



The
DOUBLE
"Twice the Citizen! Army Strong!"

EAGLE

OCTOBER 2016, Vol. 5 No. 7



RUN FOR REMEMBRANCE

PAGE 6



FREEZE FRAME

U.S. Army Reserve Drill Sergeant of the Year competitor, Sgt. 1st Class Jason Scott, 95th Training Division (IET), throws a grenade from the kneeling position at the 2016 TRADOC Drill Sergeant of the Year competition, Sept. 7.



Scott and Sgt. Ryan Moldovan, 98th Training Division (IET), faced off in a head-to-head competition at Fort Jackson, S.C., to see who will be named the 2016 Army Reserve Drill Sergeant of the Year.

Photo by Sgt. 1st Class **BRIAN HAMILTON**
108th Training Command (IET)



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COVER Soldiers assigned to the U.S. Army Reserve Command headquarters at Fort Bragg, N.C., participate in a Run for Remembrance staff run as part of Suicide Prevention Month, Sept. 9, 2016. There have been 26 suicides in the U.S. Army Reserve this year. **ABOVE** Gen. Robert B. Abrams, Commanding General, U.S.

Army Forces Command, Maj. Gen. David J. Conboy, Deputy Commanding General (Operations), U.S. Army Reserve Command, and Maj. Gen. Megan P. Tatu, U.S. Army Reserve Command Chief of Staff, lead Soldiers during the run. (Photos by Timothy L. Hale/U.S. Army Reserve Command)



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THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF HEADQUARTERS,
U.S. ARMY RESERVE COMMAND
 PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE, FORT BRAGG, N.C.

U.S. ARMY RESERVE COMMAND TEAM

Lt. Gen. Charles D. Luckey

Chief of U.S. Army Reserve,
 Commanding General USARC

Maj. Gen. Megan P. Tatu

Chief of Staff, U.S. Army Reserve

Chief Warrant Officer 5 Russell P. Smith

Command Chief Warrant Officer
 of the U.S. Army Reserve

Command Sgt. Maj. James P. Wills

Interim Command Sergeant Major
 of the U.S. Army Reserve

DOUBLE EAGLE STAFF

Lt. Col. Tad T. Fichtel

Chief, Public Affairs

Master Sgt. Melissa Rolan

Acting U.S. Army Reserve Public Affairs
 Sergeant Major

Mr. Marty Martin

Chief, Internal Information

Mr. Timothy L. Hale

Editor, Double Eagle

Mr. Brian D. Godette

Lead Writer, Double Eagle

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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

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HONORABLE MENTION: 2013



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 Double Eagle back issues.**

Army Civilians as Leaders

In August, I completed the resident phase of the Army Management Staff College, Civilian Education System Intermediate Leader Course.

The Intermediate Course, required for all Army Civilians in grades GS-10 through GS-12, is designed to prepare participants for increasing responsibilities to exercise direct and indirect supervision of both Soldiers and civilians.

Since the U.S. Army Reserve Command headquarters is an operational command and the decisions that we all make directly affect our U.S. Army Reserve Soldiers and often their Families, this course was personally a valuable experience.

As Army Civilians, we are part of the continuity that keeps our Army ready.

While in the field, covering exercises and real-world operations in my role as a Public Affairs specialist, I often see the results of the decisions that all of us collectively make to ensure that our Soldiers are relevant and ready as part of the Total Army.

Many of us, including myself, get so locked in to sending emails, writing policies, procedures, and operational orders, that we often forget the affect our decisions have on our Soldiers.

Looking at what we do from a sporting perspective, we are the coach and just like a coach, we can only do so much. It is up to each and every Army Civilian to give our Soldiers what they need and prepare them to fight and defend our nation at home and abroad. Ultimately, it is our Soldiers who will execute the plays we have given them and move the ball down the field.

So, my challenge to my fellow Army Civilians here at USARC is to strive to give a 100-percent effort being the best leader possible. Make sound decisions to guarantee success each and every day we walk through the door.

As Army Civilians, we need to be aware of our leadership role in the bigger picture. Then our Soldiers will know that we have their backs and they can continue to execute their missions for our nation and our freedom. 🇺🇸



Timothy L. Hale
 Editor



RUN OF REMEMBRANCE



FORSCOM/USARC join forces to combat suicide

Story by **TIMOTHY L. HALE**
U.S. Army Reserve Command

FORT BRAGG, N.C. – There have been 26 suicides in the [U.S. Army Reserve](#) this year, a tragic fact that U.S. Army Reserve leadership is committed to reducing. This does not include additional losses from the ranks due to motor vehicle crashes, drowning, and other accidents.

These Soldiers are no longer in our formations as a part of the Total Army team but they are not forgotten.

In support of Suicide Prevention month, the Army is supporting the [Department of Defense's #BeThere campaign](#). Tragic events, like suicide, are complex, and members of the Army team have a duty and obligation to strengthen themselves and others and #BeThere to connect fellow Soldiers in crisis with support.

In his July letter to the force, [Lieutenant General Charles D. Luckey](#), Chief of the Army Reserve and commanding general of the U.S. Army Reserve Command challenged all of us to do a better job in combating these losses.

“Getting after this problem is about paying attention to detail,” Luckey said. “It saves lives in both combat and at home. Never walk past a mistake or an opportunity to teach.

“Eliminating or even significantly reducing Soldier suicides is complex and challenging – but it is a component of our responsibility as leaders,” Luckey continued. “Let’s get smart; stay alert; help out a comrade who’s in trouble; take ownership and stay involved.”

As part of September’s Suicide Prevention and Awareness month, USARC Soldiers were joined by [Gen. Robert B. Abrams](#), commanding general of [U.S. Army Forces Command](#), in a Run of Remembrance, Sept. 9, at the FORSCOM/USARC headquarters.

“It’s a hard subject that we often don’t want to talk about. But look to your left and your right. We are collectively responsible for each other,” Abrams said. “We need to #BeThere for that person on your left or your right. Be in tune with the person on the other side of the cubicle or down the hallway. Then we have to have the courage to have that

Gen. Robert B. Abrams, Commanding General, U.S. Army Forces Command, Maj. Gen. David J. Conboy, Deputy Commanding General (Operations), U.S. Army Reserve Command, and Maj. Gen. Megan P. Tatu, U.S. Army Reserve Command Chief of Staff, lead Soldiers assigned to the U.S. Army Reserve Command headquarters at Fort Bragg, N.C., on a Run for Remembrance staff run as part of Suicide Prevention Month, Sept. 9, 2016. There have been 26 suicides in the U.S. Army Reserve this year, a tragic fact that U.S. Army Reserve leadership is committed to reducing. The run was designed to increase the awareness and need to look after all Soldiers to prevent future losses. (Photo by Timothy L. Hale/U.S. Army Reserve Command)



Col. Alan Pomaville, Command Chaplain, U.S. Army Reserve Command, speaks about suicide prevention and provides prayer to U.S. Army Reserve Command Soldiers and Civilians following the “Run of Remembrance”, at Fort Bragg, September 9, 2016. The USARC staff run served as a reminder for all the Soldiers lost to suicide, as well as awareness for suicide prevention. (Photo by Lt. Col. Kristian Sorensen/U.S. Army Reserve Command)

professional engagement to say, ‘Is everything O.K.?’ And you’d be surprised what happens when you take the first step and put your hand out to #BeThere for someone else. #BeThere for them. It may be something small. It may be something big. But we all owe it to each other as Soldiers.

“This is a tough and important business being Soldiers,” Abrams said. “But we are all human beings and occasionally life reaches up and grabs us to pull us down a little bit. So we rely on that person on our left or right to pull us up and get us back in the right direction.”

In his July letter, Luckey emphasized that we are all leaders in this fight to reduce suicides within our ranks.

“There is nothing we can do as leaders that is more likely to reduce or eliminate suicide risks than to know our Soldiers and infuse in them a sense of belonging, purpose, and mutual support that will stick with them, even when they are back on the ‘day jobs’ and physically away from the Army Team,” he said.

“Get smart on the telltale signs of depression. Find ways to embrace your part of the team with infectious energy between Battle Assemblies. Keep an eye on each other as part of your monthly battle rhythm. Stay snapped-in. Take ownership of your piece of this awesome team, move out and lead!” Luckey said.

After the run, Chaplain (Col.) Alan Pomaville, U.S. Army Reserve Command Chaplain, said that every Soldier has a spiritual or emotional need at some point and everyone needs to invest and take the time to listen to fellow Soldiers and Family members.

“It is so important to #BeThere for one another but also care for yourself,” Pomaville said. “Take the time to tell someone if you are having a rough day, week, or month. Ask the tough questions when you see someone else struggling or displaying out of character or dangerous behaviors. If you find a wounded or hurting Soldier, be sure to help by keeping them safe and do a solid hand-off to those who can best help them.” 🙏

SUICIDE AWARENESS & PREVENTION RESOURCES:

For more Soldier and Family resources, please visit the following:

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline:

1-800-273 (TALK) 8255 Press 1 for Military Crisis Line

Fort Family 24/7 Call Center: 1-866-345-8248

Army Reserve Family Programs: <http://www.afrp.org>

Army One Source: <http://www.myarmyonesource.com/default.aspx>

U.S. Army Ready and Resilient Campaign:

<https://www.army.mil/readyandresilient/personnel>

Army Suicide Prevention Program: <http://www.preventsuicide.army.mil>

Army G-1 Suicide Prevention Training Resources:

<http://www.armyg1.army.mil/hr/suicide/training.asp>

Public Health Command: <http://phc.amedd.army.mil>

Army Behavioral Health: <http://armymedicine.mil/Pages/behavioralhealth.aspx>

Defense Suicide Prevention Office:

<http://armymedicine.mil/Pages/behavioralhealth.aspx>

U.S. Army Reserve Chaplain's Battle Buddy App:

Available in English and Spanish for Apple, Android, and Microsoft systems



Soldiers assigned to the U.S. Army Reserve Command headquarters at Fort Bragg, N.C., participate in a Run for Remembrance staff run as part of Suicide Prevention Month, Sept. 9, 2016. There have been 26 suicides in the U.S. Army Reserve this year, a tragic fact that U.S. Army Reserve leadership is committed to reducing. The run was designed to increase the awareness and need to look after all Soldiers to prevent future losses. (U.S. Army photo by Timothy L. Hale)(Released)

Sgt. Ryan Moldovan named Army Reserve Drill Sergeant of the Year

Story by JONATHAN (JAY) KOESTER
TRADOC News Service

FORT JACKSON, S.C. – After four days of difficult competition, the 15 NCOs vying to become the 2016 Drill Sergeant and AIT Platoon Sergeant of the Year were called into the Bowen Room of the [U.S. Army Drill Sergeant Academy](#) at [Fort Jackson, South Carolina](#), for the announcement of the winners.

The toll the competition had taken was obvious, as many limped in to take their spots, walking delicately to avoid blisters and burns on their sore feet. They were pained and tired, but still standing proud.

Then the announcement came. Sgt. 1st Class Martin Delaney, Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, was named the 2016 Drill Sergeant of the Year. Sgt. Ryan Moldovan, [98th Training Division](#), was named 2016 Army Reserve Drill Sergeant of the Year. Staff Sgt. Brandon Laspe, Panama City, Florida, was named Advanced Individual Training Platoon Sergeant of the Year.

MOLDOVAN, SCOTT BATTLE

To be named Army Reserve Drill Sergeant of the Year, Moldovan had to survive a difficult challenge from Sgt. 1st Class Jason Scott, [95th Training Division](#). As the competition wore on, their respect for each other grew through the tests.

“These NCOs are top notch,” Moldovan said. “I had to keep up with them 100 percent of the way.

“I could talk to you all day about Drill Sgt. Scott,” Moldovan continued. “His ethics, his principles, his integrity. I’ll tell you a story about Drill Sgt. Scott. We were head-to-head, right? It’s me against him for all the glory. We had a surprise ruck march. They brought us into a line, we had our ruck sacks on, and they said, ‘Alright drill sergeants: Ruck march. Unknown distance, unknown time.’ I started tightening my straps. I went to tighten a strap, and it unsnapped. There was nothing I could do to get it to snap, and everybody was already halfway down the



U.S. Army Reserve Drill Sergeant of the Year competitor, Sgt. 1st Class Jason Scott, top, 95th Training Division (IET), identifies numerous types of hand grenades at the 2016 TRADOC Drill Sergeant of the Year competition, Sept. 7. Scott and Sgt. Ryan Moldovan, 98th Training Division (IET), faced off in a head-to-head competition at Fort Jackson, S.C., to see who will be named the 2016 Army Reserve Drill Sergeant of the Year. (Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Brian Hamilton/ 108th Training Command (IET))

U.S. Army Reserve Drill Sergeant of the Year competitor, Sgt. Ryan Moldovan, opposite, 98th Training Division (IET), identifies numerous types of hand grenades and their uses, Sept. 7. (Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Brian Hamilton/ 108th Training Command (IET))



road. Drill Sgt. Scott — knowing that I'm his direct competition — stopped to help me. He said, 'I got you, Battle,' and he snapped me up and then we ran together on the ruck march. I have so much respect for Drill Sgt. Scott. He is a great competitor."

IMPRESSIVE INDIVIDUALS

The 1st Sgt. Tobias Meister Award, which goes to the competitor who scored highest on his Army Physical Fitness Test, was awarded to Staff Sgt. Dustin Randall, Fort Sill, Oklahoma.

Before the winners were announced, the NCOs heard from [Maj. Gen. Anthony Funkhouser](#), commanding general of the Center for Initial Military Training, who told them he was impressed by what he saw during the week. He also told a story about a family he met.

"There are a lot of families at my hotel because of the graduation," Funkhouser said. "One family had a little boy, he was probably 10-years-old. He sees me in uniform and he comes to start talking to me, making small talk, chatting away. He says, 'Hey,

my older brother is graduating tomorrow from basic training. He wants to be a drill sergeant one day.' I say, 'That's pretty neat. Our drill sergeants are impressive individuals.'

"So, he says, 'Are you a drill sergeant?' I look down at my rank, stand up straight so he can see it, and say, 'No, I'm a General.' He said, 'Oh ... so will you ever get promoted to drill sergeant?'" Funkhouser said.

After being named Drill Sergeant of the Year, Delaney said the feeling he got when he heard his name called could be summed up in one word: "Incredible."

"Everything is so secretive that you have no idea where you stand," Delaney said.

"Everybody is on pins and needles, and you hope you did well enough in all the events so that they can call your name. It was a great feeling. These guys are the best from every installation, so of course, they are going to be very good at everything, and it was kind of nerve-wracking watching them do things so well."

As AIT Platoon Sergeant

of the Year, Laspe said he was looking forward to his chance to work at the strategic level with the [U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command](#). As part of their victories, the winners of the drill sergeant and AIT platoon sergeant competitions spend the next year working at Fort Jackson, assisting TRADOC with policy.

"The competition was grueling, physically and mentally, but that's what we train for and that's what we prepare for," Laspe said. "I'm excited to affect things at a more strategic level because now, instead of impacting my field and my group of Soldiers, I'll have an impact on the entire Army. That's pretty exciting."

There could only be the three winners, but as Funkhouser said earlier in the week, the 15 competitors were already "the best of the best." The 15 walked and limped away from the week with memories they won't soon forget. And Delaney, Moldovan and Laspe walked away with shiny new titles: Drill Sergeant, Army Reserve Drill Sergeant and AIT Platoon Sergeant of the Year. 🏆

U.S. Army Reserve Drill Sergeant of the Year competitor, Sgt. Ryan Moldovan, right, 98th Training Division (IET), throws a hand grenade, Sept. 7. (Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Brian Hamilton/ 108th Training Command (IET))

U.S. Army Reserve Drill Sergeant of the Year competitor, Sgt. 1st Class Jason Scott, opposite page, 95th Training Division (IET), talks through firing the AT-4 at the 2016 TRADOC Drill Sergeant of the Year competition, Sept. 7. (Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Brian Hamilton/ 108th Training Command (IET))









“ON PURPOSE; WITH A PURPOSE”

U.S. Army Reserve Civil Affairs troops triumph at NTC training

Story & photos by Master Sgt. MARK BURRELL
352nd Civil Affairs Command

NATIONAL TRAINING CENTER - FORT IRWIN, Calif. - The village of Guba is bustling. Local shop owners yell in foreign dialects hawking their wares from stalls that display colorful rugs and clothing. Women huddle together to whisper and steal glances underneath hijabs of the U.S. Army Soldiers meeting with the local police chief and village elder. Older villagers casually lounge while smoking in chairs trying to avoid the harsh midday sun.

A mushroom cloud of dust appears in the distance beyond the village followed by a booming eruption piercing the casual chaos of the marketplace.

The explosion scatters the locals. The streets quickly become deserted as [U.S. Army Reserve](#) troops from the Fort Story, Virginia-based [437th Civil Affairs Battalion](#) raise their rifles and take up protected positions throughout the village.

A man runs toward the Soldiers screaming incoherently while bleeding from his face and from where his arm used to be.

Sgt. 1st Class Derek Ungerecht, a civil affairs team sergeant from Chesapeake, Virginia, acts quickly and methodically to help the injured man to a building.

Luckily, the village of Guba isn't real. It's a fake town constructed of plywood, concrete and large metal cargo containers in the middle of the Mojave Desert at the [National Training Center \(NTC\)](#) in [Fort Irwin, California](#).

The farmer, who blew his arm off from unexploded ordinance in his field, also isn't really hurt.

“There's a lot of confusion, there's a lot of chaos,” said Ungerecht. “Role players play a big part in it ... they really do fill the places out. If you walk into what would be a governance center, there's some evidence that it should be that, it's not just an empty room where you have to

REALISTIC TRAINING - Spc. Madelyn Riccio, a U.S. Army Reserve civil affairs Soldier assigned to the 437th Civil Affairs Battalion, puts a tourniquet on a role player simulating an injury during training at National Training Center Fort Irwin, Calif., Sept. 7. The 437th keeps troops trained and proficient in order to support the 352nd Civil Affairs Command's mission to support the Central Command area of operations.



MISSION PLANNING - Troops from the U.S. Army Reserve's 437th Civil Affairs Battalion and Soldiers from the active Army's 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, plan an upcoming mission at National Training Center Fort Irwin, Calif., Sept. 6.

PROVIDING SECURITY - Troops from the U.S. Army Reserve's 437th Civil Affairs Battalion provide security while treating a civilian role player with a simulated arm injury following a Sept. 7 attack.



use your imagination. So it really helps with the training.”

After two deployments to Iraq as a military policeman, Ungerecht knows what a remote village looks like and what chaos feels like. He said this was some of the most realistic training he’s had in his 14 years in the Army.

“The buildings and infrastructure replicate the cities that would be found on the outskirts of large built-up areas,” said Maj. Larry Graham, senior civil military operations officer from Bellflower, California, and part of the training team assigned to the NTC Operations Group. “As the civil environment kind

of develops, you have a number of civilians that will react to the kinetic and non-kinetic actions on the battlespace. So managing those effects becomes a critical task for any rotational training unit (RTU) that comes through here – to manage those, synchronize those and report those back up to higher headquarters.”

These types of civil military operations on the battlefield are exactly the situations that the troops from the 437th train for in preparation for their upcoming deployment to the Middle East.

“Nothing happens accidentally, nothing is artificially injected. Accidents do happen,

but nothing happens accidentally here. It’s all on purpose and with purpose,” explained Graham. “The level of detail we try to replicate is a realistic environment that is adaptive according to the RTUs positive or negative actions as well as the enemy’s. The enemy has an equal say in the fight.”

With three deployments under Graham’s belt, he knows that the battlefield is constantly evolving and combat is unpredictable. The specific civil affairs scenarios are geared to replicate real-world situations, even down to the living conditions.

“What we find is that training absolutely prepares them in



Sgt. 1st Class Derek Ungerecht, a U.S. Army Reserve civil affairs Soldier assigned to the 437th Civil Affairs Battalion, puts a tourniquet on a role player simulating an injury during training at National Training Center Fort Irwin, Calif., Sept. 7.

LEADING OFF

terms of their craft, but the next logical step is to stress those things that they've been taught," added Graham. "To put them in positions that are awkward, difficult, challenging, tired, stressed, hungry, in the heat."

The Mojave Desert provides a stunning backdrop to stress these conditions. The relentless sun beats down on troops throughout the day, and at night cold winds harass the troops, temperatures dropping 30 degrees when the sun sets.

"The heat and just constantly being dirty kinda gets old after the first week or so, but then you kinda also get used to it," said Sgt. Jacob King, a civil affairs noncommissioned officer from Farmville, Virginia, assigned to 437th. "It can either be the worst experience you have and the worst

two weeks of your life, or you can look at it as the best training you've ever had."

The heat and exhaustion from running 24/7 operations, dealing with an enemy that is constantly on the move and an insurgency to quell provides plenty of opportunities for realistic training for the U.S. Army Reserve troops.

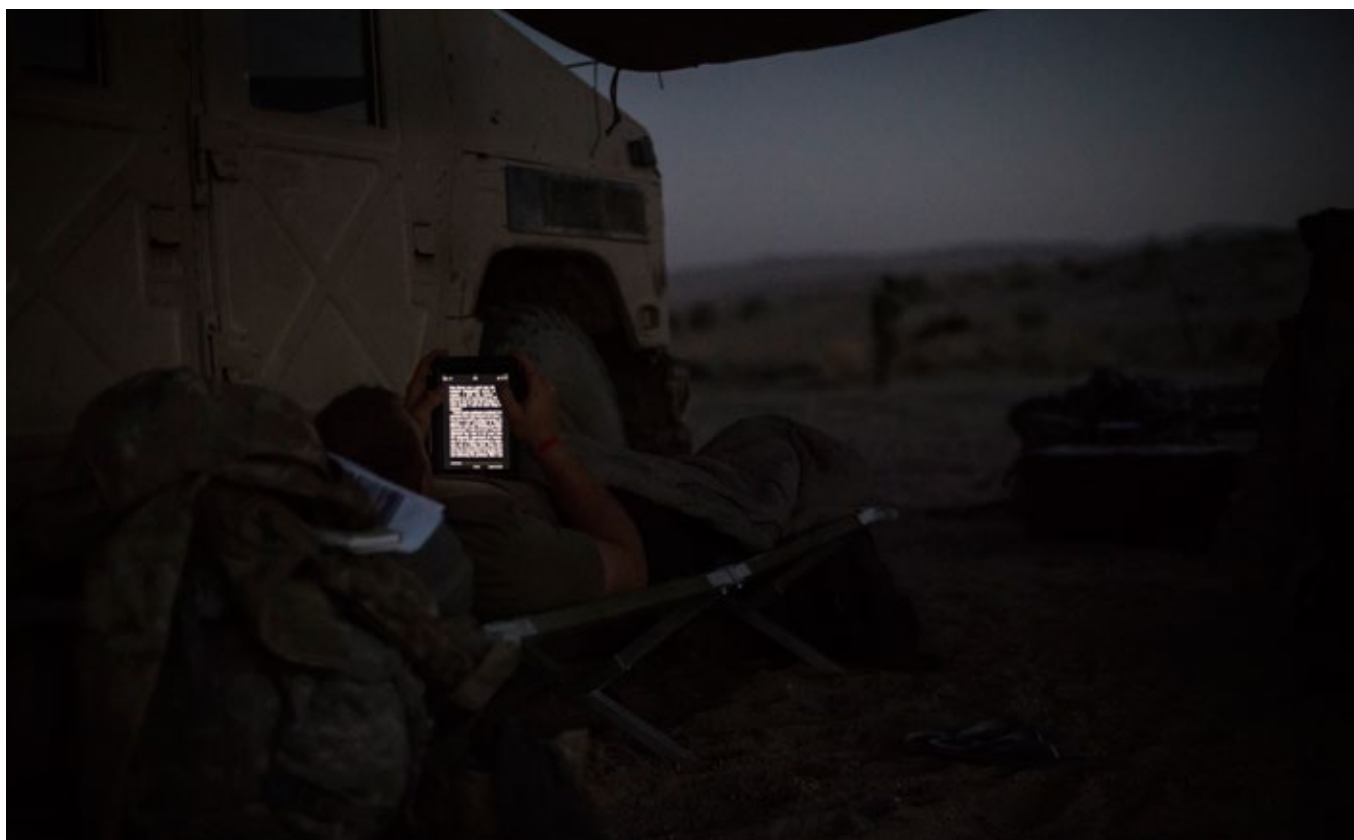
"Most of this rotation we were out with an infantry line company, it's mostly living out of a Humvee for two weeks," explained King. "We sleep on cots next to our trucks every night, on the nights that we do get to sleep. Just living out of a ruck sack. Basically, I've been wearing the same uniform for six days now ... living on as little as possible."

U.S. Army Reserve Soldiers get few opportunities to train with

their active duty counterparts. These troops jumped at the chance, despite the austere living conditions.

The civil affairs troops were attached to 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division and sometimes had to get back to basic Soldier skills by providing security or clearing buildings.

"We are civil affairs, but we still are part of the fighting force and our primary job, as any Army person, is to be a fighter first and then our other job comes second," described King. "It's not our goal to come out and get into a gun battle; it's still something we have to do. When we come into a place like this, it's still a hostile environment and we don't just run away when we get shot at – we shoot back."



U.S. Army Reserve civil affairs 1st Lt. Brandon Wilson, assigned to the 437th Civil Affairs Battalion, reads an electronic book at dusk at National Training Center Fort Irwin, Calif., Sept. 5.



There's no lack of shooting and explosions during the training – day or night.

“Here at NTC we have MILES gear. It's kind of like a giant game of laser tag and it gives it some sort of realism,” said King.

The Multiple Integrated Laser Engagement System, or MILES, uses lasers and blank cartridges to simulate actual battle. When MILES gear takes a hit, an alarm sounds and your weapon is disabled.

Every troop, vehicle and role player wears the MILES gear everywhere in the vast training area. Just like in combat, a Soldier has to be prepared for anything at any time.

King and his team proved just that after they set up an observation point and had to provide security for a dismounted element as the friendly forces were depleted. The next thing that King and his team knew an enemy tank was bearing down on them.

Immediately, King and the other civil affairs troopers opened fire with a .50 caliber machine gun. The enemy tank was disabled shortly after.

“I'll be deploying at the beginning of next year; NTC is a great opportunity to work on the basic soldiering skills to be ready to go into a forward environment



AUSTERE LIVING - Sgt. 1st Class Patrick Shipp, top, writes a letter to his daughter using his red-lens flashlight at National Training Center Fort Irwin, Calif.

Capt. Aaron Gunning, middle, gets ready to bed down for the evening.

Spc. Tatyanna Holley, bottom, wakes up and gets ready to start a new day. All of the Soldiers are assigned to the U.S Army Reserve's 437th Civil Affairs Battalion based at Fort Story, Va.





where things might be hostile,” said King. The Army has given me a lot of leadership skills and really helped me advance my career. And vice versa, I’m not just another guy that’s gone through basic training and knows how to shoot a gun; I have a skill-set I can apply to what we do to help accomplish the mission.”

After Ungerecht successfully stopped the one-armed villager from bleeding with a tourniquet, the team linked up with the local leaders to find the closest hospital. They provided aid for the man and took him to the vehicles before the trainers stopped the exercise to give them an after action review.

Ungerecht’s team did the right thing. They set stage for future partnerships with the village locals and proved that they were there to help. The team celebrated by hanging poncho liners from their vehicles to escape the sun, drinking water and trading the contents of their Meals Ready to Eat (MRE).

“Yea, I’d come back at some point,” said Ungerecht with a smile. “Well, it’s hot and it’s dry, but it gets cold at night, which is a plus ... We’ve gotten hot chow several times during our time but it’s mostly MREs. Sandy, dirty, dusty constantly, it’s the first time I’ve gone two weeks without taking a shower.”

Throughout it all, the troops rarely complained – at least not about the training.

“Cook a steak. I’m going to Kroger and buy a two-inch ribeye and eat a steak,” said Ungerecht with a toothy grin, when asked his plans for his first day home.

However, for some of the Soldiers from the 437th, their homecoming from NTC will be short-lived. Soon, they’ll be saying goodbye to their loved ones again for a much longer deployment. This time in real danger, but also a little more prepared to handle the mission. 🇺🇸

CLEANING UP - U.S. Army Reserve Sgt. 1st Class Patrick Shipp, a civil affairs Soldier with the 437th Civil Affairs Battalion, shaves using a Humvee mirror at dawn at National Training Center Fort Irwin.



Morris wins 2016 Military Chaplains Association Distinguished Service Award

Story & photos by **BRIAN GODETTE**
U.S. Army Reserve Command

RIVERSIDE, Calif. – That is the focus of a military chaplain. At the unit level, a chaplain and chaplain assistant form a Unit Ministry Team, and are embedded throughout all three components of the active Army, National Guard, and U.S. Army Reserve.

Enter U.S. Army Reserve Chaplain (Capt.) Joshua T. Morris, with [358th Civil Affairs Brigade](#) in Riverside. Morris is a leader, man of faith, Army Reserve Chaplain, and recipient of the 2016 [Military Chaplains Association](#) Distinguished Service Award for exceptional military ministry as an Army Chaplain.

Morris, who received a direct commission into the [U.S. Army Reserve](#) in 2008, grew up in a church setting, being exposed to Catholic, Baptist, and non-denominational churches. The exposure set him on a path which eventually led him to being embedded with men and women in America's Army.

"In 2006 I was doing youth outreach work with an organization called Young Life, and this other organization called Military Community Youth Ministry, living in Germany, working on military installations, doing high school and middle school outreach programs.

"I worked with a lot of chaplains and fell in love with the ministry they did. They were going where the Soldiers were going instead of just waiting for them to come to chapel. They were living life with

them and that was really attractive to me, in the way I understand ministry and the things I want to uphold," Morris said.

The experience with the military, coupled with his faith, served as an inspiration, a calling to do something more.



Chaplain (Capt.) Joshua T. Morris

"In 2007 I decided I wanted to move back from Germany and pursue the Chaplaincy in the Army"

Morris combined his passion for helping Soldiers, with his ability to reach the youth, and became the Pediatric Chaplain working at a hospital in Long Beach, California.

While the two worlds may seem drastically separate, the importance his role serves in the dual status carries over, according to Morris.

"Whether I'm going into a room with a child and their Family and they just got some

bad news, or I'm with a suicidal Soldier, having a non-anxious presence and being as calm as possible and be a person that this Family or this Soldier can process with, is very important to me."

LEADING FROM THE FRONT

After being assigned to his second unit, the 315th Engineer Battalion, Morris had the opportunity to deploy with Soldiers who he considered Family, earning an opportunity to directly impact the welfare of Soldiers overseas, and hone his skill and trust as a chaplain.

"I think it's something I had to earn, you have to earn the trust. So if I had route clearance in

U.S. Army Reserve Chaplain (Capt.) Joshua T. Morris, opposite, stands in front of an MRAP vehicle before a mission, while deployed with the 315th Engineer Battalion, in Afghanistan. Morris, the unit chaplain encouraged the need for him to join the Soldiers out in the field as a means to build trust. (Courtesy photo Chaplain (Capt.) Joshua T. Morris)

companies with guys who were doing construction, there not just going to assume, 'hey we can just go talk to the chaplain,' but if it was 'hey he is traveling with us, he's spending time at our FOB, he's ministering to us doing Bible studies, or he's just here hanging out,' slowly but surely they start to warm up.

"They have to trust you, because if they are going to trust you with something as big as marital issues financial issues, or even suicidal ideation, there has to be trust."

The topic of Soldier suicides factors even greater into the discussion as lives lost in that category continue to grow. The U.S. Army Reserve alone has lost 26 lives to suicide this year, and it reinforces the need for the good work of senior leaders and chaplains to continue.

DOING THE GOOD WORK

"I think we are standing on the shoulders of those who came before us. I can do a lot of good work because chaplains before me did good work, and I just kind of fall in on that reputation," he said.

While the reputation of a chaplain has helped,

the ability to do your own good work and not being burdened by the weight of responsibility held by the position has made Morris more effective in his role.

"I found for me, I can get burned out pretty quickly, with the heaviness of the work, whether that was deployed, at home station, or even with my civilian ministry. The work is heavy and it's there for you every day, so if you don't take the time to have spiritual renewal, mental renewal, or physical renewal, like working out or running, you're going to get run down pretty quickly, and you won't be effective."

Morris strives to remain effective, and an asset to those he helps. A major key to doing so rests in the power of prayer, according to Morris.

"Even if we don't have answers and we are looking for words to say in a prayer, the power of prayer is that I don't pray that prayer alone. I'm surrounded and we are surrounded, by at least the God I understand, and we are not alone and there is a God that cares and wants to bring healing, love, and a deep sense of peace in needed situations."



RECOGNIZED FOR ACHIEVEMENTS

The Military Chaplains Association maintains three categories of annual awards. These awards are a reflection of two major MCA features: ministry profession, advocacy, and ministry profession support.

Morris received news of the award from the Fort Bragg command chaplain. Morris will be honored at a ceremony in Washington, D.C. in October.

“Incredible chaplains that I respect and admire told me about it. There are so many great chaplains doing exceptional ministry, so to even be in the conversation is very humbling.”

The honor of being recognized for doing what he loves ranked high among his list of military accomplishments, right up there with his deployment.

“As a chaplain, especially in the U.S. Army Reserve, to have the opportunity to deploy and on

a day-to-day basis, do what I’m passionate about, serve, and be there with the Soldiers in theatre was huge. Serving in Afghanistan at that time was really important to me and being awarded the Bronze Star was a pretty big accomplishment for me as well.”

All of the experiences, teaching opportunities, and lessons have sculpted Morris into a leader, man of faith, and effective U.S. Army Reserve chaplain.

“I think I have a presence about me now, even if it’s new and scary, I can still approach it with that non-anxious presence.

“There’s a lot of scary things out there, a lot of hurtful things that happen to people, but to be able to walk into that room when a lot of other people walk out of that room, is something I think my time as an Army chaplain has given me.”

“I feel like I’m a better hospital chaplain because of the Army, and vice versa,” Morris said. 🇺🇸



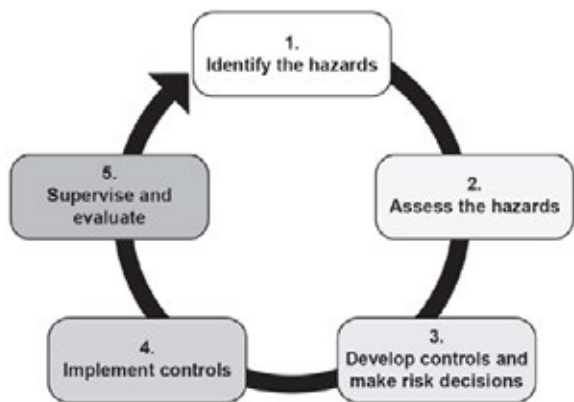
U.S. Army Reserve Chaplain (Capt.) Joshua T. Morris, previous page and this page, prays with Soldiers from the 315th Engineer Battalion, in Afghanistan. Morris, the unit chaplain encouraged the need for him to join the Soldiers out in the field as a means to build trust. (Courtesy photo Chaplain (Capt.) Joshua T. Morris)



FILE PHOTO: Timothy L. Hale/U.S. Army Reserve Command



Chief Army Reserve Sends “READINESS 2016”



Off Duty Risk Management October 2016

- **The Army's:** Main process for identifying and controlling hazards and managing risk across mission, functions, operations and activities
- **Directly Supports:** The Army mission
- **Must Be:** A part of everything you do

Risk Management provides a framework for decision making. It is a process of thinking about hazards that have the potential to injure or kill personnel, damage or destroy equipment and negatively impact mission effectiveness. The individual Soldier must consider any factor that can harm you, your Battle Buddy, your equipment or the mission. And, when you are off duty, consider hazards that affect you and those that affect your family and friends. (Soldiers have twice as many accidents off duty than on!)

Step 1: Identify everything that could cause an accident using:

- Experience and accident data - Yours, Family, Friends
- What-if scenarios
- Cause and effect relationships

Step 2: Ask what could go wrong and how bad it can get:

- Is it likely to occur? - Then it **WILL** require controls
- How severe will it be? - Injured, Fatal, Me, My Family

Step 3: Decide what has to be done to keep you safe:

- Pick controls that lower or even eliminate hazards
- Controls can be just about anything: PCC, PCI, PMCS, training, tools and equipment, hiring a professional for the job, helpers, proper rest, avoiding traffic, wearing a seatbelt.....

Step 4: Select what you need to do and do it

- Controls only work when you and your family apply them
- Make sure controls are clear for everybody

Step 5: Do what is necessary, have fun and always be looking for any new hazards

- Is a control failing? - Stop, check, correct
- Is there a new hazard? - Reevaluate your situation
- What did you learn and what needs to be done differently next time?

“Ready in 2016” For more on Risk Management, On or Off Duty, contact your Supervisor and your Additional Duty Safety Officer/NCO.

TRICK or TREAT?

By 1st Lt. PHILL WALLER
Chaplain Candidate, USARC UAU

Small faces with traces of mother's eye-liner, / Peer up to the resident candy provider. / And there to intone ancient threats learnt verbatim; / They lisp "TRICK OR TREAT!" 'Tis their stark ultimatum.

Thus: region by region such legions take plunder. / Does this spector-full spectacle cause you to wonder? / Just how did our fair festive forebears conceive, / Of this primeval practice called All Hallows Eve / The answer, if anyone cares to research, / Surprises, it rises from old mother church.

The poem above is taken from a video titled Halloween: Trick or Treat? It appeals to me because it talks about the history of Halloween, which I find interesting. More importantly, it addresses the reality of the darkness of this world we live in but doesn't leave us without a message of hope.

Halloween, literally 'Holy Evening' is a shortened version of All Hallows Eve, the night before All Saints Day.

All Saints Day has historically been a day when the Church celebrates its Saints, and is observed on November 1st.

The night before was a time of frolicking, snacking, and dressing up, in order to provide a stark contrast to the holy by mimicking the damned. At some point the holiday was combined with the Celtic celebration of the last harvest called Samhain. This time of change was believed to allow the spiritual and

earthly worlds to almost touch. Thus it was believed possible to catch sight of dark spirits roaming the town. Dressing up as one of these spirits and demanding snacks from neighbors to leave them in peace became a tradition.

The key to the history and tradition of Halloween is that the emphasis is on a night of darkness in contrast to the light of the next day.

Whatever evil was given its last chance to romp around at night was dispelled by the coming of the dawn.

Just as now we live in a time when darkness and evil sometimes seem to be running rampant, be encouraged that the time is limited. Light always pushes darkness out, not the other way around. The end of the poem wraps this up nicely:

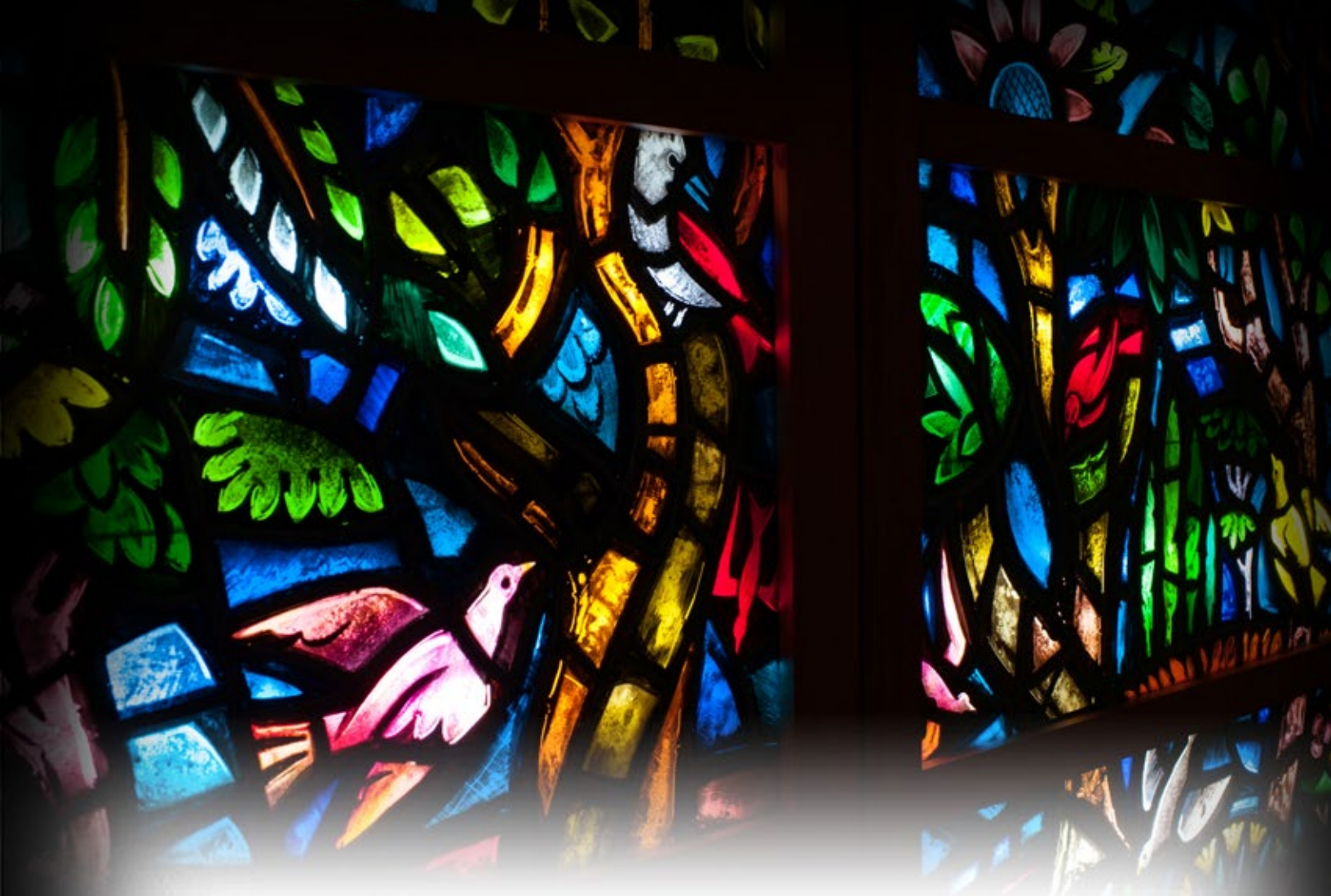
So the Bible begins with this fore-resolved fight; / For a moment the darkness... then "Let there be Light!" / First grief in the gloom, then joy from the East. / First valley of shadow, then mountaintop feast. / First wait for Messiah, then long-promised dawn. / First desolate Friday and then Easter Morn.

The armies of darkness while doing their worst, / Can never extinguish this Dazzling Sunburst. / So ridicule rogues if you must play a role; / But beware getting lost in that bottomless hole. / The triumph is not with the forces of night. / It dawned with the One who said "I am the Light." 🌞

FORSCOM/USARC Christian Bible Study

U.S. Army Forces Command and U.S. Army Reserve Command
hosts a weekly Christian Bible study.

Studies are held each Tuesday,
starting at 11:30 a.m., Room 1901 near the USARC G-4.
Please come and share a time of fellowship and worship with us.



DRILL SERGEANTS STRENGTHEN THEIR MINDS.
CHAPLAINS STRENGTHEN THEIR SOULS.



AFAP: Making a difference in the U.S. Army Reserve community

Story by Contributing Writer
Army Reserve Family Programs

FORT BRAGG, N.C. - At present, more than 198,000 Soldiers and their 300,000 Family members serve in the U.S. Army Reserve — all of them scattered around the country in large cities, remote towns or somewhere in between. This geographic dispersion can result in unique military readiness and quality-of-life issues for members of the Army Reserve community. As such, a place to share concerns and initiate change is essential.

That's where the [Army Family Action Plan \(AFAP\)](#) comes in. This communications tool gives Soldiers, Families, Survivors, retirees, and Civilians across all Army components a voice in shaping their quality of life. It does this by providing community members with an easy-to-use and structured process to identify, prioritize and elevate their concerns and issues to unit commanders and Army senior leaders for action and resolution.

Simply put, AFAP is the way to fix what is perceived as broken and institute change in current services to address evolving needs.

“Army Reserve constituents continue to be instrumental in fueling the AFAP process to bring about change,” stated Barbara Giddens, AFAP Liaison for [Army Reserve Family Programs](#)



(ARFP). “Their creative input, ideas, and recommendations help bring about changes in Army programs, policies and services, one issue at a time.”

Most issues are resolved at the unit level. In fact, a steady average of 90% of AFAP submissions are never elevated for review into the Army AFAP process because the commanders were able to effectively address the concerns. However, some need a high-level Army review and enter the AFAP process.

Since the program’s inception in 1983, more than 75 percent of the almost 700 issues entered into Army AFAP have been resolved in policy, legislation, program or service changes that impacted the total Army community.

For example, one key improvement that the AFAP process delivered to the Army Reserve community is unlimited access to the commissary and Post Exchange. Prior to that, military identification cards limited users to a set number of visits per year. However, someone took matters to their unit and submitted an AFAP Issue Form that prompted senior leaders to reevaluate this policy.

“You could be the one who submits an issue that makes the Army Reserve and Army a better place to work and live,” said Giddens. “Other benefits the Army Reserve community has received through AFAP include policy changes that led to the approval of tax credits for employers of Reserve Soldiers on extended active duty; the issuance of identity cards to Family members of Reserve Soldiers for the entirety of their service; and the institution of full-time medical case managers for Reserve Soldiers.”

All of the examples of AFAP-inspired change impacted the lives of many, but may have started with the voice of only one.

Bottom-Up Results

The AFAP process has evolved over its 33-year

history into a two-stage process. The first process involves the submission of new issues into the AFAP, while a parallel process works to resolve existing, active issues at the Army level.

AFAP starts at the unit level, where members of the Army Reserve community submit a quality-of-life concern by completing an AFAP Issue Form. The form can be downloaded and completed at the ARFP Website at arfp.org, or submitted to the nearest ARFP Office.

“The value of the AFAP process starting at the grassroots level gives the commander insight into what is going on in the community and the opportunity to respond,” said Giddens.

If the command receives an issue that needs to be addressed by Army, they will elevate the issue through the AFAP process. If the issue is prioritized as one of the quality of life issues, it will enter the AFAP process and worked to resolution through the AFAP General Officer Steering Committee (GOSC), chaired by the Vice Chief of Staff of the Army.

“It is not always a fast process, but there are significant results and changes that can, have, and will continue to come from AFAP,” said Paulla Conant, ARFP Soldier Support Division Chief. “It is the place to let your voice be heard and initiate change in an ever-evolving Army community.”

AFAP remains the primary tool to communicate the important issues facing the Army community today. It is also the only partnership of its kind between a U.S. military branch and its constituents. This reinforces the commitment the Army senior leadership has in keeping the changing needs of Soldiers, Families, Survivors, retirees, and Civilians at the forefront of its efforts.

“You can make a difference – one issue at a time!” said Giddens. 🇺🇸

**To find out more about the
Army Family Action Plan or how you can be a part
of the AFAP process, visit www.arfp.org,
or call Fort Family at 1-866-345-8248.
Anytime. Anywhere. 24x7x365**

USARC adds beauty to headquarters during National Public Lands Day





U.S. Army Reserve personnel with the Army Reserve Installation Management Directorate clean out old plants and bushes from existing planter boxes replacing them with Spring, Summer, and Fall perennials as part of National Public Lands Day at the U.S. Army Forces Command/U.S. Army Reserve Command headquarters, Sept. 28, 2016, at Fort Bragg, N.C. Jonelle Kimbrough, a communications specialist with ARIMD, said USARC received a \$4,000 grant through the NPLD program. NPLD is the nation's largest, single-day volunteer effort for public lands to promote environmental stewardship. (Photos by Timothy L. Hale/U.S. Army Reserve Command)



USARC G-1 S&S Division trains active Army postal unit for upcoming deployment

Story & photos by TIMOTHY L. HALE
U.S. Army Reserve Command

Fort Bragg, N.C. - Anthony Perry, a Postal & Official Mail Management Analyst with the [U.S. Army Reserve Command](#) G-1 Services & Support Division, conducted a Mission Readiness Exercise training event Sept. 21-26 with an active Army postal unit to prepare them for an upcoming deployment.

Perry, a retired active Army postal specialist and postal inspector, was contacted by the [14th Human Resources Sustainment Center](#) Postal Operation Division (POD), located at Fort Bragg, to help the unit understand their roles and responsibilities when they get to the [U.S. Army Central](#) theater.

Perry said the Soldiers in the unit needed the training to become Postal Inspectors.

“Many of our U.S. Army Reserve postal specialists have the experience and knowledge to do the job

because they deploy regularly or they work for the U.S. Postal Service,” Perry said.

“By contrast, many active Army units don’t do their postal job regularly back in garrison so this training was a way to get them ready.”

Perry covered a myriad of postal operations and procedures that included a visit to the Fort Bragg Post Office APO and Training Facility to observe mail clerks conducting pick-up and delivery.

“They were very receptive to the training we provided,” Perry said. “None of them have received any training since they graduated from the Postal School at Fort Jackson, S.C.”

“The challenge is for me to ensure they have the tools they need to be successful in their job once they deploy,” Perry said. 🇺🇸





HANDLING SUSPICIOUS MAIL - Pfc. Jamaal Monroe, and Sgt. Jennifer Schwausch, opposite page, mail specialists with the 14th Human Resources Sustainment Center, Fort Bragg, N.C., look at a simulated suspicious package during a Mission Readiness Exercise, Sept. 21, 2016. The 14th Human Resources Sustainment Center will be deploying to the U.S. Army Central Command theater.

Monroe, top, a mail specialist with the 14th Human Resources Sustainment Center, Fort Bragg, N.C., shows white powder residue on his hands from a simulated suspicious package.

Confectioner's sugar, middle center, is used to simulate a suspicious powder.

Anthony Perry, left, a Postal & Official Mail Management Analyst with the U.S. Army Reserve Command Services & Support Division, reviews mail-handling procedures.



BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS - U.S. Army Reserve Capt. Michael Wilson, 403rd Civil Affairs Battalion team leader, speaks with a Tanzanian Ranger after a demonstration of capabilities Aug 24, at Rungwa Game Reserve, Tanzania. Members from the 403rd Civil Affairs Battalion, a U.S. Army Reserve unit from Mattydale, N.Y., a component of Joint Task Force - Horn of Africa, and North Carolina Army National Guard, taught the rangers techniques to increase their skills in small unit tactics, first aid, gathering intelligence and other field crafts. The soldiers were training the rangers in how to combat poachers on the reserve. Poaching and trafficking in wildlife has become a source of revenue for violent extremist organizations on the continent.

U.S. Army Reserve, N.C. National Guard trains Tanzania Rangers to combat poachers

Story by U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. ERIC SUMMERS
Combined Joint Task Force - Horn of Africa

RUNGWA GAME RESERVE, Tanzania – The [African elephant](#) is an animal that can be as tall as 14 feet, weigh more than 15,000 pounds, and typically has a life span between 60 to 70 years.

While the creature already stands out as a formidable giant in the animal world, the African

elephant also has two sharp tusks that can grow as long as 10 feet, which serve as additional insurance against any would-be predators.

It's a sad irony then, that these tusks are also the reason the animal is becoming an endangered species.

Recent surveys by the Tanzania government have shown that the country's elephant population has declined dramatically due to poachers hunting the mammals for their ivory tusks.

What's worse, the [Center for Strategic and International Studies](#) reports that ivory poached by violent extremist organizations is bartered for weapons and ammunition, compounding a conservation problem with an even larger security problem.

To combat the issue, Tanzania's park and game reserve rangers have teamed with members of the [U.S. Army Reserve's 403rd Civil Affairs Battalion](#), from Mattydale, New York, a component of Combined Joint Task Force-Horn of Africa, and the North Carolina National Guard, to conduct anti-poaching training from July to September, at [Rungwa Game Reserve, Tanzania](#).

"We are here for these two months to train Rungwa Park rangers in field-craft to improve their ability to track, capture and arrest illegal poachers in the Rungwa game reserve," said Capt. Michael Wilson, 403rd team leader.

"Tanzania has the second highest concentration of African elephants on the continent. Their population has been halved in the past ten years. It's a crisis that not only affects east Africa— it affects the whole world," Wilson said.

The training involved teaching field techniques like first aid and movements to increase the rangers' abilities to catch poachers.

"This is essentially based on increasing skills and knowledge of combat patrol in the field," said Domina Mgelwa, a Rungwa Game Reserve game officer.

Mgelwa said that there have been a lot incidents of poaching, so learning from the U.S. Soldiers has been beneficial to adapting to the criminals' methods.

"We think (U.S. Soldiers) are more experienced in the field and they have more techniques which are important for us," Mgelwa continued. "Time changes and techniques change, so we need some new knowledge and techniques."

The Americans taught several skills that are used on the battlefield to acclimate the rangers to the threats they may encounter in the wild.

"The goal for this training mission was to train

20 to 40 rangers in field craft," Wilson said. "As an instructor in part of the counter illicit trade training team, I conducted medical training, intelligence training, a full (spectrum) of training activities."

The rangers were also taught small unit tactics and Wilson described as the rangers as enthusiastic about learning new procedures.

"I found the Tanzanian rangers to be extremely friendly, open minded, hard working and willing to learn," Wilson continued. "They came to class everyday ready to learn and — truth be told — we often took them outside of their comfort zone. They never complained, they did what we asked of them, and I think the benefit is that they will go away with skills and knowledge that will stay with them for their remaining time as rangers. "

Mgelwa also added that, while the training was difficult, the rangers pulled together and have built their confidence to protect the reserve.

"I can say that I am now able to fight with the poachers because I have gained the skills and the knowledge," said Moses Munya, the game reserve's senior game warden. "Also, I can train my colleagues who are not here at this moment, once I go back to my work station, and teach them some of the skills that I have acquired during this training."

"I appreciate the Americans' practice. They gave us the directives, and I also like the military tactics," Moses continued. "They have trained us on how to crawl and different formations to reach the poachers' camp, or even capture the poachers."

The rangers aren't the only ones that feel confident in their abilities to save the elephant population that has dwindled down to less than 44,000.

"I believe now that these rangers will be more effective in the bush in hunting poachers, and I believe the statistics will eventually bear out that our actions here have had a positive impact in the reduction of poaching in the Rungwa Game Reserve," Wilson said.

"The opportunity is great," Wilson continued. "It's a noble endeavor to come here and be able to have a positive impact on such an important issue. Every kid on the planet knows what an elephant is, I hope that every kid on the planet can eventually come to a place like this and see an elephant living in the wild." 🌍



Don't deal with a problem alone. Reach out to a helping hand!

- ▶ Talk to your Battle Buddy and chain of command
- ▶ Call the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1-800-273-TALK [8255]

It takes **COURAGE** to ask for help when needed