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TALON



Task Force Dragon sets example during presence patrols

Inside this issue:

Sgt. Audie Murphy Club inducts two soldiers

Camp McGovern soldiers continue combat training

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TALON

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(Photo by Staff Sgt. Kanessa Mynett, HHC, 25th ID (L))



Page 7 — Camp McGovern soldiers continue war-time training.

(Photo by Cpl. Matthew McClelland, HHC, 1st. Bn., 151st Inf. Regt.)

Stabilization Force 11 Voices

“What’s the most valuable thing you’ve gotten out of this deployment?”



Sgt. Nicholas Aramula
Team Leader
1st Bn., 14th Inf. Regt.

“The most valuable thing to me is seeing the local people’s positive reaction to American soldiers.”



Sgt. Jeffrey Renon
Tank Loader
Team B, 1st Bn., 163rd Inf. Regt.

“Understanding the peace and security we take for granted in the U.S.”



Spc. Rene Thomas
Driver
JMA

“I think picking up a new language as well as experiencing a new culture has been interesting.”



Rayvaun Smith

Warriors take first place

The Independence Day 48-hour double elimination champs are the 25th Aviation’s Warriors. The McGovern team took second place.



Task Force Eagle
Stabilization Force
SFOR XI
Bosnia-Herzegovina



Command Sgt. Maj. Thomas Lee
Multinational Division (North)
command sergeant major

What is an on-the-spot correction? Specific to the Army, a spot correction is a two-step process.

First, a soldier, who possesses situational awareness, notices a deficiency, then, initiates an appropriate remedy to that deficiency. Although it seems like a very simple proposition, it's not.

The first step requires soldiers to be knowledgeable and well versed in a wide variety of subjects, alert and aware of the surroundings they are in. The second step requires tact, courage and immediate action. Therein lies the rub.

Let's start, for example, with uniform deficiencies. We all on a regular basis notice things like pockets unbuttoned.

Normally if a soldier leaves a pocket unbuttoned he or she has done so inadvertently. Perhaps, they have retrieved an item from their pockets without re-buttoning the pocket, or they neglected to check all the buttons when they put the uniform on.

Less frequently, a soldier will have unbuttoned pockets, because they are sloppy, unkempt and don't take the appropriate level of pride in our uniform. In either case, if we notice the unbuttoned pocket, we are duty bound to appropriately correct it.

Yes, **appropriately** correct it, no matter if the soldier out ranks us, is our peer, or is our subordinate, or whether we know them or not.

The keys are we are duty bound

to correct and we are duty bound to correct appropriately.

We are duty bound to correct because we are an organization of professionals in the service of a great nation. Our organization is pledged and charged to protect and defend this great nation and the principles on which it's built.

To fulfill these responsibilities, thousands of soldiers must execute complex tasks coordinated by and within the framework of detailed and precisely timed plans.

This process is dependent on technical skill and discipline. Discipline is a perishable commodity dependent on training that corrects, molds and perfects.

It is the fabric that binds us together, enabling us to act in unison. So, the reason we are duty bound to correct is because it maintains discipline and without discipline we are no more than a mob.

We are duty bound to correct appropriately regardless of rank. For most of us the lessons that we have learned best, have been taught by those we respect most. Those lessons were taught sometimes most effectively with shining example alone.

The first thing we must do to appropriately spot correct is to make sure that we are without deficiencies ourselves.

This gives us credibility, which is necessary for the spot correction to be accepted. Next, we should always be polite and respectful, but we should be direct and objective, as well.

If possible we should attempt to

make the spot correct in a manner that we ourselves would find acceptable. This is especially important, because impolite or insubordinate remarks defeat the purpose of the spot correction.

"Two wrongs don't make a right." So the reason we are duty bound to correct appropriately is to ensure that we contribute to, rather than detract from, the desired end state.

The correct format for an appropriate spot correction is as follows:

"Sir, Ma'am, or rank as appropriate, could I bring something to your attention? I believe that _____ is incorrect. I point this out with all due respect, because we are all duty bound to support and assist each other."

In contrast we are duty bound if spot corrected appropriately to comply and accept the correction, and execute

the remedial action, no matter who has made the correction, but especially if they are our subordinates.

The appropriate acceptance of a spot correction is where we make our real money.

That is when each party knows that the standard has been displayed and upheld, and we are all the better for it.

Bottom line — we are duty bound to spot and correct, which represents both sides of the coin.

So, when we spot and correct we reinforce standards, those standards, which enable us to fulfill our duties and maintain the fabric of our discipline, that discipline on which our very lives depend.

DRIVE ON TASK FORCE EAGLE
– TRAINED AND DISCIPLINED 3

"We are duty bound to correct because we are an organization of professionals in the service of a great nation."

— *Command Sgt. Maj.*
Thomas Lee
MND (N)
command sergeant major

Infantrymen influence people with continued presence

By Staff Sgt. Kanessa Mynett

Media Operations Chief

Always visible mainstay of Stabilization Force rotations has always been, and continues to be, infantrymen patrolling the countryside of Bosnia and Herzegovina. The routine missions are an important visual reminder to the nation's people of America's commitment and support of progress and reconciliation. Midway through SFOR 11, the presence of American peacekeepers in the villages and neighborhoods across northeastern portion of BiH is no less evident than at the start of U.S. involvement in 1995.

Soldiers of Task Force Dragon, comprised of Companies B and C, 1st Battalion, 14th Infantry Regiment and Team B, 1st Bn., 151st Inf. Regt conduct more than 35 patrols each and every day. Soldiers of Task Force Eagle in Multinational Division (North) are readily known throughout the region and are usually warmly received by Bosnia's population, although not always.

In a country still struggling to rebuild its infrastructure and economy a decade after the onset of a nationalistic war, a frequent question asked by the men who interact daily with local community leaders, towns folk and children is, "Just what kind of impact are they having on the overall SFOR mission?"

Many of the soldiers throughout the task force say they fully understand the importance of the daily patrols and their personal interaction with the local community, but are uncertain of the importance their role as peacekeepers play in the larger picture.

Soldiers express concern about whether their presence helps to assist local citizens in an environment where displaced persons are being returned to their pre-war homes and the international community works to ensure nongovernmental organizations assist in the renewal and returns process.

Maj. Gen. Charles H. Swannack, Jr., MND (N) commander, has been quoted saying that "You couldn't ask for better ambassadors than U.S. Army soldiers to show what freedom, democracy and opportunity are all about."

In a society where the deaths of more than 200,000 people were a direct result of nationalistic uprising and different religious backgrounds became reason enough to hate and murder one another, having regular interaction with American citizens who live and work together each and every day despite obvious differences, from race to religion, works as a catalyst to better understanding.

"The American contribution to peacekeeping in Bosnia-Herzegovina is significant. American soldiers are representatives of our society and American values," Swannack said.

"When soldiers are out on patrol, interacting one-on-one with the local populace, they're role models for a multi-ethnic society that works extraordinarily well together. It's valuable for the citizens of Bosnia-Herzegovina to see and understand that."

Staff Sgt. Hiram Sanders, Co. B, 1-14 squad leader agrees with that, and says he sees the communities working toward being stable and progressing on their own.

"I think it's the individual soldiers being with the people, knowing exactly what their plight is and trying to help them that makes the biggest difference," Sanders said.

And that's exactly what Spc. Joshua Clevenger, 21-year old Co. B team leader, thinks. Although Clevenger said he's not certain the smaller communities are receiving as much attention as the larger cities throughout the country, he said he knows SFOR makes a difference simply due to the reception they receive from children and the elderly.

On a recent patrol, Clevenger and his squad handed out mine-awareness magazines to a group of children, explaining to them to watch out for the types of mines shown in the pictures. While leafing through the pamphlet, one boy pointed to a picture of

unexploded

was located
Clevenger
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Swannack
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Staff Sgt. Michael McCully, squad leader, Co. B, 1st Bn., 14th Inf. Regt. flips through a UXO and mine-awareness magazine with the children at a refugee camp just outside of Olovo.



Pfc. Daniel Gough, an M249 SAW gunner with Co. B, stands guard from the roof of his uparmored HMMWV during a routine patrol.



ple, nation e patrols

ded ordnance, telling the soldiers that one just like that
ated a few blocks where they were standing.
enger and his team followed the youth down to the river,
UXO lay, near the children's swimming hole. They re-
the anti-personnel mine to local law enforcement and
d to have it removed.

at day we made a difference," Clevenger said, even though
he still wonders what higher headquarters do with other
sent up after a day's patrol.

nnack has said he understands that, and knows that sol-
n't always see the real impact they have.

ng a recent interview with an Army Times reporter, when
about infantry soldiers acting as "peacekeeping cops,"
ck said, "I've been doing this for 31 years, and along the
e learned that the U.S. military is one of the instruments
nal power. It's a national objective for this area of the
to be peaceful; therefore, having infantry troops here is
ppriate use of U.S. power.

king to Bosniaks, Bosnian Serbs, Bosnian Croats - that's
way to convey what the U.S. is all about, in terms of our
rights, and freedoms. Soldiers probably don't recognize
it peacekeeping is all part of the equation."

ite all the work that still needs to be accomplished and
significant problems Bosnia still faces — a weak economy,
war crime suspects and fundamental divisions in soci-
progress is reflected in the successes of fledgling gov-
t institutions, and local authorities taking responsibility
taining a safe and secure environment in their communi-

all the progress toward lasting peace in Bosnia since
ended six and a half years ago, the continued work of
soldiers who diligently complete daily patrols is aimed
ing a society that prospers rather one that continues to
rom cultural division.



Photos by Staff Sgt. Kanessa Mynett



Above, recently promoted Spc. Andrew Dearden, an M249 SAW gunner, tosses a soccer ball around with a local girl during an evening presence patrol June 28. Sgt. Randy Eoute, Co. B team leader, looks on. Left, Pfc. Daniel Gough chats with a group of children about the recent World Cup Soccer Championship.

Audie Murphy Club adopts two new Task Force Eagle soldiers



Courtesy photo

Sgt. Audie Murphy rose to national fame as the most decorated U.S. combat soldier of World War II.

By Spc. Vincent Oliver

Assistant Editor, 305th PAD

With the operational tempo as high as it has been since the beginning of the Stabilization Force 11 rotation in Bosnia,

Task Force Eagle took time out to induct two new members into the Sgt. Audie Murphy Club July 5 at Eagle Base.

Sgt. 1st Class Jose Castro, of Co. C, 1st Battalion, 14th Infantry Regiment, and Staff Sgt. Brian Mincey of Headquarters and Headquarters Co. 1st Bn., 14th Inf. Regt., became the newest members of the Sgt. Audie Murphy Club.

"Personally, this is definitely the highlight of the deployment for me," said Mincey, who is the battalion nuclear, biological and chemical non-commissioned officer-in-charge for 1st Bn., 14th Inf. Regt.

Mincey said he has been anticipating becoming a member of the SAMC since he was a sergeant.

"My unit back at Fort Hood had a lot of Sergeant Audie Murphy Club members, but I deployed too much to ever go to the board," said Mincey.

Mincey said he sees a lot of the same traits in himself, like professionalism and dedication, which Audie Murphy was known for.

Mincey said his next goal is to prepare one of the junior soldiers that work for him for the E-5 promotion board.

Castro, the other inductee, said he

was dedicating this day to his wife, who is the Family Readiness Group coordinator for his unit back at his home station, and to his mother, who passed away two years ago.

"This is real exciting for me," said Castro. "I've worked hard for this, and I felt confident going into the board."

Castro said he had been anticipating becoming a member of the SAMC for one year and that his next goal is to be promoted to the rank of first sergeant, and eventually sergeant major.

Audie Leon Murphy, son of poor Texas sharecroppers, rose to national fame as the most decorated U.S. combat soldier of World War II, being awarded 33 citations for bravery in action including the Congressional Medal of Honor, the French Legion of Honor and the Chevalier.

"I believe all the NCOs who participated in the Sergeant Audie Murphy Club Board, whether they made it or not, will be a cut above their peers," said 1st Sgt. Gino Carreras, 324th Psychological Operations Co. first sergeant and SAMC board member. "I am honored to have been able to participate as a board member and select the two inductees."

Chaplain's Corner ...

Compassion key to transforming a hurting world

As early as 520 B.C., the Old Testament prophet Zechariah criticized people who observe religious formalities and prescribed ritual but are not truly religious because they fail to exercise compassion. In a telling verse (7:9), Zechariah writes, "Administer true justice; show mercy and compassion to one another."

Have we changed much in the millennia since Zechariah?

One could argue that the majority of people today still formally observe their faith tradition, but do not live in its true spirit of love and compassion.

Witness the recent terrorist attacks on America and the ongoing crises of the

Middle East. The English word *compassion* is derived from Latin and means "*suffering with.*"

Yet few today are truly willing to suffer with others, help share their burdens, and love each other as brothers and sisters.

Compassion leads us out of our shell of self-complacency and into the harsh reality of everyday life to stand beside another person who hurts.

It makes us vulnerable by forcing us out of our comfortable worship centers, where most religion seems confined, and into the real world where we can offer a cup of water to those who thirst, bind up the wounds of the injured, bring love

and kindness in a hostile environment, and reflect the grace of God to everyone we encounter.

Compassion, as the Bible consistently teaches, is at the heart of true religion.

Thankfully, however, there are many people who still care, who do have compassion, and who often volunteer their time, energy, and resources to help others.

We, as a God-fearing people, can say with appropriate pride that many people are compassionate. Religion's tenets of brotherly love and truth urge us to care and to express the divine within us through compassion for all humankind.

This genuine compassion

requires us to do more than merely see another's pain; it requires our assistance, our helping those in need.

Compassion can be best taught by example. And if compassion became the norm in our new 21st century, in our individual lives, today's rampant violence, so often based on prejudice and aimed toward those who differ from us, would become a phenomenon of the past.

Compassion, in action, would transform our nation and the world.

Together, we can "show mercy and compassion to one another" and make each person a key catalyst in that epic transformation.

God bless you!

McGovern soldiers train to hone combat skills

By Cpl. Matthew McClelland

Camp McGovern Public Affairs Correspondent

Camp McGovern soldiers were at war July 3. Under constant suppressive fire from machine guns posted high on the hill overlooking the objective, two infantrymen placed their lives in harm's way to cut barbed wire surrounding the enemy compound that they were assaulting.

With a loud yell, squad leaders called "Shift fire!" The suppressive fire shifted as the attack squad rushed through the newly formed hole in the perimeter. They assaulted three hostile positions killing two enemy soldiers and capturing another. But, the platoon didn't "win" without a cost.

The soldiers suffered four casualties; two killed in action and two wounded.

That was the scenario on a hot July day at Camp McGovern. Company C, 1st Battalion, 151st Infantry Regiment, Task Force Warhawk, conducted standard infantry training to help keep the troops' fighting skills sharp.

"We are maintaining the skills that we have so that when we return home we will be able to do our jobs as infantry soldiers," said 1st Lt. Jeffrey Stukey, the company's executive officer.

With the mock casualties treated and "airlifted" from the area, it was now time for the leaders to discuss what went right and what went wrong. They then hit "reset" and started the training scenario over again.



Photos by Cpl. Matthew McClelland

1st Lt. Jesse Smith, platoon leader, 2nd Platoon, Co. C, 1st Bn, 151st Inf. Regt., briefs his troops on the mission.

Charlie Co. will conduct these training drills over the course of two to three weeks so that when they re-deploy they will be able to

smoothly change gears from peacekeeping operations and move back into their normal National Guard combat training.



Above, Spc. Richard Scull, infantryman, Co. C, 1st Bn, 151st Inf. Regt., pulls perimeter security with the M240B during a training exercise at camp McGovern.

Left, Staff Sgt. Jeffrey Campbell, squad leader, searches an enemy POW while Cpl. Anthony Brishaber, infantryman, provides over-watch security.



Above, 2nd Platoon rushes through the wire to secure the enemy compound.

Right, Spc. Brent Lasher and Spc. Richard Scull, infantrymen, cut the concertina wire as their platoon prepares to attack.



Know the SFOR 11 Patches ...

1st Armored Division



Yellow, blue, and red are the colors of the branches from which armored units were formed. The tank tread, gun, and lightning flash are symbolic of mobility, power, and speed. The division's designation is in Arabic numerals. The shoulder sleeve insignia was originally approved without the tab on Nov. 22, 1940.

The tab was authorized as a separate item on February 21, 1956. The insignia was changed to a one-piece insignia on Nov. 5, 1970.

The design is a miniaturized replica in metal and enamel of the shoulder sleeve insignia of the 1st Armored Division.

The Old Ironsides Division was organized at the American home of armor and cavalry, Fort Knox, Kentucky, on July 15, 1940, where Major General Bruce McGruder was chosen as our first commander. McGruder gave the division its nickname, "Old Ironsides," after noting similarities between the frigate, U.S.S. Constitution, with its thick oak hull and the protection afforded by armored vehicles.

From Algeria to Rome and beyond, Old Ironsides blazed through a series of victories such as those at La Tour, El Guitar, Naples, Anzio, Rome-Arno and the Po Valley. After the war, the 1st Armored Division assumed occupation duties in Germany, near Schwabish Gmuend, but in 1946 the division was inactivated.

A mere five years later in 1951, the

1st Armored Division was reactivated at Fort Hood, Texas. In May 1971, Old Ironsides returned to Germany, this time to the Bavarian city of Ansbach, where it replaced the 4th Armored Division.

The 20-year presence of Iron Soldiers and their NATO counterparts helped bring significant changes to Europe, including the downfall of the Iron Curtain, the crumbling of the Berlin Wall and, finally, the reunification of Germany.

Today, the 1st Armored Division continues its mission to deploy from a forward base to support NATO's call. That call has taken Iron Soldiers to the

Former Yugoslavian Republic of Macedonia, Kuwait, Rwanda, Uganda, Zaire, Turkey, Poland, the Czech Republic and Bosnia-Herzegovina. During the division's deployment to Bosnia-Herzegovina, as part of NATO's initial Implementation Force (IFOR) and, later as part of the Stabilization Force (SFOR), the division formed the nucleus of Multinational Division-North and Task Force Eagle.

Under Operation Joint Endeavor, Joint Guard and Joint Forge, the division was charged with implementing the military aspects of the General Framework Agreement for Peace in northeastern Bosnia-Herzegovina. The forces from 12 nations: Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Russia, Sweden and Turkey, operated under the task force head-

quarters of the 1st Armored Division. A true multinational division, Task Force Eagle, at its apex, included approximately 25,000 soldiers, 650 armored vehicles, 60 artillery tubes and 48 attack helicopters to enforce the military aspects of the peace agreement.

Today, the 1st Armored Division stands on freedom's frontier as a forward-deployed, deployable force for our Army and our nation.

The 1st Armored Division is a cutting-edge, combat-ready, highly mobile, lethal force. The division consistently enjoys success by striving for the highest standards in training, maintaining and caring, making Old Ironsides one of the Army's premier fighting forces and truly America's Tank Division.

The Area Support Group Eagle is augmented with eight iron soldiers from 1AD. They are scattered throughout the Balkan's theatre; Eagle Base, Butmir, and Taszar. They are stationed out of Germany.

Three soldiers representing this patch hold positions as the executive officer, administrative clerk and personnel administrative venter clerk for the BSB in Sarajevo.

The supply sergeant for the AST also represents this patch in Taszar. The positions held by these soldiers in Eagle Base include Support Operation Officer, Transportation Officer, Supply and Service Officer and Operations Battle NCOIC.

(Information was gathered at www.1ad.army.mil and the Institute of Army Heraldry website.)



Health warning attached to supplement Ephedra

By Maj. Sara Spielman

TFME Dietician

Quick weight loss schemes are rampant in American society. Currently, there is no government regulation on over-the-counter nutritional supplements due to the 1994 Dietary Supplement Health and Education Act. The DSHEA places supplements in a special category that lies somewhere between foods and drugs. This means that supplements do not have to carry the nutrition facts

label required of foods, nor do they have to undergo the rigorous testing for efficacy and safety required of drugs. So basically, no one regulates how much herb is actually in each pill or powder and no one approves the safety claim on these supplements!

In the past week the Bush administration called for a safety review of the herb ephedra, also known as Ma Huang, which is a potent central nervous system stimulant that claims to promote "weight loss" by helping you burn fat faster

or provide you with extra energy. I say it is about time! The move was prompted from doctors citing the dietary supplement's continued link to heart attacks and strokes. It has already killed dozens and left many others with severe disabilities from stroke. Other reported side effects include: heart palpitations, increased blood pressure, dizziness, seizures and tremors, hyperactivity, insomnia, nausea and vomiting.

Last year, the National Football League banned ephedra

and Canada warned consumers to steer clear of its use. The U.S. military has even cited deaths of several supplement-using soldiers.

Commanders should be aware of the dangerous side effects associated with supplements containing ephedra. If you have further questions, Task Force Med Eagle has a nutritionist and other experienced staff with expertise on the effects of various dietary supplements. Call 762-0224 for additional information.