military atmosphere, the general explained.

"That's the crux of the program,"
Thurgood said. "It's a mutually beneficial
program where the employer gets someone
who's drugfree, understands collaboration, [and]
can think strategically and act at a tactical level to get the
job done."

Navy Adm. Mike Mullen, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, is a longtime advocate of hiring veterans.

"Veterans bring a maturity. They bring leadership. They bring a life experience," he said last year. "They bring a dedication they may not have had when they were 17, 18 or 19 years old, when they were coming out of high school or in the first couple years of college."

Thurgood said the portal, launched on Veterans Day, still is in its infancy, but already has 7,500 registered users.

"We've got over 1,300 [employers with job openings], including 95 Fortune 500 companies," he said.

While many job websites exist on the Internet, Thurgood said, veterans should know

EmployerPartnership.org offers a personal touch, such as a resume-building feature that translates military language into civilian terms. Deciphering "military speak" is a common concern for human resources people in the corporate world, the general added.

"We take [a military specialty] and translate it into something an HR professional can understand," he said. "That's a very important piece of what we do."

And it's not just about the military, Thurgood said.



It's about a national program we need to put in place to share this great resource that we call people, because if you look at the unemployment rate, and the demographic of 18-to-24-year-olds, and then break that down into veterans, it's higher than the national average."

And sometimes, he added, the rate of unemployment among veterans is twice of the rate among civilians.

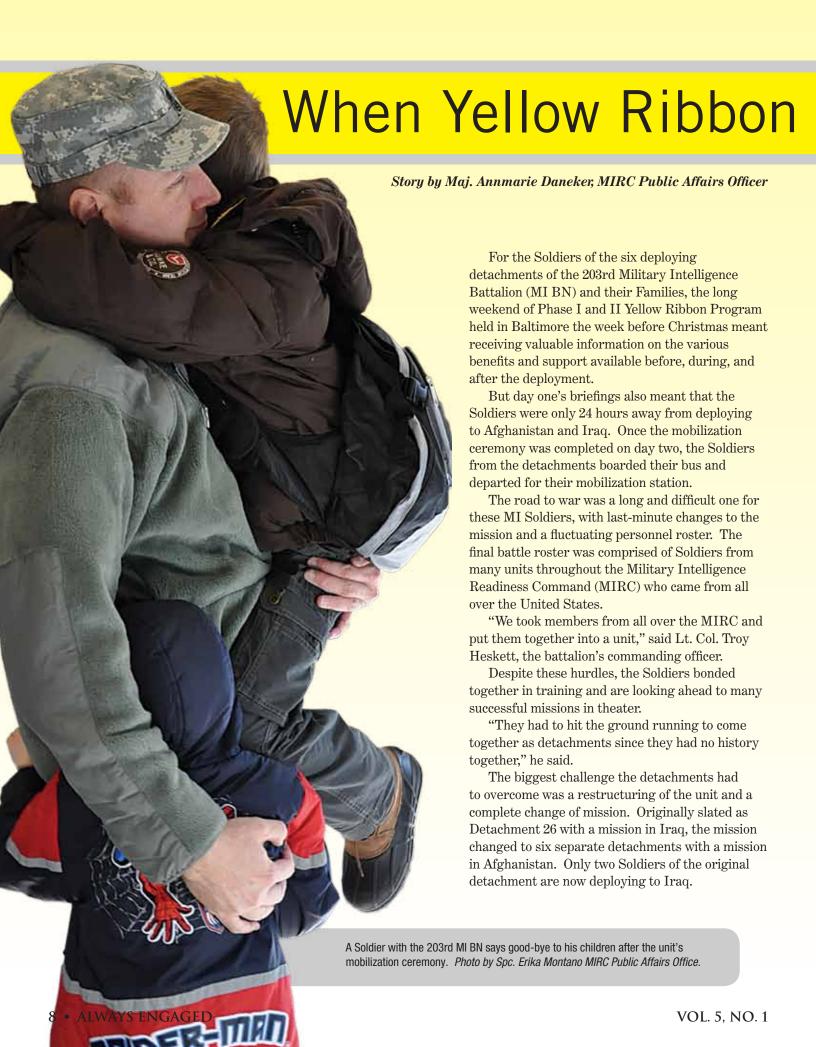
"We have ability to reach out to you personally to help you get your resume right, help you through the interview process, and make the right connections with employers," the general said.

"The personal touch is something we provide that nobody else does."

The portal also has advice for veterans who want to start a business, Thurgood noted, offering training that explains how to become a smarter business person and entrepreneur.

"It's free, it's easy, and it's a great way for us to connect the great skill sets that we bring to corporate America," he said. "In my opinion, our great military does two things well: it delivers results and grows leaders. That's exactly what America needs." •

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# Also Means Jood-bye



Maryland Governor Martin O'Malley addresses the Soldiers, Families and leadership of the detachments of the 203rd MI BN during their mobilization ceremony. *Photo by Jay L. Baker, Office of the Governor.* 

For 1st Lt. Joshua Mickahail, from Bluemont, Va., this first deployment for him means leaving behind his parents and four younger sisters.

"The hardest thing so far is saying good-bye to my life and saying good-bye to my family and friends," he said.

Mickahail was promoted to 1st Lt. during the mobilization ceremony. To him, the deployment also means a chance to grow both as an MI officer and a leader.

"I am looking forward to the training and experience and the opportunity to play a part in what the US is doing in Afghanistan," he said.

Having so many siblings helped Mickahail prepare for the mission.

"When he does his push-ups I put my feet on his back," said younger sister Rebekah. Another sister, Sarah, was more than happy to help him pack, bake him some cookies, and give him lots of hugs.

1st Lt. Joshua Mickahail, right, with the 203rd MI BN, receives his new rank from Brig. Gen. James Young, MIRC Commanding General. The promotion ceremony was held during the battalion's mobilization ceremony. *Photo by Spc. Erika Montano*.

For Lt. Col. Heskett, it was a proud moment to see these Soldiers pull together during a difficult time.

"I am impressed that we have this group one week before Christmas. Others are prepping for holidays...these Soldiers are preparing for deployment," he said.

"They are the epitome of Citizen Soldiers," he said. •

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### **Alpha Company performs ACE Training**



Alpha Company (A Co), 323rd Military Intelligence Battalion (MI BN), Fort Meade, Md., recently deployed to Camp Fetterd, Md., during a Battle Assembly weekend to simulate a field Analytical Control Element (ACE) and create intelligence products for turn-in to the ACE Chief.

On Saturday morning, Soldiers worked hard on basic tasks necessary to start the mission, such as putting up the tent to house the ACE and setting up tables and computers for work stations.

To start the mission, Soldiers were divided into three teams. Each team included an Officer in Charge (OIC), a Non-Commissioned Officer in Charge (NCOIC) and several Soldiers who had recently returned from deployments in Iraq.

The teams were assigned two Priority Intelligence Requirements (PIRs) to answer. The three analytical skills utilized in this exercise...data mining, analytical predicting, and briefing preparation...are the same skills



Staff Sgt. Xhevair Maskuli (left) and Capt. Anthony Calabro discuss Priority Intelligence Requirements during Analytical Control Element training as part of the 323rd MI BN field training exercise held at Gunpower Falls.

an analyst would use in a theater of operations. The teams were provided simulated intelligence including Human Intelligence (HUMINT) to answer the PIRs.

After answering the PIRs, the Soldiers were required to brief senior leaders. The teams worked separately until approximately 10 p.m., working and eating in shifts to ensure their team briefings were completed on time. The three teams then compiled their separate products into one final presentation. After completion of the presentation, the teams conducted a rehearsal to ensure all questions were answered. The rehearsal allowed the Soldiers to gain confidence before briefing the senior leaders.

The Soldiers briefed the senior leaders on Sunday morning, including Col. Greg Zellmer, 66th Military Intelligence Brigade (MI BDE) Commander, Command Sgt. Major Panapa Willis, 66th MI BDE Command Sergeant Major, Lt. Col. Karl Nell, 323rd MI BN Commander, and Command Sgt. Major Eric Garrison, 323rd MI BN Command Sergeant Major.

When the briefing was completed, the senior leaders provided constructive feedback to all three teams.

Col. Zellmer pointed out that one day soon he could possibly be depending on these same Soldiers to provide intelligence for war fighters deployed worldwide. That comment was motivational for the Soldiers who were preparing for their first deployment. Col. Zellmer then presented the Soldiers with his Commander's coin.

Overall, the ACE training during Battle Assembly was a success because it allowed seasoned Soldiers to interact with and mentor less experienced soldiers. A strong bond was formed among the Soldiers, creating an effective working relationship. As the weekend came to a successful close, the Soldiers quickly broke down the ACE site and returned to Fort Meade. •



Alpha Company, 323rd MI BN Soldiers work together to set up the Analytical Control Element tent during the field training exercise held at Gunpowder Falls.



# MIRC SOLDIER IS MIRC SOLDIER I

Story by Sgt. 1st Class Stephanie Abdullah, MIRC Public Affairs Office

1st Lt. Tony R. Zucca, a strategic intelligence officer with Detachment 3, 2300th Military Intelligence Group (MIG), is also the Capital City Cage Wars Mixed Martial Arts (MMA) Middleweight Champion.

"I feel pretty good about this win," Zucca said regarding the bout that won him the belt. "[My original opponent] backed out a week before the fight. But this guy was a much tougher opponent, so it makes the victory that much sweeter," he said.

Zucca, who has served in the Army Reserve since 2007, said this championship bout was his toughest fight to date. Not only did he face a tough opponent whom he refers to as a "beast," but it was the first time that he had fought as a middleweight. He went from 222 pounds down to 183 pounds. 1st Lt. Tony R. Zucca, Detachment 3, 2300th Military Intelligence Group, prepares to enter the ring for the Capital City Cage Wars Mixed Martial Arts Middleweight Championship. *Photo* courtesy of Capital City Cage Wars.





# "I DO WHAT IT TAKES TO WIN"



"I felt a little weak and fatigued early," Zucca said.

"I think once I get used to fighting at middleweight, things will be much different," he said.

MMA includes techniques from Karate, judo, wrestling and

boxing. Zucca just calls himself a brawler.

"I'm not real technical," said Zucca. "I do what it takes to win," he said.

Brig. Gen. James Young, Commanding General of the Military Intelligence Readiness Command, implemented an Ultimate fighting Championship (UFC) initiative and Zucca had the opportunity to participate in the program. UFC fighters have visited MIRC units and met with Soldiers as part of the initiative.

"Meeting the UFC fighters is an overall morale booster for Soldiers, especially those who are about to deploy," said Zucca. Zucca, who said he also looks forward to the opportunity to deploy, said he woke up one morning and decided he would join the Army Reserve. He said his sales job was no longer fulfilling. He did he meet many Soldiers in his sales position and because of these chance meetings, he decided he wanted to do his "small" part in service to his country as part of the Army's Intelligence field.

"I'm getting paid to learn new things that allow people to sleep at night," Zucca said.

He said he enjoys being in the Army Reserve because there is always something new to do.

"I thought I'd be doing just 'intel' but then I got a chance to also get involved and help the commanding general with the UFC initiative," said Zucca.

Zucca recently started a new civilian job in Charlottesville, Va., and said between civilian work and Army Reserve commitments, it is challenging to find time to train for MMA. He often has to sneak training in during lunch breaks, but said he appreciates that he can be a Soldier and participate in outside activities such as MMA and still have the Army Reserve's support. •





1st Lt. Tony R. Zucca, right, Detachment 3, 2300th Military Intelligence Group, is declared the Capital City Cage Wars Mixed Martial Arts Middleweight Champion. Left photo by Spc. Erika Montano. Right photo courtesy of Capital City Cage Wars.

# TASK FORCE DARK KNIGHT WELCOMED HOME

Story by Master Sgt. Mark Ligget and Sgt. Jonathan Allen, 321st Military Intelligence Battalion

ANAHEIM, Calif. — Soldiers with the 321st Military Intelligence Battalion Battlefield Surveillance (MI BN BfSB), Task Force Dark Knight, reflected on their deployment to Afghanistan during an official recognition of their service.

Brig. Gen. James Young, Commanding General of the Military Intelligence Readiness Command (MIRC), presented commemorative American flags to 100 Task Force Dark Knight Soldiers at their Welcome Home Warrior Citizen ceremony at the Anaheim Convention Center while more than 150 Family members and friends looked on. The event was held during the battalion's Yellow Ribbon Reintegration program.

"Of course, we had received endof-tour awards in Afghanistan," said Spc. India Jones, Headquarters and Headquarters Company (HHC) Human Intelligence Collector from Randallstown, Md. "But there was nothing to equal being honored in front of our families," she said.

"It's nice to come to an event like this as a civilian", said Johanna Stubblefield, Bravo Company Family Readiness Group leader and sister to Sgt. Jonathan Allen. "To get a peek into what it is like to be a part of the Army. It has actually been a surprising

eye opener; I thought I already had a pretty good idea, and it turns out that I didn't. It was also nice to get to finally meet the friends that my brother made while he was deployed," she said.

"Sixteen months ago we started our pre-deployment



Brig. Gen. James Young, left, MIRC Commanding General, talks with Capt. Marjorie Eastman, HHC commander, 321st MI BN, during the battalion's Welcome Home Warrior Citizen ceremony. *Photo by Master Sgt. Mark Ligget, 321st MI BN.* 



Maj. Maria Emery, Executive Officer for the 321st MI BN, holds the commemorative flag presented to her at the unit's Welcome Home Warrior Citizen ceremony held recently to honor the Soldiers who deployed to Afghanistan. *Photo by Master Sgt. Mark Ligget, 321st MI BN.* 



Spc. Jason Waldorf, a Human Intelligence Collector with Alpha Company, 321st MI BN, holds the commemorative flag presented to him at the unit's Welcome Home Warrior Citizen ceremony held recently to honor the Soldiers who deployed to Afghanistan. *Photo by Master Sqt. Mark Ligget, 321st MI BN.* 

training as a task force," observed Sgt. Amaryliss Becerra, a Legal Specialist from Austin, Texas. "So, to have this culminating event in the states completes a circle," she said.

Many of the Soldiers who joined the battalion as crosslevels from other units made the effort to attend, with the encouragement of their fellow Soldiers.

"The best thing about the weekend was seeing the cross-level Soldiers" said Maj. Maria Emery, Battalion Executive Officer, from Cedar Park, Texas.

"This has been so great!" said Pfc. Alex Chesna, of HHC. "I am seeing so many people that I never thought I would see again after our deployment. I'm really glad that I've gotten the chance to see what everyone has done with their life now that we are back home," she said.

"We're resolved to stay connected," said Spc. Benjamin Abell, an intelligence analyst from Austin, Texas. "Just because you're by yourself, doesn't mean you're alone," he said. Also part of the ceremony was the presentation of Family Readiness Group Certificates of Appreciation. The following hard-working volunteers were recognized for their efforts during the battalion's deployment: Rikki Bettinger, Laurie Blalock, Tim Saloni, Stephanie Combs, Melissa Figueroa, John Harwig, Debra Hokstad, Brigitt Hoffman, Janie Lancaster, Evelyn Lima, Natasha Martin, Ana Rogers, Lili Rogers, Johanna Stubblefield, Jarrelle Harper-Waldorf, and Melissa Wood.

While deployed, the 321st conducted full-spectrum intelligence collection operations throughout the Regional Command-East Area to enable the Combined Joint Task Force the ability to disrupt and defeat anti-Afghanistan forces. They received the Meritorious Unit Commendation for their efforts. •

# Training for **Operation New Dawn**

Story and photos by Maj. Annmarie Daneker, MIRC Public Affairs Officer

FORT HUNTER LIGGETT, Calif. — All was quiet in the HUMVEE, named Red 5, as the convoy moved down the road from the Forward Operating Base (FOB). The Soldiers knew from intelligence reports that enemy action was likely, and all four Soldiers in Red 5 were poised and ready for whatever insurgents might throw at them.

Suddenly there was the sound of an Improvised Explosive Device (IED) on the side of the road. The convoy moved quickly past the spot. A few minutes later, the driver of Red 5 realized that the trail vehicle, Red 6, was no longer behind them.

The decision was made to go back for the disabled HUMVEE. Once Red 5 arrived back at the scene they saw their fellow Soldiers, some pulling security and some wounded. They also were starting taking small arms fire. There was only one way out of this situation: quickly towing Red 6 to safety.

"Tell Red 4 to back up so we can hook up Red 6!"

The command came from Spc. Casey Rowland, a Human Intelligence Collector with the 373rd Military Intelligence Battalion (MI BN) based in Tumwater, Wash., riding

'shotgun' in Red 5, one of the several vehicles running through convoy lanes training.

This particular day of convoy lanes training was the culmination of three weeks of pre-deployment training at Regional Training Center–West (RTC-W), Fort Hunter–Liggett, Calif., in preparation for the battalion's deployment to Iraq in support of Operation New Dawn. As part of this training scenario, the convoy was 'hit' by multiple IEDs, 'disabling' the rear vehicle and 'injuring' most of the Soldiers inside. Once recovery operations started, the disabled vehicle and the vehicles that came back for the tow took small arms and indirect fire.

Rowland, from Olympia, Wash., was directing the driver of Red 5, Spc. Alvaro Nunez, also a Human Intelligence Collector, from Bonney Lake, Wash., to tell the other vehicle to back up and provide cover while they hooked a tow bar up to the disabled vehicle. Communications were down; the Soldiers in the vehicles had to communicate with hand signals and old-fashioned yelling.



Spc. Alvaro Nunez, a Human Intelligence Collector with the 373rd MI BN, gets ready for his mission as gunner on vehicle "Red 5" during convoy lanes training at Regional Training Center-West.

Spc. Casey Rowland, a Human Intelligence Collector with the 373rd MI BN, offers guidance to the gunner of the vehicle "Red 5" during convoy lanes training at Regional Training Center-West.

All three vehicles finally departed the kill zone, caught up with the rest of the convoy, and made it safely back to the FOB.

For Nunez, the experience was a positive one and taught him to be prepared for everything during convoy operations.

"When comms [communications] go down, make sure all the vehicles know what's going on," he said after the mission was completed.

All of the training leading up to that mission also gave Nunez confidence in the unit and the mission.

"We have good leadership and that makes me feel a lot more confident," he said.

That leadership starts with the battalion commander, Lt. Col. Dustin Schultz. She has watched the battalion work its way through extensive pre-mobilization training and is pleased with the results.

"The Soldiers' spirits have remained high through all this training," she said.

"The Soldiers were thrilled to receive exceptional hands-on training, focusing on the Army Warrior Skills," she added about the final three weeks of training at RTC-W. Those three weeks included everything from training on multiple types of weapons and equipment, to combatives and land navigation.

As the battalion prepares for deployment, the Soldiers are aware that they will most likely be the some of the last military personnel in Iraq. Per the current security agreement, American forces are to be out of Iraq by Dec. 31, 2011.

Soldiers with the 373rd MI BN stack and prepare to storm a building in search of the local bomb maker during pre-deployment training at Regional Training Center-West.

"The battalion is excited about being part of a historic event," said Schultz. "The Soldiers understand their mission and are ready to support the transition of forces out of Iraq," she added.

For Rowland, still riding shotgun in Red 5, the mission is melancholy. This is his first deployment after joining the Army Reserve just a few years ago.

"The youthful side of me wishes I had been over there earlier but it's nice that we'll be the last ones in Iraq," said Rowland.

"We'll finish the job", he said. •



## 301<sup>st</sup> Soldier Trains with Golden Knights

Story by Chief Warrant Officer 2 Charles Haas, 301st MI BN



Spc. Kama
Mountz, an
Intelligence Analyst
with Alpha Company,
301st Military
Intelligence Battalion
(MI BN), had the
opportunity to do
training with the
Army's premiere

aerial demonstration and competition unit, the Army Golden Knights Parachute Team.

Spc. Mountz had been looking forward to training with the Golden Knights since her deployment to Operation Iraqi Freedom.

"The opportunity to try out for the USAPT [United States Army Parachute Team] is an enormous honor for me as well as tremendous career advancement," she said.

"Prior to joining the Army, skydiving [was] not only a way of life, but also a career for me," she said.

Six months after she made her first jump in 1993 she moved to the "Drop Zone" (DZ) and began managing a gear store in Skydive, Ariz. Mountz's 17 years in the sport have included recreational and competitive skydives, freefall videography, national and international judging, coaching, manifest and gear store management and organization of events and competitions.

"It was during this time that I met and worked alongside many of the Soldiers who have been or still are on the USAPT or are within the Special Operations community that were the true motivators for me to give back to our country and join the service," said Mountz.

Mountz enlisted in the Army in May 2008 as an Intelligence Analyst, completed advanced individual



training, and attended four reserve battle assemblies before being deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom as a member of a Weapons Intelligence Team.

"During my deployment I earned an Undergraduate Certificate in Terrorism Studies and volunteered with the Iraqi Boy & Girl Scouts," she said.

Mountz's parachuting resume is full of accomplishments and awards. She has over 1,250 jumps, including 500 freefall videography jumps. In 1996 Mountz was hired as a skydiving stunt double for country-western singer Jo Dee Messina's video "Do You Wanna Make Something Of It."

The Golden Knights was originally conceptualized in the mid 1950s by Brig. Gen. Stilwell as the Strategic Army Corps Sport Parachute Teams. This unofficial unit participated successfully in parachute competitions, provided assistance to the military in the development of modern parachuting techniques and equipment, and provided support for Army public relations and recruiting.

The original team consisted of 13 military parachutists and today consists of men and women composing two demonstration teams, a 4-way Relative Work Team, a Style and Accuracy Team, and a Tandem Section. The team was formally recognized in 1959 and was later re-designated as the Army's official aerial demonstration unit on June 1, 1961. Today the USAPT is headquartered at Fort Knox, Ky., and garrisoned at Fort Bragg, N.C., with support elements consisting of an aviation section, a headquarters section, a media relations section and a supply section. •

# OPERATION TRIBUTE TO FREEDOM RECOGNIZES MIRC SOLDIER



While Chief Warrant Officer 2 Theodore Mozeleski was deployed, he led a team of several Soldiers responsible for analyzing and disseminating intelligence information gathered throughout central Iraq. Military intelligence operations ensure that Soldiers on the front lines have accurate and current information regarding enemy activity. Military intelligence analysts, such as Mozeleski, play a crucial role in providing that information.

"We had a 24-hour operation in place, and it was our mission to keep American and Iraqi commanders informed on enemy plans and activities as well as potential threats, both present and future," he said.

From 2009 to 2010, Mozeleski and his team provided Army personnel in theater with details about enemy forces and potential battle areas. That information was used to determine security priorities and plan missions. As a team leader for six Soldiers and two civilians, Mozeleski was responsible for reviewing all intelligence reports for the Baghdad and Anbar provinces in the central and western regions of Iraq.

While military intelligence is always critical, Mozeleski's role was especially important during the June 2009 drawdown of U.S. military forces in Iraq.

"It was exciting because it was a historic time, as the Iraqis began to take over more control. And it was rewarding because I worked with very capable subordinates. Due to the talent of our team, we accomplished good things, and I know Iraq was a safer place because of our efforts," said the Bronze Star Medal recipient, who received his medal for meritorious service and leadership. As a young child, Mozeleski recalls seeing photos of his father overseas, and he knew from an early age that he, too, wanted to serve his country in the military.

"One of the reasons I enlisted in the Army was because I wanted to be a part of history. My father was part of history when he served in World War II, and I believe I also participated in history as I was deployed during an integral year of America helping Iraq," he said.

With more than two decades of service in the Army, Mozeleski has always worked in military intelligence. Five years ago, he graduated from Warrant Officer Candidate School to further advance his military intelligence training and capabilities.

In the future, Mozeleski hopes to have the opportunity to deploy to Afghanistan and looks forward to the opportunity to mentor and serve alongside the next generation of Soldiers.

"As one of the older deployed Soldiers, I respect the motivation, analytical aptitude and technical savvy of the Generation X and Y Soldiers," he said. "Solders across generational lines worked well together and respected the strengths and contributions of each other."

A graduate of North High School and California State University at Dominguez Hills, Mozeleski resides in Torrance, Calif., with his wife and son. •

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# MIRC PROVOST MARSHAL HOSTS

Story by Maj. Annmarie Daneker, MIRC Public Affairs Officer

FORT BELVOIR, Va. — The Provost Marshal's Office of the Military Intelligence Readiness Command (MIRC), U.S. Army Reserve, hosted a Level II Anti-Terrorism (AT) Officer Basic Course the week of March 7 – 11 at the Mosby Army Reserve Center here to provide AT guidance to Soldiers assigned as their unit's Anti-Terrorism Officer (ATO).

The week-long class was conducted by a Mobile Training Team (MTT) from the Force Protection Training Division, U.S. Army Military Police School located at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo. Approximately 45 personnel from the MIRC as well as other Army Reserve commands attended.

According to Maj. Christopher Gerdes, MIRC Provost Marshal, the course was not conducted because of any specific threat to the MIRC facilities or personnel. The AT Officer Basic Course is a mandatory requirement for Soldiers at the battalion level and above with the additional

duty of ATO and is conducted for Army Active Duty and Reserve Soldiers on a regular basis. The course is open to staff sergeant through lieutenant colonel and includes civilian personnel as well.

The MTT that taught the course is one of four teams from the Force Protection Training Division that travels worldwide, teaching and certifying ATOs.

The course subjects included Physical Security, Prepare a Local Threat Assessment, and Implementing Random AT Measures. There are also multiple practical exercises including Conducting a Vulnerability Assessment and Conducting a Risk Assessment. Attendees must take and pass a final exam in order to be a certified ATO.

"We teach students procedural regulations and doctrinal standards, develop their knowledge and understanding of numerous domestic and international terrorist groups, methodology concepts, and the AT Risk Management

Army Reserve personnel attend a Level II Anti-Terrorism Officer Basic Course hosted by the MIRC. The week-long course is mandatory for Army Reserve personnel at the battalion level and above with the additional duty of Anti-Terrorism Officer. Photo by Spc. Erika Montano, MIRC Public Affairs Specialist.

Learning Object Army Reserve personnel and the battalion level and above with the additional duty of Anti-Terrorism Officer. Photo by Spc. Erika Montano, MIRC Public Affairs Specialist.

Learning Object Army Reserve and Anti-Terrorism Officer and Anti-Terrorism Officer and Anti-Terrorism Officer. Photo by Spc. Erika Montano, MIRC Public Affairs Specialist.

Learning Object Army Reserve and Anti-Terrorism Officer and Anti-Terrorism Officer. Photo by Spc. Erika Montano, MIRC Public Affairs Specialist.

Learning Object Army Reserve and Anti-Terrorism Officer. Photo by Spc. Erika Montano, MIRC Public Affairs Specialist.

Learning Object Army Reserve and Anti-Terrorism Officer. Photo by Spc. Erika Montano, MIRC Public Affairs Specialist.

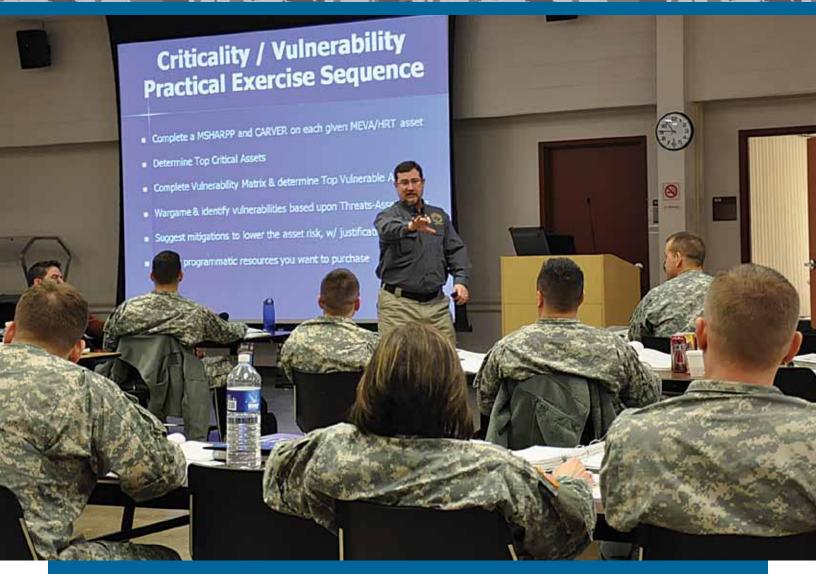
Learning Object Army Reserve and Anti-Terrorism Officer. Photo by Spc. Erika Montano, MIRC Public Affairs Specialist.

Learning Object Army Reserve and Anti-Terrorism Officer. Photo by Spc. Erika Montano, MIRC Public Affairs Affairs Affairs Anti-Terrorism Officer.

Learning Object Army Reserve and Anti-Terrorism Officer. Photo by Spc. Erika Montano, MIRC Public Affairs A

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# LEVEL II ANTI-TERRORISM COURSE



Noel Winterburg, standing center, Supervisory Training Instructor, Anti-Terrorism Branch, Force Protection Training Division, U.S. Army Military Police School, conducts Level II Anti-Terrorism training hosted by the MIRC. *Photo by Spc. Erika Montano, MIRC Public Affairs Specialist*.

Process," said Noel Winterburg, Supervisory Training Instructor, Anti-Terrorism Branch, Force Protection Training Division, U.S. Army Military Police School.

Once students have completed the course and are certified, they can return to their units ready to be an asset to their commanders regarding AT and security issues.

"The ATO will be the commander's subject matter expert on anti-terrorism issues," said Winterburg.

"The ATO will provide the commander with analyzed information so the commander can make a better decision on anti-terrorism risk management," he said.

But situational awareness isn't just for trained AT officers. All Soldiers need to be aware of their surroundings.

"MIRC units and personnel should take steps to understand the local threat environment where they live and work," said Gerdes. "This includes any travel destinations or locations for stops en-route," he said.

Information Soldiers and Families need can be obtained by contacting their command ATO. Another source for information is the state department website, http://travel.state.gov, which offers current travel advisories and recommendations for locations overseas. •

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## "BATTLE RATTLE"

# Kevlar bike shorts, female aviator uniforms among gear in works

WASHINGTON (Army News Service, April 18, 2011) — Despite the nation's budget woes, efforts to develop and distribute gear that will enable Soldiers to be more lethal and resilient in any environment will continue to be supported, predicted Program Executive Officer Brig. Gen. Peter Fuller, Thursday.

Fuller spoke at a PEO-Soldier media roundtable at the Pentagon about gear featured in the agency's fiscal year 2011 portfolio. That gear includes new cold-

weather clothing, Nett Warrior, and a system which will allow Soldiers to locate the enemy behind walls, doors, and other obstructions.

The AN/PPS-26 "Sense Through The Wall" system is designed to allow Soldiers to detect, locate, and "sense" personnel from a standoff

distance behind obstructions such as eight-inch think

adobe. It's a handheld radar system that displays the enemy's location on a small grid monitor.

Nett Warrior
is an integrated
dismounted
Soldier
situational
awareness
system. It
includes a
hands-free



The Generation III Extended Cold Weather Clothing System is designed to provide Soldiers a versatile, insulating system that is adaptable to varying operational and environmental conditions. *Photo by Jasmine Chopra.* 

display, a tiny computer processor and networked radio transmitter/receiver. It is designed to allow Soldiers in combat to find each other on a digital map, to enhance communication and information sharing.

The Generation III Extended Cold Weather Clothing System is designed to provide Soldiers a versatile, insulating system adaptable to varying operational and environmental conditions. It includes silk-weight moisture-wicking undergarments, a waterrepellent windbreaker and a new fleece jacket that mimics animal fur.

The new gear is light years ahead of what Fuller said he was issued as a young armor officer in the 1980s. He recalled using World War II-era wool coldweather gear in Germany.

"We had a brand new modern tank, but we were freezing," said Fuller.

The "MultiCam" fire-resistant Army Combat Uniform for Afghanistan with new MultiCampatterned Modular Lightweight Load-carrying Equipment. *Photo by Jasmine Chopra.* 

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Gortex was commercially available, but it was expensive.

The Soldier is not an accessory for the tank, said Fuller.

The purpose of the tank is the Soldier, so you ought to spend some money making

sure that the Soldier is optimized to use that platform, he said.

Without a doubt, the
Army is a people-focused
organization and how do
you focus on the people?
You give them the best kit,
said Fuller.

Fire-resistant uniforms, boots that match the environment, lighter loads, enhanced protection, it's all about making that Soldier decisive, and to be decisive,

Nett Warrior is an integrated, dismounted, Soldier situational-awareness system which includes a hands-free display, a small computer and networked radio transmitter/receiver. It allows Soldiers to find each other on a digital map, aids in communication and information sharing. *Photo by Jasmine Chopra.* 

Soldiers need to be fit, awake and aware, said Fuller. When a Soldier is freezing, can't see, is cramped or overloaded, it can really diminish that Soldier's capability, he added.



Project manager Col. Douglas Tamilio and XM2010. U.S. Army Photo

That's why the Program Executive Office Soldier labors to facilitate the implementation of high-quality, high-capability and ever-lighter gear, Fuller said.

Products in development include the XM-2010 Enhanced Sniper Rifle, better pelvic and groin

protection in the form of heavyweight silk underwear, Kevlar bike shorts that protect against debris from small blasts and the development of a female aviator uniform that makes taking care of biological functions much easier with a half-moon-shaped zipper. About 17 percent of Army aviators are female, according to PEO Soldier.

As with previous years, PEO Soldier is expending considerable effort in trying to lighten the weight of Soldiers' kits because gear that is too heavy and takes up too much space can reduce effectiveness, Fuller emphasized.

He added there is going to be continued modernization in the dismounted Soldier arena. ◆

## CONTINUED VIGILANCE

by MAJ Christopher Gerdes, MIRC Provost Marshal

September 11, 2001 occurred over 10 years ago. To many of us, the events of that day are the most devastating and vivid example of terrorism in our lifetimes. I urge each of you to not allow the passage of time since the events of that day to lull you into a false sense of security. Let us all be clear: terrorists—whether they are homegrown terrorists, Muslim extremists, or criminals simply seeking to cause harm to the Army—continue to probe our defenses, conduct attack planning, and recruit new members. Those who wish us harm constantly look for opportunities to incite fear, harm our facilities, and hurt or kill us.

The threat posed to our Soldiers, units, and facilities is very real. Not a day goes by that multiple incidents are not reported to the Federal Bureau of Investigation that involve Army personnel or facilities.

These attacks, probes, or attempted attacks can be minimized by awareness, vigilance, and reporting. Accordingly, in this article, I'd like to address three things: how your personal awareness can prevent attacks, the unique threat posed by those we may not suspect, and how to report something suspicious.

### **Attacks Prevented by Awareness**

Since 9/11, there has been a trend of ever-increasing public awareness, and willingness to report, suspicious activities that are observed by private citizens each and every day. An enhanced network of information-sharing between military, police, and antiterrorism personnel has allowed this valuable information to the get to the right agency, thwarting a number of potentially devastating attacks in recent years, including:

- ➤ A plan to conduct a heavily armed attack on personnel stationed at Fort Dix, NJ was stopped due to a tip from a clerk at a convenience store.
- ➤ An attempt to use a Vehicle Bourne Improvised Explosive Device (VBIED) to attack Northern Virginia Metrorail

- station was "derailed" by undercover agents posing as members of al-Qaida.
- ➤ An attempt to conduct pre-attack surveillance of a U.S. Army installation was prevented by alert security personnel at an access control gate who sensed inconsistencies in the explanation given by personnel attempting to "visit" a military organization.

### **Homegrown Threats**

In addition to the threat posed by foreign nationals who attempt to conduct attacks within our borders, there has been a new threat in recent years—homegrown terrorism. Homegrown terrorism is perpetrated by those among us who conduct violent acts upon their fellow citizens and/or Soldiers. All too often their premeditated desire to do so either goes unnoticed or is dismissed as simply strange or disgruntled behavior. We must do all we can to "police ourselves" to ensure that we do not miss signs that would indicate that someone among us has indications of the potential for violent behavior. Some major examples of homegrown terrorism/violence perpetrated on members of the United States Army are:

- The Oklahoma City Bombing was conducted by a decorated U.S. Army veteran of Operation Desert Storm
- The alleged mass shooter Fort Hood, Texas, was not only an Army officer, but also a trusted medical professional.

#### What to Look For

Just like the reconnaissance conducted before military missions, homegrown or foreign terrorists normally observe their target before selecting or attacking. The following are some things to look for:

- ➤ A young person (with apologies to those in this age group, most terrorists are in between the ages of 17-35)
- ➤ Loitering (repeat appearance in the same vicinity)



### **Predicting Violence\***

Predicting violence is not an exact science. In fact, there are many who would argue that there is no 100% reliable way of predicting any future behavior, especially one as complex as a violent act. However, there are some red flags, warning signs and indicators of potential violence that have been identified. A single warning sign by itself usually does not warrant immediate response. However, the presence of several warning signs may indicate an increased level of risk.

The following are some warning signs, red flags and indicators that have been associated with school shootings in the United States:

- 1. Preference for violent fantasy content, including writing, TV shows, websites, etc.
- 2. Anger problems, including a person having difficulty controlling his/her temper, acting impulsively, and making threats.
- 3. Fascination with weapons.
- 4. Boasting and practicing of fighting and combat proficiency.
- 5. Loners, who are people who are isolated and socially withdrawn. They may appear to be "misfits."

- 6. Stalking, following, or harassing others, regardless of the victims' expressed annoyance and demands to stop.
- 7. Non-compliance with discipline or rules.
- 8. Interest in previous shooting situations.
- 9. Fantasizing that someday the person will represent the oppressed or victimized, and will take revenge on the oppressors.
- 10. Paranoia, or a belief that someone is being singled out and unfairly treated.
- 11. A history of using violence to solve problems, abusing animals, or enjoying cruel behavior.
- 12. Acting out by expressing excessive anger or humor when the situation does not warrant it.
- 13. A history of contact with law enforcement for stalking or disorderly conduct.
- 14. Mental health history of dangerous, behavior.

\*Abridged from Appendix M: Red Flags, Warnings Signs and Indications, Roger Depue, PhD. In: VA Tech, "Mass Shooting at Virginia Tech April 16, 2007: Report of the Virginia Tech Review Panel," http://www.governor.gov/TempContent/tehPanelReport.cfm. retrieved on 3/3/08

- ➤ Nervousness
- ➤ Measuring Distances
- > Avoiding law enforcement
- ➤ No reason for being at that particular location
- ➤ Asking security-related questions
- ➤ Taking notes
- ➤ Videotaping or picture taking (particularly with cell phones) unusual places:
  - Gates
  - Entrances
  - Bridges
  - Barriers
  - Security Camera locations
  - Pedestrian traffic
  - Someone in a rental car
- **What Should I Report?**
- 1. The date and time.
- 2. Where it happened.
- 3. What you saw.
- 4. A description of those involved
  - Gender
  - Height
  - Build?

- Hair, eye, skin color?
- Age?
- English speaking?
- 5. Car? License plate number?
- 6. New or regular occurrence of this activity?

#### What to do

The Army Antiterrorism Awareness Program slogan of "See something – Say Something" provides the basic concept for personal action. Even if you are hesitant to report something because you think it may be insignificant, report it! MIRC Soldiers should contact both their local police department and their unit with reports of suspicious activity (see chart above), keeping in mind to call 911 if it is an emergency.

The MIRC Provost Marshal Office has recently released a suspicious activity reporting form to facilitate unit reporting. Reporting the event to your unit, in addition to the local police, can facilitate higher-level resources being directed at the suspicious activity as warranted. Units—please send all suspicious activity reports to your battalion or brigade Antiterrorism Officer, who will forward to the MIRC Provost Marshal. With over 6,000 Soldiers assigned to the MIRC, that's a lot of eyes. Let's ensure that suspicious activity that may threaten us does not go unreported. Every Soldier is a sensor. See Something—Say Something. •

## AROUND THE COMMAND





Pfc. Donald Kiernan, Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment (HHD), 377th Military Intelligence Battalion, received the HHD "Spartan" coin for his work to make the unit's holiday party a success. The coin was designed by two HHD Soldiers and became the official HHD coin in October 2010. *Photo supplied by unit.* 

1st Lt. Ryan Carter, second from left, relinquishes Alpha Company, 378th MI BN's guidon to Lt. Col. Miller Belmont, 378th MI BN commander, for presentation to Capt. David Johnson, far right, while 1st Sgt. James Durbin looks on, during A Company's change of command ceremony. *Photo by 2nd Lt. Kyle Garey.* 



Soldiers and Family members from the 301st Military Intelligence Battalion in Phoenix had the chance to attend the Bowl Championship Series National Championship game between the Oregon Ducks and the Auburn Tigers. From left to right, Sgt. Amanda Ross, Sgt. Katie Gabel, and her husband Jerry Gabel show off their team spirit at the game. *Photo by Chief Warrant Officer 2 Charles Haas*.

Col. Patricia Frost (right), 500th MI BDE commander, gets ready to put a pie into the face of Lt. Col. Timothy Thrasher, 301st MI BN commander, at the holiday party for the Soldiers and Families of the 301st. The "pie-in-the-face" game was a fundraiser for the 301st Family Readiness Program. *Photo by Sgt. James Cummins.* 



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Staff Sgt. Stephanie Abdullah, left, former MIRC Public Affairs NCO, receives her new rank from R & B recording artist Bobby Brown during her recent promotion to Sgt. 1st Class at Fort Belvoir, Va., March 8, 2011. Sgt. 1st Class Abdullah is a free-lance publicist and at one time managed publicity for Mr. Brown. She is now the Public Affairs NCO for the 55th Sustainment Brigade. Photo by Spc. Erika Montano.



Congratulations to the newest captains from A Company, 345th MI BN! Capt. Derek Commeens (left) and Capt. Justin Belill (right) were recently promoted in a ceremony conducted at the Al Faw Palace in Baghdad. They are joined by Maj. Josh Bonner. Photo supplied by unit.



Brig. Gen. James Young, Commanding General of the MIRC, administers the oath of office to 140 people enlisting into the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marines in Jacksonville, Fla., November 14, 2010. The ceremony was part of the Veteran's Appreciation Day with the Jacksonville Jaguars during their home game against the Houston Texans. The Jaguars won by scoring a touchdown in the final seconds of the game. Photo by Maj. Annmarie Daneker.





Maj. Gen. Mari K. Eder, commander of the U.S. Army Reserve Joint and Special Troops Support Command, in Salt Lake City, addresses MIRC personnel during the annual Womens' History Month celebration. This year's theme was "Our History is Our Strength". Photo by Spc. Erika Montano.



# Army Safety Gram



11-09

### **Driven To Distraction**

When you drive a motor vehicle, you should give this task 100 percent of your attention. It is amazing how many drivers don't. They find other activities to keep them entertained and challenged as they try to pilot a ton of steel down a busy highway. Sometimes the result is tragic. Serious traffic accidents have occurred because the drivers were momentarily distracted and took their attention off their driving.

### Here are some typical distractions behind the wheel. Do any of them sound familiar?

- Trying to find a radio station or selections on your tape player.
- Fishing around in the glove compartment for something.
- Combing your hair, checking makeup in a mirror or even shaving.
- Drinking coffee, trying not to spill coffee, cleaning up spilled coffee.
- Trying to hold a hamburger together while you eat it and keep the ketchup off your shirt.
- Lighting a cigarette, fumbling for the dropped lighter or ember.
- Reading a map.
- Looking for an address.
- Dialing a cellular phone or engaging in an in depth conversation with someone in the vehicle.
- Disciplining restless children in the car, or feeding them snacks.
- Dodging a bee in the vehicle.
- Staring in amazement at other drivers doing these things.

#### Here are some reminders for driving safely without distractions:

Certainly people today are rushed, and many have become accomplished at doing other things while driving. However, driving and trying to do other tasks decreases the safety of the driver and passengers, because you do not have as much control of the vehicle and you cannot drive defensively – anticipating other drivers' actions.

- Make sure you, and the workers you supervise, use cell phones safely. The safest thing is to make your calls before you set out. If you receive a cell phone call while you are driving, let the caller leave a message, pull over, and call that person back. Reinforce this safety policy by issuing regular reminders and by setting a good example.
- Consider how your children might be observing your unsafe habits and thinking of them as something normal that
  everyone does. If you don't want your children jabbering away on cell phones while they are driving, don't let them see
  you doing it, ever.
- Be aware that using a hands-free, voice-activated cell phone can still distract you.
- A safe driver also stops before checking maps and addresses, looking at paperwork, and dealing with similar distractions.
- Even eating, drinking, fiddling with the radio or vehicle sound system, adjusting heaters and digging items out of the glove box while driving have caused vehicle crashes.

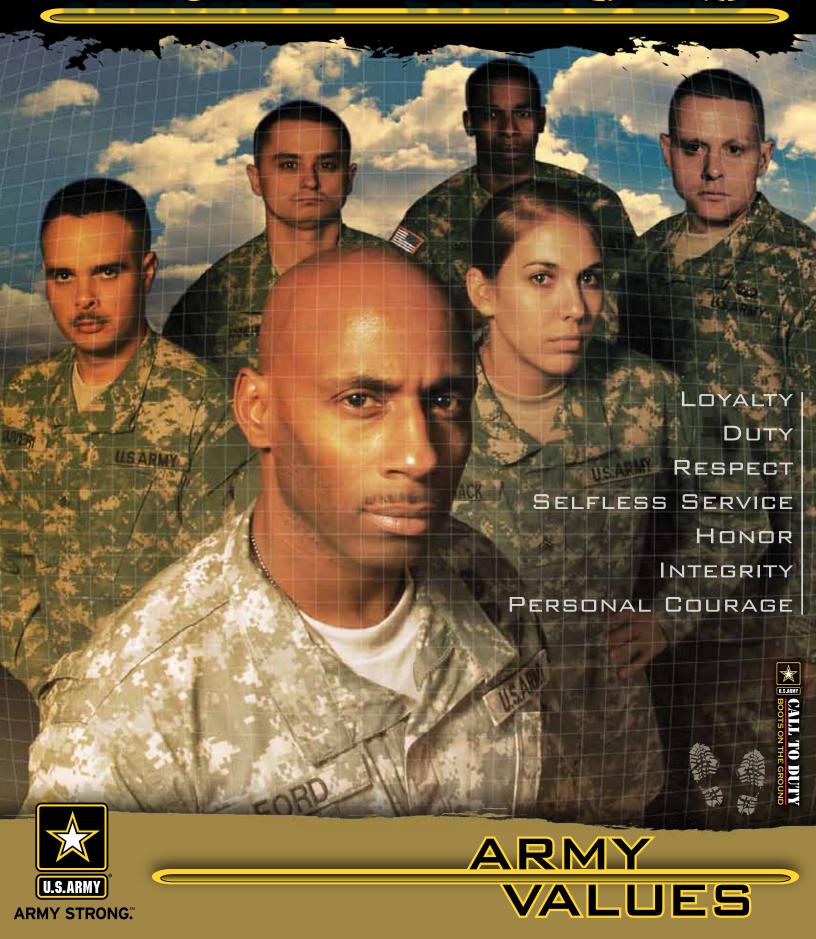


 Arguments or stressful conversations with passengers can also divert the driver's attention from the road. We know better than to drive while under the influence of alcohol or drugs, but fatigue, stress and strong emotions such as anger can also impair the ability to drive safely.

So, think twice about driver distractions. If you have to do something that requires your attention, then pull over. Safe driving takes all of your concentration!



# ARMY VALUES



**MIRC** ATTN: PUBLIC AFFAIRS FORT BELVOIR, VA 22060

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