



Task Force Lava Thunder Run

By SGT Jeffery Olsen & SGT Crystal Carpenito, PAO

More than 2500 Soldiers of Task Force Lava Thunder made from the 29th Infantry Brigade Combat Team and the 45th Fires Brigade participated in a task force run around North Fort Hood.

The Task Force Lava Thunder run was conducted to enhance the morale of the Soldiers and to bring cohesiveness among the two units that will be conducting a joint mission in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. The run took place at North Fort Hood Friday, October 10, 2008 and was two miles long.

Task Force Lava Thunder Commander, Col. Bruce Oliveira, stated, "The TF LAVA THUNDER run is a unifying event. It brings our Soldiers together under their unit flags and strengthens our unit identities. The TF Team is multi-compo, multi-state, and multi-cultural. All TF units combined and synergized make us Army Strong." To provide further motivation for the run, he addressed both the 29th (The Lava Brigade) and the 45th (The Red Thunder Brigade) by saying, "Let the lava flow and let the thunder roll!"



Photo by: SGT Crystal Carpenito, PAO

HQ 100-442 running in formation

The Soldiers of Task for Lava Thunder, from Oklahoma, Hawaii, Guam, Saipan and American Samoa are in their final phase of mobilization training and are scheduled to deploy into Southwest Asia this fall.

BG Hara Gets In Close Quarters with 1-487th Field Artillery (FA)

By Crystal Carpenito, PAO

Brigadier General (BG) Gary Hara visited the Soldiers of Task Force Lava Thunder on October 7th, as they completed their final phases of mobilization training at Fort Hood, TX.

For two days he visited training that soldiers have participated in since August, to include the Improvised Explosive Device (Detect and Defeat (IED-D) training, Urban Operations training, Raven training, Close Quarters Combat (CQC) training, and Armored Security Vehicle (ASV) training.

These are just some of many training requirements Soldiers of the 29th Infantry Brigade Combat Team and the 45th Fires Brigade must complete prior to deploying into

Southwest Asia this fall.

BG Hara visited the Soldiers of Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, and B Battery 1-487th FA as they conducted live-fire room-clearing procedures at the CQC training range. He stood on a catwalk above the shoot house, as soldiers filtered through in four to five man teams and engaged hostile targets in order to secure rooms.

The shoot house was more realistic than the glass house technique, said BG Hara, where soldiers have to simulate the presence of walls by engineer tape or lines in the sand.

"I went through this kind of training before and I think this is better," he said. "I think the soldiers were very excited doing this kind of training."



Photo by: SGT Crystal Carpenito, PAO

MG Lee speaking to the Soldiers of 1-487 FA

From training in glass houses to real shoot houses, BG Hara has notice the changes in training made to improve mobilization for deploying units. One of the tools he found most valuable was the Portable After-Action Review Kit System (PAARKS), which uses a video camera and television set to record and play back training for soldier to view and comment on. "It's an excellent training tool to improve our Soldiers' techniques," said BG Hara, said.

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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- *Memorial Ceremony for SSG Manglona*
- *Sports Highlights*
- *Pass Activities for Soldiers Staying in Fort Hood*
- *Final debate: Obama v. McCain*

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29TH LAVA BRIGADE COMMANDER



Colonel Bruce Oliveira
BDE Commander

“WITH WARRIORS FROM HAWAII, SAMOA, GUAM, AND SAIPAN ALL MOBILIZED AT ONE TIME, THIS IS TRULY A HISTORIC EVENT. EMBRACE THAT DISTINCTION AND MAKE YOUR FELLOW SOLDIERS, FAMILY, STATE AND NATION PROUD OF YOU.”



Col Oliveira shaking hands with CSM Glenn Gomes, of 100-442, after receiving the “Heroes Award”

NOTES FROM THE COMMANDER

Awesome, remarkable, unbelievable, outstanding, superb, brilliant, amazing, impressive, inspiring, Hooah! There are not enough superlatives in our language to describe our Lava team during post deployment training here at North Fort Hood. You can hold your head high and know you are a part of something very special; and I know this Brigade will go on to Kuwait-Iraq and do great things for our nation. You are ready Lava Team!

The Pacific is filled with many great Soldiers—many that have deployed in support of the war in Iraq—and the 29th Brigade is no different. I’m particularly confident about this deployment due to the teamwork displayed by this Infantry Brigade Combat Team, the 45th Fires Brigade and, of course, the leadership and trainers here at North Fort Hood. We’ve had some challenges, yet, we’ve been able to work through them. The end result of your efforts—over 2,500 well-trained Warriors.

Reflect on your accomplishments; there are many. We began this ‘march towards Iraq’ in October 07 and now it’s October 08, and we’re ready for onward movement to Kuwait and Iraq. I do so with con-

fidence. My confidence results from the fine leadership throughout the brigade, to the nearly 1,500 combat veterans, and specifically, my confidence is a result of the non-commissioned officers. Nothing in this brigade happens without the non-commissioned officers making it happen.

We’ve been on the training grounds at Schofield Barracks, Pohakuloa, Fort Hunter Liggett, and FT Hood. The motivation I’ve seen has remained consistently high throughout. You’ve endured long duty days, extreme weather conditions as well as strenuous training requirements. You have continuously demonstrated your competence numerous times across a range of tasks and now have the confidence to succeed.

For those of you who wear a combat Shoulder Sleeve Insignia, I think you’ll agree that the mobilization here at North Fort Hood brought a new confidence building experience. Right now the men and women of this brigade are among the best trained in the US Army. You are absolutely prepared to accomplish the task before you and should feel immensely confident in your capabilities to meet the challenges ahead.

The 29th Infantry Brigade Combat Team—Lava Brigade—has a great history and you should take pride in being in this Brigade. We come from diverse and geographically dispersed backgrounds, yet, we continue to strive towards one goal—defending freedom. I know many of you came from outside the Brigade, but you have accepted this transition well. You may find yourself in a different Brigade today, you may find yourself in a different job tomorrow; however, I challenge you to look at the consistencies. We are all American Soldiers. We all wear the same uniform. And, we all fight for the same nation.

With warriors from Hawaii, Samoa, Guam, and Saipan all mobilized at one time, this is truly a historic event. Embrace that distinction and make your fellow Soldiers, Family, state and nation proud of you. I also want you to embrace your training, practice what you have learned and never, I mean never, accept defeat. You’ve got a mission to complete and a nation and Family that awaits your return. LAVA!

COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR’S COMMENT TO THE OHANA

As we near the end of our training in North Fort Hood, I cannot help but remember the etched memory of the loss of SSG Julian Manglona. His passing will be remembered by us all. There is a great sense of pride in the Task Force, for on that day countless Soldiers and Officers gave their all in an attempt to preserve his life. Infantryman and Doctors lost someone special that evening. SSG Manglona exemplified the meaning of a Soldier every day he wore his uniform. You only have to see his last known photo to agree with me that he exemplified the best of the Pacific.

To quote LTC Peters, the Commander of the 100-442nd Infantry, "He was an Infantryman to the bone". No better accolade could be said. The loss was felt from here to every isle of the Pacific, through the incomparable sounds of the mighty 100-442 Infantry in their most beautiful renditions of music, that are second to none. They sung songs that inspired and provided a comfort every Soldier and Officer seeks when a member of the great Ohana is lost. Our collective condolences to the family of SSG Manglona are sent in the wind toward the Pacific.

By the time most of you read this, hundreds of hours of training will have been executed by your Soldiers. Uncountable hours of writing military orders by the Commanders, in order to prepare our Soldiers for scenarios they may encounter while deployed in the Middle East. You, the Family members, can rest assured that every Commander, Executive Officer, and incredibly bright and experienced Operations Officers in this Brigade have worked diligently to coordinate every training event we have encountered and surpassed.

Yes, Task Force Lava Thunder is rolling right on track. Feel confident that they will be well prepared upon entry into our destination, and beyond if need be.

Although there are only a few days before the Task Force will enjoy a most well deserved-four day pass, there are still tasks that must be completed in order to continue our mission forward. From packing to cleaning, they will all be done with excellence. No one is complaining, but everyone is ready to enjoy the company of those of you who will be joining them. Believe me when I say that they are ready to see your

smiles, feel the warmth of your hugs and hopefully the taste of your delicious cuisine.

Colonel Oliveira and I, along with our spouses, thank you, the Families and friends of every member of the 29th IBCT, for your commitment to the mission at hand. Without you and your continued support to our Soldiers and our nation, our mission would not be possible.

Mahalo, Gracias!

CSM Edgardo Coronado



CSM Edgardo Coronado
BDE CSM

"BELIEVE ME WHEN I SAY THAT THEY ARE READY TO SEE YOUR SMILES, FEEL THE WARMTH OF YOUR HUGS AND HOPEFULLY THE TASTE OF YOUR DELICIOUS CUISINE.."



CSM Coronado pays respect to fallen Soldiers of OIF III (2004-2005), CPT Raymond Hill and SGT Evan Parker, of 1-487th FA, at a memorial service held on North Fort Hood in their remembrance.



HHC 29TH IBCT

9mm Qualification

Soldiers of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 29th Infantry Brigade Combat Team experienced their first time firing a 9mm on October 4th at North Fort Hood, TX.

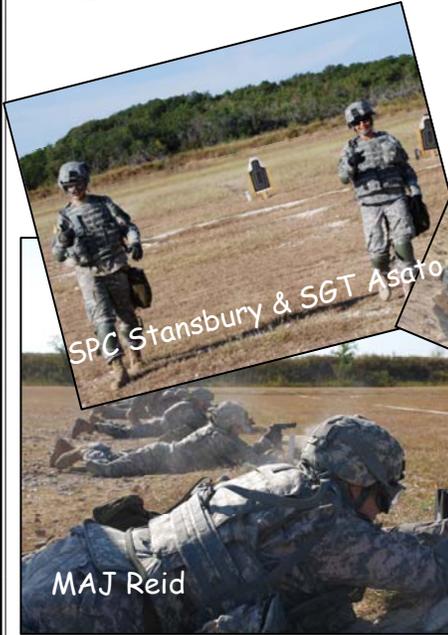
"I think it was a good experience for a first time," said SGT Bianca Asato.

The Rifle Bravo range, where they fired, is used in the training of Short Range Marksmanship and did not give the soldiers a full experience that a pistol qualification

course could. Rather than approach pop-up targets, the soldiers remained stationary while they fired 5 Tables (standing, crouching kneeling, prone and NBC) at one paper target.

"The actual course you approach the target, and walk and shoot," said MAJ David Reid. "It's a lot more realistic."

By using this range, the 120th Mobilization Assistant Team was able to train more soldiers than if they shuttle them to the pistol range on South Fort Hood.



MAJ David Reid, SGT Bianca Asato and SPC Chelsea Stansbury firing their 9mm in the prone-supported position at Range Bravo on North Fort Hood, TX. (Photos by: SGT Crystal Carpenito)

Happy Birthday SSG Donato, SFC Puana, CPT Phelps, SPC Mahoney

Farewell MAJ Agena, You'll Be Missed



Photo by: MAJ Pam Ellison

MAJ Paul Agena (HHC, 29th S3 OIC) returned home to Oahu. He will not deploy with us but our prayers and thoughts are with him.



HHC, 29th IBCT held a local-style BBQ to say their goodbyes to MAJ Paul Agena

HONORS GIVEN TO 100TH BATTALION SOLDIER



Echo Company stands during SSG Manglona's final roll call.

Photo by: MAJ Pam Ellison, PAO

Photo by: MAJ Pam Ellison, PAO

Sunday morning as dawn's first rays were streaking across the light blue Texas sky, preparations were being made on North Fort Hood for an event simultaneously marked with grandeur and grief. The historic 100th Battalion prepared to mourn the loss of one of its Soldiers during the pre-deployment training being conducted at North Fort Hood, Texas.

E Company, 100th Battalion First Sergeant Paul Caswell, conducted the last roll call at Staff Sergeant Julian Manglona's Memorial Service on Sunday, October 12, 2008.

On hand to honor SSG Manglona were Brigade commanders from the 29th, 45th, 120th and 196th Brigades, the entire 100th Battalion, numerous Soldiers from each Brigade, and members of the North Fort Hood Fire and Rescue unit, including those who responded and assisted with treating SSG Manglona on Thursday night, 9 October.

Everyone came together to give honor and pay respect to SSG Manglona and his selfless service to the U.S. Army. To honor him, his fellow

soldiers in E Company sang a song that they wrote during OIF III (2004-2006), accompanied by ukuleles and a guitar. B and C companies of the 100th Battalion, from American Samoa, sang songs to honor fallen warriors, and SSG Mark Reed from Delta Company played Amazing Grace on the bagpipes. The entire Battalion

sang the "Go For Broke!" song for SSG Manglona for the very last time, and Nichelle Cushing, a local seventeen year old who taught herself to play the bugle at the age of 11, played Taps. She was upset to learn that Taps was being played at funerals and ceremonies via recordings, rather than by an

SSG Manglona's image becomes part of the Ceremony; he will forever remain in our hearts.

actual bugler.

SSG Manglona was born on October 26, 1968, on the Island of Tinian, (CNMI). He graduated from high school and from Northern Marianas College with a degree in Criminal Justice. He entered military service in 1988, completed his training at Ft. Jackson, South Carolina, and served as a Light Wheeled Vehicle Mechanic.

In 2000, SSG Manglona reenlisted in the U.S. Army Reserve to be an infantryman in the historic 100th Battalion, 442nd Infantry Regiment's E Company, Detachment I, located in Saipan, (CNMI). While in E Company, he served as a Team Leader during the 100th Battalion's first deployment to support Operation Iraqi Freedom III, in 2005.

For his civilian occupation, SSG Manglona served as a detective for the Department of Public Safety in Saipan.

By CPT Timothy Zeisset



Photo by: SGT Crystal Carpenito

SSG Manglona's memorial stand with his picture, weapon, boots, dog tags and mementos left in his honor by fellow Soldiers. SSG Manglona is survived by his parents, Vicente and Rita Manglona, his wife, Brenda Doreen Cabrera Manglona, and his children; Lisa Chelsie Archuleta Manglona, Audrey Colleen Pangelinan Manglona, Monica Amy Valentina Manglona, Rachel P., Demiana Hideko Pangelinan Manglona, Draeshia Manibusan, and Maxine Julianne Cabrera Manglona.

THE SOLDIERS OF THE 100TH BATTALION ECHOED THE SENTIMENTS OF AN E COMPANY SOLDIER WHO SAID THAT "WE WILL HONOR SSG MANGLONA BY OUR ACTIONS, AND THE GREATNESS OF OUR DEEDS."

487TH FIELD ARTILLERY



Photo by: 2LT Janice Reyes

SFC Gilbert Tagaban and CPT Carlos Hood prepare their "broken" vehicle with a towbar during Force Protection Training, Hands on Instruction.



Photo by: 2LT Janice Reyes

Happy Birthday to SPC Jonathan Yi (Sept. 21) and SPC Rainer Frost (Sept. 25)

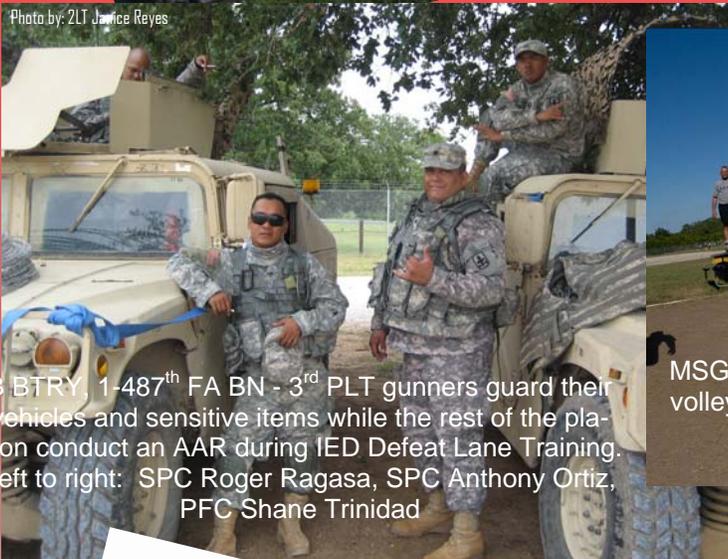


Photo by: 2LT Janice Reyes

B BTRY, 1-487th FA BN - 3rd PLT gunners guard their vehicles and sensitive items while the rest of the platoon conduct an AAR during IED Defeat Lane Training. Left to right: SPC Roger Ragasa, SPC Anthony Ortiz, PFC Shane Trinidad



Photo by: Jeffrey Cox

MSG Gary Kuakini and MAJ Leif Fautanu watch as their volleyball goes out of bounds during the September 14th Battery Picnic at the North FT Hood helipad

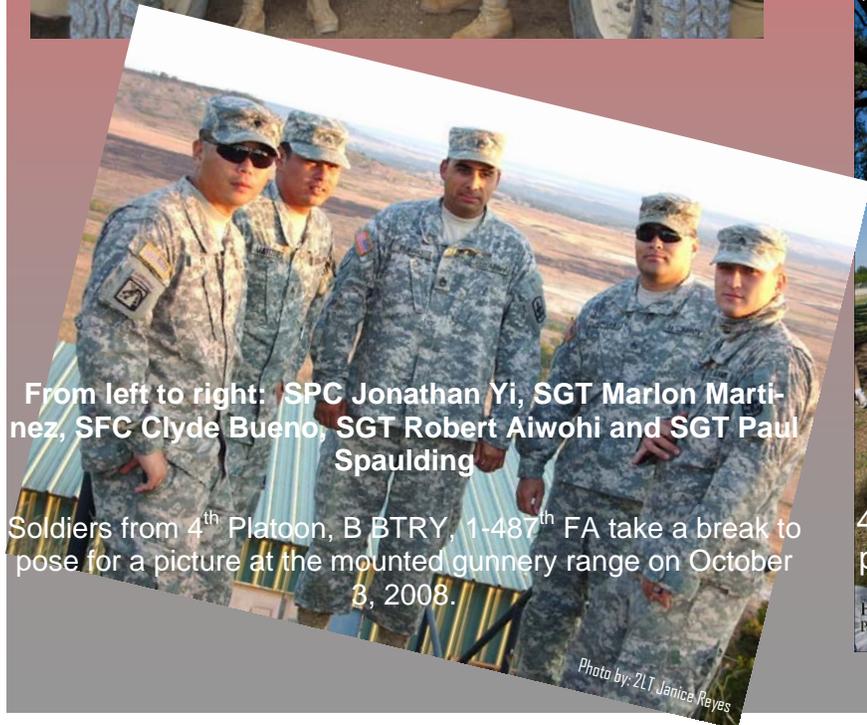


Photo by: 2LT Janice Reyes

From left to right: SPC Jonathan Yi, SGT Marlon Martinez, SFC Clyde Bueno, SGT Robert Aiwohi and SGT Paul Spaulding
Soldiers from 4th Platoon, B BTRY, 1-487th FA take a break to pose for a picture at the mounted gunnery range on October 3, 2008.



Photo by: Jeffrey Cox

1SG Lee Yamauchi of HHB, 1-487th FA BN, works hard at the grill to provide chicken drumsticks for Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, September 14, 2008.

29th Brigade Support Battalion



SSG Capitle, SFC Gansit, SSG Awana, LTC Yoshida, SGT Widemann and CSM Kanoa engage targets. (CPT Donna Wu)

Short Range Marksman (SRM) and Close Quarters Combat (CQC)

By 1LT Christine Leimbach, 29th BSB Public Affairs

HHC and Alpha Company, BSB rotated through a two day training event. Day one of the training events known as Short Range Marksmanship, SRM and the second day is Close Quarters Combat, CQC. Short-range marksmanship, SRM, is training the individual soldier to quickly and effectively engage targets at ranges less than 50 meters. A soldier's ability to successfully identify, discriminate, and engage targets during short-range combat, SRC, is essential for soldier survival and mission accomplishment. Close quarters combat, CQC, is a type of fighting in which

small teams engage the enemy with personal weapons at very short range. Applying the basics and the principles of SRM and of room clearing, small teams maneuver in and out of buildings in order to clear them of enemy personnel and weapons.

When CPT Donna Wu was asked what she liked about this training here at North Ft. Hood compared to Schofield Barracks, she responded with "there were more individual firing lanes where the entire company can fire at the same time with their coaches." She also commented on the last lane of firing at

the shapes, "I would like to have seen more ammo given to practice firing and walking at the same time."

SGT Ross Shimada, C Company, one of the most challenging things to overcome in this training event was "getting everyone on the same page." "Rehearse, Rehearse, Rehearse" is one thing the Observer Control, O.C., kept reiterating. Rehearse until you and everyone in your team is comfortable, especially because we are dealing with live rounds. Training was in a controlled environment with an O.C. standing close by and with careful

watch.

SSG Lorajan Basuel also added "It was a little difficult having to remember what position you were playing next, you needed to know all the positions and what they did."



SPC Dustin Zembik engaging a target during a half wall drill. (1LT Christine Leimbach)

Heroes on The Battlefield

HHC, BSB, just completed their last and final training event for post mob training and validation. From 23-30 September 2008. The Battalion staff and company participated in an exercise of mock sequence of events similar to what they may experience in Kuwait.



COL Barker (left) and COL Smith (right) recognizes SGT Madeira and SSG Ramos (center) for being Heroes of the Battlefield. (SGT Mariesyl Erese)



Photo by SGT Mariesyl Erese

Congratulations to newly promoted SFC Nelson Uehara, HHC, 29th BSB.



HHC BSB, lead by Commander LTC Keith Yoshida, run together in the Task Force Run on October 10th. (MAJ Mike Horton, 45th FiB PAQ)



OCTOBER ISSUE



Pictured: MAJ Mendonca and SFC Watson

The 29th Brigade Special Troops Battalion has been conducting Mobilization Training in North Ft. Hood, Texas since their arrival on August 19, 2008 in order to prepare for their deployment to Kuwait in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

The Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment will be operating the Command and Control mission in Camp Virginia, Kuwait. The BSTB's A. Co. and MP Platoon have been attached to other battalions for their missions; A. Co. is with I-299th Cavalry and will be running convoy security from Kuwait into Iraq and the MP Platoon is attached to I-487 Field Artillery.



MP

By way of introduction, I am 2LT Tulsi Gabbard Tamayo and I serve as the Military Police (MP) Platoon Leader.

It has been just over a month since arriving at North Fort Hood, and your MP Platoon has been hard at work in training and in preparation for the deployment.

Many of us who were on the 29th Infantry

Brigade Combat Team's (IBCT) last deployment, have noticed a marked difference in this mobilization and training exercises. The various training events we are going through, such as Improvised Explosive Devices-Defeat (IED-D) and Mounted Gunnery, are outstanding and have provided our Soldiers with an opportunity for very practical, real-world training. As you know, the operations in the theater are constantly evolving and developing with what is happening on the ground at any given time. The

training we are receiving is current and up-to-date, providing all Soldiers with a baseline of training with which to use in whatever we encounter while conducting our mission.

I am very thankful and happy to have this opportunity to serve as the MP Platoon Leader, and am humbled and proud to be among so many selfless heroes of Hawaii.



Pictured: 2LT Tamayo and SPC Couture



Pictured: SPC Park, SPC Guieb, SGT Nakama,

A. CO. MESSAGE

Here we are, almost done with our post mobilization training at North Fort Hood. Things are going well, and with watchful eyes from up above we have been spared from any serious injuries and accidents! Your Soldiers are in good spirits and continue to train hard in preparation for the mission.

As we continue to prepare for our mission through all of our training, many of your Soldiers have stood out in the eyes of our instructors and received many positive compliments. The company itself overall has received "Kudos" from active duty Command Sergeant Majors and Lieutenant Colonels. The training that we did in Dahu really paid off because the boys were ready and able to comfortably handle whatever

scenarios that came our way.

We only have two major training events left before we go on a well earned pass and finally get to have some downtime. As the commander, I will continue to bug the heck outta them about the importance of safety while on pass, and the importance of having them all come back safe and sound so we can continue to take care of each other. We'll see some of you soon.

Respectfully,

Captain Tino Tumpap



Pictured: SGT Agonias, SGT Nakamura, and SPC Huerbana

Battalion Newsletter, "The Voice of the Kipu'upu'u", is published every other month and is posted on the BSTB vFRG website.

B/1-299TH CAVALRY (CAV) TRAINS MOUNTED GUNNERY



By SGT Crystal Carpenito, PAO

Photo by SGT Crystal Carpenito, PAO

"Sniper, one o'clock," said the driver. "Gunner, sniper, one o'clock, 300 meters, relayed the Truck Commander (TC) to the gunner. "Identified," shouted the gunner from his turret. "Fire," yelled back the TC.

With his sights on the target ahead, the gunner fired his .50 Caliber, and with just a 15-round burst the sniper was destroyed.

More than 100 Soldiers from B Troop, 1-299th CAV, participated in Mounted Gunnery training at the Pilot Knob Multi-Lane range on South Forth Hood, TX.

From October 4th - 7th, soldiers trained in teams of three, made up of the driver, TC and gunner, in order to successfully learn communication commands while driving in a vehicle.

The training consisted of three tables: Table 4, where they learned how to say fire commands; Table 7, where they

practiced their commands while engaged in live fire exercises; and Table 8, where they qualified.

The range consisted of two lanes and a series of pop-up targets. One team at a time traveled down each lane and reacted as the targets appeared. To qualify on Mounted Gunnery the teams had to successfully communicate fire commands, while the gunners engaged and destroyed a minimum of six out of nine targets, two of which must be at night.

"When we first started, the range was hard for me and the communication between my crew was difficult," said TC Sergeant Edward Yamamoto. But through practice and rehearsals his team was able to overcome those obstacles, he said.

The amount of time spent training in the field gave soldiers an opportunity to improve on their gunnery and communication skills, but more importantly to work alongside the teams who they will deploy with into Southwest Asia this fall.

Deployed once before with the 29th Infantry Brigade Combat Team.

Specialist Paul Angeleo said working with his crew and learning how to react to each other was the best part of his training.

"It's a good confidence builder for all of us," said Angeleo. "It's a confirmation for us to see how tight were starting to get."

With the exception of four or five soldiers, those who participated in the training had no prior gunnery experience and were leg infantry, said Company Commander Captain Jonathan Ishikawa. He was impressed with the lever of improvement his Soldiers made throughout the Mounted Gunnery training.



Photo by SGT Crystal Carpenito, PAO

SGT Edward Yamamoto, TC, communicating with tower



Photo by SGT Crystal Carpenito, PAO

Neil Shiroma, Gunner, after destroying target.

D/100-442 IN COMES TOGETHER IN URBAN OPERATIONS

By SGT Crystal Carpenito, PAO

Urban Operations is the only mobilization training on Fort Hood, TX, conducted at a company level. The training allowed Soldiers to incorporate everything they learned since August, from Close Quarters Combat to Force Protection, and perform it as they would in Southwest Asia.

"The best part about training is the company cohesion because all the other training is platoon or squad," said Sergeant Anthony Chung.

More than 130 Soldiers of D Company, 100-442nd Infantry, took part in the training at the Hargrove MOUT site in Fort Hood, TX. The intent was to extract a

high value target from a city through cordon and search.

The training began on October 1st and lasted three days. The company performed Pre-Combat Checks and Inspections on the first day, followed by squad and platoon instruction, and company rehearsals on the second day. By the third day, Soldiers had to react to simulated weapons fire and enemy contact, while they patrolled city streets and cleared dark rooms.

Cordon-and-Assault elements secured an outside perimeter while the rest advanced to seek cover within the city. Once the inner cordon had been established, the assault team traveled from building to building in four-man stacks.

They were cautious of vehicles in motion and snipers who lurked on top buildings. They came into contact with improvised explosive devices, simulated by green smoke grenades, and role players dressed as insurgents in traditional Arabic and Saudi clothing. Once all rooms had been secured and their target detained, the assault team notified the command and withdrew.



D/100-442 Soldiers entering and clearing buildings



Photos by SGT Crystal Carpenito, PAO

29TH IBCT SOLDIERS BECOME RAVEN OPERATORS



Soldiers from 1-299 CAV; HHC, 100-442 IN; HNB, 1-487 FA; HHC, 29 BSB; and HHC IBCT pose with the Raven on their final day of training.

By Crystal Carpenito, PAO

The 29th Infantry Brigade Combat Team (IBCT) received seven Unmanned Aircrafts Systems (UAS) called The Raven B System which is an enhanced version of The Raven A System. Designed by AeroVironment, Inc. (AV), for hasty deployment and high mobility, military forces use the

Raven in order to establish Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance (ISR).

From October 1st-10th, AV instructors trained 18 soldiers from the 29th IBCT to become Raven operators. The training was a combination of classroom and field instruction, where the Soldiers learned the basic characteristics and functions, as well as

how to operate the Raven. The hand-launched Raven may be operated manually or programmed for automatic operation, using the system's avionics and GPS Navigation. Once in the sky, it can fly for approximately 60 to 90 minutes by battery. A front and side camera provides aerial imagery for up to 10 km, day or night, and viewed by the operator through a screen on the

"THE WHOLE PURPOSE OF THE RAVEN IS SO WE DON'T HAVE TO SEND TROOPS OUT THERE. RATHER THAN RISK LIVES, WE JUST USE EQUIP-

remote control. With a wingspan of 4.5 feet and a weight of 4.2 pounds, the Raven can be used for route recon, battle damage assessment, search and rescue or call for fire.

"The whole purpose of the Raven is so that we don't have to send troops out there," said Sergeant Blayne Wong of Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 1-487th Field Artillery. "Rather than risk lives, we just use equipment."

The soldiers participated in three main exercises: mobile operations, where they flew the Raven from inside a vehicle to points plotted on a Falcon View map; covert operations, where they took aerial shots from above a target; and general mission planning, where they applied everything they learned to create and execute a Raven mission.

CONTAINERS ENROUTE TO KUWAIT

By LTC Lionel Payes

Task Force LAVA THUNDER's Port Liaison team oversaw port operations at Port Canaveral, Florida 1-6 Oct 08. The Port team lead by MAJ Brad Rittenhouse (45FiB) along with CPT Nathan Tyau (29IBCT), CPT Todd Oneil (45FiB) and CPT Matt Kennedy (442INF) verified that all 75 containers and 2 rolling pieces made it to

port safely and with all shipping documents attached. The Task Forces cargo was loaded onto the ship American Tern on October 6th and visually verified by the port team.

Photo of the Forward Repair System (FRS) belonging to the 120th Forward Support Company.





**29TH IBCT
SOLDIERS IN
TRAINING**



Poll: Debate watchers say Obama wins

watchers polled said Obama would do a better job handling the economy, 24 points ahead of McCain.

During the debate, McCain attacked Obama's stance on taxes, accusing Obama of seeking tax increases that would "spread the wealth around." But by 15 points, 56 percent to 41 percent, debate

watchers polled said Obama would do a better job on taxes. By a 2-1 margin, 62 percent to 31 percent, debate watchers said Obama would do a better job on health care.

Sixty-six percent of debate watchers said Obama more clearly expressed his views, with 25 percent saying McCain was more clear about his views.

By 23 points, those polled said Obama was the stronger leader during the debate. By 48 points, they said Obama was more likeable.

McCain won in two categories. Eighty percent of debate watchers polled said McCain spent more time attacking his opponent, with seven percent saying Obama was more on the attack. Fifty-four percent said McCain seemed more like a typical politi-

cian during the debate, with 35 percent saying Obama acted more like a typical politician.

"Independents tend to prefer debates that are dominated by substance and light on discussion of personal characteristics," said Keating Holland, CNN polling director. "The perception that McCain attacked Obama gave red meat to GOP partisans, but it probably didn't help McCain with independents."

"There was a notable gender gap as well," Holland said. "Women thought Obama won the debate by a 62 percent to 28 percent margin. Among men, Obama's lead was narrower, 54 percent to 35 percent in Obama's favor."

During the debate, McCain demanded to know the full extent of Obama's relationship with William Ayers, a 1960s radical. But the poll suggests that line of attack may not resonate with Americans. Fifty-one percent of debate watchers said Obama's connection to Ayers didn't matter at all to them, with 23 percent saying it mattered a great deal.

The audience for the debate poll appeared to be a bit more Democratic -- and a bit more Republican -- than the U.S. population as a whole. Forty percent of debate watch-

ers in the survey were Democrats and 30 percent Republicans.

CNN's estimate of the number of Democrats in the voting age population as a whole indicates the sample is about 3 to 4 points more Democratic than the population as a whole, but also about 2 to 3 points more Republican than the population as a whole.

Eighty-eight percent of Democrats questioned in the poll said Obama did the best job, with 68 percent of Republicans saying McCain performed best. Among independents, 57 percent said Obama did the best job, with 31 percent backing McCain as the winner of the debate.

The candidates first debated in Oxford, Mississippi, on September 26. Fifty-one percent of debate watchers polled by CNN and the Opinion Research Corp. said Obama won that debate, with 38 percent saying McCain performed best. The second presidential debate was held in Nashville, Tennessee, on October 7 and 54 percent of debate watchers polled said Obama won, compared with 30 percent who said McCain did the best job.

Go to CNN.com to read the complete article and view video clips from the debate.

Released: 10/16/2008

HEMPSTEAD, New York (CNN) -- A majority of debate watchers think Sen. Barack Obama won the third and final presidential debate, according to a national poll conducted right afterward.

Fifty-eight percent of debate watchers questioned in a CNN/Opinion Research Corp. poll said Democratic candidate Obama did the best job in the debate, with 31 percent saying Republican Sen. John McCain performed best.

The poll also suggests that debate watchers' favorable opinion of Obama rose slightly during the debate, from 63 percent at the start to 66 percent at the end. The poll indicates that McCain's favorables dropped slightly, from 51 percent to 49 percent.

The economy was the dominant issue of the debate, and 59 percent of debate

ATTACKS IN RAIL INTENSIFY

The volume of rhetoric between supporters and opponents of Honolulu's rail system is picking up in advance of a Nov. 4 vote on the issue.

Yesterday both sides claimed the other is intentionally misleading the public about whether the city's \$3.7 billion elevated commuter rail will qualify for federal aid.

The city is counting on \$700 million to \$948 million (in 2006 dollars) in federal money to help pay for the project, which would link East Kapolei to Ala Moana. However, Honolulu isn't expected to find out for sure how much federal funding it will get until 2011. Meanwhile, the city plans to start construction on the East Kapolei to Waipahu segment in December 2009.

The city has argued that a faster timetable will help reduce costs while allowing limited service to launch in late 2012. However, critics contend the city's timetable is not realistic and could result in a major burden for local taxpayers if federal funds don't

come through as planned.

Yesterday, former Gov. Ben Cayetano joined the group Stop Rail Now in alleging that Hannemann has misled residents into thinking that federal funds are forthcoming.

"The city has been misrepresenting to the people that the federal government is going to provide \$925 million for the project," said Cayetano, who opposes the rail system. "They're not even on the radar screen for the Federal Transit (Administration) yet."

Cayetano pointed to a recent e-mail from a Federal Transit Administration official stating that it's still unclear whether Honolulu will get federal funds.

"It is far too early to tell whether Honolulu's proposed rail project will receive New Starts funding," FTA spokesman Paul Griffo wrote in an Oct. 7 e-mail to a Stop Rail Now supporter. "The project hasn't yet been accepted into the New Starts Program."

City spokesman Bill Brennan yesterday said Honolulu remains in a strong position to attract federal money because the city plans to pay the majority of the project's costs. In addition, congressional officials have almost guaranteed the city will get federal support. That includes U.S. House Transportation Committee Chairman Jim Oberstar, a Minnesota Democrat, who during a March visit said Honolulu can count on about \$900 million in federal money.

"There's absolutely no reason that any of that money will not be coming to us," Brennan said. "No, we don't have it today. We don't need it today. This is not the day in the process that we are supposed to have that money, but all indications point to us receiving something in that range."

Rhetoric over the proposed rail system is only likely to grow louder as each side of the debate attempts to rally support before the Nov. 4 vote on a proposed Honolulu



Charter amendment that's likely to dictate the project's fate.

Cayetano yesterday said the project should be put on hold until the federal funds are approved.

"It's bad for the city to even think about construction in 2009 without approval and second, in this economic downturn we have to tread very carefully and third, I just want the people to get information that's not being managed or distorted," Cayetano said. Brennan blamed project

Courtesy: HonoluluAdvertiser.com
Released: 10/14/2008

opponents for misleading the public.

FRG and Home Related Going On!

Child and Parent Group; starting in October:

Struggling with communication, conflict resolution? 9 different ongoing workshops will cover conflict resolution, communication and stress management as they apply to the different deployment phases. Come talk with other parents and children who understand.

Locations: **AMR & HMR**

1st & 3rd Tuesday

(Ages 16-18)

2nd & 4th Tuesday

(Ages 10-12)

1st & 3rd Wednesday

(Ages 13-15)

2nd & 4th Wednesday

(Ages 7-9)

To register call:

Aliamanu Military Reserve (AMR) – 808-366-9121

Helemanu Military Reserve (HMR) – 808-366-7482



29th BSB
'Cut-a-Thon'
 Sunday November 16th, 2008 – 7:30am at the Rainbow Hangar

EVENTS

National Guard Birthday Ball

December 13th, 2008 5pm to 11pm

Sheraton Waikiki Hotel (Maui & Kauai Ballrooms)

Cost: Depends on Rank of Soldier (Guests pay same as their Soldier)

POC: SGM Paul Confer 808-844-6032 or paul.confer@us.army.mil

RSVP and Payment due by November 28th, 2008

Checks payable to "HING Birthday Ball"



29th IBCT Haunted House!
 November 1st, 2008 5pm to 10pm
 Brigade Headquarters Building

Family Readiness Support Assistant(FRSA)
 Adrienne Ziegler
 Phone: 808-844-6016
 Cell: 808-371-3720
 Alt Cell: 808-636-0842
 Email: adrienne.ziegler@us.army.mil

Buckets of Fun

By: 1 LT Lisa Royce

The Hilo, Hawaii Army National Guard, Team Koa, was one of twenty-four teams competing on October 11th in the 2008 Bucket Brigade which was held at Bay Front, Hilo, Hawaii. The event was held on behalf of the Hilo Fire Department's (HFD) sponsored Fire Prevention Week.

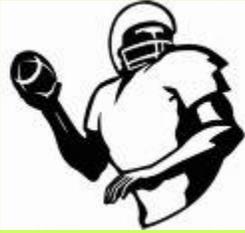
Aiming buckets of concentrated jets of water, at a small hole in the roof of a miniature "house fire" a few yards away, the Army National Guard took second in the competition. Their booth was one of numerous informational and entertainment attractions at this year's annual event, which raised funds for HFD's capital improvements.



Photo by ILT Lisa Royce, Hilo, Hawaii Army National Guard.

ILT Chad Daniels, right, receives final hand off and shoots a stream of water toward a small hole in the structure's roof. Photos by ILT Lisa Royce, Hilo, Hawaii Army National Guard.

College Football Rankings



AP Top 25

1. **Texas** (39) 6-0 1,599
2. **Alabama** (26) 6-0 1,582
3. **Penn State** 7-0 1,492
4. **Oklahoma** 5-1 1,306
5. **Florida** 5-1 1,284
6. **USC** 4-1 1,247
7. **Texas Tech** 6-0 1,210
8. **Oklahoma State** 6-0 1,184
9. **Brigham Young** 6-0 1,131
10. **Georgia** 5-1 1,081
11. **Missouri** 5-1 984
12. **Ohio State** 6-1 908
13. **LSU** 4-1 893
14. **Utah** 7-0 834
15. **Boise State** 5-0 714
16. **Kansas** 5-1 620
17. **Virginia Tech** 5-1 540
18. **North Carolina** 5-1 416
19. **South Florida** 5-1 397
20. **Michigan State** 6-1 371
21. **Wake Forest** 4-1 330
22. **Vanderbilt** 5-1 258
23. **Pittsburgh** 4-1 182
24. **Ball State** 7-0 166
25. **California** 4-1 115

Courtesy of ESPN.com



With the help of Trinity Baptist Church and BSB, Soldiers were able to watch the Hawaii v. Boise State Football game, Friday October 17th at the MWR on North Fort Hood.

Hawai'i Quarter Minted

At the invitation of the U.S. Mint, Governor Lingle traveled to Denver, Colorado to participate in the ceremonial strike of Hawai'i's Commemorative Quarter, the 50th and final quarter minted in the 50 State Quarters Program.  The Hawai'i quarter design, entitled "Hawai'i, the Island State," depicts the King Kamehameha I statue on the right side of the coin, with his hand stretching toward the eight main Hawaiian islands. The State motto, "Ua mau ke ea o ka 'aina i ka pono" (The life of the land is perpetuated in righteousness), is in the lower left side of the coin. At the top of the coin are the words "Hawai'i" and the year "1959," when Hawai'i was admitted to the Union. "E Pluribus Unum" (Out of the many, one) is at the bottom. "It's our vision for Hawai'i's future and it shows our respect for all the land," Governor Lingle said of the Hawai'i commemorative quarter. "It also shows that although there are many islands, we're united as a state." The quarter will be released into general circulation on November 10 and officials expect approximately 520 million Hawai'i quarters will be produced. The coin is being released as Hawai'i is commemorating its 50th anniversary of statehood.

Courtesy of State of Hawaii, Governor Linda Lingle Website
http://ploneadmin.hawaii.gov/gov/news/events/2008/october/news_item.2008-10-14.2501798601

Act 141: No Vehicle Weight Tax For Soldiers

The state of Hawaii has passed legislation that effectively 1 October 2008 service members of the Guard and Reserve are entitled to a waiver of the motor vehicle weight taxes for one noncommercial vehicle. The vehicle must be registered to the service member.

Hawaii does not have a statewide department of Motor Vehicles. Vehicle registration is managed by each county government. So the procedures may be different for each individual county.

Understand that the cost for registering a vehicle is **not free**, service members will be responsible for the State Fee, City Fee, etc., and only the weight taxes are exempt.

For the County of Hawaii (Big Island) a Hawaii Resident Service Member Certificate needs to be submitted when registering the vehicle. This certificate will not be available at the Motor Vehicle Registration Office, service members will need to get it from their unit. **As stated above the procedures for each county may be different, service members need to contact the Motor Vehicle Registration office in their county.**

Where Are You Going On ?



Photo by SGT Crystal Carpenito, PAO

"Were gonna go to the Texas v. Oklahoma State game in Austin." - SPC Jeff Sittichetta Liengkul, SGT Kyle Peatfield, SPC Patrick Salano, A/BSTB



Photo by SGT Crystal Carpenito, PAO

"Las Vegas. Actually we'll be staying with family." and "Looking forward to spending quality time with my wife." - SSG Jojo Gador, HHC BSB, and wife, SPC Cherry Roldan-Gador, A/1 -487



Photo by SGT Crystal Carpenito, PAO

"I'm going San Antonio to just relax I guess." - PFC Kaipo Ching, HHC, BSTB



Photo by SGT Crystal Carpenito, PAO

"Killeen, TX. Just spending time with my wife and probably go to Sea World." - SSG Karatel Phillip, E/100-442



Photo by SGT Crystal Carpenito, PAO

"Were going to Six Flags, Sea World and the River Walk. Were gonna make sure were in bed every night by 2000 hours, so that were well rested for this deployment. Heehee. True story." - SGT Grant Robello, SGT Joseph Lewis, SPC Ryan Soon, SPC Keoki Duarte, HHC, 29th BSTB MPs



Photo by SGT Crystal Carpenito, PAO

"I'm going to Cedar Rapids, Iowa. I'm looking forward to my toga Halloween party." - SPC Chelsea Stansbury, HHC, 29th IBCT



**29TH IBCT
SOLDIERS
GIVE DA
ALOHA**

October Issue



29TH IBCT

WE'D LIKE TO HERE FROM YOU

ATTN: PAO
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PUBLIC AFFAIRS NCIOC
SGT CRYSTAL CARPENITO

CONTRIBUTORS
UPARS

WE'RE ON THE WEB
AT WWW.ARMYFRG.ORG



Meet the 29th IBCT Unit Public Affairs Representatives!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Front row, left to right: MAJ Ellison, SGT Carpenito, SGT Cox, 1LT Leimbach, 2LT Reyes, SFC Rabanal

Back row, left to right: SFC Alviar, SSG Naluai, CPT Zeisset, SPC Harper, SPC Meredith SPC Stansbury, 1LT Espino, SGT Amano, CPT Anno

Missing from photo: 1LT Yukutake, 1LT Urner, 1LT Ammerman, SSG Fuata, SSG Indalecio

Welcome to the second edition of the Lava Flow! The Brigade Public Affairs Section is excited about the opportunity to create a vehicle by which information can be communicated and highlighted both up and down the chain of command – the Lava Flow is one of those vehicles. Each of your units have a Unit Public Affairs Representative (UPAR) who can facilitate getting the good news stories put together for publication – USE THEM! They have spent much time and effort in getting up to speed on the Public Affairs network that we have put into place for the deployment.

The UPARs are also the way that we can ensure that our Families and friends at home get to see what we are doing – they can put together Hometown News Releases to highlight the great things that our Soldiers are doing every day. But it's important that you know that the Lava Flow can only “flow” if you push information to us. Get with your UPAR and let them know what you want to see in the Lava Flow – it's important to tell the story of our deployment – it's a story that we should be proud of!

Pass Packages

Staying on North Fort Hood for Pass?

Join in on the fun from 23-26 OCT

Transportation from North Fort Hood



OUTLET MALL
Sea World
Alamo / River walk / Nat. Bridge Covers



Football Day (MWR)



Photo by SGT Lima, UPAR 1-158 FA

Charlie Company 100 Battalion, 442 Infantry Regiment completing the TF Lava Thunder Run in the early morning hours of Oct 10th, 2008.