



A Co Assassins

312th Military Intelligence Battalion

October 10, 2004



Commander's Note

With a over a full month of Command under my belt, I can confidently say that Alpha Company is the single most proficient Direct Support Military Intelligence Company in the U.S. Army, bar none. Every one of our Soldiers is making a valuable contribution to the fight here in Baghdad. As the days continue to roll by, conditions here on Camp IRONHORSE continue to improve. More importantly, every day that we spend here brings us one day closer to returning home.

In the last month the 1st Brigade has been in constant contact with the enemy. A/312th has been an integral part of that fight. Intelligence gathered by Assassin Soldiers has resulted in the detention of numerous members of the Mahdi Militia, including one target on the Brigades top five list. Our Signal Soldiers have done a great job collecting information on the views expressed by the local population of Baghdad, commonly known as Atmospherics. C/TUAV, currently attached in Direct Support of the 1st Brigade has had some significant successes against mortar and rocket teams, resulting in the destruction of several enemy teams as they attempted to fire on U.S. Forces. The companies GSR Platoon, which is providing security to our elements as they move around the area of operations played critical role establishing a forward detainee transfer point, during a major offensive operation a couple weeks ago. Without exception, every Soldier in the unit is doing their part to ensure the success of our operations. As a whole the company continues to distinguish itself by setting standards far in excess of any other unit in the Division.

As our team continues to face the day to day challenges of being deployed in Baghdad Iraq, I'm happy to say that conditions here on Camp Iron Horse

continue to improve daily. In addition to having the best gym in Baghdad on Camp IRONHORSE, KBR has recently reopened the indoor swimming pool on the FOB. The Company has also received 6 add-on-armor (AOA) HMMWV's to conduct operations in. The 3 HMMWV's that get used the most even have Air Conditioners to keep their crews cool. Above everything else though, we're looking forward to the weather improving as we begin October. It won't be long before we start pulling out our snivel gear to keep warm.

The Company is doing great. Morale is good, and our Soldiers are really making a difference here in Baghdad. The work they're doing here is vital to the security of our country. Now that we're over the hump, everyone is looking forward to heading home, but we've still got some tough months ahead of us. You should all know that you are the prayers of our Soldiers, as I hope that we're in yours.

CPT Jerry Diamond

Victoria's Corner

As we come into October I am working hard to get all the holiday boxes out to the soldiers. Each soldier will get a bag with goodies and a card for Thanksgiving and another one for Christmas. The mailing date for packages to arrive by Christmas is November 1. There will be a big influx of package so everything will take a little longer. Some useful information to know is that Hickory Farms is offering free shipping to all APO's. They also have coupons on their website.

www.hickoryfarms.com

I would like to welcome the newest trooper to the company. Lincoln Albert Matilla born to the very proud parents of SPC and Mrs. Matilla.

There is a flyer about the t-shirt attached to the newsletter. If you are interest I

would ask that you contact me no later than November 1 to place an order. If orders are placed by then, they will be done the end of November to pick up. I would ask that if you are not local, you would include a little extra for shipping.

Federal Elections

Registration period has passed. If you are registered please exercise your right to vote.

Robertson Blood Center

The Yellow Ribbon blood drive was a great success due to all the support of ICAV's Eng. Bde. FRG. The blood drive brought in 57 units of blood! Very successful!

On 16 Oct. there will be an off-post blood drive at the Killeen Mall. Please contact Perry Jefferies at Robertson Blood Center, 287-5938 for more information.

On 23 Oct Robertson Blood Center will be open. Perry Jefferies mentioned that we could ask our Rear Det. to ask anew soldiers arriving to the unit to donate blood before they deploy.

Our battalion Make a Difference project is Oct 28 Blood Drive. Robertson Blood Center 9:00 to 5:00. Free childcare. Please donate.

SANTA'S WORKSHOP

With our Christmas in July fundraiser behind us we are now actively selling our Santa Bucks. These bright green "bucks" are only \$1 and the Santa Bucks adorn your unit "tree" in the Santa's Workshop foyer. We are busy buying toys and receiving donations and it looks like this year will be a good one for those who need it. Applications are filled out by the Command Financial Specialist in each unit and are due to Santa's Workshop by November 3rd and 4th. If you know of a family that may need some help this Christmas please contact the Command Financial Specialist in your unit. We are also giving everyone an opportunity to

participate in our "Adopt A Child" program. We have estimated the cost of helping one child have a better Christmas to be about \$25. Your donation of that amount will buy them toys, books, videos and a family game. Contact your unit FRG leader for more details or call 287-TOYS.

Viva Les Arts

If you haven't already joined us at Vive Les Arts for one of our invited dress rehearsal evenings, please mark your calendars for November 4, 2004, and come enjoy SHADOWLANDS, a drama by William Nicholson. C. S. Lewis, the author of the Narnia books, was a man well placed, sure in his life. Along came a brash, unpredictable American poet named Joy Gresham to thoroughly muddle his well-ordered life. What resulted was a love affair that lasted longer than a lifetime.

The chartered bus leaves the Fort Hood O'Club parking lot at 6:45P.M. Perhaps you would prefer to join us on your own at the Theatre at 7:30 P.M. Once there, you'll be greeted by a wine and cheese reception and welcomed by the Theatre's director before the show begins. Coffee and desserts follow during intermission and the evening ends with a chance to greet the actors. Bus service is available to return patrons to the FHOC parking lot. If you're joining us there, VLA is located at 3401 W.S. Young Drive in Killeen behind the Lowe's Plaza and just adjacent to the Killeen Civic and Conference Center (KCCC). Please RSVP to Ann Morrison only at 698-8674 or by email at jmorrison@hot.rr.com so we can plan bus and reception accommodations for the evening. This is a FREE theatre event, open to **spouses** of deployed service members and a wonderful opportunity to sample the talents of some of the dedicated actors in our local area!

Keep these dates in mind for upcoming VLA Spouse Appreciation nights:
The Best Christmas Pageant Ever
December 9, 2004
To Kill A Mockingbird
February 3, 2004

Perfect Wedding
April 7, 2005

The Children's Theatre is currently releasing scripts for the children's production THE BEST CHRISTMAS PAGEANT EVER. Auditions are in late October. Call VLA for more information: 526-9090.

A few regional theatre links:
Vive Les Arts: vlatheatre.com
Temple Civic Theater: artstemple.com
Dallas Theater Center:
dallastheatercenter.org
The Zach Scott Center: zachscott.com
Austin Area theaters: austintheatre.org
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Austin Area theaters: austintheatre.org

EXTRA INFORMATION

Army One Source (AOC) is a 24-hour, seven days a week toll-free information and referral telephone line and internet/Web based service available to active, mobilized reserves, deployed civilians and their families worldwide. AOS provides information ranging from every day concerns to deployments and reintegration issues. Additionally, if there is a need for face-to-face counseling, AOS will provide referrals to professional civilian counselors for assistance. Confidentiality is assured. No Tri-Care referral needed. To access the Army One Source website, go to www.armyonesource.com. At the user ID, type in **Army**; enter **Onesource** as the password, and proceed to the next page.

Free child care available to troops on R&R leave

By [Karen Jowers](#) *Times*

Troops returning on R&R leave from Iraq or Afghanistan can get 10 hours of free child care.

The program is designed to give spouses who have been separated for long periods a chance to spend time with each other on a date, take care of family business or other needs.

It will be provided through child development centers, family child-care providers and 4-H chapters that train teens in baby-sitting.

Families can contact their post CYS office or call 800-464-8107. Army One Source also provides information.

Useful Travel Websites:

www.travel.state.gov/get_forms.html - (passport questions)
www.bestfares.com
www.expedia.com
www.travelocity.com
www.cheaptickets.com
www.sidestep.com (compares Orbitz and other sites at once)
www.onetravel.com
www.astanet.com - (American society of travel agents)
www.ltravel.com - (bargain travel)
www.FairAir.com - (transferable airline tickets)

October Events at the Fort Hood Officers Club

For information about Officers Club events, call 532-5329
Oct. 1- Membership Appreciation Night (Legends Pub)
Oct. 6- Family Night featuring pizza and spaghetti
Oct. 8- Club Closed for holiday
Oct. 15- Oktoberfest from 5:30 p.m. to midnight at the club
Oct. 14-17- Oktoberfest carnival at the Community Events Center
Thurs & Fri from 5 p.m. to midnight, Sat & Sun from noon to midnight
Oct. 22- Right Arm Night
Oct. 29- Halloween Party at Legends Pub (free and open to members, members' guests \$5)
Every Tuesday enjoy Beef and Burgundy from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. in the Mesquite Dining Room.
Every Sunday, dine on the O'Club's popular brunch from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
The Officers Club is open to

all military ranks and the general public

Upcoming AFFES Events

SATURDAY Oct 2

5th Annual Pet Show 0900-1300

SATURDAY Oct 2

LASSIE DVD SIGNING 1300-1500

SATURDAY Oct 2

NFL ATLANTA FALCONS CHEERLEADERS 1200-1400

FRIDAY Oct 8

PROFESSIONAL BODY BUILDER 1600-2000

SATURDAY OCT 9

NFL MIAMI DOLPHINS CHEERLEADERS 1200-1400

SATURDAY OCT 16

NFL HOUSTON TEXANS CHEERLEADERS 1200-1400

SATURDAY OCT 16

HALL OF FAMER BARRY SANDERS 1600-1800

SATURDAY OCT 23

NFL SEATTLE SEAHAWKS Cheerleaders 1200-1400

NFL SAN FRANCISCO 49ers Cheerleaders

SATURDAY OCT 23

APPRENTICE BOOK SIGNING Amy Henry 1500-1700

FRIDAY OCT 29

BOOK SIGNING 1600-1800 Former Secretary of Navy JAMES WEBB will be signing his best selling book titled BORN FIGHTING

SATURDAY OCT 30

HOLLYWOOD MAKEUP ARTIST Bobbie Wiener 1000-1800

SATURDAY OCT 30

NFL CAROLINA PANTHERS 1200-1400

SATURDAY NOV 6

MAJOR GENERAL SID SHACKNOW Book Signing 1200-1400 MG Shacknow will be

signing his best seller "HOPE & HONOR"

ITR Has All of Your Entertainment for October

Experience football, basketball, shopping, a musical and more! For more information on these events, call ITR at **287-7310** ITR is located in building 136, next to military clothing sales.

Prairie View vs. Grambling at the State Fair See fantastic football and two of the top marching bands in the nation compete on October 2, in the Cotton Bowl. Tickets are only \$18 per person, which includes state fair admission. ITR is also offering a bus tour for \$44 per person, which includes game ticket, transportation and state fair admission. Enjoy the battle of the bands, exhibits, carnival rides and entertainment at the fair!

Shopping Spree in Laredo This is an excellent opportunity to accomplish some early holiday shopping. The annual fall tour to Laredo is scheduled for October 15 through 17. Enjoy two nights in the Rio Grande Plaza hotel and transportation for only \$119 per person. Call ITR today to make reservations. A payment plan for this tour is available.

Attention Dallas Mavericks Fans ITR has tickets on sale for all Mavericks home games. Stop by ITR and get yours today. Home game schedule:
October 19 - Milwaukee
October 21 - New York
October 26 - San Antonio
October 28 - Sacramento
November 8 - Golden State
November 22 - Minnesota
December 9 - Seattle
December 14 - Golden State
January 2 - Milwaukee
January 18 - Washington

Take in the Musical *Jesus Christ Superstar* Military discount tickets are available for *Jesus Christ Superstar* at the Bass Concert Hall in Austin from October 26 through 31. Get your tickets on the World Wide Web at www.broadwayacrossamerica.com/groupsales use the password: fhoodtickets

Military Spouses Authorized to Enter Pre-Boarding/Secure Areas of the Airport

The Killeen-Fort Hood Regional Airport Director of Transportation Security Administration announced a change in policy that will authorize military spouses entrance into secure areas of the airport to meet/farewell their deploying military spouses. Depending on the number of passengers in the secure area, entry of other family members; e.g., children, parents, grandparents, brothers, and sisters may not be authorized. The Dallas/Fort Worth and Bergstrom/Austin International Airports have adopted the same procedures. Spouses should contact airport information at other airport locations to confirm their participation. Procedures have been implemented as follows:

1. Spouse should check-in with the military member's airline.
2. Spouse should show a picture ID, state that they are a military spouse and ask for a pass.
3. Airline personnel will check to make sure that the person is not on the no-fly list and issue the pass.
4. Spouse should then show the pass to the screener at the passenger screening check-point for entry into the secure area.

POC: Stephanie Mello, Army Community Service, Soldier and Family Readiness Branch, 254-287-7673, stephanie.mello1@hood.army.mil

III Corps and Fort Hood National Disability Employment Awareness Month Luncheon

October 20, 2004 1130-1300
Fort Hood Officers' Club Ballroom
Ticket Cost: \$9.25
Guest Speaker: Dr. Lucinda Harman
For more information, or to purchase tickets, contact the Fort Hood Equal Employment Opportunity Office at 287-3602, TTY 285-5303. Last day to buy tickets is Oct 18, 2004. Tickets will not be sold at the door.

NEWSLETTER

Have something to add to the newsletter? An idea on how to make it better? Please contact me by October 25th.

POC: Victoria Diamond

254-539-5422

victoria.diamond@us.army.mil