



31st ADA

31st ADA BRIGADE VIGILANT TIMES

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SPRING 2013



Commander and CSM's Corner

To the Soldiers, Families, and civilians of the 31st Air Defense Artillery Brigade, we would like to extend our appreciation for your continued and dedicated service. We would also like to take this opportunity to welcome all the new Soldiers and their family members to the brigade team. Across the Brigade, our team continues to get after it! Kuwait, Turkey, Fort Lewis, and Fort Sill, we have professionals committed to excellence. Regardless of your position or location, you are a valued member of the team. CSM and I ask that you continue your disciplined focus on mission and Soldier care. We are also fortunate to have dedicated volunteers that serve our Soldiers, Families, and local communities. Special shout out to our Family Readiness Group volunteers that serve selflessly to care for our Families. For the next quarter, we will continue our support to our two deployed battalions, 3-2 and 4-3, set conditions for 5-5's transformation to the Army's first Integrated Fires Protection Capability (IFPC) (formerly known as C-RAM), and prepare the Brigade headquarters for its deployment to Qatar in September. We've also picked up responsibility for the training and readiness of our fellow brigade (69th) units located at Fort Hood since the BDE HQs is deployed.

Our Brigade team will continue to be: 1) disciplined, ready to deploy and provide Air and Missile Defense in a complex and joint environment; 2) built on trust, resilient Families, and pride in our historic lineage; 3) a team Soldiers, civilians, and Families want to stay in, contributing to our community; 4) committed to a profession of serving something greater than ourselves. We are incredibly humbled to serve with you!

Ready and Vigilant!

GERARDO DOMINGUEZ

CSM, USA

Command Sergeant Major

MICHAEL T. MORRISSEY

COL, AD

Commanding



4-3 ADA
"I Strike"



3-2 ADA
"Lethal Strike"



5-5 ADA
"Strike First"



HHB 31st

"Titans Lead
the Way"

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This Family Readiness Group Command Information Letter is provided to all spouses of Soldiers within 31st ADA BDE, with the sole purpose of providing for the well being of Family members of 31st ADA BDE, as authorized and verified by my signature.

Michael T. Morrissey, 31st Air Defense Artillery Brigade, Commanding



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4-3 ADA Conducts Remote Launch Fire Exercise

By Captain Michael Savageau

CAMP ARIFJAN, Kuwait- Soldiers of the 4th Battalion 3rd Air Defense Artillery Regiment the “I Strike” battalion conducted a remote live fire exercise this month with their Kuwaiti host nation partners.

When the Kuwaiti Military conducts a live fire exercise they have the option to request U.S. support. This was a unique opportunity for the “I Strike” Soldiers to interact with their Kuwaiti counterparts and continue to develop and foster an enduring partnership.

Theater security cooperation has been a very high priority for the “I Strike” battalion, while they conduct their Air and Missile Defense mission within the U.S. Army Central Command area of responsibility.

This mission allowed the battalion to perform a remote launch live fire exercise, which resulted in 100 percent coverage success with great communication and effective theater security cooperation.

"This is the first time a remote launch phase 3 or RL3 has been conducted with our host nation partners. It's a great step forward in demonstrating our commitment to build partner nation capacity, allowing them to test their systems while entrusting us to protect their assets," said Maj. Daniel Swanson, the 4-3 battalion operations officer.

“I Strike” Soldiers were enthusiastic about the mission and the responsibility entrusted to them.

“I’ve worked very closely with the weapon system for several years now, but this was the first time I was able to see our main weapon system engage,” said 1st Lt. Cody Biggs.

This live fire exercise was the first opportunity for many soldiers to see their main weapon system effectively engage and destroy an enemy threat.

"The live fire exercise demonstrates the physical capabilities of our system. We often train in simulation, but demonstrating the intent of the weapon system plays an important role in deterrence and showcasing our Soldiers' skills," said Maj. Shannon Aseron, 4-3 ADA battalion executive officer.

The “I Strike” battalion looks forward to future exercises and opportunities to further enhance relations within Kuwait and demonstrate commitment to build host nation capacity and promote regional stability.



Host Nation fires during their Live Fire Exercise (LFX) in which the “I Strike” BN provided AMD coverage of HN Assets.



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Bravo Battery "I Strikes" Down AMDEX



By 1st Lt. John Moriarity

The Bravo Battery "Bandits", 4th Battalion 3rd Air Defense Artillery, participated in the 11th Air Defense Artillery Brigade's Air and Missile Defense Exercise, or AMDEX, in December of 2012.

B Battery is currently deployed to the U.S. Central Command area of responsibility and is postured to protect defended assets against air and missile threats. This recent exercise helped build and strengthen U.S. Army relationships with the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) Forces and greatly promoted regional stability. The main objective of the exercise was to develop and exercise coalition tactics, techniques, and procedures for defense against air and missile threats.

GCC Air Defense Force Soldiers traveled to B Battery's Headquarters to train and fight alongside U.S. Soldiers. The exercise was conducted throughout the U.S. Central Command airspace and resulted in 100% successful engagements of all tactical ballistic missiles threatening defended assets. This exercise helped to solidify the ability for regional defense forces to transition from shaping operations to active defense of the region.

Capt. William D. Burch and 1st Sgt. Carl A. Paddie, B Battery's Command Team, lead the charge in building relations between their unit and the local GCC Air Defense Force commanded by Captain Yasir.

"Training alongside CPT Yasir's Soldiers has broadened our tactical knowledge and assisted in our overall knowledge of the defense of this host nation," said Capt Burch.

B Battery Soldiers have previously visited host nation fire units but this was the first time air defense Soldiers from the GCC visited B Battery.

"The Soldiers learn from each other's strengths and weaknesses to help build stronger bonds as well as tear down those barriers of communication that may exist" stated B Battery Executive Officer, 1st Lt. Julian Rodriguez.

The AMDEX concluded early December and encompassed over one thousand U.S. personnel and numerous Soldiers from the GCC Nations. AMDEXs are regularly scheduled training events focused on synchronizing and exercising AMD efforts and capabilities and remain a critical training opportunity for the Air Defense community.

"It's not every day that we are called upon to perform our trade-craft with our Allies. This was an event that I will long remember throughout my career," said 1st Lt. Steven Jaskowiak, B Battery Tactical Control Officer.

Every member of the Bandit Battery played a crucial role in this exercise. From the Battery Commander on down, all Soldiers reacted to 'mission injects' that tested the Bandit's war-fighting ability.

"This was the first of many tests that Bravo Battery will face throughout the deployment. The challenge is to stay fit and ready," said B Battery 1st Sgt. Carl A. Paddie.



Bravo Battery, 4-3 ADA Commander, CPT William Burch (Second from left) and Alpha Battery, 4-3 ADA Commander CPT Don Palermo, (Far right) discuss Air and Missile Defense Operations with GCC Tactical Control Officers, 1LT Hamad (Far left) and 1LT Saad (Second from right).



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3-2 ADA Deploys to Turkey

By Staff Sgt. Nathan Akridge

With past and current events around the world, many units have had to answer the nation's call to defend our country. In early January 2013, Soldiers from the 3rd Battalion, 2nd Air Defense Artillery Regiment "Lethal Strike" deployed to Turkey to defend one of our NATO allies from possible air and missile threats as a result of the ongoing civil war in Syria. Lethal Strike Soldiers had very little time to react to the deployment order, because the unit received notification approximately two weeks before they had to deploy.

"This deployment is definitely different than my last one," said Sgt. Leonardo Nino, a soldier in Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 3-2 ADA. "This time, we deployed in a lot less time than we're used to, so it was a little more hectic. We did a pretty good job despite the time crunch."

Although deploying in a short time presented its own set of challenges, the Soldiers overcame that obstacle, said Nino.

When asked about the deployment Pfc. Peter Ferrer, a Soldier in Bravo Battery, 3-2 ADA, said despite this being his first deployment, he feels confident about his mission.

"I feel great. I know I'll be away from my family, but I feel proud that I have a chance to defend my nation. This is a new experience for me and it gives me a chance to serve my country," said Ferrer.

Ferrer added that his chain of command was instrumental in preparing him for his deployment.

"They did everything they could for me. They gave me time to prepare my family, they helped me with all the issues that I had, and they gave me support."

When asked about the mission, Capt. Russell Newman, 3-2 HHB said "Hopefully nobody notices anything different going on, and this is just a normal routine mission, and all the threats out there will be handled before they become an issue."

Newman was excited about the unknowns and very enthusiastic about deploying with his battalion and their capabilities.

"They're rock steady. They're fully prepared to do their job. I'd go with them anywhere."





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Carter Visits Turkish Defense Leaders, U.S. Patriot Battery Troops

By Cheryl Pellerin
American Forces Press Service

ANKARA, Turkey – On his first official visit to this prosperous capital as deputy defense secretary, Ashton B. Carter spent the day with Turkish defense leaders, then traveled southeast to Gaziantep near the Syrian border to examine the first of two U.S. Patriot missile batteries to be located there.

But Carter's first stop was the U.S. Embassy here on Atatürk Boulevard, where on Friday a suicide bomber attacked a checkpoint on the embassy's perimeter, killing Mustafa Akarsu, a guard in his forties and the father of two teenagers.

At the embassy today, Ambassador Frank Ricciardone ordered the American flag flown at half-staff until sunset on Wednesday, and the embassy operated on a reduced-manning schedule.

Those who did come to work to support the deputy secretary's planned visit observed a moment of silence at 1:13 p.m., exactly 72 hours after the bomb went off. The explosion blew out checkpoint windows, creating scattered debris, wounding several people and ending Akarsu's own life as he attempted to save the lives of his colleagues and friends.

Carter met with the ambassador this morning and walked the blast site. He then met with Akarsu's co-workers in the local guard force and with the embassy's seven Marine Corps guards. He also met -- in person and by telephone and digital video conference -- with about 45 embassy staff members from Ankara, Istanbul and the consulate in Adana, as well as with U.S. staff members from Turkey's Incirlik Air Base.

After the bombing, Carter told the embassy staff, "the ambassador called me and said, 'Do you still want to come?' And I said, 'One blankety-blank isn't going to stop us.'"

Carter said that later in the day he would visit the 80 or so Army troops manning and supporting the NATO-led U.S. deployment of two Patriot missile batteries at Gaziantep "because that ... stands for the strength of our alliance and the willingness of America to stand with Turkey at this moment of danger, when so many unsettled things are happening in Syria [that] pose a threat to the people of Turkey." The deputy secretary added, "We stand with the people and the government of Turkey, and missile defense is just one way we are doing that."

This afternoon Carter began meeting with Turkish defense leaders.

At the Ministry of National Defense, he and Undersecretary of Defense for Industries Murad Bayar met and discussed three major U.S.-Turkey defense acquisition efforts.

Later, at the Ministry of National Defense, Carter met with Defense Minister Ismet Yilmaz, and both made statements ahead of their discussion.

Continued on the next page.





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Continued

"This unfortunate incident [involving the death of Mustafa Akarsu] has again shown us that the new [era] is one in which cooperation between countries has become more important than ever," Yilmaz said, adding, "The fight against terrorism has great importance and calls for sustained cooperation." In his remarks, Carter said he planned his trip to Turkey to discuss with Yilmaz and other leaders the military-to-military cooperation long shared by the United States and Turkey in ... counterterrorism, missile defense and every other area of cooperation."

For decades, he added, the United States "has been pleased and honored to be your partners ... [and] we thank the government of Turkey for everything it does to combat terrorism with us."

Later in the day, Carter traveled to a military facility in Gaziantep, just over 60 miles from Aleppo, Syria, where one U.S. Patriot battery is operational and another will be moved from nearby Incirlik as soon as the grounds at the base are prepared for its massive components and the troops required to operate the systems.

The Patriot missile system uses ground-based radar to find, identify and track incoming missile targets. The system can lock onto an incoming missile that's up to 50 miles away. The system can even be made to operate automatically.

Patriot missiles, each weighing nearly a ton, launch from ground-based batteries. A battery is made up of MIM-104 surface-to-air missiles; a launcher that holds, transports, aims and launches the missiles; an MPQ-53 or MPQ-65 radar antenna for detecting incoming missiles; an equipment van called an engagement control station that holds computers and consoles to control the battery; and a power-plant truck with two 150-kilowatt generators that power the radar antenna and van. Each Patriot missile battery can have up to 16 launchers.

At the missile launch site, Carter spoke with about 18 soldiers -- men and women -- who operate the site, and then spoke with 80 more in a small theater near the battery site. They're assigned to the 3rd Battalion, 2nd Air Defense Artillery Regiment, based on Fort Sill, Okla.

"I'm so pleased that two days ago you rolled all the way in from Incirlik with all this fantastic equipment," Carter told the troops.

"Your country is watching and the world is watching and what they see is this magnificent performance," he added. "The good people of Gaziantep see it and the good people of Turkey see it and the good people of the Middle East see it and your country sees it. And you know what? The bad guys see it too."

Carter told the young men and women that they're doing a significant thing.

"When you place your next call," the deputy secretary said, "whether it's to a spouse or your mom and dad, kids, if you have them, or good friends ... tell them that you were thanked today by the leadership of your department, the leadership of your country, for what you're doing here."

Tonight, after leaving Turkey, Carter will travel to Amman, Jordan, to meet on Tuesday with U.S. Embassy personnel and government and defense leaders. He'll also have lunch with troops to thank them for their service to the nation.



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Alpha Battery 5-5 ADA National Training Center Rotation

By: 1st Lt. Donald Anneser

JOINT BASE LEWIS McCHORD, Wash. – The Soldiers of A Battery, “The Assassins”, 5-5 Air Defense Artillery Regiment, 31st Air Defense Artillery Brigade, deployed to the National Training Center at Fort Irwin, CA in support of 3rd Heavy Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division, stationed at Fort Hood.

A Battery Soldiers were responsible for performing maintenance checks on their Avenger weapons systems, packing all equipment needed for the deployment, and coordinated logistical support for the NTC rotation.

During the rotation, the Assassins were quickly able to adapt to the standard operating procedures of 3-1 Cavalry and develop an understanding of how cavalry units operate and function. The Platoon Leaders were responsible for briefing the 3-1 Cavalry battalion commanders on the Air and Missile Defense capabilities that the Assassins and their Avenger Weapons Systems could provide to the Brigade Combat Team.

Sgt. First Class Robert King, A Battery 1st Sgt. stated, “NTC was a phenomenal opportunity for A Battery to train with our Avengers and learn how to integrate them with higher echelons.” The environment also produced challenges for Alpha Battery because the conditions are significantly different than Joint Base Lewis McChord. The Avenger crew teams slept in their vehicles during the rotation, even through the cold winter nights.

The Assassins were constantly on the move, changing locations, and conducting emplacement operations in order to meet the demands of the mission. 5-5 ADA’s Observer Controller/Trainers (OC/Ts) were able to provide constructive feedback on how their Avenger teams were functioning. Staff Sgt. Leander Yazzie, an OC/T said, “NTC provided excellent day and night navigation opportunities. Our crews had to navigate through the night without any light. The crews changed locations at all hours of the day; it was not a 9 to 5 work schedule.”

1st Lt. David Degenhardt, A Battery executive officer stated that, “NTC was a real opportunity for our Soldiers to put their training to the test by working in an austere environment, and provided a great chance to work with other branches in the Army and see how they do business.”



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31st ADA Spouse Tour

By Capt. Corey Robertson

Whether you are a first time mover or a seasoned military family, moving to a military post can be very disorienting and frustrating. Often times a building number is all you have as a guide to your on-post destination.

31st Air Defense Artillery Brigade launched their pilot “Newcomers Spouse Tour” last week. The tour is part of the BDE’s Sponsorship and Integration Program, and was suggested by Brigade Family Readiness Support Advisors and spouses as a way to welcome new spouses into the community and allow them a chance to tour the Brigade and the Fort Sill installation.

“We came up with this idea to make people feel more comfortable,” said Cindy Morrissey, spouse of the 31st ADA commander. “We wanted to let them know all of the things that are available to them, because we truly believe that if you take care of your mind, your body, and your spirit, that those deployments and everything that families face are easier.”

The tour started at the 31st ADA Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, where spouses toured the buildings and spoke with the Brigade Chaplain, Military Family Life Counselor, and the Brigade Family Readiness Advisor.

The spouses then began their guided tour of Fort Sill, stopping and touring multiple agencies that can assist with military family readiness.

“I like the Soldier’s Closet; that was really nice,” said Lupe Paulson. “I’m going to tell my husband about it so he can tell his Soldiers, and I’m going to donate a lot of stuff too.”



The tour ended with a stop at Garcia Dining Facility where the spouses were afforded the opportunity to dine in the DFAC.

Mrs. Morrissey added that she hopes the tour will help get Soldiers and their families more involved with the unit and the Lawton/Fort Sill community.

The next tour will be April 26th at 9:00 a.m. please contact your Battalion or Brigade FRSA for more details.



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AROUND THE BRIGADE





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CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

WRESTLE WITH GOD

We wrestle with many things in this life. We wrestle with people. We wrestle with finances. We wrestle with good and we wrestle with bad. We wrestle with these things because the intent is to obtain something from them that we do not presently have. I ask the question, since we wrestle with pretty much everything conceivable to the human mind, why is it that we are so reluctant to initiate a **Wrestle with God?** Do we believe that God has nothing for us that we need? Do we simply believe that we are self-sufficient without any need for God?

Or have you ever found yourself in the wee hours of the night wrestling with God? Have you ever noticed that it tends to be in our darkest hour when we begin to strive with the God for a blessing of which we know we are not deserving? And when we wrestle with God, is it not a way of exacting vindication for ourselves through the exorcism of our own demons within? A wrestle with God is not for the faint of heart. It requires faith, humility, perseverance and endurance. It requires a boldness and fervor knowing where you stand in God.

But let's be honest, it's too difficult to wrestle with God. It's much easier to wrestle with other people in order to obtain what we want whether it is *money, clothes, shelter, food, education, promotions, productive and healthy children, etc.* Many folks look to the government, organizations, activists, etc. Many look to psychologists & self-help gurus for peace of mind. When these don't work, many folks will wrestle with drugs & alcohol to drown their sorrows. We wrestle with finances, with spouses, with siblings, co-workers and friends. We wrestle with these people or these things with the sole intent of obtaining something from them that we do not presently have. We think that in wrestling with them we'll obtain what we need the easy way and so we consequently factor God completely out of the equation. This we do, not realizing the consequences.

In the Bible, Jacob's name was changed from Jacob to Israel. Israel means literally "to wrestle with God." Jacob simply wrestled with God for a blessing. I pray for us to wrestle with God for the many blessings that He has for us such as strength to endure the separation from our loved ones, wrestle with Him for character, integrity and the ability to show compassion, mercy and forgiveness towards all those with whom we come in contact.

Amazingly enough, God in His infinite and redeeming love and grace continues pleading with us to forsake the exclusion of Him and embrace Him as the permanent substitution for receiving all the blessings He has for us. And when this plea is presented to us, if we accept, we are plunged into the ultimate wrestling match of our lives – a wrestle with God. - **By Chaplain R. Randal Thomas**

Family Readiness Support Assistants

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The 31st Air Defense Artillery Brigade Family readiness Support Assistant is ready and available to support all family members of the brigade. We can assist in ensuring awareness of established community resources to Soldiers and their family members, assisting the commanders and Family Readiness Group leadership in accomplishing the units family readiness mission and provide mutual support and communication between family members and the chain of command. We can assist in coordinating FRG meeting times, location for meetings and scheduling childcare if needed. We can coordinate training for FRG volunteers and disseminate installation and community information to unit FRG's. We manage volunteer applications and certify volunteer hours in the Volunteer management Information System. If you need any assistance on the installation or around the community please don't hesitate to contact any one of the brigade FRSA's.

-31st ADA Brigade FRSA Bonnie Jones.

Check us out on Facebook for upcoming events and activities.



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SAFETY

Be Storm Savvy

We live in Tornado Alley, and Oklahoma is vulnerable to a variety of severe weather hazards including severe heat, thunderstorms, flash floods, tornadoes and snowstorms. Because of this, it is important to understand the difference between a watch and a warning for severe weather.

- A severe weather or tornado watch means that severe weather or tornados may develop.
- A severe weather or tornado warning means a storm has developed and is on its way — take cover immediately! The safest place to ride out any storm when you don't have access to a Safe Room is inside a secure building or a well built home.

If you live in a sturdy house or apartment building:

- Listen to weather updates and stay informed.
- Keep on the lowest level of the building, away from windows and doors.
- Have your disaster supply kit handy.
- Be ready to evacuate if it becomes necessary.

Tornadoes and High Wind

Tornadoes are dangerous because of their high winds and ability to lift and move heavy objects. If a tornado warning is activated in your area, seek shelter immediately. Go to your safest available place.

In your car:

- Stop! Get out and get into a secure building or lie flat, face down in a low area such as a ditch.
- Cover your head and wait for the tornado to pass.
- Avoid underpasses because they can become dangerous wind tunnels.

In a public building:

- Move to an interior space on the lowest floor, preferably a stairwell or hallway.
- Look for a shelter with as many secure walls as possible between you and the outside. Avoid windows.

At home:

- Go to the basement, storm shelter or windowless room near the center of the house.

In a mobile home:

- Leave and go to the nearest secure building. Move to the center of the lowest floor and avoid windows.

Fort Sill Tornado shelter information:

- Troop Billeting – use basement located in the building, an interior room on the lowest floor, or the nearest public shelter
- Family Housing – use own basement, nearest house with a basement or safe room or the nearest public shelter. Coordinate with neighbors to determine the closest access
- Units, Agencies, and Tenants – use basement in the building, an interior room on the lowest floor or the nearest public shelter
- Public Shelters are available when a tornado warning has been issued.

Fort Sill Public Shelter Locations:

- Snow Hall, Building 730, Schimmelpfennig Road. This building will be open for either a tornado watch or warning and is the recommended central shelter for Geronimo Acres families. After duty hours use the east entrance.
- Reynolds Army Community Hospital, Building 4301, north of Mow-Way Road. This building will be open for tornado warnings only and is the recommended central shelter for West Side Artillery Village families. After duty hours use the south entrance.
- Building 1653, Randolph Road. This building will be open for a tornado warning only. Entry is through West and south basement doors. It is the recommended shelter for AAFES patrons, Medicine Bluff, White Wolf Manor and Lawson Road Housing families.
- Building 912, Randolph Road. This building will be open for a tornado warning only. Use the Randolph Road B wing entrance to gain access to the basement.
- Housing: nearest home with basement or safe room or nearest public shelter.



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Re-Enlistment “A Family Tradition”

Taking the Oath of Enlistment is a proud and memorable moment in life for any Soldier. It is an experience to be shared with fellow Soldiers, NCOs and of course family.

The husband and wife team of the McWilliams's both in HHB 31st ADA shared this experience last month. The couple raised their right hands and repeated the Oath



of Enlistment as their fellow Soldier and chain of command looked on. Reenlisting a husband and wife simultaneously was a first for the brigade. Sgt Michael McWilliams said “This was an excellent opportunity to see different sides of the Army and keep our family together.” The re-enlistment was one of many unique events for Master Sgt. Wannemacher the brigade senior career counselor. He has re-enlisted twin brothers as well as husbands and wives.



Turkey



Joint Base Lewis-McChord



Kuwait



31st ADA BRIGADE VIGILANT TIMES



Births/Graduates



3-2 ADA "Lethal Strike" Additions

Pvt. Hooper welcomed a baby boy, Parker Alexander, 7lbs, 5oz, on Dec. 19th

Spc. Lefeavers welcomed a baby boy, Jordyn Matthew, 7lbs, 9oz, on Dec. 5th

Sgt. And Spc. Reinart welcomed a baby boy, Jordan, 9lbs, 5oz on Jan. 7th

Staff Sgt Enyeart and his wife Chelsea welcomed a baby boy Gunner Ray, 8lbs, 7oz on Feb. 7th

Spc. Sanders welcomed a baby boy Malchai Lamar, 8lbs on Dec. 21st

Spc. Homsher and his wife Karen welcomed a baby girl Kayla Rose, 7lbs, 10oz, on Jan. 24th

Sgt. Marvin and his wife welcomed a baby girl Aleia Lexus. 5lbs, 12oz on Feb. 3rd

Spc. Ellis welcomed a baby boy Joshua Lee, 9lbs, 7oz on Dec. 18th



5-5 ADA "Strike First" Additions

Spc. Stall and his wife Rachel welcomed a baby boy Riley Wade, 8lbs, 10oz, on Jan. 26th

Maj, Hazard and his wife Kathryn welcomed a baby girl Charlotte Rose , 6lbs, 11oz, on Dec. 14th



HHB "Titans" Additions

Spc. Dummer and his wife welcomed a baby boy Louis Luis, 8lbs, 1oz, on Jan. 10th

Cpl. Simmons welcomed a baby girl Jacqueline Stephanie, 8lbs, 1oz on Feb. 7th



Warrior Leaders Course Graduates

HHB

Spc. Kohlerman—Leadership Award

Spc. Yaple—Distinguished Honor Graduate

Spc. Clark— Distinguished Honor Graduate

3-2 ADA

Spc. Belanger

Spc. Jones



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Promotions

4-3 ADA

To Specialist:

Russel Carpenter
Andrew Cartwright
Darril Niedermeyer
Kavon Lee
Odin Lugo
Charles Rose
Andrew Mackenzie
Gracelyn Mackenzie
Myesha Williamson
Erick Roed

To Sergeant:

Dalton Bentley
Michael Olsen
Kevin Reed
Thomas Harper
Daniel White
Pamela Wisniski
Enock Placide

3-2 ADA

To PV2:

Ryan Higdon

To Specialist:

Vicky Qiu
Michael Mann
Jerrin Lackey
Marcus Beebee
Jordan Mason
Lindsey Newarski
Jose Prince
Jermaine Johnson
Joseph Pitre
David Moto

To Private First Class:

Marquis Romero
Jonathan Nunan
Shaylynn Sandoval
Justin Spaulding
Jarvis James

To Sergeant:

Edward Davis
Mamadou Diallo
Ryan Fuss
Andres Sierra

To Command Sgt. Maj.

Kevin Enoch

5-5 ADA

To Sergeant:

Devin Hunter
Saulo Ibarra
Jaimese Lewis
Michelle Longoria
William O'Kelly
Andrew Pudlo
Maurice Wilson
Michael Miller
Jesse Campbell
Arianna Cook
Alaina Sanitate

To Staff Sergeant:

Kimberly Currenton

HHB

To Specialist:

Robert Fox
Jon Harrelson
Sonya Stygar

To Sergeant:

Duane Rice

To Sgt. 1st Class

Patricia Henry

Staff Duty Numbers

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580-558-8922

3-2 ADA BN SD:
580-442-1545

4-3 ADA BN SD:
580-558-0557

5-5 ADA BN SD:
253-967-5267





31st ADA BRIGADE VIGILANT TIMES



Brigade RSO & I



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, 31ST AIR DEFENSE ARTILLERY BRIGADE
3905 MOW-WAY ROAD
FORT SILL, OK 73503

AFVL-RBC

01 August 2012

MEMORANDUM FOR ALL PERSONNEL

SUBJECT: Policy Letter #10: 31ST ADA BDE Reception Staging Onward Movement & Integration (RSO&I) Program

1. PURPOSE: Ensure each inbound and newly arrived Soldier assigned to the 31ST ADA BDE is quickly and efficiently sponsored and integrated into their unit in order to increase unit's combat power.
2. Each newly assigned Soldier to the Brigade is entitled to proper sponsorship and be rapidly received and integrated into their respective BN/BTRY, thus ensuring an overall understanding of all policies and procedures currently in effect within our formations. Proper reception and integration will greatly enhance the readiness of each Soldier and will serve as a tool that all Commanders and First Sergeants can use to evaluate the overall combat readiness of their units. This will be accomplished in two phases.
 - a. Phase I: Will commence upon Soldiers added to the Brigade gains roster and initial reception of the Soldier from the Welcome Center. The First Sergeant will assign a Sponsor and Leader/Mentor for each Soldier to ensure initial integration occurs. At the end of day seven, the Soldier, along with their assigned sponsor/leader/mentor will back brief the unit First Sergeant or Commander to ensure that all initial reception tasks were accomplished.
 - b. Phase II: Integration will commence upon the conclusion of phase I and will continue through 45 days (+/- 15 days). This phase will be tracked at the platoon level and will be back briefed to the Battery Commander/First Sergeant by the Platoon Leader/Platoon Sergeant upon completion.
3. Completed Reception & Integration checklists will be maintained at the Battery in the Soldiers' individual training records and a copy will be retained by the First Line Leader in their Leader Book (See enclosure 1 for 31ST ADA BDE RSO&I checklist).
4. This will be permanently posted on bulletin boards.
5. "READY AND VIGILANT!"

GERARDO DOMINGUEZ
CSM, USA
Command Sergeant Major

MICHAEL T. MORRISSEY
COL, AD
Commanding



31st ADA BRIGADE VIGILANT TIMES



Fort Sill and Joint Base Lewis-McCord

Upcoming Events



Fort Sill : 580-442-4916

JBLM: 253-966-8433



Fort Sill: 580-442-3001

JBLM: 253-967-1110

3-6 ADA MARCH MAYHEM Power Lifting Competition March 16, 2013 Competition starts at 8:00 am

Open to Active Duty, Family Members, Retirees, DoD and Lawton Community

SELECTION SUNDAY
March 17
1 p.m.
18 & older

WARRIOR ZONE
Bldg. 11592, 17th & D St.
JBLM Lewis North

YOUR TOURNAMENT HEADQUARTERS
Enjoy a Rubeen sandwich and cold green beer!

For more info call 253-477-5756
JBLMmwr.com

NCAA TOURNNEY DATES

1st Round	March 19-20
2nd Round	March 21-24
3rd Round	March 28-31
Final Four	April 6
Championship	April 8

USAAA omni "We Love To Say Yes!"

STORYTIME

@ Nye Library
Every Wed and Thursday
(except in June and July)
11:00a.m.-12:00p.m. on Wed. and 2:00-3:00p.m. on Thurs.

Fun and education opportunity for preschool age children to develop the habit of visiting the Library and encouraging literacy at a young age.

Free and open to the military community. For more information call 442-2048

Get the best deal on your next vacation!

WEDNESDAY MARCH 6
10AM-2PM
AFC Arena

Talk to vacation experts in person • Exclusive military discounts • Vendors feature films, resorts, hotels, theme parks, cruise lines, tourism & visitor info, travel bureaus, vacation destinations & more! Call 253-967-3085 for details.

USA TRIDENT UNIVERSITY GREAT ESCAPE AMERICA'S CAR MUSEUM

Want to Keep your Kids Active this Summer?

come to the free
YOUTH SUMMERTIME ACTIVITIES and JOB EXPO

MARCH 2
1-4 p.m.
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
Rinehart Fitness Center

Kids of all ages can explore fun and productive options offered this summer. There will be tons of information on education programs, sports camps, job opportunities, college help and more for toddlers, teens and in-betweens!

For more information, call Leslie Watts at (580) 442-3779.

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Resiliency Training Campus
FT SILL, OKLAHOMA
18 MARCH 1900HR S
RSVP to CHP McGruder at 580-917-8313

Staff Duty Numbers

- 31st ADA BDE SD:**
580-558-8922
- 3-2 ADA BN SD:**
580-442-1545
- 4-3 ADA BN SD:**
580-558-0557
- 5-5 ADA BN SD:**
253-967-5267

