

7<sup>th</sup> Signal Command (Theater)

# Spectrum

March 2013

**In Focus:**

**Combat Camera  
Purple Hearts**

**On Point, On Patrol**

# 7<sup>th</sup> Signal Command (Theater) Spectrum

March 2013

## Contents

### Change of Command 5

Headquarters, brigades all get new commanders

### Civilians of the Year 13

Representing the total professionalism of the force

### Brigade Leadership Profiles 24

Profiles on command's newest signal brigade leaders

### Command Chaplain 35

Divine Commentary: The busy sweepstakes

## On the Cover

### Eyes of the Army

Sgt. First Class Roderick Jackson, formerly assigned to 55<sup>th</sup> Signal Company (Combat Camera), conducts training during a previous assignment to Afghanistan. Combat Camera Soldiers accompany many Army training, humanitarian, operational, and special missions. The company document military operations for historical purposes. The unit has deployed more than any other signal company since the terrorist attacks on Sept. 11, 2001.



Courtesy photo



7<sup>th</sup> Signal Command (Theater)  
One Team, One Network!

### Riley, Stewart NECs Ace Inspection



Photo by Neil R. Guillebeau

### Downrange: Afghanistan



Photo by Staff Sgt. Sean K. Harp

### Soldiers of the Year



Photo by Neil R. Guillebeau

19

21

## In Focus



### 55<sup>th</sup> Signal Company (Combat Camera)

# 16

The eyes of the Army and Joint partners on special engagements around the globe. It's a dangerous mission, with four of the unit's Soldiers receiving Purple Heart Medals in the past two years.

#### “Quotable”

I cannot say enough about the great Leaders, Soldiers, Civilians, and Contractors who make up our Command – together, there is nothing we cannot accomplish.

Brig. Gen. John B. Morrison, Jr.  
Commanding General  
7<sup>th</sup> SC(T)

### Commanding General 1

Challenging year ahead for command as it continues work to standardize, streamline, improve, and leverage the power of the enterprise network

### Command Sergeant Major 3

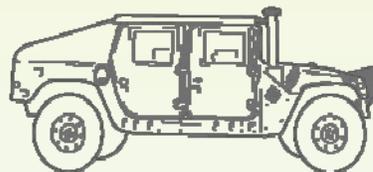
America's Army, Our Profession: Reaffirming what it means to be an Army professional

### Looking Back: 4 Invasion of Panama

Signal Corps Soldiers, including what is now the 106<sup>th</sup> Signal Brigade, aided the ouster of Manuel Noriega



### Army Fact File 34



Weapon systems: HMMWV, a light, highly mobile vehicle with multiples uses

### Off the Beaten Path 36

Fort Stewart day trip: Jekyll Island



#### EDITORIAL INFORMATION

#### POINTS OF CONTACT

*Spectrum* is an authorized publication produced by 7<sup>th</sup> Signal Command (Theater) Public Affairs in accordance with AR 360-1 to provide the command with information on people, policies, operations, technical developments, trends and ideas of and about the Department of Defense, the Department of the Army and 7<sup>th</sup> SC(T). Views and opinions expressed in this publication are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of the Army or this command. Send submissions and correspondence to:

7<sup>th</sup> Signal Command (Theater)  
Public Affairs Office (Editor, *Spectrum*)  
423 22nd Street, Bldg. 21715  
Fort Gordon, Ga. 30905

#### Command and Editorial Staff

<b>Commanding General</b>	Brig. Gen. John B. Morrison, Jr.
<b>Command Sergeant Major</b>	CSM Patrick Brooks
<b>Strategic Communication Officer</b>	Stephen G. Bullock
<b>Public Affairs Officer</b>	Neil R. Guillebeau
<b>Deputy Public Affairs Officer</b>	Siobhan S. Carlile

For additional information, call 706-729-7690 or contact [siobhan.s.carlile.civ@mail.mil](mailto:siobhan.s.carlile.civ@mail.mil) or [neil.r.guillebeau.civ@mail.mil](mailto:neil.r.guillebeau.civ@mail.mil)

[www.7sigcmd.army.mil](http://www.7sigcmd.army.mil)

[www.facebook.com/pages/US-Army-7th-Signal-Command/118882131483088](https://www.facebook.com/pages/US-Army-7th-Signal-Command/118882131483088)

# We must continue to operationalize the command

It is up to us to focus on ways to improve mission command, network capabilities

Since arriving at 7<sup>th</sup> Signal Command in August, CSM Brooks and I have been on the road quite a bit – we have visited all our Brigade and Battalion headquarters, more than twenty of our 78 Network Enterprise Centers as well as most of our Supported Commands across the Theater.

No matter where we travel, the dedication and professionalism of our teammates continues to impress us both – I am humbled to be a part of such a great team.

Across the board, our team works with tremendous enthusiasm and creativity to improve not only our operations but, more importantly, the Mission Command and Network capabilities we provide our Supported Commands.

We continue to make great progress, and our Supported Commands recognize the importance of having the 7<sup>th</sup> team as their Theater Signal Command.

“We cannot be satisfied with simply maintaining the ‘status quo’ – we must focus on how we improve our Supported Commands’ capabilities each and every day. It is their Network, not ours, and we owe them our very best.”

Brig. Gen. John B. Morrison, Jr.  
Commanding General  
7<sup>th</sup> SC(T)

Everywhere we travel, it is clear to me that the Command is chock full of leaders who care deeply about taking care of their people and teammates who value the success of the team.

No doubt, our people are the foundation for our success. I truly believe that there is nothing this great team cannot accomplish – as long as we always look left, right, up, and down to take care of each other.

I want us to focus each day on ways we can improve the Mission Command and Network capabilities we provide our supported commands, not just maintain them or “keep the lights on.”

We cannot be satisfied with simply maintaining the ‘status quo’ – we must focus on how we improve our Supported Commands’ capabilities each and every day.

It is their Network, not ours, and we owe them our very best. Think this way as you build your requirements packages. Look beyond the current fight – a year from now, the capabilities we provide our Supported Commands should be noticeably better than today.

After being in the job a few months, my priorities remain unchanged – we must continue to ‘operationalize’ the Command; formally integrate with our Supported Commands; standardize our processes across the Theater; and, support a viable modernization strategy. The Command has a number of exciting initiatives under way. I’ll give you an overview of some of them.

We are relooking our Network Operations processes. Our new NETOPS construct will clearly delineate responsibilities and timelines governing how NECs, Battalions, Brigades, and our Network Operations & Security Centers respond with urgency to restore service. While we wait for formal fieldings, we will establish a NetOps capability at the installation level so that we can ‘see ourselves’ instead of having our Sup-

### Command Priorities:

- Always Accomplish the Mission while taking care of our Team
- Operationalize the Command
  - Implement an effective NETOPS construct
  - Rapidly, smartly assume control of other NEC-like activities to become the single IT provider within our Theater
  - Formally integrate Supported Commands into our everyday operations; empower our Supported Commands – with accountability
- Standardize/synchronize processes and procedures across the Theater
- Support a viable Modernization strategy – improve, not just sustain
- Set, then Balance our team – match resources to mission

ported Commands let us know there is an issue.

We are continuing the consolidation of NECs under 7<sup>th</sup> SC. The end state is 7<sup>th</sup> SC as the single IT provider in the Theater. My guidance has been that we will take prudent risk to get all NECs ‘under the tent’ sooner versus waiting until every resourcing issue is resolved.

An initiative aimed at improving support to our Supported Commands and our Soldiers is called Installation As A Docking Station. It establishes a secure, simplified, standardized, connection process that enables Soldiers to more easily connect their organic Mission Command Systems to the installation network while in garrison. This helps units become better prepared to fight upon arrival, and exercises our ability to support the fight.

As we discussed at the November 2012 Leaders’ Summit, I have directed the Brigades to integrate Soldiers and

CG (continued next page)

# Commentary: Commanding General

CG (continued from previous page)

DA Civilian 2210s from our Supported Commands into NEC operations for periods of about 90 to 120 days.

When these Troopers rotate back to their units they will maintain elevated privileges, enabling them to administer local devices and certain network devices as a de facto 'extension' of our team operating under the technical direction of the appropriate NEC or Battalion.

We are already implementing this program here at Gordon with Soldiers from the 35<sup>th</sup> Signal Brigade, and the feedback has been tremendous.

The 93<sup>rd</sup> Brigade will start implementation soon at Bragg, and the 106<sup>th</sup> Brigade at Bliss, Hood, Lewis, and Campbell. I need your support to push this operational construct forward aggressively; it is a win-win for both our team and our Supported Commands.

The Command has implemented a 'Council of Directors,' a standing group of selected ASD and NEC Directors that will provide me a grass roots perspective on Command initiatives or challenges. We have already selected the first group of people to serve on the council for a period of six months. The

Council will meet quarterly or as requested. I expect they will provide us with valuable insight and sound recommendations.

We are taking a hard look at how we are organized, and how we are investing resources across the Command. The goal is to set, then rebalance our team, better matching our resources with our mission requirements. The brigades are knee-deep in this analysis that will result in adjustments to our 2014 TDA.

Our Command has been working to flatten our internal lines of communication. We have established a command Suggestion Box on the portal as an avenue for any employee to reach directly to me and the headquarters staff with ideas on what we can do better.

We will always take your suggestions seriously and will respond promptly. This is just one way we are sharing knowledge.

Another way I am encouraging our team to share information is by participating on the NEC Topic professional forum.

I want this forum to become a lively place to share and discuss ideas. Now would be a great time to join the Signal Link Community of Practice (CoP) by



**Brig. Gen. John B. Morrison, Jr.**  
Commanding General  
7<sup>th</sup> SC(T)

entering the following URL into your browser: <https://signallink.army.mil>.

Afterwards, you can visit and participate in the NEC topic area at <https://forums.army.mil/SECURE/CommunityBrowser.aspx?id=519541>.

In communications with our Supported Commands, it is critical for our leaders and teammates to "flood the battlefield," conducting key, personal engagements with the units we support.

I need your help to reach out to Supported Commands at the beginning, not the end of an issue, before a situation becomes a crisis.

Again, I cannot say enough about the great Leaders, Soldiers, Civilians, and Contractors who make up our Command – together, there is nothing we cannot accomplish.

I am humbled and honored to be a part of your Team – stay focused on our Supported Commands – it is their Network, not ours!

As always, thank you for all you do for our Nation, our Army, and our Command each and every day!

FORWARD



Photo by Neil R. Guillebeau

**Fort Jackson NEC employee  
Donniestrise Ketchens**

## New segment in Spectrum

### Recognition: Job Well Done!

#### Achievements, Faces & Places

Every day I hear about the remarkable results our individuals and teams are achieving across the command.

I thought it fitting to help recognize them publically by listing them in Spectrum so others could see how our team is excelling.

Turn to pages 30 to 33 for a list of 7<sup>th</sup> SC(T) accomplishments from June through December 2012.

# America's Army, Our Profession

## Reaffirming what it means to be an Army professional

By **CSM Patrick Brooks**  
7<sup>th</sup> Signal Command (T)  
Command Sergeant Major

Greetings, to the “One Team, One Network” Family. I extend my deepest gratitude for your faithful dedication to our Command. I’m extremely honored to serve alongside you, as we continue to provide mission command capabilities to the Western Hemisphere.

Our Soldiers and Army Civilians are performing superbly! We are engaged not only at home station, but during domestic (CONUS) emergencies and in overseas deployments.

If you have not already heard of a new initiative called “America’s Army – Our Profession,” you soon will.

This is a new education and training program that will be integrated over the next year. It will help generate inspirational dialog for Soldiers and Civilians to reaffirm their understanding of what it means to be an Army professional. This initiative will help us recommit to a culture of service in accordance with the Army Ethics and Army culture.

The program is about meeting the needs of the Nation, built on values, standards and mutual trust. It is about military expertise, honorable service, esprit de corps, and stewardship, all built on a foundation of trust.

This trust strengthens the force through periods of transition, reinforces our identity, and provides a critical foundation for the Army of 2020.

During 2013, we will all train and focus on quarterly themes, designed to help us become better individuals. Our goal is to become a more cohesive and effective force.

The themes are as follows for this calendar year:

### **1st Quarter (January – March):**

Standards and Discipline

### **2nd Quarter (April – June):**

Army Customs, Courtesies and Traditions

### **3rd Quarter (July – September):**

Military Experience – Certified Army Professionals

### **4th Quarter (October – December):**

Trust – The Backbone of Our Profession.

In September, Brigadier General Morrison and I produced a video about suicide awareness. Today, our goal remains the same – to help ensure that every Soldier, Army Civilian, and Family member understands that they are never alone.

We want your awareness and actions to remain on track. If you sense that one of your colleagues, Family members, or friends are having a stressful time, talk to them. Offer your help or let them know where they can get help. In many cases, people facing challenging times just need someone who cares to listen.

As we start to approach Spring, the timing is aligned with the first Quarter



**CSM Patrick Brooks**  
Command Sergeant Major  
7<sup>th</sup> SC(T)

Theme “Standards and Discipline.” Safety is all about standards and discipline. Discipline off duty is equally as important as discipline on duty.

The same can be said for Safety... Safety is non-negotiable in all we do, both on and off duty. I encourage you to conduct risk management in your off duty engagements and events as well. Be sure to have systems in place for high risk assessments.

Whether on a motorcycle or behind the wheel of an automobile, pre-checks should be conducted.

Leaders, I encourage you to use the Army Readiness Assessment Program (ARAP) available at <https://safety.army.mil> to help units identify and prevent accidents.

I also applaud your efforts as we integrate Signal Soldiers and 2210s into our Network Enterprise Centers. The feedback from those who have already executed this is very positive. Mainly, it allows the integrated Soldiers to de-

**CSM** (continued next page)

## NEW COMMAND COIN



7<sup>TH</sup> SIGNAL COMMAND

## Signal Corps aids ouster of Manuel Noriega

**F**ollowing completion of the Panama Canal linking the Atlantic and Pacific oceans in 1914, the United States and Panama enjoyed a generally strong diplomatic relationship. U.S. forces maintained bases in Panama intended to protect American interest in the Canal Zone and, later, to help counter Soviet influences in Central America.

Panamanian general and military governor Manuel Noriega worked with the U.S. for more than twenty years, balancing political access and domestic influence to consolidate power.

The illicit drug trade proved his undoing, as Noriega took money from outside anti-drug agencies as well as narcotics kingpins in the region.

Indicted by U.S. courts on drug charges in 1988, he later withstood two domestic coups. Relations between Panama and the U.S. rapidly deteriorated and the Panamanian general assembly declared a state of war between the two countries in December 1989.

After a Panamanian Defense Force attack on unarmed American military personnel that killed Marine lieutenant Robert Paz, President George Bush authorized the joint invasion of Panama, codenamed Operation Just Cause.

Eleven Army Signal Corps organizations contributed to the invasion, including the 1109<sup>th</sup> Signal Brigade – later redesignated the 106<sup>th</sup> Signal Brigade.

Eleven Army Signal Corps organizations contributed to the invasion, including what is now the 106<sup>th</sup> Signal Brigade

**P**anama  
**a**  
**n**  
**a**  
**m**  
**a**  
nated the 106<sup>th</sup> Signal Brigade. Signal units established battle command and tactical communications systems, and the Defense Communications Agency (now the Defense Information Systems Agency) provided operational communication support.

The entire operation lasted a few weeks, with Noriega notably driven from hiding in the Vatican embassy by loud rock music, broadcast by U.S. psychological operations teams.

Deposed, extradited and convicted of drug trafficking and money laundering, Noriega served fifteen years in the U.S. before being extradited to France and later back to Panama where he is serving a twenty year sentence.

The Panama Canal remained under U.S. control until its negotiated handover Dec. 31, 1999, a result of the Torrijos-Carter Treaties, with the condition that the canal remains permanently neutral. Operation Just Cause, and the Army communicators who supported it, proved a successful endeavor in the protection of U.S. interests in Central America.

Courtesy U.S. Army Center of Military History

### CSM (continued from previous page)

velop and maintain critical skills needed for NEC operations, especially during deployments.

Also, it builds a bond of trust between the NECs and their supported commands. Our NECs are doing a phenomenal job supporting the war fighter, and this process will enhance the supporting mission command requirements for a full range of Army operations.

Allow me to touch quickly on mentorship. Every Soldier and Civilian in our force should continue to learn, improve, become more productive, and help others continue to achieve their full potential, no matter how senior your position or however long you have served.

The key to doing so is through mentorship. On the learning side, mentors can help you by challenging you, holding

you accountable to goals and plans, and by sharing their experiences and knowledge with you so you can steadily improve personally and professionally.

As soon as you take your first leadership job, and throughout your career, you have a responsibility to mentor those you lead. Each of us has a responsibility to prepare those junior to us to take our jobs – literally!

As the Army continues to downsize Soldiers must realize that it is imperative that the Total Soldier Concept is embraced. Soldiers must show initiative and seek out the challenging assignments, along with taking on the career enhancing jobs such as Instructor, Drill Sergeant, Recruiter, etc.

Technical as well as tactical skills will have to be honed. Soldiers will not only need to perform in operational environ-

ments, but also in the classroom. Once this concept is grasped, opportunities for advancement become more achievable.

Finally, the CG and I have a new command coin. We will present these coins to Soldiers and Civilians who make significant “above and beyond” contributions to our mission or make notable achievements.

I hope all of you will remain inspired to reach your full potential in 2013 as we work together to provide the best network enterprise service to our Army team and strategic partners.

Thank you for looking after yourselves and each other in 2012. I hope that 2013 is your best year ever. I greatly appreciate what you and your families do for our command, Army, and the Nation!

# Morrison takes charge of 7<sup>th</sup> Signal Command

By Neil R. Guillebeau  
7<sup>th</sup> Signal Command (T) Public Affairs

Brig. Gen. John B. Morrison, Jr., assumed command of 7<sup>th</sup> Signal Command (Theater) from Col. John B. Hildebrand during a ceremony at Fort Gordon, Ga., Aug. 21, 2012.

In his remarks, Maj. Gen. Alan R. Lynn, commanding general, Network Enterprise Technology Command, said Morrison has precisely the right quali-

cations to lead the command of more than 5,700 Soldiers and government Civilians who serve 7<sup>th</sup> SC(T) across the Western Hemisphere.

"I have known him a long time, and worked with him in two combat operations," Lynn said. "He's a proven leader in the Signal Corps, and his reputation for excellence is unparalleled."

Morrison accepted the 7<sup>th</sup> Signal Command colors from Lynn during the ceremony, signifying the official assumption

of command. He charged the people of 7<sup>th</sup> SC(T) to take care of each other as they take care of the command's technical mission.

"Our job, while technical in nature, is ultimately all about people," he said. "While everything we do is about accomplishing the mission, you cannot accomplish the mission without a great team; none of us thrive, survive or excel on our own so that means we have to look out for each other."

The new CG emphasized that the command's mission is critical.

"In today's world, if you are not connected, you are not relevant or useful," he said. "Not being connected at the crucial time can mean the difference between life and death on the battlefield, between mission failure and mission success."

Morrison stressed that the command team is engaged in operations around the clock and throughout the year as he underscored that the world changes quickly. He challenged the command to anticipate, be comfortable with, and lead change.

## A great team

"I'm extremely grateful that the Army has entrusted me with the responsibility to lead the Army's premier signal command," said Morrison. "I promise to do my very best for the fantastic people, and their families who make up this great team."

He also said that he and his wife, Ann, look forward to being on the 7<sup>th</sup> SC(T) team "as we live and work in the CSRA [Central Savannah River Area] and Augusta communities."

Colonel Hildebrand, deputy commander, assumed command of 7<sup>th</sup> SC(T) from Brig. Gen. LaWarren V. Patterson during an assumption of command ceremony here July 14, 2012.

Following the ceremony, Lt. Gen.

**Change** (continued next page)



Photo by Marlene Thompson

**Passing the Colors** - Brig. Gen. Morrison (left) receives the 7<sup>th</sup> SC(T) colors from Maj. Gen. Lynn signifying the transfer of command responsibility. Morrison is the third commanding general of 7<sup>th</sup> SC(T) since it was reactivated in 2008.



Photo by Marlene Thompson

**Present the Colors**— A 7<sup>th</sup> SC(T) color guard presents the colors during the assumption of command ceremony. Key participants (left to right), Maj. Gen. Lynn; Brig. Gen. Morrison; Col. Hildebrand; and, Command Sgt. Maj. Patrick Brooks, command sergeant major, 7<sup>th</sup> SC(T), render salutes.

**Change** *(continued from previous*

*Susan S. Lawrence, U.S. Army Chief Information Officer/G-6, frocked Patterson to major general.*

Maj. Gen. Jennifer L. Napper, at the time serving as commanding general, U.S. Army Network Enterprise Technology Command, praised Patterson for “significantly modernizing information technology infrastructure, all aimed at delivering more capability to commanders so they can execute their missions through all phases of operations.”

“He knows what’s going on, he visits his units, he listens to his people, and he keeps those he supports informed,” said Napper. “He has earned the full support of the over 50 senior mission commanders across the country.”

In a separate event before the change of command ceremony, Napper presented Patterson with the Distinguished Service Medal for his service as 7<sup>th</sup> SC (T)’s commanding general during the previous two years.

Patterson replaced Maj. Gen. Lynn as the commanding general, U.S. Army Signal Center of Excellence and Ft. Gordon.



Photo by Marlene Thompson

**Welcoming Flowers** - Mrs. Ann Morrison receives a bouquet of yellow roses from Sgt. Amber L. Martin.

# Summer marks change for command's brigades

## **21st, 93rd, 106th brigades receive new commanders, sergeants major**

By **Siobhan Carlile & Neil R. Guillebeau**

7<sup>th</sup> Signal Command (T) Public Affairs

Seventh Signal Command's three brigades all conducted change of command ceremonies in 2012.

### **21<sup>st</sup> Signal Brigade**

Col. Mark Baxter replaced Col. Aaron Webster as commander of the 21<sup>st</sup> Signal Brigade during a change of command ceremony at Fort Detrick, Md., July 13.

Command Sergeant Major Robert A. Daniel, Jr., reporting from the 102<sup>nd</sup> Signal Battalion, Weisbaden Germany, replaced CSM Timothy Czuba, who reported to NORAD/NORTHCOM as the J6 sergeant major.

Baxter, a native of upstate New York reports to the 21<sup>st</sup> Signal Brigade from United States Army Europe, assistant deputy chief of staff, G6, Heidelberg, Germany.

The 21<sup>st</sup> conducts network operations for theater-based LandWarNet communication systems, networks and enterprise services and provides information services support to generating forces, and intergovernmental, interagency, and civil authorities during unified land operations.

"Everywhere I go, I brag about the 21<sup>st</sup> and its full plate of not one, two, three or four, but many no-fail missions," said Brig. Gen. LaWarren V. Patterson, former commanding general, 7<sup>th</sup> SC(T). "The 21<sup>st</sup> has the Army covered from the desktop to the battlefield, from the foxhole to the president - 24/7/365."

Webster now serves at Headquarters Army in the Pentagon with the G3/5/7.

"Aaron, I know that you would prefer that all of my praise go to your team, but their success would not be possible without your 'just right' leadership,"



Photo by Neil R. Guillebeau

**21<sup>st</sup> Ceremony** - Col. Mark Baxter, 21<sup>st</sup> SB (left) receives the command colors from Brig. Gen. LaWarren V. Patterson.

said Patterson to the 21<sup>st</sup>'s outgoing commander. "You've had a tough job, but you excelled despite the many obstacles, last minute requirements, and constant changes that have marked your time at the 21<sup>st</sup>."

Patterson presented the Legion of Merit to Webster in a separate ceremony.

"Colonel Baxter, I can't overemphasize the scope and strategic importance of your command's contributions to the Army, to our partners, and to our national defense and security," said Pat-

erson. "I am confident you will take up where Colonel Webster has left off and build on this team's success. It is your turn to take command of this amazing brigade."

### **106<sup>th</sup> Signal Brigade**

Col. Jay Chapman assumed command of the 106<sup>th</sup> Signal Brigade replacing Col. Christopher Haigh during a change of command ceremony at Fort Sam Houston, Tex., July 20.

Command Sergeant Major Schehl reporting from Fort Gordon, Ga., re-

**Brigades** (continued next page)

### Brigades (continued from previous page)

placed CSM Derrick Taylor, who retired.

Chapman, a native of Madison, Connecticut reported to the 106<sup>th</sup> Signal Brigade after serving as a Branch Chief in the Enterprise Services Division of the Joint Staff, J8 at the Pentagon.

“In our expeditionary army, one of the biggest challenges soldiers face is inconsistent access to the network and information technology resources,” said Brig. Gen. Lawarren V. Patterson, former commanding general, 7<sup>th</sup> SC(T). “Col. Haigh’s efforts in building towards a true enterprise network were critical in improving access for Soldiers anywhere at any time.”



Photo by Siobhan Carlile

**106<sup>th</sup> Ceremony** - Col. Jay Chapman, left, accepts the command colors from Brig. Gen. LaWarren V. Patterson, former commanding general, 7<sup>th</sup> SC(T), during a change of command ceremony at Fort Sam Houston.

To do so, the 106<sup>th</sup> integrates actions of 23 network enterprise centers in the western half of the nation, providing commanders and war fighters 24 hour access to the Army’s LandWarNet and the global collaborative environment.

Haigh is now serving in the Army Cyber Command as the Director of the Army Cyber Proponent Office.

“What resonates to me is just how much work the team accomplished in just two years,” Haigh said.

“Yes, there are mountains left to be moved, but the entire team should be proud of our collective work, especially considering we were resourced at just plus or minus 63 percent. I’m convinced these successes were functions of our work force’s professionalism, patriotism and exceptional teamwork at each NEC. I am proud, and honored to have served on the team!”

“Chris, you encouraged a culture of initiative by empowering your team, delegating responsibility, and convincing people that they can make a difference for the Army here and now,” said Patterson to the outgoing commander.

Patterson presented Haigh the Legion of Merit in a separate awards ceremony.

### 93<sup>rd</sup> Signal Brigade

Colonel Maria Biank took charge of the 93<sup>rd</sup> Signal Brigade from Col. Todd Isaacson during a change of command ceremony at Fort Eustis on August 13, 2012.

In a separate ceremony, CSM Ricky Wallace, originally from Albany, Ga., replaced CSM Joseph J. McKinnon, who retired.

“The Army usually gets it right when picking senior leaders, and with the selection of Colonel Maria Biank as the next 93<sup>rd</sup> Signal Brigade commander, they hit a home run,” said Col. John Hildebrand, former deputy commanding officer, 7<sup>th</sup> SC(T).

Biank, a self-declared “Army brat,” reported to the command after serving on the 37<sup>th</sup> chief of staff of the Army transition team and the Army Staff,



Photo by Neil R. Guillebeau

### Col. Maria Biank, commander, 93<sup>rd</sup> SB

G3/5/7 LandWarNet division.

“I am humbled and honored as I stand here today,” said Biank. “Humble because the mantle of command is a heavy responsibility, and one I take to heart, and honored to be part of such a great brigade with roots that stretch back to the Second World War.”

“To the Soldiers and Army civilians of the 93<sup>rd</sup> Signal Brigade, I look forward to serving with each and every one of you,” said Biank.

Col. Hildebrand praised Isaacson and Biank as he added a note of humor to the ceremony.

“I am not sure if you noticed, but when we were exchanging the colors, I had to give a little tug to get the flag out of Todd’s hands, but as I was handing it to Maria, she snatched it up pretty quick,” said Hildebrand.

Hildebrand presented the Legion of Merit to Isaacson during a separate ceremony.

The 93<sup>rd</sup> mirrors the 106<sup>th</sup>’s mission, operating in the eastern half of the nation.

Department of the Army Inspector General inspections

# Riley, Stewart NECs ace inspections

**By Siohban Carlile &  
Neil R. Guillebeau**

7th Signal Command (T) Public Affairs

The Fort Riley, Kans. and Fort Benning, Ga., Network Enterprise Centers recently became the first two NECs in the Army to pass all 14 information assurance functional areas on the Army Inspector General's IA compliance inspection.

Fort Riley was the first in the Army to max a DAIG IA inspection. The Riley NEC passed the inspection May 4, 2012, and Benning passed Aug. 24, 2012.

"We plan for these initiatives. A well done plan, and time up front working with our customers are critical to success," said Robert Windham, Fort Riley NEC director since 2008. "We involve our stakeholders in the planning process, and during operational planning, everyone on the team gets a vote."

Next comes executing the plan. Even the best plans are useless if they don't lead to action, according to Windham.

"We didn't just go from a terrible state to preparing for and acing an inspection," he said. "We live IA and security day to day. You do the right thing because it's the right thing to do, not just for the inspection."

Windham has a very holistic view of leadership of the NEC, mainly centered around people, planning and execution.

He is quick to point out that achieving a top score in a DAIG inspection takes a team effort.

"The senior commander of Fort Riley got it, so there was command emphasis at all levels, from the brigades and the installation," he said. "This is a Fort Riley suc-



Photos by Neil R. Guillebeau

**Leading the Teams: NEC Riley, Stewart NEC Directors - Kathy Walter and Robert Windham.**

cess because we all pulled together."

In addition to planning and execution, the key part of success is people. A lot of effort goes into a very detailed process to get the best people for their team. The hiring process is very important to Windham. He and his team work closely with the civilian personnel office to ensure that only the most highly qualified people get hired to work at the NEC.

He notes that Fort Riley has a long and storied history, and it gives people a sense of personal obligation to support Soldiers and to ensure the mission gets accomplished - always without fail.

"It doesn't take them long; even when our young people have been here a short time, they get it," he said. "We tell them that they are either directly or indirectly supporting the war fighter, and they appreciate that."

Fort Stewart NEC director Kathy Walter said she attributes the NEC's success to emphasis placed in two main areas, management focus and accountability.

"During the last two weeks prior to the inspection, we de-

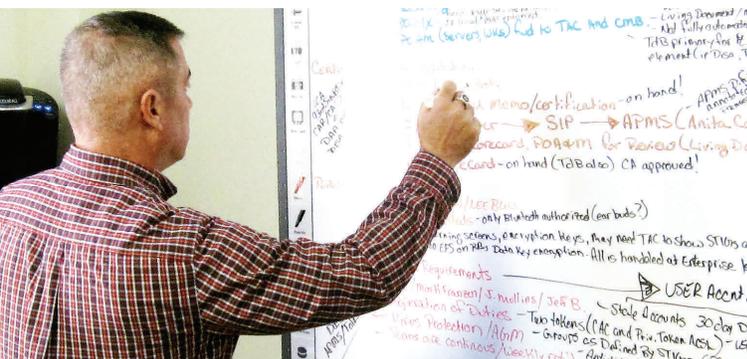


Photo by Neil R. Guillebeau

**Fort Riley - Dr. Lee Bliss, Fort Riley IA Division Chief**

**DAIG** (continued next page)

## Around the Command

**DAIG** (continued from previous page)

tailed an additional division chief to work with the IA division as we finalized preparations.

The additional management attention gave the benefit of a fresh perspective to a harried IA staff that had been working deep in the details for months according to Walter.

She also conducted daily hot-washes with key leaders for two weeks prior to the inspection to review status and formulate action items.

“Note that much of our focus during this time was cleaning up administrative artifacts such as updating SOP documentation,” she said.

One of the key tasks was to organize the Army IA inspection checklist items into a spreadsheet that specifically assigned responsibility for each task to a designated individual. This created accountability and urgency.

The IA Division also created a color coded "chicklet chart" for the DAIG inspection that was used to track progress.

In conjunction with the spreadsheet, the IA division also created and maintained a plan of action and milestones tracker with taskers and due dates.

“Site assistance visits by our higher HQ IA staff provided focused attention and incentive that helped to boost our preparation efforts,” she said. “They provided a valuable sounding board and helped to research points of confusion.”

The IA division began preparing for the DAIG several months in advance.

The inspections help measure an organization’s effectiveness. The checklists are valuable for developing and maintaining our internal processes and SOP’s, and these inspections provide a tangible target for employees, building incentive and offering opportunities for everyone to excel according to Walter.

“The inspection team was impressed with the amount of information available in the documents and the knowledge of the NEC personnel they inter-



Courtesy photo

**Fort Riley NEC** - Members of the Riley Information Assurance team: Front row, left to right, Anita Freeborn, Lara McMahon, Bob Windham (NEC Director), Deb Goreham and Lee Bliss. Back row, left to right: Lowell Phillips, Robert Rossiter, Mark Peek and Daryl Ash.



Photos by Neil Gullebeau

**Fort Stewart NEC** - Donny Branch, supply technician.

viewed,” she said. “We are very proud of our staff and believe we have hired the very best for meeting the demanding IT needs of today’s modular Army.”

The unit received outstanding support from all of their tenant IT staff officers (G6, S6’s) and their information management officers who worked side-by-side with the NEC team to prepare for the inspection.



Photo by Neil Gullebeau

**Fort Stewart NEC** - Jerome Gerone, left, and Gregg Hollingsworth, right.

“The senior commander at Fort Riley got it, so there was command emphasis at all levels, from the brigades and installation. This is a Fort Riley success because we all pulled together.”

Robert Windham  
Director  
Fort Riley, Kan. NEC

# Network Enterprise Centers of the Year recognized during ceremony at command Leadership Summit

## Fort Drum NEC takes award for second time in three years

**By Paul Steven Ghiringelli**  
Fort Drum, NY Public Affairs

For the second time in three years, the Network Enterprise Center at Fort Drum has been named Best Large NEC in 7<sup>th</sup> Signal Command, an accomplishment that recognizes the center's expertise in operating, maintaining and defending the post's digital networks.

"We were extremely proud and excited," said Fort Drum NEC Director Joanne L. Thornton, who led her team to the same recognition in 2010, when NEC of the Year awards first began. "We heard the competition was tough this year. (But) we knew with all the work, effort and initiatives that the NEC team had been working on, we would be

a contender."

This year, Fort Drum also won Best Large NEC at the 93<sup>rd</sup> Signal Brigade level. The staff now will compete against two other large NECs for the Department of the Army NEC of the Year award.

The NEC of the Year large category is defined as at least 7,000 active directory accounts. Fort Drum's NEC currently serves more than 13,000 accounts.

In addition to criteria focused on initiative, mission and training, judges this year evaluated the NEC competition on solutions to resource shortfalls due to budget constraints.

Thornton said she is very grateful for the 87 employees she is entrusted to lead at the NEC, along with their strong rapport with members of the garrison and division.

She said it is a unique culture of respect and professionalism that helped put Fort Drum on top.



Photo by Neil R. Guillebeau

**Brig. Gen. John Morrison, Jr. presents a star letter to Lt. Col. Ryan Marro, Fort Jackson NEC.**

## Fort Jackson team medium NEC winner

**By Wallace McBride**  
Fort Jackson Leader

The Network Enterprise Center at Fort Jackson has been named best medium-sized NEC in the 7<sup>th</sup> SC(T), an accomplishment that recognizes the organization's expertise in operating, maintaining and defending the post's digital networks.

Network Enterprise Technology Command - the highest command for signal units and NECs - selects a "NEC of the Year" in three categories based on the number of customers served by the NEC. The three signal brigades in the continental United States select the best NEC in each category for their area of responsibility. Fort Jackson won best-medium NEC for the 93<sup>rd</sup> Signal Brigade, which encompasses the Eastern United States.

**NEC** (continued next page)



Photo by Neil R. Guillebeau

**Recognizing NECs of the Year** - Left to right, Brig. Gen. John Morrison, Jr. presents a star letter to Command Sgt. Maj. Ricky Wallace, CSM, 93<sup>rd</sup> Signal Brigade, Steve Brown, Fort Eustis NEC, Col. Maria Biank, commander, 93<sup>rd</sup> Signal Brigade and CSM Patrick Brooks, CSM, 7<sup>th</sup> SC(T).



Photo by Neil R. Guillebeau

**Leadership Summit** — Brig. Gen Morrison address NEC and command leadership at the Leadership Summit held during the fall at Peachtree City, Ga.

### **NEC** (continued from previous page)

The Fort Jackson NEC next advanced to the 7<sup>th</sup> Signal Command competition, where the NECs from the three brigades competed against each other. Fort Jackson also won that award, earning the recognition as the best medium-sized NEC in the United States.

Tom Smart, area support director for Team Three within the 93<sup>rd</sup> Signal Brigade, said the Fort Jackson NEC managed to improve its employee training rating during the previous year, despite being short-staffed.

"If you go in and get your car worked on, you'd hope they'd have the proper certification so they know what they're doing," he said. "It's a way to know they're certified, competent and know how to do what they do."

Smart said the challenge in getting NEC staff members additional certification is that training pulls employees away from regular duties.

"Even though they're currently short-staffed, they still have to take time away

from work to take those tests and get certified," Smart said. "You lose part of your workforce to get them certified so they can be proficient in what they're doing."

The Fort Jackson NEC also received the 2011 Palmetto Pillar award from the S.C. Chamber of Commerce, which Smart said played a role in its selection as Best medium-sized Network Enterprise Center.

"It's the first time we've ever been recognized at Fort Jackson," said Marcus Good, chief of the IT System Support Division. "It validates all of the work we've put forward the past couple of years. We're challenged as far as resources go, so it forces us to do things smarter. The award is a way to evaluate how we're doing."

"I am very pleased to see the Fort Jackson NEC recognized by the 7<sup>th</sup> Signal Command as the NEC of the year for 2012," said Scott Nahrwold, Fort Jackson deputy garrison commander.

## Adelphi NEC tops in small category NEC of the Year unit

By **Siobhan Carlile**

7<sup>th</sup> SC(T) Public Affairs

The Adelphi Network Enterprise Center, Adelphi, Md., won the 7<sup>th</sup> Signal Command (Theater) LandWarNet Network Enterprise Center competition for Fiscal Year 2012, Small Category.

"Your mission focused attitude toward providing outstanding network services and unprecedented professionalism has proven your devotion to duty," said Brig. Gen John Morrison, Jr., commanding general, 7<sup>th</sup> SC(T).

Adelphi will move on to compete in the NETCOM LandWarNet NEC Awards 2012 (Small Category).

Anthony Cavallo, Adelphi NEC director, said the main thing setting Adelphi apart is teamwork. "When government, contractors and tenants work together, you can accomplish great stuff," said Cavallo.

Adelphi supports about 3,250 users. Many are top level scientists and researchers with multiple systems. "So, our supported computer base is around twice our customer count," he said.

"From the moment we made the announcement you could actually see the pride and an even more professional approach to working with customers and problem solving by the staff," he said.

Cavallo thanked the staff and their customers. "They are a truly unique customer base and we thank them for taking the time out of their schedules to complete the service ticket surveys we send out."

"We also recognize and thank our telecom staff for keeping the phones and LMR running superbly and also our admin, business and plans folks for their support," he said.

# Civilians of the Year honored at annual banquet

By Siohban Carlile

7<sup>th</sup> Signal Command (T) Public Affairs

Two 7<sup>th</sup> Signal Command (Theater) civilians earned recognition for their selection as the command's Junior and Senior Civilians of the Year during a ceremony at the command's ball in April 2012 at Fort Gordon, Ga.

Thomas Campbell, IT specialist, headquarters, 106<sup>th</sup> Signal Brigade, Fort Sam Houston, Tex., received the Senior Civilian of the Year honors.

Jonathan Bell, an IT specialist, 7<sup>th</sup> SC (T) HQ, earned the Junior Civilian of the Year award.

"Our civilian of the year finalists and selectees represent the total professionalism of our Army civilians across 7<sup>th</sup> Signal Command," said Brig. Gen. LaWarren V. Patterson, former commanding general, 7<sup>th</sup> SC(T). "It's a fact that our Army would not be effective without

the ingenuity, hard work and continuity that our civilians bring to the team."

Campbell expressed surprise about his selection as SCOY, and he focused on the contributions of others to his success.

"It was a complete surprise, and an amazing honor, especially knowing some of the great accomplishments of the other folks competing," he said. "I know my winning was nothing more than a testament to the great support I have from my incredible leaders and fellow teammates at the 106<sup>th</sup>, and from my loving wife."

"It was greatly appreciated," Bell said. Patterson also honored the other SOY finalists: Stephen St.Esprit, knowledge



Donna Eversole



Charles Gaffney



Stephen St.Esprit

management integrator and developer, 7<sup>th</sup> SC(T) HQ, Fort Gordon, Ga., and Donna Eversole, information technology specialist, 302<sup>nd</sup> Signal Battalion, 21<sup>st</sup> Signal Brigade.

The JCOY finalists were Ovais Bajwa, IT specialist, 302<sup>nd</sup> Signal Battalion, 21<sup>st</sup> Signal Brigade, Fort Eustis, Va., and Charles Gaffney, IT specialist, Network Enterprise Center, Fort Bragg, N. C., 93<sup>rd</sup> Signal Brigade.



Photos by Neil R. Guillebeau

**Honoring the Winner** - Brig. Gen. Patterson congratulates Jonathan Bell, above left. Patterson and Command Sergeant Major Brooks honor Thomas Campbell, above right.

# Microsoft team provides strategic training, mission support to 7<sup>th</sup> Signal Command (T)

By Siobhan Carlile

7<sup>th</sup> Signal Command (T) Public Affairs

A dedicated Microsoft Premier team is on point, 24/7, working with the 7<sup>th</sup> Signal Command (Theater) operations section, to coordinate training workshops and provide proactive preventive and reactive mission support for information technology services and products.

The team also supports the command's subordinate units, the 93<sup>rd</sup>, 106<sup>th</sup>, and 21<sup>st</sup> Signal Brigades, as well as the South Theater Network Operations and Security Center and the CONUS-TNOSC.

"Our team offers the deepest expertise designing, implementing, and supporting Microsoft solutions," said Douglas Ingram, the on-staff Microsoft senior technical account manager. "We have a proven, collaborative approach to transferring knowledge from our Microsoft development teams."

There are currently two dedicated technical account managers and six Premier field engineers focusing on various technologies to support the 7<sup>th</sup> and its mission. These include: Windows Server/Active Directory, SharePoint, Sequential Query Language, and System Center.

The team's goal is to build stability and continual optimization through every stage of the IT lifecycle.

Microsoft Enterprise Services helps customers maximize the value of their software investments and improve overall IT health through pre-packaged, customized, and preventive support.

"Microsoft Enterprise Services sup-

“Our deep knowledge of Microsoft products allows us to deliver unmatched support services.”

Douglas Ingram  
Microsoft Senior Technical Manager

ports our customers with a global network of subject-matter experts available 24 hours-a-day, seven days-a-week," said Ingram. "Our deep knowledge of Microsoft products allows us to deliver unmatched support services."

The team provides support escalation to the highest level necessary, delivered through a streamlined, critical issue management process, and led by an escalation engineer who helps solve the most complex IT issues.

Microsoft Enterprise Services also provides hands-on training and knowledge transfer to help increase IT staff expertise and improve alignment between business goals and IT investments.

"We provide our customers with a direct relationship with Microsoft through a technical account manager, who quickly provides the latest technology updates and information to help drive efficiencies," Ingram said.

#### Other services include:

- Microsoft product support workshops that sync with key release cycles in order to deliver insights into new services and to help increase preparedness.

- Microsoft Enterprise Services pro-

vides guidance that helps maximize current IT investments and advice on technologies and services that helps support our customers' business initiatives.

- Risk assessments to help identify potential problems before they impact the IT environment or end users.

"Our operations assessments help streamline processes, including security measures and resource allocation," Ingram said. "We also provide operational guidance aimed at increasing system performance and reducing support costs and risks."

To help employees maximize Microsoft products, the company provides a variety of training and workshops.

During the last two years, approximately 170 people assigned to 7<sup>th</sup> Signal Command attended training in the following workshops: System Center Configuration Manager: Operating System Deployment; SharePoint Server 2010: Power User; SharePoint Server 2010: Administration; Microsoft Operation Framework Foundation Courses.

The team also provides proactive formal reviews identifying production risk before they become incidents. Over the last two years, these included three Active Directory Risk Assessments for CONUS NIPRNET (Non-Secure Internet Protocol Router Network) and SIPRNET (Secret Internet Protocol Router Network), and three Windows Desktop Risk Assessments at major installations.

For more information, contact Mike Spragg, the 7<sup>th</sup> SC(T) government contract representative at gerry.m.spragg.civ@mail.mil or at (706) 787-7923.

Visit Facebook, Flickr and websites: [www.7sigcmd.army.mil](http://www.7sigcmd.army.mil) & [www.army.mil/7thsignal](http://www.army.mil/7thsignal)

# Army South's 56<sup>th</sup> Signal Battalion Soldiers raise communications for Guatemala mission

By Cpl. Antony S. Lee  
Task Force Arriero/  
BTH-Guatemala Public Affairs

COBAN, Guatemala – Active duty U.S. Army Soldiers played an important role for Task Force Arriero in support of Beyond the Horizon Guatemala 2012, a humanitarian exercise led by the Missouri National Guard.

A team of ten active duty signal Soldiers from the 56<sup>th</sup> Signal Battalion, of Fort Sam Houston, Texas, provided communications and data services for task force operations.

“We establish and maintain the data services and communication services, and we have tactical communications,” said Staff Sgt. Vinson Hammonds, the non-commissioned officer in charge of the team.

The signal team runs two sides at the tactical operations center, he added.

On one, the data team established Internet capabilities and maintained networks. On the other, the team maintained readiness as a secondary commu-

nication in case of network failure.

The radio side has also been sending Soldiers out to work sites, where U.S. service members are building clinics and schools, to support communications for emergencies.

“My job here is to make sure the single channel tactical satellite is operational,” said Sgt. Jason Debaker, a senior radio operator maintainer.

Many of the Soldiers have been deployed to Central America before. The 56<sup>th</sup> Signal Battalion regularly provides communication support for overseas operations run by U.S. Army South. Every year, they deploy to support operations such as BTH 2012.

“It’s a great opportunity to see another country besides Afghanistan or Iraq,” Hammonds said, adding that when they are not overseas, they are preparing for it.

“When we’re back in the United States, we do mission-readiness exercises. We are constantly setting up all of our equipment to make sure it’s fully mission capable,” he said.

Last year, Hammonds spent four months in Haiti, where he was a part of the radio team. This is his second time in Guatemala.

“We have had a good experience here,” Hammonds said. “We have a great relationship with the task force.”

Debaker, who was in El Salvador on a similar mission last year, said he has enjoyed his time in Guatemala.

He said Guatemala is a “beautiful country” and that he has become good friends with some Guatemalans.

“They’ve been teaching me Spanish, while I teach English,” Debaker said.

Sgt. Javier Rodriguez, an information systems operator, has taken advantage of his first trip in Guatemala and gone out to many of the construction sites.

“It was interesting to see how the kids and locals reacted to us,” he said.

His first time in country was smooth because of the task force, he added.

“The chain of command is helpful,” Rodriguez said. “They support us which makes our job easier to support them.”



56<sup>th</sup> Signal Battalion - Sgt. Javier Rodriguez, 56<sup>th</sup> Signal Battalion, poses with local school children in Guatemala.

# COMBAT CAMERA

## 55<sup>th</sup> Signal Company

### The image of global Army engagements

By Neil R. Guillebeau

7<sup>th</sup> Signal Command (T) Public Affairs

Combat Camera Soldiers accompany Army and Joint forces on training, humanitarian, operational, and special missions. The 55<sup>th</sup> Signal Company (Combat Camera) exists to document military operations for historical purposes.

Photographs and video clips can speak volumes about the realities that Soldiers face when serving downrange.

The still and video images created by Soldiers at the 55<sup>th</sup> document history and provide intelligence or opportunities for training and mission improvement, but the work can be dangerous and stressful.

The company's formal mission is to rapidly deploy worldwide throughout the full spectrum of military operations to capture, edit, and transmit high definition still and video imagery in support of commanders' tactical, operational, and strategic objectives.

They support all types of combat units, with Soldiers on alert to cover disasters and special missions.

"It's a very intriguing situation for our Soldiers at Combat Camera; it's very cool," said Maj. Kyle Yates, commander, 55<sup>th</sup> Signal Company. "These professionals get to see history unfold in front of them, and they get to document what happens. It's a once in a lifetime opportunity."

While he likes to tell details about the Soldiers' missions, many are classified so he can't discuss specifics about units, locations, time periods, objectives, or outcomes of missions.

The Soldiers of the 55th stay busy, according to Yates.



Photo by Neil R. Guillebeau

**Most Deployed Signal Company** - Representatives of Combat Camera (left to right) Sgt. First Class Roderick Johnson, Spec. Jourdain Yardan, Maj. Kyle Yates, and First Lt. Zachary Levy, special mission platoon leader.

Approximately 25 to 70 of the unit's Soldiers deploy at any given time, with 25 to 30 usually deployed at various locations around the globe.

The unit has continuously deployed Soldiers since the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Centers, Pentagon, and in the skies over Pennsylvania.

## Orange's colorful highlights

**History & Heritage** – For more than a century orange has been the color most associated with the U.S. Army Signal Corps. The Institute of Heraldry says, "Orange was selected in 1872 as the Signal Corps branch color. In 1902, white piping was added to conform to the custom that prevailed of having piping of a different color for all branches except the line branches." Military tradition and heraldic legend associated with the color orange varies widely. The late Dr. Paul J. Scheips, noted Signal Corps historian, wrote orange was an honor granted to William III of England, borne of a line originating in the town of Orange, France. Another tale states the tenné, or tawny-brown, color of the ascending node of the moon, known as the "Dragon's Head" phenomenon, is a celestial expression of orange. Whatever its true background and meaning, "signal orange" is here to stay as the color of the Corps.



COMBAT

55th Signal Company  
Purple Heart

CAMERA

## Photo mission dangerous at tactical edge Four receive Purple Heart for injuries

By Siobhan Carlile & Neil R. Guillebeau

**A**fghanistan, dusk. It is time for another mission to search for high value targets - terrorists. On one particular mission somewhere in Afghanistan, nine to a dozen special operations Soldiers prepare to move out after a mission brief to ensure everybody understands the situation and their responsibilities.

They recheck their gear: weapons – check; ammo – check; comms – check; night vision – check; GPS – check.

Another Soldier, though, has an additional check, one for a special piece of gear – a camera to shoot photographs and video. The Soldier belongs to the 55<sup>th</sup> Signal Company, better known as Combat Camera. They accompany many special and conventional Army units downrange, and they provide documentation for special missions around the world including disaster relief, the presidential inauguration, and training missions.

“Some of the imagery our Soldiers collect is very beautiful, and beautiful shots are just icing on the cake,” said Maj. Kyle Yates, commander, 55<sup>th</sup> Signal Company. “The reality is, though, Combat Camera Soldiers have photographed the most horrific images one could possibly fathom. They not only see the situations up close, they have to view them close up through a lens, and the images can often remain burned in their minds.”

It is also a very dangerous job. In the past two years, four COMCAM Soldiers have received injuries in combat, and were awarded the Purple Heart Medal.

The dangerous part of the job is the bad guys – Al Qaeda, insurgents, terrorists – the enemy. They are bent on not being captured or killed. They are determined to kill Soldiers, including those serving with the 55<sup>th</sup>, whenever they can.

### **Spec. Jourdain Yardan**

On a regular patrol with SOF one night, Yardan, a combat documentation production specialist with the 55<sup>th</sup>, crossed a bridge and approached a compound where a search was underway for high value targets.

“They must have found something because they began to tell people to fall back,” he said. “A couple of guys walked back across the bridge, the same one I’d already crossed twice. I was about ten feet or a couple of seconds behind them when a roadside bomb exploded.”

Two other Soldiers took most of the blast, but the shock wave of the explosion knocked Yardan to the ground, and he became disoriented. After a few moments, he said his training kicked in and he began filming, but a higher need quickly emerged.

“I had to help with the injured,” he said.

Three Soldiers ultimately died as a result of the explosion. Yardan later discovered that he had received a traumatic brain injury.

### **Sgt. First Class Roderick Jackson**

Sgt. First Class Roderick Jackson, special missions platoon sergeant for the 55<sup>th</sup>, also suffered a TBI, but under different

**55th** (continued from previous page)

## Focus: Unit In Spotlight

**55<sup>th</sup>** (continued from previous page) circumstances. He was responsible for overseeing various COMCAM teams operating in Afghanistan, mainly taking care of the details required to keep his eight to 15 member teams functioning and to ensure their welfare.

One night enemy forces fired rockets into and around their compound all night. While checking on his team, a rocket exploded near Jackson.

He claims he was lucky with how and where the projectile landed.

“It hit the dirt on the side of the road, which absorbed a lot of the blast,” said Jackson. “If it had hit the road instead of the ditch, mine would have been a real different story; a really bad story.”

### Sgt. Sherrod Percell

Sgt. Sherrod Percell, a three year Army veteran, returned to the U.S. from Kandahar in July 2012.

He was also on a foot patrol in Afghanistan when an IED exploded about ten to 12 feet away. He suffered a mild concussion and TBI.

“I stayed off duty for about three weeks on quarters. After that I stayed under the care of my sergeant first class while I was there,” he said. “By the middle of December, I was back to going out on key leader engagements, but no kinetic stuff until February.”

Percell completed 77 missions, and “lived out of a bag for a year,” he said. But despite the constant moving around, he said he likes deployment.

“I appreciated seeing the way another culture lives,” he said. “The food, the culture, it’s something you have to adapt to, get used to.”

“We see these events in person. It’s completely different to see them in a picture,” said Jackson. “It’s taught me that life is valuable, you can never get complacent. It’s always different, no mission was the same.”

### Sgt. Natasha MacKenzie

Sgt. Natasha MacKenzie, a COMCAM team leader, returned from Afghanistan the first week of October, 2011, after she received the Purple Heart.

During a foot patrol, a rocket propelled grenade hit near the top of the mountain-side trail she was on, and a rock blew loose. It hit her on the back of the head.

“This huge rock came flying at me. I didn’t even remember getting hit. I just woke up and I was on the ground,” she said. “There were all these people around me checking to see that I was OK, and the platoon leader was asking if I was OK. The next thing I knew they were carrying me out for MEDEVAC. They put a collar on my neck. I was flown out and they were giving me IVs,

““You are a soldier first no matter what your job; you can’t expect others to cover you. I’d like people to know that combat camera is everywhere, the images last with us forever, and that this job is not as easy as everyone thinks.””

Staff Sgt. Natasha MacKenzie  
55<sup>th</sup> Signal Company (Combat Camera)

doing all kinds of tests, and x-rays.”

There was no apparent damage to her neck and back, but she was stuttering and had never stuttered before. She was also experiencing memory loss, so she was sent to Germany for more tests to assess the TBI symptoms.

“I love my job,” she said. “I cried in Germany when they told me they weren’t sending me back to Afghanistan. It’s probably one of the hardest things to know that your friends are out there being shot at and you’re going home.”

“You are a Soldier first no matter what your job; you can’t expect others to cover you,” she said. “I’d like people to know that combat camera is everywhere, the images last with us forever and that this job is not as easy as everyone thinks.”



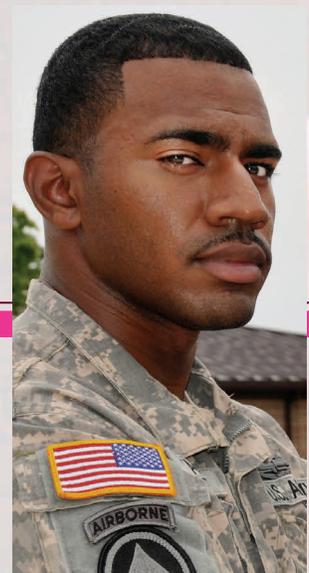
Sgt. First Class Jackson



Sgt. Percell



Sgt. MacKenzie



Spec. Yardan

Images from Afghanistan

# DOWNRANGE:

## 55<sup>th</sup> Signal Company Combat Camera

**A** pair of desert combat boots, empty of the Soldier's feet they carried through combat, accompany a rifle, adorned with a helmet. Six Soldiers stand near, saluting, paying solemn respect to their fallen battle buddy, now gone, a memory, a stark reminder of the cost of freedom.

For the past ten years, hundreds of thousands of Army Soldiers and Department of Defense Civilians have packed their bags, left their homes and their families, and served in places around the globe, many doing so three, four or five times in places such as Iraq and Afghanistan.

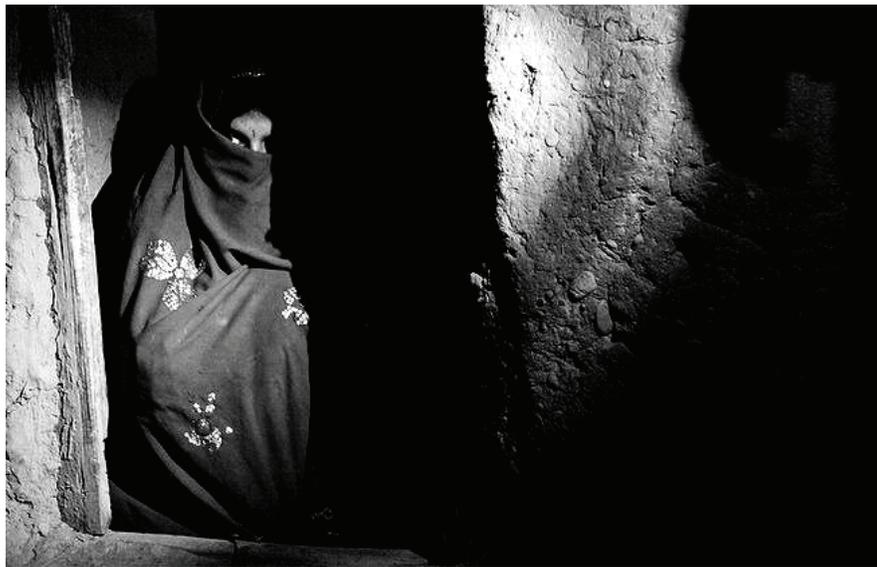
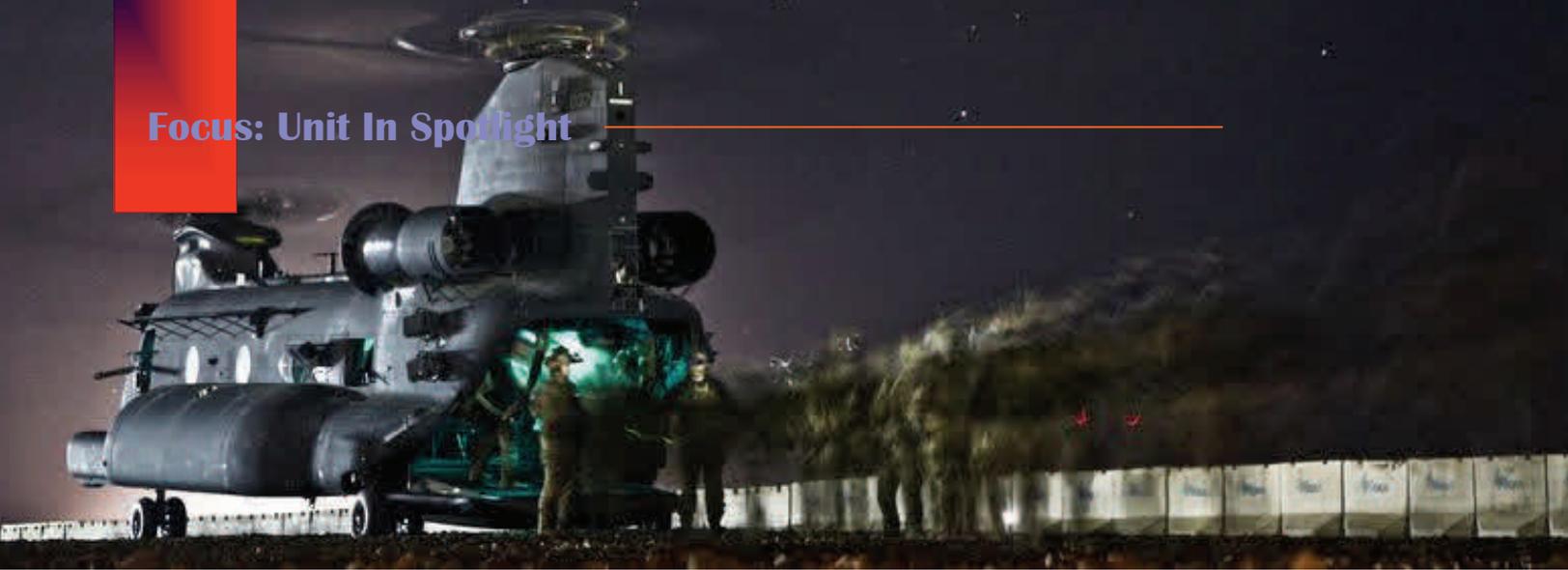
Approximately 4,200 Soldiers died in Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom from 2001 to 2012.

By Neil R. Guillebeau

Photos by  
Staff Sgt. Sean K. Harp



Focus: Unit In Spotlight





## Soldiers of the Year represent the 7th SC, Army team

By **Siobhan Carlile**  
7<sup>th</sup> Signal Command (T) Public Affairs

**T**wo 21<sup>st</sup> Signal Brigade Soldiers earned recognition for their selection as the 7<sup>th</sup> Signal Command (Theater) Non-Commissioned Officer and Soldier of the Year during a ceremony at Fort Gordon, Ga.

Eight Soldiers from 7<sup>th</sup> SC(T) units competed in a variety of events including the Army Physical Fitness Test, weapons qualification, day and night land navigation, confidence course, a written exam, a mystery event, and an interview board over the course of a week.

Sgt. Amber L. Martin, a combat production and documentation specialist from 55<sup>th</sup> Signal Company (Combat Camera), 114<sup>th</sup> Signal Battalion, Fort Meade, Md., earned the NCO of the Year selection.

Spec. Christopher A. Ludeking, a satellite communication systems operator/maintainer from the 327<sup>th</sup> Signal Company, 302<sup>nd</sup> Signal Battalion, also stationed at Fort Meade, earned the Soldier of the Year (SOY) selection.

**SOY** (continued next page)

Photos by  
Neil R. Guillebeau  
& Siobhan Carlile





**SOY** (continued from previous page)

"Each Soldier demonstrated superior knowledge, skills, dexterity, adaptability, and commitment to excellence during a wide variety of day and night-time Soldier tasks as they competed against each other and often the clock," said Brig. Gen. LaWarren V. Patterson, former commanding general, 7<sup>th</sup> SC(T).

Martin thanked her family.

“Our 7th Signal Command Soldier and Non-commissioned officer of the Year candidates displayed all that is great about those who serve our Army in uniform.”

Brig. Gen. LaWarren V. Patterson  
Former Commanding General  
7<sup>th</sup> SC(T)

"It meant a lot to me when Brig. Gen. Patterson called my father to tell him how well I was doing because my father is an amazing dad and I want to make him proud of the things I've accomplished and am working towards," she said. "I've met some of the best NCO's and Soldiers in the 7<sup>th</sup> Signal Command. I got to learn so much from the competition and other competitors that I can take back to my unit and give to my Soldiers."

Ludeking said he was grateful for the opportunity to compete at this level, and he considers high standards to be very important.

"You can't just excel at one skill to succeed in the Army, and you have to always do your best as an individual and as part of a team," he said. "I set high standards for myself coming into this competition, and I did the best I could the entire week, so it was nice to be noticed."

Martin and Ludeking received trophies and competed at the Network Enterprise and Computer Technology Command, Fort Huachuca, Ariz, level.

"I was extremely impressed with their team spirit, camaraderie and desire to also have fun during such a grueling competition; true pros, all of them," said Patterson.



**Best of the Best Prepare for the Firing Range** - Eight candidates from 7th SC(T) participated in a week of events. They are from left to right: Staff Sgt. Lawhettie N. Hunter, Spec. Cole J. Spoon, Spec. Justin O. Tyndall, Spec. Tammy L. Housie, Sgt. Esteban L. Fernandez, Spec. Christopher A. Ludeking, and Cpl. Tyler R. Dresslar. Not pictured: Sgt. Amber L. Martin.

### Command's SOY, NCO finalists

**Sgt. Esteban L. Fernandez**, 106<sup>th</sup> Signal Brigade, Fort Sam Houston, Tex., supply sergeant.

**Sgt. Lawhettie N. Hunter**, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 7<sup>th</sup> SC(T), Fort Gordon, Ga., command driver.

**Cpl. Tyler R. Dresslar**, 7<sup>th</sup> SC(T), Continental United States Theater Network Operations Security Center, Fort Huachuca, Ariz., battle captain.

**Spec. Tammy L. Housie**, HHC, 7<sup>th</sup> SC(T), Fort Gordon, Ga., human resource specialist.

**Spec. Cole J. Spoon**, CONUS TNOSC, Fort Huachuca, Ariz., battle captain.

**Spec. Justin O. Tyndall**, 7<sup>th</sup> SC(T), S-TNOSC, Fort Gordon, Ga., Action Request Center, watch officer, operations and mission command.

“ I got to learn so much from the competition and other competitors that I can take back to my unit and give to my Soldiers.”

Sgt. Amber L. Martin, NCO of the Year



**Sgt. Amber L. Martin**, NCO of the Year, adjusts her chemical mask.

# IN COMMAND: Col. Mark Baxter

Take care of people and families, they will take care of the mission

By Neil R. Guillebeau

7<sup>th</sup> Signal Command (T) Public Affairs

Colonel Mark Baxter leads a command that executes a variety of no fail communication and special missions for the Army and nation.

The 21<sup>st</sup> Signal Brigade provides support to the president, strategic partners, and Soldiers serving around the world. What the 21<sup>st</sup> team does must work 24/7, every day of the year. Mission success and lives depend upon what they do.

People are key, according to Baxter. He has faith in them and knows they will do the right thing if they are properly led. While admitting to being very demanding, he believes that if he asks the right people the right questions, and ensures they understand the mission is important, they will get the job done.

“Once you know that what you are doing is important and matters, and you’re the one responsible for it, the mission is going to happen,” said Baxter. “Brigade commanders, company commanders, command sergeant majors, first sergeants, our civilians, they aren’t going to fail when they know it’s important.”

To help ensure they know that what they do is important, he focuses on one of his main responsibilities, and one he demands of his entire leadership team, which is to ensure the well-being of the team.

“If you take care of the people and their families, the people will take care of the mission,” he said. “I inherently trust people and just expect them to do the right thing, and that attitude has really shaped my leadership style.”

Baxter knows all about family.

“I grew up in what I say was a generation behind my generation,” he said. “My mother had 15 children, nine are alive today, eight sisters and me.”

Baxter is the second youngest of the family. He grew up on a 360 acre farm in upstate New York, near the Canadian border, a mile from the nearest town of only 100 people.

The farm had cows and chickens, and the house had only had one bathroom for the entire family.

“We had a TV antenna on the roof, and we got three channels – NBC, ABC, and CBS,” said Baxter. “We had a party line telephone in the house until after I graduated college.”



Photo by Neil R. Guillebeau

Col. Mark Baxter and Command Sgt. Maj. Robert A. Daniel, Jr., 21<sup>st</sup> SB.

Growing up on the farm with a large family helped create who he is as a person, a family man, and a leader. Farm life exposed him to a lot of hard, deadline oriented work at an early age, and he believes that not only helped form his work ethic, it also showed him the importance of family and team work.

“I have a different perspective on life because of my large family,” he said. “It embedded into me a feeling that I always had a safety net with my sisters and my parents around; I never had a fear of falling or failing, and it helped me take a little more risk.”

Even after 25 years of service to the Army, and serving 14 of the last 18 years overseas, he clearly has plenty of energy and enthusiasm.

“I get it from dealing with people,” said Baxter. “The ability to help them absolutely drives my day, especially when I’ve made a difference and helped somebody positively.”

“People are not going to fail when they know the mission is important.”

Col. Mark Baxter  
Commander, 93<sup>rd</sup> Signal Brigade

# IN COMMAND: CSM Robert A. Daniel, Jr.

Soldiers need to see what right looks like; supervisors must mentor

By Neil R. Guillebeau

7<sup>th</sup> Signal Command (T) Public Affairs

Family, Christian beliefs – the bedrock of CSM Robert A. Daniel, Jr. As command sergeant major for the 21<sup>st</sup> Signal Brigade, he grew up a country boy, brought up in the church, in a small town, Concord, Va., a short distance from Lynchburg, Va.

Daniels played basketball on dirt courts in the county, where he and his friends and cousins would nail a backboard and goal to a tree. He was “big in sports” and played football and wrestled in high school.

He says it was a simple, but a good life.

“Who I am today is based on the way I was raised, based on my Christian beliefs,” said Daniel. “I didn’t have much in the way of possessions, but my life was all about family, so I really had all I needed – family picnics and lots of good times like going fishing with my grandfather.”

Daniel credits his grandfather as a huge influence on his life. He enjoyed fishing, hunting and gardening with his grandfather, and loved listening to him tell stories.

“My grandfather was in World War II, and when I was coming up as a kid he used to sit me on his knee and tell me about his experiences,” he said. “Those stories caught my interest, which made me want to be in the Army like him; I knew when I was about ten that I wanted to be a Soldier, so that’s what I stayed focused on.”

Two months after graduating high school, Daniel entered the Army, and trained to be a wire systems installer, better known as a cable dog, primarily responsible for installing, operating, and performing maintenance on cable and wire communication systems.

A veteran of Operation Desert Storm, two tours in Iraq, and a seasoned sergeant major, he now has experience of his own to pass down to youngsters in his family, as well as to share with people within his sphere of influence.

Daniel has 26 years in the Army, including tours of duty as a drill sergeant, recruiter, and instructor. He draws much of his leadership foundation from his upbringing.

“I draw my strength and motivation from my Christian background; that’s where I draw all of my principles,” he said. “When you are in a leadership position, it’s not about you, it’s about the Soldiers, civilians, and their families,” he said. “I am not here to be served; I am here to serve, and to do my best to set the right examples.”

He believes that Soldiers need to see what right looks like, and it’s up to supervisors to teach, coach, and mentor Sol-

“Soldiers need to see what right looks like, and it’s up to supervisors to teach, coach, and mentor Soldiers, and to prepare them for increasing responsibilities.”

CSM Robert A. Daniel, Jr.  
Command Sergeant Major  
21<sup>st</sup> Signal Brigade

diers, and to prepare them for increasing responsibilities.

“Mentoring our Soldiers so they will be qualified and motivated to take our jobs is crucial,” he said. “Every first sergeant, each sergeant major, any supervisor, must ensure that Soldiers understand it’s not about what one leader or one person wants, but that we all are working for what’s best for the team.”

Supervisors must take a daily and active role, by “checking the checker,” he said.

“That responsibility falls on the first line supervisor because Soldiers see that person every day,” said Daniel. “Each supervisor must empower each supervisor down the line, with each checking to ensure everyone is involved in ensuring Soldiers meet standards.”

As a command sergeant major, he believes a main part of his job is to connect with Soldiers and hold them to standards... not his standards, but the Army’s standards.

Leadership is all about relationships and knowing your Soldiers, and helping to create the best possible command climate so they can succeed, according to Daniels.

“It’s all about nurturing relationships and getting to know your Soldiers, and treating people like you want to be treated,” said Daniel. “If you do that, Soldiers will understand they are important and respected, and they will want to be part of the team; they will want to meet standards, and they will strive to succeed.”

Daniel sees the Army as a big family, and like any family, people have to take care of each other.

“The Army is the strength of our Nation,” he said. “My role in taking care of families is, number one, take care of Soldiers by getting them trained, paid, and promoted, and keep their families involved and informed.”

# IN COMMAND: Col. Maria Biank

My faith helps me stay in balance... it guides me as an Army officer

By Neil R. Guillebeau

7<sup>th</sup> Signal Command (T) Public Affairs

Colonel Maria Biank knows about the Army; it's in her family DNA. The daughter of a career Army officer, she had a vision about what she wanted to be at an early age, a Soldier. Now as a colonel, she commands the 93<sup>rd</sup> Signal Brigade.

Her father, retired Army colonel Samuel A. Biank, Jr., a field artillery officer, graduated from West Point in 1964, and there was no doubt in him that he would make the Army a career, according to Biank.

Growing up in an Army family, she knew early on in life that her calling would be the same.

"I had a vision when I was in eighth grade that I wanted to be an Army officer," she said. "My parents didn't try to push me towards a career in the military, but they were very supportive.

About the time she was formulating her desire to be a Soldier, her father was serving as a professor of military science at Canisius College in Buffalo, N.Y.

"When I was about 12 or 13 years old, I'd go on some of the cadet training stuff with him," she said. "We would do some of the neat training like the rappelling and land navigation."

The experiences helped close the deal on her desire to become an Army officer. And now, her home has - two colonels!

Biank's husband, Cameron, is also a colonel in the Army. He serves at the U. S. Army Training and Doctrine Command as director, Human Capital Enterprise and Strategic Plans and Initiatives. How does it work having two colonels at home?

"Great. He's the visionary," she said. "He is much more of a strategic thinker than I am."

She believes he not only helps her be a better person at home, but a better leader as well.

"We make a very good team," she said. "Family is definitely a pretty big deal. I'd be nowhere without the strong support of my husband and my entire family."

She believes that teamwork and the values that apply to making a strong family pertain to success on the job as well, especially when it comes to taking care of customers.

"Taking care of our network customers is a team sport," she said. "I expect everybody to be a team member with a focus on our customers."

That means accomplishing the mission with available resources, and not getting bogged down in what we don't have.

A key component of taking care of customers remains trust, according to Biank.

"We build trust through honesty, reliability, and competency," she said. "I believe we must nurture trust up and down



Photo by Neil R. Guillebeau

**Col. Cameron Leiker & Col. Maria Biank, commander, 93<sup>rd</sup> Signal Brigade, Fort Eustis, Va.**

the chain of command, and horizontally across our command."

Biank believes trust is a key building block of any relationship, and it is what helps people bond personally and professionally. She also believes people must be flexible, adaptable, and in balance, on and off the job. Balance means taking care of yourself physically, mentally, spiritually, and physically.

"If you are out of whack in one or two of these areas, you are not as likely to be healthy, and that can cause you to not be as effective as you could be on the job," she said.

Biank leads by example. She recharges with exercise and hobbies such as cooking, wine tastings, travel, gardening, and reading military history to help strike a healthy balance.

"I don't always succeed with making enough time during the week to relax. But on the weekend, I relax by putting on some music, cooking, or baking, either alone or with my husband."

In addition to her family, she believes faith plays a huge part in her success and achieving balance.

"My faith helps me to stay in balance, and it helps guide me as an Army officer," she said. "It helps keep my moral compass straight, and focused on what is right and wrong."

# IN COMMAND: CSM Ricky Wallace

*Flexibility, adaptability, trust keys to command's mission success*

By Neil R. Guillebeau

7<sup>th</sup> Signal Command (T) Public Affairs

Command Sergeant Major Ricky Wallace believes discipline is crucial in the most important of ways.

“One day it could save your life, or the life of your battle buddy,” he said.

Wallace, the 93<sup>rd</sup> Signal Brigade command sergeant major, also believes discipline is the foundation for success in all areas of Army service.

Wallace credits his 5<sup>th</sup> grade teacher with helping him understand discipline at an early age.

“Mr. Hawkins had us doing marching drills,” he said. “Everybody would come out just to see the students in the 5<sup>th</sup> grade march. He was a great role model.”

“When I was 15, I started working jobs to help my mom pay the bills or buy groceries,” he said. “I sent her money every paycheck until after I got married.”

Motivation for success can come in many ways according to Wallace, and he saw it on the streets near his home.

“I saw a lot of people standing on the corner. I saw friends from high school, and I asked, ‘What are you doing still standing on the corner?’ I wanted to be something way better than that.”

He knew he would have to leave his hometown of Albany, Ga., to find success. After a brief stint at college, he found the Army. Now at the top of his profession, he helps others succeed. He believes that a great sergeant major does what Mr. Hawkins did, serves as a mentor and a positive role model who helps instill discipline in Soldiers.

“Success in the Army is all about discipline,” he said.

“Good standards lead to good habits. Good habits lead to good discipline. If you have good discipline all things are possible. You take away discipline, you have chaos.”

When it comes to ensuring discipline, Wallace is serious. He knows where he needs to be when standards start to slip.

“I am one of those who will be in your face if it’s not right, he said.”

If that seems like an attitude out of the wild, wild west, you might be right. Wallace loves to watch Western movies, and he is not content to watch a movie only once.

“I’ll be watching a movie and my wife will tell me, ‘I bet you’ve watched that movie 50 times,’” said Wallace. “And I probably have.”

He likes classics – John Wayne, Glenn Ford, Audie Murphy, and Clint Eastwood just to name a few, and he’s especially hooked on the weekends.

“My mother-in-law will call my wife on Saturday morning and ask, ‘Where’s Rick?’” said Wallace. “You know where that joker is,” she’d reply. “On that couch, and he’s got the TV on the Western channel, and watching cowboy movies.”

The movies, running and weight lifting, and his family help him keep life in perspective.

“I’ve been away from my family a lot, and I’ve missed birthdays, anniversary, and lots of special times,” he said. “I love being around my family. Even if they are not in the same room, just close by in the house, it makes me feel good.”

On the job, he believes in your face is not the way to be unless it’s necessary, and that a great sergeant major spends a lot of time listening to Soldiers and civilians on the team. It’s necessary for building teamwork and developing trust at all levels.

“As our Army leadership says, trust is the bedrock of the Army,” he said. “We also have to have trust with the American people. If we don’t have trust, we don’t have anything.”



Photo by Neil R. Guillebeau

Command Sgt. Maj. Ricky Wallace

# IN COMMAND: Col. Jay Chapman

WWII veteran, Signaleer influence new leader's values, work ethic

By Siobhan Carlile

7<sup>th</sup> Signal Command (T) Public Affairs

Colonel Jay Chapman, commander of the 106<sup>th</sup> Signal Brigade, learned his work ethic and family values from a member of the greatest generation, a WWII veteran and a fellow Signaleer, his dad, Jack Chapman.

The youngest of five from a close knit family, Chapman and his family relocated several times, as his dad moved with General Electric, including to California, New Jersey and Connecticut.

"I used sports, especially soccer and tennis, to meet new friends," he said. He also studied piano, cello and trombone, but he understood his destiny at an early age.

"I always knew I wanted to join the Army, said Chapman."

He joined ROTC at the University of Richmond, and also enjoyed fraternity life there.

"Pi Kappa Alpha, forms the nucleus of my closest friends today," he said. "My Father never pushed me to join the military, but as I grew up telling him that was my calling, he supported me 100 percent."

His father, Jack Chapman, was drafted during WWII, serving as a corporal and switchboard operator in the 926<sup>th</sup> Signal Battalion stationed in Bad Kissingen, Germany during the occupation after the war.

Blessed with a close family, his parents gave their children every chance to be successful, and an understanding of right from wrong.

"From a young age my Dad would tell me, 'much has been given you, much is expected in return,'" he said.

His dad wrote it on a piece of paper and put it on his dresser so he would see it every day.

"A day didn't go by as a teenager that I



Photo by Siobhan Carlile

## Col. Jay Chapman (left) and Command Sgt. Maj. Kevin Schehl

didn't think of that when peer pressure could have led me to make some bad decisions," he said.

How does that influence for Chapman's command philosophy?

"We are a service provider," he said. "The 106<sup>th</sup> should provide user-friendly and cost-effective enterprise IT solutions that allow its customers to accomplish their mission.

"I respect others' opinions and feel that good ideas come from everywhere – the newest private or the most seasoned civilian – we all bring a unique perspective to any problem."

Taking care of each other is important.

"Creating an environment where each person understands their role as a part of a team and works hard to become a subject matter expert in their particular area is critical," he said.

His favorite Army story is about the main Soldier in his life, his wife.

"My wife and I were assigned to 4ID preparing for deployment," he said. "At the division ROC Drill, the G3 was briefing a panel including retired general officers. I was the 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade Combat Team Signal Officer; my wife, the aviation brigade signal officer."

Upon describing the initial division operations from Turkey south to Mosul it became very clear how closely their two brigades must work together.

"For such a complex operation, I sure hope the two S6s are in bed with each other," commented one of the generals.

Many in the audience began laughing. The G3 explained, "That won't be a problem, sir, they're married to one another."

# IN COMMAND: CSM Kevin Schehl

“Deserves got nothing to do with it” - it’s all about earn in the Army

By Siobhan Carlile

7<sup>th</sup> Signal Command (T) Public Affairs

Sgt. Maj. Kevin Schehl, the 106<sup>th</sup> Signal Brigade command sergeant major, sees the world through Soldier’s eyes; a Soldier who has vast tactical experience and a resilient nature.

“I may not be normal, but I make the best out of any situation I’m in. I have enjoyed my Army career; deployments, field exercises, combat operations, and the day to day Army living,” he said.

He believes it helps to have a positive attitude. A positive attitude is something a person must work on individually by intentionally looking for the good in a bad situation.

“Once you’ve perfected it, every situation will be manageable,” said Schehl.

He grew up in a neighborhood setting, the fourth of five brothers.

“We all had newspaper routes, played sports with the neighbors (football, basketball, softball) and rode our bikes everywhere,” he said.

His three older brothers joined the Navy, but he preferred keeping his feet on solid ground choosing the Army, he said. “The military seemed like a natural career choice.”

When he entered the Army the motto was, “Be All That You Can Be.”

“I still live by that philosophy. I am like many that came before me; an average Soldier who seeks challenges, works hard, tries to contribute in a positive way, seeks out the tough assignments and is always competing,” he said.

Schehl believes the Army is a marathon not a sprint, and even the average Soldier can reach incredible heights if they persevere.

“The Army is an amazing organization; no matter what your background, you can make it to the highest levels. It’s all about accepting challenges,” he said.

The second part of this philosophy he said is, “deserves got nothing to do with it,” a line from the 1992 movie *Unforgiven* starring Clint Eastwood.

“Everything in the Army is about earn, not deserve. promotions, leadership positions, time off, and awards all are earned... deserves got nothing to do with it,” he said.

A member of the 106<sup>th</sup> since June 2012, he said he has been completely impressed by the professionalism, dedication, the support to the War fighters, and the teamwork at the Brigade Headquarters and at all of the Network Enterprise Centers he has visited.

“I expect everyone in the 106<sup>th</sup> to be team players; understand their role in the organization and pull their share of the load,” he said. “Our organization is made up of Soldiers, DA Civilians, and contractors; each one a part of a unique system; however all are focused on the same mission; providing innovative, secure, reliable IT services to operating and generating forces.”

He said he hopes people see him as a dedicated noncommissioned officer that looks to improve things at every level of the Army that he can influence; an NCO who leads by example; a senior NCO that doesn’t let age or time in service limit basic Soldier skills such as physical fitness, rifle marksmanship, and drill and ceremony.

“It’s important to me to be able to shoot, move, and communicate at the highest level and challenge Soldiers of any age,” he said.

It’s an attitude that speaks to his values, “I remember back in the 90s standing in formation, the retention NCO came out and began handing out Army Value tags and cards. We were briefed that the Army was issuing us values and we had to have the Army Value tags with us everywhere,” he said. “This annoyed me; I

“The Army is an amazing organization; no matter what your background, you can make it to the highest levels. It’s all about accepting the challenges. Everything in the Army is about earn, not deserve.”

CSM Kevin Schuel  
Command Sergeant Major  
106<sup>th</sup> Signal Brigade

guess I’ve always been somewhat of a rebel...I did not take the items. No thank you, I came in the Army with values, I don’t need them issued to me.”

“In saying this, the Army values are in line with the values my parents instilled in me,” said Schehl. “The Seven Army Values: Loyalty, Duty, Respect, Selfless Service, Honor, Integrity, and Personal Courage are all inter-linked. Straying from any one of these values will tear at the fabric of a team, organization, and the Army. If you put others and the mission before yourself, all the values will

## Army Values

- Loyalty
- Duty
- Respect
- Selfless Service
- Honor
- Integrity
- Personal Courage

P  
E  
O  
P  
L  
E

# Recognition: Job Well Done!

## Achievements, Faces & Places

June through December 2012

### 21<sup>st</sup> Signal Brigade

#### Births

**First Sgt. Robin Livingston & Sgt. First Class Melanie Livingston** Headquarters and Headquarters Company, celebrate the birth of their son **Chance A. Livingston**

#### Promotions

**Master Sgt. Kenric T. Brooks Sr.**

#### Civilian Awards & Recognition

- |                              |  |
|------------------------------|--|
| <b>James P. Eury</b>         | 50 Year Career Service Award           |
| <b>Charles D. Woodard</b>    | 35 Year Career Service Award           |
| <b>Chris A. Potter</b>       | 30 Year Career Service Award           |
| <b>Tamra R. Schneider</b>    | 25 Year Career Service Award           |
| <b>Richard Barron</b>        | Commander's Award for Civilian Service |
| <b>Berta Davis</b>           | On-The-Spot Cash Award                 |
| <b>Kenneth J. Archer</b>     | On-The-Spot Cash Award                 |
| <b>Pamela J. Kelmer</b>      | On-The-Spot Cash Award                 |
| <b>Michael S. Procuk Jr.</b> | Civilian of the 3rd Quarter (Senior)   |
| <b>Dwanold D. Bryant Sr.</b> | Civilian of the 3rd Quarter (Junior)   |
| <b>Ronald G. Felton</b>      | Commander's Award for Civilian Service |



Photo by Neil R. Guillebeau

**Color Guard** - Left to right, Sgt. Rico Johnson, Sgt. Michael Heim and Spc. Christopher Wolfe, 114<sup>th</sup> Signal Battalion serve in the color guard at the 21<sup>st</sup> Signal Brigade Change of Command.

### 302<sup>nd</sup> Signal Battalion

#### Promotions

- Spc. Jonathan Griffith**, 514<sup>th</sup> Signal Company
- Spc. Adam Henley**, 514<sup>th</sup> Signal Company
- Sgt. Nedwards**, 298<sup>th</sup> Signal Company
- Pvt. 2 Kyle Giannon O'Murphy**, 514<sup>th</sup> Signal Company
- Pfc. Thaddeus Hunter**, 596<sup>th</sup> Signal Company
- Pfc. Christian West**, 596<sup>th</sup> Signal Company
- Pfc. Zackary Council**, 596<sup>th</sup> Signal Company
- Sgt. Julie Blankenship**, 596<sup>th</sup> Signal Company
- Pfc. Davis**, 298<sup>th</sup> Signal Company
- Spc. Calvin Harris**, 514<sup>th</sup> Signal Company
- Sgt. Christopher Money**, 514<sup>th</sup> Signal Company
- Sgt. Paula Shupert**, 514<sup>th</sup> Signal Company
- Sgt. Alan Clark**, 514<sup>th</sup> Signal Company
- Sgt. Hazard**, 298<sup>th</sup> Signal Company
- Master Sgt. Clifford Hall**, 596<sup>th</sup> Signal Company

**People First** (continued next page)



Photo by Neil R. Guillebeau

**You're Doing A Great Job** — Brig. Gen John Morrison, Jr. (left) talks with (left to right) Melanie Marois, Jean Melson, Kelly Young, Kelly Kraft, Beverly Reeves, Chandra Jones and Connie Hall during a visit to the 93<sup>rd</sup> Signal Brigade headquarters.

PEOPLE  
FIRST

## People First (continued from previous)

**Spc. Leroy Byrd**, 514<sup>th</sup> Signal Company  
**Sgt. Jacob Hammes**, 298<sup>th</sup> Signal Company  
**CPT Ryan Chanko**, 514<sup>th</sup> Signal Company  
**Spc. Christopher Barton**, 514<sup>th</sup> Signal Company  
**Spc. Steven Garcia**, 514<sup>th</sup> Signal Company  
**Spc. Adam Mathison**, 514<sup>th</sup> Signal Company  
**Sgt. Bradley Deines**, 514<sup>th</sup> Signal Company  
**Spc. Jonathan Morrison**, 596<sup>th</sup> Signal Company  
**Sgt. Kenneth Bass**, 514<sup>th</sup> Signal Company  
**Sgt. David Ellenberg**, 514<sup>th</sup> Signal Company  
**Sgt. Carlos Perez-Reyes**, 596<sup>th</sup> Signal Company  
**Sgt. Adedokun**, 298<sup>th</sup> Signal Company  
**Sgt. Danielle Hicks**, 298<sup>th</sup> Signal Company  
**Spc. David Shelton**, 514<sup>th</sup> Signal Company  
**Staff Sgt. Ian Robinson**, HHD  
**Pfc. James Young III**, 514<sup>th</sup> Signal Company  
**Spc. Alexander Dickinson**, 596<sup>th</sup> Signal Company  
**Spc. Corey Thompson**, 514<sup>th</sup> Signal Company  
**Spc. Shawn Wolff**, 596<sup>th</sup> Signal Company  
**Sgt. Kiel Wirth**, 298<sup>th</sup> Signal Company

### Military Awards

**Sgt. Travis Erwin**, 96<sup>th</sup> Signal Company, ARCOM  
**Spc. Daniel Rodriguez**, 596<sup>th</sup> Signal Company, ARCOM  
**CW2 August Savel**, 596<sup>th</sup> Signal Company, MSM  
**1st Sgt. Joseph Taylor**, 596<sup>th</sup> Signal Company, MSM  
**Sgt. 1st Class Jerry Sowers**, 596<sup>th</sup> Signal Company, MSM  
**Sgt. 1st Class Joseph Weeks**, 596<sup>th</sup> Signal Company, MSM

### Births

**Spc. Sekela Rodriguez**, 596<sup>th</sup> Signal Company  
**Staff Sgt. Vertulia Pinckney**, HHD  
**Sgt. Christopher Thompson**, 596<sup>th</sup> Signal Company  
**Sgt. 1st Class Justin Hanley**, 596<sup>th</sup> Signal Company  
**Spc. Thomas LaBone**, 596<sup>th</sup> Signal Company  
**Spc. Justin Pletcher**, 596<sup>th</sup> Signal Company  
**Staff Sgt. Brew and Spc. Brew**, 298<sup>th</sup> Signal Company  
**Sgt. Joshua Evans**, 298<sup>th</sup> Signal Company



Photo by Neil R. Guillebeau

All Smiles at the 93<sup>rd</sup> - Sgt. Timothy M. Golling, Jr.

**Sgt. Kiel Wirth**, 298<sup>th</sup> Signal Company  
**Spc. Michael Olsen**, 298<sup>th</sup> Signal Company  
**Sgt. Joshua Mendez**, 298<sup>th</sup> Signal Company  
**Spc. Romaine Scott**, 327<sup>th</sup> Signal Company  
**Pfc. Cody Casey**, 514<sup>th</sup> Signal Company

### Civilian Recognition

**Dwanold Bryant**, HHD 21<sup>st</sup> SB DAC of the Quarter  
**Michael Procuik**, HHD 21<sup>st</sup> SB DAC of the Quarter  
**Sharon Jaques**, HHD 35 years of Federal Service

### Soldiers Recognition

**Sgt. Mendez**, 298<sup>th</sup> Signal Company BDE NCO of Quarter  
**Sgt. Justin Nedwards**, 298<sup>th</sup> Signal Company; 300 on APFT  
**1st Sgt. Glenn Turk**, 298<sup>th</sup> SIG OC; 300 on APFT  
**Sgt. Kedrick Nelson**, 298<sup>th</sup> Signal Company; ALC Distinguished Honor Graduate  
**Spc. Joshua Curry**, 298<sup>th</sup> Signal Company; WLC Commandant's List  
**CW2 Michael Brondsema**, 298<sup>th</sup> Signal Company; 7<sup>th</sup> SC(T) General Douglas McArthur Leadership Award recipient  
**Sgt. Brittany Briem**, 298<sup>th</sup> Signal Company; 21<sup>st</sup> SB NCO of the Quarter; 300 on APFT and Fort Detrick USAG NCO of the Year Runner-Up  
**Staff Sgt. Puneet Narula**, 514<sup>th</sup> Signal Company; 300 on APFT  
**Sgt. Daniel Diaz**, 514<sup>th</sup> Signal Company; 300 on APFT  
**Sgt. Brendan Spillane**, 514<sup>th</sup> Signal Company; 300 on APFT  
**Spc. Maxim Toll**, 514<sup>th</sup> Signal Company; 300 on APFT

### Marriages

**Sgt. Robert Ruiz**, 298<sup>th</sup> Signal Company  
**Spc. Travis Neer**, 298<sup>th</sup> Signal Company  
**Spc. Joshua Curry**, 298<sup>th</sup> Signal Company  
**Spc. Sajethro Siilata**, 298<sup>th</sup> Signal Company  
**Spc. Celesta Stump**, 298<sup>th</sup> Signal Company  
**Staff Sgt. Thomas Miller**, 298<sup>th</sup> Signal Company

## 106<sup>th</sup> Signal Brigade

### Graduations

**Staff Sgt. Esteban Fernandez** Airborne School

### Promotions

**Staff Sgt. Esteban Fernandez**  
**CW3 Tahjar Roamartinez**  
**Lt. Col. Tonya Collins**

### Promotions

**Evelyn Clark** GS-13  
**Mckenzie Bobby** GS-13  
**Keanna Jaquae Oliver** GS-09  
**Kelvin Phillips** S-09  
**Craig Slocum** S-13  
**Joseph Vaughan** S-13

**People First** (continued next page)

# Saluting the Team

**P**  
**E**  
**O**  
**B**  
**A**  
**E**  
**F**  
**I**  
**R**  
**S**  
**T**

## People First (continued from previous page)

### Awards

<b>Lt. Col. Kevin Gale</b>	Legion of Merit for 32 Years of Service (Retired)
<b>Sgt. First Class William Jackson</b>	Meritorious Service Medal for 23 Years of Service (Retired)
<b>Jose Santiago</b>	Commander's Award for Civilian Service
<b>Joseph Vaughan</b>	Commander's Award for Civilian Service
<b>Christian Charris</b>	Achievement Medal for Civilian Service

### Civilian Awards and Recognition

<b>Gary Matsumura</b>	Achievement Medal for Civilian Service
<b>Sylvia Montemayor</b>	Achievement Medal for Civilian Service
<b>Tim Abel</b>	Commander's Award for Civilian Service
<b>Karen Mitchell</b>	Commander's Award for Civilian Service
<b>Melvin Mason</b>	Achievement Medal for Civilian Service
<b>Donald Kumpost</b>	Achievement Medal for Civilian Service
<b>Gary Matsumura</b>	Achievement Medal for Civilian Service
<b>Shanera Smith</b>	Length of Service-15 Yrs
<b>Greg Brierly</b>	Time Off Award
<b>Dean Lehne</b>	Performance Award
<b>Larry Phillips</b>	Performance Award
<b>Virginia Mannai</b>	Special Recognition
<b>Patel Bankim</b>	Performance Award
<b>Ronaldo Flores</b>	Performance Award
<b>Noel Perez</b>	Performance Award
<b>Robert Scholle</b>	Time Off Award
<b>Eric Franks</b>	Performance Award
<b>Elizabeth Floyd</b>	Performance Award
<b>Erwin Kaplan</b>	Performance Award
<b>Vickie Rose</b>	Time Off Award
<b>Sean Rogers</b>	Performance Award
<b>Patrick Cook</b>	Time Off Award
<b>Brett Gilmore</b>	Time Off Award
<b>Leonard Mick</b>	Performance Award
<b>Omar Rivera</b>	Performance Award
<b>Baudelio Martinez</b>	Special Recognition
<b>Anthony Sorgi</b>	Time Off Award
<b>Patricia Cantu</b>	Special Recognition
<b>Rosemarie Metts</b>	Time Off Award
<b>Emma Mendoza</b>	Time Off Award
<b>David Pacheco</b>	Time Off Award
<b>Charles Dye</b>	Special Recognition
<b>Robbie Schoon</b>	Time Off Award
<b>James Casper</b>	Time Off Award
<b>John Varner</b>	Performance Award
<b>Thomas Gossert</b>	Performance Award
<b>James Hawker</b>	Performance Award
<b>Steven Leshar</b>	Performance Award
<b>Jose Santiago</b>	Performance Award
<b>Kim Bowie</b>	Performance Award
<b>Carrie Hill</b>	Performance Award
<b>Linda Howell</b>	Performance Award
<b>Diana Noark</b>	Performance Award
<b>Robert Randall</b>	Performance Award
<b>Stephen Shirely</b>	Performance Award



Photo by Neil R. Guillebeau

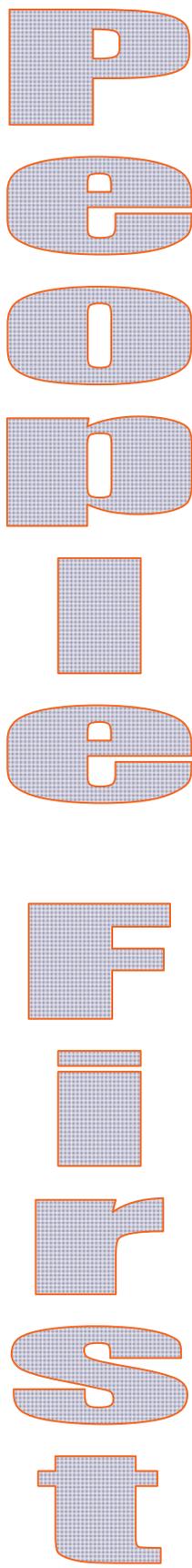
**Fort Jackson NEC** — Donniestrise Ketchens enjoys her work at the NEC.

<b>Linda Tompkins</b>	Performance Award
<b>Thomas Cain</b>	Performance Award
<b>Anthony Swanson</b>	Achievement Medal for Civilian Service, Ach., Fort Hood
<b>Humphries Jeffery</b>	Achievement Medal for Civilian Service, Ach, Fort Sill
<b>Daniel Mcneil</b>	Commander's Award for Civilian Service, Joint Base Lewis-McChord
<b>Ian Benoit</b>	Commander's Award for Civilian Service, Fort Irwin
<b>Gregorio Rimando</b>	Commander's Award for Civilian Service Ret Presidio of Monterey
<b>Ellen Nash</b>	Length of Service-30, Presidio of Monterey
<b>Suzan Vallejo</b>	Length of Service-30, Fort Huachuca
<b>Kenneth Soedt</b>	Length of Service-35, Rock Island Arsenal
<b>Robert Windham</b>	Commander's Award for Civilian Service, Fort Riley
<b>Joseph Ward</b>	Commander's Award for Civilian Service, Fort Bliss
<b>Marie Lannan</b>	Length of Service-30, Rock Island Arsenal,
<b>Dorothy Mill</b>	Length of Service-30, Fort Hood

### Promotions

<b>Donald Williams</b>	GS-11, Fort Campbell
<b>John Willis</b>	GS-11, Fort Campbell
<b>Sandra Johnson</b>	GS-05, Fort Hood
<b>Mario Lamaestra Jr.</b>	GS-14, Fort Hood
<b>Juan Vega</b>	GS-11, Fort Hood
<b>Daniel Lewis</b>	GS-13, Fort Polk

**People First** (continued next page)



## People First (continued from previous page)

**Randy Stephens** GS-11, Fort Polk  
**Levy Allen** GS-11, Fort Riley  
**Ray Chase** GS-09, Fort Riley  
**Luis Felix** GS-09, Fort Riley  
**Lance French** GS-09, Fort Riley  
**James Canaveral** GS-14, Fort Riley  
**Michael Mccorkle** GS-11, Fort Riley  
**Marie Diane Moral** GS-11, Fort Riley  
**Kenneth Patterson** GS-09, Fort Riley  
**Adam Pawlosky** GS-12, Fort Riley  
**Ely Peck** GS-09, Fort Riley  
**Robert Rossiter** GS-11, Fort Riley  
**Benjamin Banks** GS-13, Fort Carson  
**Nishant Patel** GS-12, Fort Carson  
**Kristy Schleiker** GS-12, Fort Carson  
**Rebecca Thompson-Schmidt** GS-12, Fort Carson  
**Karen Hoffman** GS-12, Fort Mccoey  
**Eloy Ochoa** GS-13, Fort Mccoey  
**Nancy Tralmer** GS-11, Fort Mccoey  
**Thomas Boren** GS-11, Joint Base Lewis-McChord  
**Rodney Dansereau** GS-11, Joint Base Lewis-McChord  
**Curtis Haynes** GS-12, Joint Base Lewis-McChord  
**Jason Knuth** GS-12, Joint Base Lewis-McChord  
**Christian Randall** GS-12, Joint Base Lewis-McChord  
**James Shadle** GS-13, Joint Base Lewis-McChord  
**William Shook** GS-12, Joint Base Lewis-McChord  
**Michael Smith** GS-11, Joint Base Lewis-McChord  
**Michael Teel** GS-12, Yakima  
**Sonia Cordova** GS-12, Fort Buchanan  
**Edwin Elias** GS-12, Fort Buchanan  
**Arnaldo Espada-Martinez** GS-11, Fort Buchanan  
**Yamir Garcia** GS-11, Fort Buchanan  
**Gilberto Sierra** GS-12, Fort Buchanan  
**Angelo Velez** GS-12, Fort Buchanan  
**Leslie Rios** GS-07, Warren  
**Joseph Lowe** GS-11, Fort Irwin  
**David Roberts** GS-12, Fort Irwin  
**Ryan Eilerts** GS-12, Dugway  
**Teresa Hill** GS-09, Fort Leavenworth  
**Michael Lastrapes** GS-05, Fort Leavenworth  
**John Owens** GS-12, Fort Leavenworth  
**Eric Dyl** GS-07, Fort Leonard Wood  
**Joseph Lauben** GS-12, Fort Leonard Wood  
**Bryan Peterson** GS-11, Fort Leonard Wood  
**Sheri Bolte** GS-09, Rock Island  
**Stephen Reilly** GS-11, Rock Island  
**Lorrie Smith** GS-13, Fort Knox  
**Maya Carter-Nick** GS-13, Fort Huachuca  
**Jeremy Dugger** GS-12, Fort Huachuca  
**Jesus Rosavelez** GS-15, Fort Sam Houston  
**Jumere Sattar** GS-09, Fort Sam Houston  
**Allen Coleman** GS-11, Fort Bliss  
**Keith Conrad** GS-11, Fort Bliss  
**Leroy Anderson** GS-09, Fort Sill  
**Gregory Jefferson** GS-11, Fort Sill  
**Okwudiri Nnaji** GS-12, Fort Sill  
**Elizabeth Stengle** GS-11, Fort Sill

## 7<sup>th</sup> Signal Command (T)

### Promotions

**Sgt. Justin R. Merrill**  
**Staff Sgt. Christopher S. Smith**  
**Sgt. 1st Class Larry J. Williams**  
**Sgt. 1st Class Brad W. Allison**  
**Spc. Andey Ansley**  
**Staff Sgt. Christopher Kehres**  
**Master Sgt. Monica L. Jordan**  
**Staff Sgt. Lawhettie N. Hunter**  
**Master Sgt. Travis Taylor**

### Military Awards

**Master Sgt. John Artez**, Meritorious Service Medal  
**Maj. Cason S. Green**, Army Achievement Medal  
**Capt. Victor M. Collier**, AAM,  
**Spc. Jeannine K. Harrison**, AAM  
**Maj. Anthony G. Glaude**, MSM  
**Staff Sgt. Derek T. Faison**, MSM  
**Maj. Robert C. Seal**, MSM  
**Staff Sgt. Dean A. Deschenes**, Army Commendation Medal  
**Staff Sgt. Thayer R. Williams**, ACM  
**Lt. Col. Gerardo Hernandez-Pabon**, ACM  
**Staff Sgt. Michel W. Smith**, AAM

### Civilian Awards and Recognition

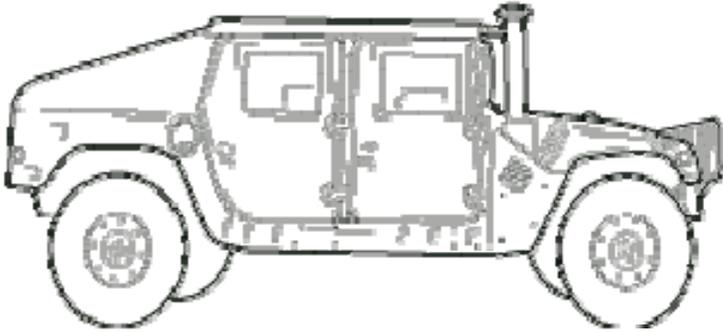
**Joshua Kluthe**, Achievement Medal for Civilian Service  
**Jeff Glasper**, AMCS  
**Darrol Decker**, Commander's Award for Civilian Service  
**Steve Simpkins**, Senior Civilian of the Quarter Winner, 1st Qtr  
**Donna Lee**, Junior Civilian of the Quarter Winner, 1st Qtr  
**Roberto Matos**, Senior Civilian of the Quarter Winner, 2nd Qtr  
**Angela Jacobs**, Junior Civilian of the Quarter Winner, 2nd Qtr  
**Fredrealea Fuller**, Senior Civilian of the Quarter Winner, 3rd Qtr  
**Brian Owen**, Junior Civilian of the Quarter Winner, 3rd Qtr  
**Bryant Mack**, Senior Civilian of the Quarter Winner, 4th Qtr  
**Robert Rotger**, Junior Civilian of the Quarter Winner, 4th Qtr

“Everyday people who work for 7<sup>th</sup> SC(T) show up on the job and face enormous challenges in a fiscally restrained environment. Individually and as a team, you always seem to turn these challenges into opportunities, and it is clear that you are always focused on providing better services and support to our customers. For all you do every day—thank you!”

Brig. Gen. John B. Morrison, Jr.  
 Commanding General  
 7<sup>th</sup> SC(T)

## Weapon Systems

### HMMWV – High-Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicle



#### Mission

**Provide a common light tactical vehicle capability.**

Replaced the quarter-ton jeep, M718A1 ambulance, half-ton Mule, 1.25-ton Gamma Goat, and M792 ambulance.

#### Description and Specifications

The HMMWV (High-Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicle) is a light, highly mobile, diesel-powered, four-wheel-drive vehicle equipped with an automatic transmission. Based on the M998 chassis, using common components and kits, the HMMWV can be configured to become a troop carrier, ar-

mament carrier, S250 shelter carrier, ambulance, TOW missile carrier, and a Scout vehicle.

The M998 is the baseline vehicle for the M998 series of 1 1/4-ton trucks, which are known as the HMMWV vehicles. The HMMWV vehicles include 11 variants. They are:

M998 Cargo/Troop Carrier; M1038 Cargo/Troop Carrier; M1043 Armament Carrier; M1044 Armament Carrier, with winch; M1045 TOW Carrier, M1046 TOW Carrier, with winch; M997 Ambulance, basic armor 4-Litter; M1035 Ambulance, 2-Litter; M1037 Shelter Carrier; M1042 Shelter Carrier, with winch; M1097 Heavy HMMWV (payload of 4,400 pounds).

All HMMWVs are designed for use over all types of roads, in all weather conditions and are extremely effective in the most difficult terrain. The HMMWV's high power-to-weight ratio, four-wheel drive and high ground clearance combine to give it outstanding cross-country mobility.



**High Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicle**

#### Specifications

- Length: 15 ft.
- Width: 7.08 ft.
- Height: 6.00 feet reducible to 4.5 ft.
- Weight: 5,200 lbs
- Engine: V8, 6.2 litre displacement, fuel injected diesel, liquid cooled, compression ignition
- Horsepower: 150 at 3,600 RPM
- Transmission: 3 speed, automatic
- Transfer Case: 2 speed, locking, chain driven
- Electrical System: 24 volt, negative ground, 60 amps
- Brakes: Hydraulic, 4-wheeled disc
- Fording Depth: without preparation: 2.5 ft (76.2 cm); with deep water fording kit : 5 ft (1.5 m)
- Fuel Type: Diesel
- Fuel Capacity: 25 gallons
- Range: 350 mile highway

# The Busy Sweepstakes

“For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven....”

Ecclesiastes 3:1

By Chaplain (Col.) Matt Woodberry  
7<sup>th</sup> Signal Command (T) Chaplain

I was standing around a bunch of chaplains one day when someone asked another fellow “how’s it going?” to which he replied, “I’m busier than a one-armed paper hanger.”

Later I heard that chaplain ask a similar question to another chaplain who replied, “so busy I meet myself coming.”

Still another one had no old trite declaration of business to share, but instead began going down her list of just how and what kept her so busy! She was clearly the winner of the “who is busiest award.”

Not that anyone was really consciously trying to out-do one another, but it seems that often that is exactly what our words and actions reflect: our (American) generation places great value on being busy.

We believe that it is better to be busy; to multi-task to the point of exhaustion. We celebrate those who have the ability to accomplish many tasks, large and small, all at once, while proclaiming how important it is to have “balance” in our lives or how “family comes first.”

Of course the value of busyness is surpassed only by our love of complaining. We’ll rush to be champions of the busyness sweepstakes and complain about it all the way.

Even that becomes a badge of honor, too. I was reflecting on a book I read the other day with a friend when he said “that sounds good, but I’m too tired to read much more than my email at the end of the day.”

Make no mistake: our Nation is at war and the missions our command has the privilege to be responsible for have direct and positive influence on the suc-

cess of our Nation and Army.

Many of us have little latitude in picking and choosing what is the most important priority. Add to that a resource constrained environment, and you have a recipe for hyper-busy with no end in sight.

A tiring picture to behold, indeed.

But what about the busy-ness that we absent-mindedly add to our lives because we are conditioned to be busy?

The author of the Bible’s Ecclesiastes begins the book with a bleak and some may say depressing view of life.

It would not be far from true to summarize this way: “life is hard and then you die.” Not the uplifting words you often expect from the Bible or chaplain.

But when you read the third chapter (made famous in the 1960s by the rock group “The Byrds” in their song “Turn, Turn, Turn”), you see another realistic and wise bit of advice: see life as happening in seasons.

In other words, don’t get stuck in the negative seasons of life, but instead realize that life comes with the accompanying positive seasons, too, and be prepared to enjoy those times when they happen.

The season may be brief—like summer in Alaska or winter in Georgia. Or it may be long - like winter in Alaska and summer in Georgia! But when the season changes, even briefly, be present in that moment.

This is how we live life to the fullest. For instance, take your personal leave. The government affords Soldiers and Department of the Army Civilians leave, but often, we will justify not taking advantage of that with our busyness.

But if we are truly committed to living in the season, then we would do well to hear the author of Ecclesiastes 3:1-13

when he says, “for everything, there is a season.” In that way, we may excuse ourselves from the Busy Sweepstakes and enjoy life as we should - in the season.

## Seasons

“For everything, there is a season... a time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted; a time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up; a time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance; a time to throw away stones, and a time to gather stones together; a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing; a time to seek, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to throw away; a time to tear, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence, and a time to speak; a time to love, and a time to hate; a time for war, and a time for peace.”



# OFF THE BEATEN PATH

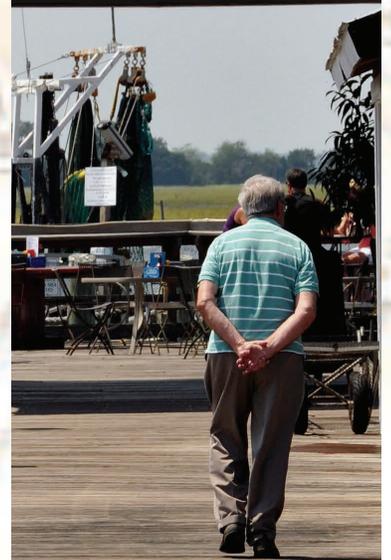
## Jekyll Island, Georgia

**A** short drive away from the gates of every camp, post or station, a day trip of 90 miles or less, special places for fun, action or serenity await to help you keep the balance of life. Let's hit the road from Fort Stewart, Ga., for the gem of Georgia's Golden Coast – Jekyll Island.

Jekyll offers a trove of activities, dining, and lodging: 63 holes of golf; miniature golf; miles of sandy beach; fishing; water park (summer only); parks for children, picnicking, or barbequing; bicycle rentals; tennis; and, nature trails. Need more? How about more pursuits such as kayaking, bird watching, nature and eco-tours, soccer Georgia Sea Turtle Center, a museum, and special events and attractions all year. **(Continued next page)**



By Neil R. Guillebeau & Siobhan Carlike





## Off the Beaten Path! (Continued from previous page)

Visitors can also enjoy the Jekyll Island Club Historic District that features historic Jekyll Island Club Hotel. Nearby, mansion-sized cottages once used by 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century America's elites - the Rockefeller, Vanderbilt, and Pulitzer families – are open for tours.

A variety of lodging, dining, and shopping add to the options for a day trip or longer to Jekyll.

Located less than 90 minutes from Hinesville, and roughly 20 miles southeast of Brunswick, Ga., Jekyll Island is an easy shot southbound on I-95 from Fort Stewart.

Make a plan to make a break from the work routine at Fort Stewart and head to Jekyll Island when you have time to hit the road and get **Off the Beaten Path!**

