



DA LAVA FLOW



The Official Newsletter of the 29th Brigade Combat Team

Volume 1, issue 7, February 2005

Commander's Corner



Aloha Lava Brigade,
Congratulations on the brigade's successful rotation through the Joint Readiness Training Center in Louisiana. Though challenging and at times stressful, this JRTC rotation provided a superb training experience to prepare our brigade for the rigors of surviving in a combat environment.

The 29th Brigade Combat Team has successfully completed all of the training requirements necessary to validate us for our mission. This validation speaks highly of the dedication and teamwork of you--the citizen soldiers that comprise our ranks. I have three words to say, "Great job warriors!"

I would like to thank Congressman Ed Case from Hawaii for visiting the brigade while we were at Fort Polk, LA. He conducted a series of interviews with our soldiers which will be aired on Hawaii Public Television sometime during the month of February. I hope our families in Hawaii will check their TV guides for the dates and times of the show, as they may gain a better understanding of the chal-

lenging training the brigade has gone through to prepare for this mission--and they may catch a glimpse of their loved ones on TV.

I would also like to thank the Governor of the Commonwealth of Northern Marianas, Juan Babauta, as well as the Governor of Guam, Felix P Camacho, for visiting our brigade at Ft. Polk.

We are currently in the midst of deploying into Kuwait. While in Kuwait the brigade will undergo what is called Reception, Staging, Onward Movement and Integration (RSOI). In Kuwait, the brigade's soldiers will perform the final coordination and preparation necessary to conduct a Relief in Place (RIP) of the 81st Separate Mechanized Infantry Brigade. The 81st is a National Guard unit comprised of citizen soldiers from the States of Washington, Oregon, and California. They have served their 12 month tour of duty in Iraq honorably and will return home soon.

Through their steadfast dedication and commitment, the soldiers of the 29th BCT have lived up to our brigade's

Continued on Page 2.

CSM's Message

Our nearly 6 months of training have finally concluded. Everyone has their own private thoughts of how ready they are for the next phase of operation. Keep in mind; soldiers from previous wars and battles had the same thoughts and apprehensions. Guardsmen and Army Reservists have had to face the same question during the Vietnam War, Korean War, World War II and even World War I when they were activated to serve our country. They were all called up and given intense training before being sent overseas. Many soldiers in WWII had to train with wooden rifles and mock-ups because of equipment and ammo shortage. Most will say that no matter how hard the training was, it will never train you for actual combat. That is the fact that we must all face. Some call it facing the elephant. So what can we do about it? We can make sure we take the time to review all that we learned. The important point is that we execute the drill correctly if a significant emotional event occurs. Take care of your buddies. Make sure you have 100% accountability of personnel at all times. Do you PCCs and PCIs. Go over ROE scenarios among your buddies. Make sure you keep in touch with friends and families. Take the time to write a personal letter, and do write one to each of your siblings, too. That letter is a lot more personal than an email. Take care and remember, you all represent the LAVA Brigade and do your best to uphold that honor.

LAVA, CSM Inouye

Commanders Corner continued from page 1.

motto: "Warriors trained and ready to overcome the adversities of today, as we prepare for the challenges of tomorrow." As we enter combat in Iraq, each of us must continue to live out our warrior creed.

Lava 6

Mailing address for units going to Camp Anaconda

SOLDIER'S RANK/NAME

UNIT NAME

LSA CAMP ANCONDA

APO-AE 09391

***IMPORTANT:** If your 29 BCT soldier is not going to LSA Anaconda, don't use this mailing address!

Q: What do hand washing, battle buddies and smoking have in common?

By: *1LT Shawwna M. Lynch*

Co C (MED) 29th SPT BN

A: They are all safety issues. When you think of safety, do you think about making sure to use a hand sanitizer after a visit to the port-o-potty or of washing your hands before every meal? Do you think of keeping a dependable battle-buddy with you throughout your day around the Camp as a safety measure? Do you think of safety as ashes from your cigarette float away while you are smoking outside your tent?

Safety considerations may not enter some of your minds until we leave "the wire" or handle live rounds, however, considering how we can be safer should be a constant concern to each of us—a concern that will absolutely affect your deployment in a positive way. Ever heard of *salmonellosis*? Washing your hands frequently nearly eliminates the chance of catching this or other nasty diseases. The majority of injuries we treat in our medical company come from DNBI (disease non-battle injuries) which can ALL be prevented. Help avoid a visit to the TMC by washing your hands as often as possible, and using hand sanitizers. Having a battle buddy at all times lessens: your chance of getting lost, having items stolen, or becoming the victim of an assault (females). A good battle buddy will watch your back while you watch theirs.

Remember to smoke a safe distance from any structure, especially the tents! Do you want to be responsible for your tent burning to the ground in minutes? Our tents are water-proofed however, they are also highly flammable. If your hot cigarette ashes land on them, it may cause your tent to burn down completely in only a matter of seconds. Tests have shown that in dry conditions such as we have here, a tent can completely burn in less than two minutes—and that includes everything inside!

So the next time you are with you battle buddy: being aware of your weapon's arming status and muzzle direction, smoking away from any structure after you've washed your hands—you can pat yourself on the back for taking small but important safety measures here in country which will contribute to making your and your fellow soldier's stay here as good and safe as it gets.

Chaplain's thoughts

America is a land most choice above all lands. People come to America in masses to huddle from tyranny and oppression. They chose a land where freedom rings and where a people can worship according to their conscience.

Now we see America under attack, by enemies foreign and domestic. The Lord bless you the 29th BCT for standing up with God against tyranny. Be strong, be of good cheer, and be grateful to be part of this grand effort as the forces of good go forward against the forces of evil. Based on prophecy the good will prevail. Therefore, go forward 29th BCT in righteousness, I say go forward in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ. Go forward with courage, never turn back.

Chaplain (MAJ) Leonardo S. Jamias

Photo Gallery



A nice visit: Christie and Baby Kailee Wahine Kapu Masako Wilson traveled all the way to FT. Polk for a short visit husband and father Maj. Paul Wilson.

Photo provided by Major Paul Wilson



Life in the tents: Most of the soldiers in the 29th BCT reside in large tents throughout Camp Buehring. Soldiers have access to DSN phones, fast food restaurants, a post office, a gym, as well as other amenities. One challenge are the ever present lines for everything. Photo and caption by Cpt Kyle Yonemura



Working hard to keep us connected: Sgt Steven Awa (background: Spc Angie Pascua and CW3 Ray Shiramizu) configure the brigade's computers to maintain the brigade's communications.

Photo and caption by Cpt Kyle Yonemura



Members of the 29th BCT enjoy a meal in the D-FAC on Camp Buehring. Excellent meals are the highlight of many soldier's days here.

Photo and caption by Cpt Kyle Yonemura



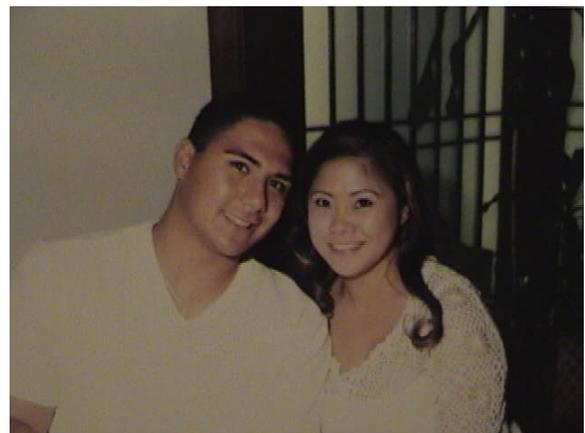
Live rounds: SSG Donovan Tuisano, supply NCOIC (HHC 29th BCT), issues live ammunition to CPL Anthony Arm-priest (F-82nd Cav) before going on a convoy. A few soldiers commented that being issued live rounds for the first time in their careers as soldiers was a sobering experience.

Photo and caption by Cpt Kyle Yonemura



Chow time: Soldiers stand in line at the Main Dining Facility on Camp Buehring, Kuwait.

Photo and caption by Cpt Kyle Yonemura



Just Married: SPC Joseph Hosea the III flew his fiancée Lorelei to FT. Polk. They were married on the last weekend HHC 29 BCT was on American soil. They make such a beautiful couple. Who says there are no romantic men anymore? Congratulations!

Photo provided by Spc Joseph Hosea the III

Happy 15th anniversary to SGM Milton Yee from your wife Lennie.

Happy 21st anniversary to SGT Stanley Acedo from Meleana, Ashley and Amber.

Happy Birthday to SPC Jonathon Orcutt from Mary Ann, Rayn and Dez-eray.

Happy 12th Birthday to Micheal John Lacno the III from your Daddy MSG Michael Lacno the II.

Current Weather in Baghdad, Iraq:

As of 4 February 2005:

High: 64F/ Scattered clouds

Low: 46F

Sunrise: Sunset:

0656 hrs 1737 hrs

Nautical Twilight:

0601 hrs 1833 hrs.

Moonrise: (28% illumination)

0234 hrs 1231 hrs.

Average weather in Baghdad in Feb.

Average High 64 F

Average Low 43 F



The sun sets at FT. Polk. The 29th BCT completed its JRTC rotation prior to deploying into Kuwait. Many soldiers are excited at the prospect of finally getting on with their mission.

Photo provided by SSG Henry Choy

DA LAVA FLOW STAFF

**CAPTAIN KYLE YONEMURA
PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER**

**SERGEANT ROBERT CURRAN
PUBLIC AFFAIRS NCO**

