

Operation Pink Tank hoists Spartan Spirit

By Alexandra Williams
284th Base Support Battalion
Public Affairs Office

They moved in silently, using stealth and the cover of darkness to accomplish their mission.

Dressed in black and wearing ski masks they whipped out their brushes and quickly marked their prey.

No, these weren't members of an elite Special Forces operation — they were 1-36th Infantry Regiment spouses intent on adding a little color and many smiles to Friedberg's Ray Barracks. As community members made their way across the compound March 26 they were greeted with the sight of the World War II-era tank decorated with pink flowers on the parade field.

"At first I was surprised. But then I had to laugh when I saw it. It reminded me of the same time last year when 1-36th Soldiers painted the tank pink with blue polka dots," said Friedberg Community Bank manager Judith Brown.

"I am sure some wives decorated the tank in memory of the anniversary of the painting and of

their deployed husbands. I find it very cute. The sun was shining and the tank looked pretty with all the flowers," said Brown. "The bank staff and customers took photos of it. Everyone was talking about it. I think it brings some fun, but it also helps the ladies to release some deployment stress."

"It's about a year ago that Spartan Soldiers painted a tank that is placed in front of their barracks pink," said battalion Family Readiness Group leader Melody Sexton, whose husband Lt. Col Charles Sexton is the 1-36th Infantry commander. "It happened before my husband and I arrived in Friedberg, but we heard about it. Of course the Soldiers had to repaint the tank green. It was still something everyone talked about.

"During an FRG meeting we thought about things to do for Easter and some of us decided to do a 'Pinkscape' in memory of the deployed 1-36th Infantry Regiment," she said. "Since the tank is still in front of the infantry barracks we thought it was very game to do, and the girls thought it was a cute idea.



Photo by Alexandra Williams

Michelle McDaniel (left) and Laquitta Monroe rearrange flowers on the tank located in front of the Community Bank and the Spartan barracks.

"Cutting out the flowers took a long time, but we had a lot of fun. The project gave us something to do while waiting for our husbands to redeploy, and it was very exciting," said Sexton. "We used code words during the planning phase so that no one else could under-

stand what we were talking about. All the ladies dressed in black so we could not be seen that easily and some even wore ski masks. We had a lot of fun."

"Pink has become the Lady Spartan mascot. We've painted our FRG room pink, we hung up a picture of

the pink tank, designed a pink FRG logo. Whoever had the idea last year to paint the tank pink did us a big favor. The pink tank, or rather the color pink has motivated us throughout the deployment," Sexton said.

"We won't tell who the ladies are who were involved. We didn't even tell the Soldiers in our battalion about the plan. We are not afraid to get in trouble — after all we did not do any damage to property. We are just keeping the Spartan Spirit up," she said.

"I've heard about the pink tank but I never saw it. I had no idea that Spartan ladies wanted to decorate the tank, but it's a funny idea," said Michelle McDaniel whose husband is assigned to Company C, 1-36th Infantry Regiment.

"It's a cute idea. I had no chance yet to tell my husband, but I know he would laugh about it," said Laquitta Monroe of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1-36th.

And with their night-time raid accomplished, the spouses of 1-36th Infantry are ready to tackle their next mission — welcoming their Soldiers home from Iraq.

'Ready First' artillerymen adapt to new missions

Story and photo by Cpl. Benjamin Cossel
122nd Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

Force protection, information operations and information delivery are not the sort of tasks one typically thinks of when considering the mission of a Brigade Fire Support Element. Just as many Soldiers have done during Operation Iraqi Freedom, the Soldiers of 1st Brigade, 1st Armored Division FSE have "adjusted fire" and learned new missions.

Calling for fire support from artillery, naval gunfire and close air support comprise the doctrinal missions of an FSE. However with Operation Iraqi Freedom's major combat operations completed, the need for their call-for-fire skills has diminished.

The team now finds itself engaged in non-lethal missions that include delivering *Baghdad Now*, a community newspaper produced for the residents of Baghdad, working with the division Public Affairs section to determine public reaction to the media and assisting reporters. They go into the community with civil affairs teams, analyze data with counter intelligence specialists to determine a community's mood and provide force protection for the forward operating base and for convoys.

"We've added a whole new level to our arsenal," said Sgt. 1st Class Darrin M. Domko, brigade fire support sergeant. Instead of their traditional weapons, the artillerymen use word processors and fight on the information battlefield.

"Now we can write articles for the local papers," Domko said.

With 150 non-lethal missions and 253 hours of road time logged since their arrival in May 2003, the Soldiers of the Ready First Brigade FSE have adapted well to their new missions. But the transition hasn't always been easy, according to some FSE Soldiers.

"It's definitely been a total change in how we not only

work but how we think about our mission," said Sgt. Thomas Grigsby, fire support sergeant.

Without a field manual or official training programs to provide guidance, the team adapted as their varied missions required, integrating with unit and staff sections they've never worked with before. Information operations doctrine that worked well in other theaters proved its worth only as a basic template in Iraq. The section took the doctrine and adapted it for its missions.

While the FSE Soldiers' missions are non-lethal in intent, the section has faced its share of dangerous moments. Each Soldier has tales to tell. One common story involves the night a rocket-propelled grenade struck within inches of the section's two HMMWVs.

"We were out making our weekly newspaper deliveries in front of the Aadhamiya Mosque," said Staff Sgt. Corey Hinkle, assistant brigade fire support sergeant. "Everything seemed normal. We're talking to the residents in the area, when all of a sudden they all begin leaving and it gets very quiet."

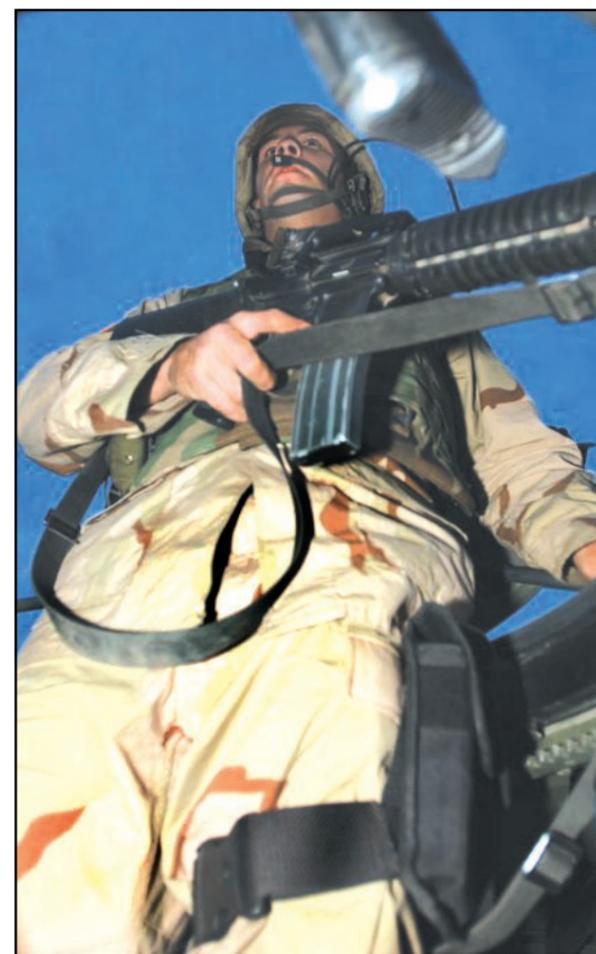
Hinkle said the Soldiers were trying to understand their situation when "all of a sudden we hear a boom and turn toward the mosque to see a rocket coming straight for us."

Time seemed to slow down and a line of fire passed between Hinkle's and the team's second vehicle, the Soldiers said.

"A foot to the left, a foot to the right and both of us would have been in a world of hurt," he said.

With a year of on-the-job training, the Soldiers of the FSE have risen to the occasion and adapted to their new role and missions, said Domko. Nothing in their previous training or unit exercises completed before deploying to Operation Iraqi Freedom formally prepared them for the mission and assignments they now face.

"But this team has pulled together and really done an outstanding job," he said.



Spc. Dennis Swank, fire support specialist, Fire Support Element, 1st Brigade Combat Team, Task Force 1st Armored Division, provides security during a recent mission in downtown Baghdad.

284th BSB – Friedberg, Giessen

Iraq camp named in honor of revered senior NCO

By Cpl. Benjamin Cossel
122nd Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

The memory of a 1st Armored Division senior noncommissioned officers' service and sacrifice will live on at one of the U.S. Army's base camps in Iraq.

The former Iraqi air force base in Taji was officially renamed Camp Cooke March 23 during a dedication ceremony in honor of Command Sgt. Maj. Eric F. Cooke, 1st Brigade Combat Team command sergeant major. Cooke was killed Dec. 24 during a combat patrol in Baghdad when his vehicle struck an improvised explosive device.

Camp Cooke is one of several enduring forward operating bases and is located on the northern outskirts of Baghdad. Most U.S. military personnel serving in Iraq for Operation Iraqi Freedom will live on one of these bases.

"It is because he left such a permanent mark on those he came in contact with that it was decided to name this permanent facility after him," said Col. Peter R. Mansoor, 1st BCT commander.

Born in Phoenix, Ariz. Sept. 23, 1960, Cooke attended basic and advanced individual training at Fort Knox, Ky., after enlisting in the Army in April 1978.

"He was the type of NCO who set the example for all those around him," said Maj. Gen. Martin E. Dempsey, 1st Armored Division commander.

While known as a consummate NCO, it was Cooke's compassion and ability to mentor that endeared him to so many Soldiers, he said.

"He was the type of person who cared about all Soldiers, not just those in his brigade," said Cooke's former driver, Sgt. Dustin J. Tomecko, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st BCT. "We would go out to the Ministry of Oil just to visit Soldiers standing guard.

The guard posts were spread throughout the building, each requiring a 14-story walk upstairs to where the Soldiers were located, Tomecko said.

"He climbed each of those stairs and talked with each of the Soldiers as long as they needed him to," he said. "That was the type of person he was. He always had time for his Soldiers. Everybody loved him."

"He would be honored that this base camp will play a central role in Operation Iraqi Freedom," said Sgt. Maj. David Davenport, division operations sergeant major for G3, who served with Cooke in 1 AD's 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry Regiment. "But he would say

to you that 'I was just doing my job. I was out with my Soldiers.' He would prefer that others be recognized for their contributions."

Davenport said Cooke cared for all of his Soldiers, no matter their rank. Soldiers would seek out Cooke just to talk. The command sergeant major would always have time to talk and would know their names, jobs and nicknames. "Soldiers loved him and he thought the world of them. He was one of those leaders who truly loved his Soldiers and always demanded the very best for his Soldiers," he said.

Cooke was awarded the Bronze Star Medal and the Purple Heart posthumously.

"Command Sgt. Maj. Cooke and his wife never had children," Mansoor said. "You would ask him why and invariably the answer

was always something along the lines of 'all of my kids are right here,' referring to his Soldiers.

"He will be deeply missed by all those whose lives he touched," Mansoor said.



Photo by Cpl. Benjamin Cossel
Sgt. Robert T. Paladine (left), HHB, 2-3rd Field Artillery Regiment, and Spc. David P. Wright of HHC, 16th Engineer Battalion, serve as honor guards during the renaming ceremony.

Overfilling damages new dumpsters

Stuffing trash bins wrecks hydraulic lids

By Alexandra Williams
284th Base Support Battalion Public Affairs Office

Damages to the new hydraulic lid dumpsters through overfilling in local housing areas is resulting in costly repairs and may lead to their removal, said Directorate of Public Works officials.

"The new dumpsters are part of an initiative to make the community more attractive. Last year we started replacing the dumpsters at Butzbach's Roman Way Housing," said the DPW's director Birgit Welter. Butzbach's Roman Way and Giessen's Dulles and Marshall housing areas were equipped with the new containers.

"The new dumpsters have a hydraulic lid. You still have to open the lid but it closes on its own," she said. "This way you have both hands free.

"The main reason for the purchase though was to avoid overfilling and to make sure the lids are shut. Open containers attract birds, mice, rats, insects and bees," she said.

"During a storm the refuse gets blown out of the dumpster and is scattered all over the

housing area," she said. "When it rains the refuse gets wet and again that attracts insects but also costs the BSB a lot more money because the city of Giessen charges us by the weight of our refuse.

"We put huge red stickers on every dumpster saying 'Close Lid' to remind residents to close the dumpsters, hoping this would stop the overfilling," Welter said.

"Shortly after putting the new dumpsters up we noticed that the lids of the new, smaller dumpsters were often damaged," said

Monica Nelson, 284th Base Support Battalion DPW Separate Or Recycle Trash coordinator. "We soon learned that residents force the lids closed. That causes the hydraulic system to break.

"Unfortunately the overfilling hasn't stopped either," she said. "The forceful closing of overfilled dumpsters is causing severe damage. Often we find items in the dumpster that do not belong in there such as bulk trash



Photo courtesy of the Directorate of Public Works
Overfilling the new dumpsters causes severe damage to the lids resulting in costly repairs.

items that are too big for the container.

"I arranged for the repair of 14 containers and I received a cost estimate of \$2,000. That means repairing a damaged lid costs the BSB about \$150. That's a lot of money we would rather spend on other things," said Nelson.

"We have stopped the program for now because we want to see how things develop. If the abuse continues we will not replace the dumpsters in Bad Nauheim and Friedberg," Welter said.

School update

Spring registration for all schools in the 284th Base Support Battalion is being held in April.

Every student, including returning students, must be reregistered for the new school year.

Giessen Elementary School hosts its spring registration April 15-16 from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the GES gymnasium.

Butzbach Elementary School holds registration April 16 from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the cafeteria.

Giessen Middle/High School has scheduled registration for April 16 from 8-11:30 a.m. and from 1-3 p.m.

The dates for Bad Nauheim Elementary have not been announced.

Registration requirements for all returning students are:

- ✍ Extension orders and if applicable Stop/Loss form.
- ✍ Sponsor's orders.
- ✍ Family members' travel orders showing the student's name.
- ✍ Birth certificate.
- ✍ Students' Social Security number.
- ✍ Immunization records.
- ✍ School records from previous schools, if applicable.
- ✍ Photocopy of sponsor's or spouse's ID card.

Community spotlights

Kudos to Soldiers

The 284th Base Support Battalion Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment congratulates Sgt. 1st Class Ronald Lucas of the Chaplains Office who qualified as an expert on the rifle and Staff Sgt. Troy Trasher of the Provost Marshal's Office who qualified as an expert on the pistol.

Visit Customs before moving

Community members getting ready to leave Germany are encouraged to arrange for an appointment at the Customs Office located in Building 4 on the Giessen Depot to prepare for the Customs inspection. In a short briefing the staff will explain the process and answer Customs related questions. The Customs Office is open Monday to Wednesday and Friday from 8:30-11:30 a.m. and from 1-4:30 p.m. and is closed Thursday for Sergeant's time. For more information call mil 343-6518/6514 or civ (0641) 402-6518/6514.

Hearts Apart luncheons cancelled

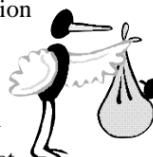
Due to redeployment and reintegration the Hearts Apart/Soup's On luncheons in Giessen and Friedberg scheduled for April are cancelled. For details call Deborah Gantt in Giessen at mil 343-6039 or Martha Pinion in Friedberg at mil 324-3710.

Celebrating the Month of the Military child

In recognition of the Month of the Military Child School-Age Services in Butzbach hosts **Muffins for Mom Day** April 15. **National Youth Services Day** will be held April 16. A **National Youth Services Day awards brunch** takes place April 17 from 9-11 a.m. at the multipurpose room of Butzbach Elementary School. **Turn Off The TV Week** takes place April 19-25 with awards to be given out April 27 starting at 3:30 p.m. A **Danishes for Dad Day** will be hosted April 22. For more information call civ (06033) 65961.

Child birth, care class

The New Parent Education and Support Program hosts a **child birth class** April 17 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Giessen Army Community Service. Participants will get information to prepare both mentally and physically for the birth of the baby. A **newborn care class** will be hosted April 24 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Butzbach Outreach Center located in Building 6543. New parents receive detailed information on feeding, bathing, diapering, crying and all aspects of caring for a baby. Lunch will be provided. Call Tamara Smith or Katherine Rodgers at mil 343-8076/9311/7618 to register.



Auditions for musical comedy

Giessen' Keller Theater holds auditions for "Baby" a musical comedy April 26 and 27. Needed are singers, dancers, musicians,

backstage and technical assistance. Participation is open to all community members. No theater experience is necessary. Call mil 343-6515.

Outdoor Rec trips

Giessen Outdoor Recreation offers a **sightseeing trip to Triberg** in the Black Forest April 17. Cost is \$39 for adults; children age 6-12 pay \$29 and children under the age of 4 pay \$19. An **overnight trip to Six Flags**, the Netherlands, takes place April 24-25. The cost is \$139 for adults, \$79 for children age 6-12 and \$29 for children age 5 and under. For more information call mil 343-8202.

Trips for single Soldiers

Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers hosts a **trip to the indoor climbing wall** in Frankfurt April 19 from 1-8 p.m. The cost is €10. A **Braunfels Castle tour** takes place April 22 from 1-8 p.m. This trip is free. A **trip to the indoor cart track** in Sinn is scheduled for April 23 from 1:30-9 p.m. The cost for 10 laps is €10. A **trip to Six Flags in Amsterdam**, the Netherlands, will be held April 24-25. The cost is \$119 and includes one overnight stay. For more information on trips and an updated BOSS schedule call Frank Rojas in Friedberg at mil 324-3158.

Community input sought

The 284th Base Support Battalion seeks community input during the second Customer Contact Walk-About to take place April 28. Staff members will walk around Giessen, Butzbach, Bad Nauheim, Friedberg and Wetzlar to talk to residents to learn more about their lives in the 284th BSB. Residents are encouraged to voice their issues and, if possible, give a solution on how to fix things that are not working. The status and results of the issues will be published in the *Herald Union*.

Getting fingerprints

Fingerprints are taken at the 284th Base Support Battalion Security Office in Building 115 on the Giessen Depot, first floor. Walk-in service takes place every Wednesday from 1-5 p.m. To arrange for appointments for another day call mil 343-6623/7666.

Part-time job opening

The 284th Base Support Battalion Directorate of Strategic Plans and Programs seeks a clerk with German language skills to provide training to BSB employees in customer service, quality management for employees and activity based costing and management for up to 12 hours per week. Application packets can be picked up in the DSPP office in Building 115. Call Jane Wingate at mil 343-7568 or Charles Butler at mil 343-6010 for more information.

Camp counselors sought

Youth Services seeks child and youth program assistants/camp counselors for 30-40 hours per week for the following camp dates: May 27 to July 14, July 1 to Sept. 3 or May 27 to Sept. 3. Applicants must be 18 years old and have a high school diploma or General Education Degree. Pay is \$8.32 per



Photo by Irma Moore

Taking pies for the community

Tina Sandell (left), 284th Base Support Battalion school liaison officer, gets ready to throw a pie in the face of William Parent, 284th BSB assistant civilian misconduct action authority officer. Parent and other community leaders volunteered for the event which was held April 2 to help raising money for the 284th BSB Safe Neighborhood Awareness Program and Drug Abuse Resistance Education program. Community members and staff donated more than \$450 for the programs.

hour. The closing date for applications is June 5. Applications can be picked up at the NAF Civilian Personnel Advisory Center in Building 7 on the Giessen Depot. For details call mil 343-8618.

FCC providers sought

Do you enjoy working with children? Want to make money from the comfort of your own home? Family Child Care providers are sought for all communities in the 284th Base Support Battalion. For more information and to register for FCC training call mil 343-7626 or civ (0641) 402-7626.

Volunteers sought

Child and Youth Services seek volunteers for various positions. Anyone interested in volunteering can call Linda Baker at mil 343-8216/7028.

Weekend child care

Child and Youth Services host a Super Saturday April 24 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Giessen Child Development Center and May 1 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Butzbach CDC. This service is available for all CLEOS-registered children age six weeks to 11 years old. Respite cards for E-4s and below will be accepted. Reservations are required. Parents may also contact CLEOS to arrange for special events child care. For more information call mil 343-7028/8216.

Friedberg bowling deals

Friedberg Spare Time Lanes and Lounge will provide patrons with an instant win scratch card on any purchase. Prizes in-

clude T-Shirts, racing towels, coolers, sodas and trip to the Indianapolis Motor Speedway with two tickets to the **Brickyard 400**, hotel room for three nights and \$250 cash. Patrons must be of legal drinking age to enter. During the **Month of the Military Child** the bowling center offers special low bowling rates for children. Every weekday in April all children under the age of 15 bowl for 50 cents a game. Shoe rental is 50 cents. **Kids Club** for children up to age 16 is hosted every Saturday from 1-4 p.m. Children can play games on Playstation 2, bowl a couple of games and eat and drink for a reduced price. Drawings for small toy prizes will be held every week. Every child who attends at least one week wins a participation prize. Cost is \$5 per child/week.

Welcome home heroes

The Bad Nauheim Commissary hosts a **Welcome Home Heroes and Thank You Family Members Celebration** April 30 from 1-4 p.m. Community members are invited to enjoy free food, give-aways, games and commissary specials.

Outprocessing briefings

The next PCS/ETS outprocessing briefing takes place May 11 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in Building 4 on the Giessen Depot. For details call mil 343-8077/6535.

Bulk trash pickup

Bulk trash pickup will be held May 7. Items should be placed next to the regular trash container no sooner than the night before the pickup.



414th BSB – Büdingen, Hanau



Community notes ... Community notes

Council elections

The Hanau High School Advisory Council is a forum for communicating concerns and advice to the principal on educational matters. Parents are needed to fill positions on School Advisory Council committees. Submit your name, student's name, phone number, email and a short biographical statement by April 16 to Diana Ruzicka at DianaRuz53@aol.com, Melissa Schuchmann at melissa_schuchmann@eu.odododea.edu or call civ (06181) 906-9956.

More parents are needed to share their ideas and participate on committees. Council meetings will be held April 14, May 5 and June 2 at 3 p.m. in the high school conference room.

Antiques auction

The Company A, 127th Aviation Support Battalion, Family Readiness Group will hold a French antique furniture auction April 17 starting at 11 a.m. The event will be held in Building 1301 on Fliegerhorst Kaserne. Register and preview items at 9:30 a.m. There will be two truckloads of furniture from which to choose. This is a fund-raiser for the FRG. Call civ (0175) 840 3511 for more information.

Booster Club

The Hanau High School Booster Club needs you to help it support athletics and academics. Parents are needed to share their ideas and get involved. Meetings will be held April 15 and May 6 at 5 p.m. in the high school conference room. For more information call civ (06181) 906-9910.

Parent-teacher conferences April 16

Hanau High School parent-teacher conferences will be held April 16 from 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. For information call civ

Parent University still set for April 24

Don't miss the chance to enhance your parenting skills during Parent University April 24 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Hanau High School.

The day-long event will include classes for parents with children of all ages, including classes on baby massage, stress management, "Mommy and Me" activities and "Daddy Basic-Training."

"Parent University is a great way to pick up new parenting tactics, to mingle with other community members and to reconnect with your spouse after the deploy-



ment," said Melissa Allen of the New Parent Support Program. "There are lots of new classes this year, such as 'Body Mechanics for Parents,' 'Meditation for Parents' and 'Shifting Kids' Spaces.' Come out and learn something new about parenting and you might also win a prize."

It's free to attend and there'll be prizes and gifts.

For information call mil 322-9664 or visit the New Parent Education and Support Program in Building 514 at the Wolfgang Shopping Center.

(06181) 906-9910.

USO benefit April 16

The opening night performance of the Five Pfennig Playhouse's "I Ought to Be in Pictures" April 16 will be a benefit for the USO. Tickets are \$12 on sale at the USO.

Hanau athletics

Boys and girls soccer games will be played on Saturdays April 17, May 1 and 8 on the field behind the middle school on New Argonner Kaserne. Games start at 10 a.m.

Girls softball games will be played on Saturdays April 17, 24 and May 1 on the field behind the Health Clinic on New Argonner Kaserne. Games start at 10 a.m.

An ROTC Drill Team competition will be held on Saturday April 17 in the parking lot between the Hanau Middle School and High School starting at 9:30 a.m. For information call Melissa Schuchmann at the Hanau High School, civ (06181) 906-9956.

Kindergarten registration

Register your child for kindergarten April 16 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Old Argonner Elementary School. Children must be 5 years old by Oct. 31. Bring the child's birth certificate or passport, orders with the child's name listed, ID card, child's Social Security card and immunization record. For information call the school office at civ (06181) 906-980.

Courses for officers, NCOs

The Advanced Skills Education Program offers courses for noncommissioned officers and junior officers aimed at enhancing communication, leadership and supervisory skills at the unit level. Students receive one semester hour of college credit in management from Central Texas College. The MTHR 1171 course, Performance Oriented Training, teaches Soldiers how to make training outlines and conduct individual training via a performance-based system. The course will be held April 26-30 from 8 a.m. to noon and is

free for all eligible active duty Soldiers. Visit the Pioneer Education Center to enroll or call mil 322-8380.

Thrift Shop job

The Hanau Thrift Shop has a job opening for a cashier. This is a paid, part-time position of 17 hours a week. If interested call Kim Yarborough at civ (06183) 929-055.

'Miss Saigon' encore

Due to overwhelming demand the Five Pfennig Playhouse will present "Miss Saigon" again on May 6 and 7 at 7:30 p.m. This production contains adult themes, strong language and partial nudity. Children under age 6 will not be admitted. Tickets are \$12 or €12. Tickets are available at the Hanau USO on Pioneer Kaserne. For information call mil 322-8725 or email 5pfennig@104asg.mwr.army.mil. The theater is located in Building 405 on Old Argonner Kaserne.

Lending Closet

Do you have overdue Lending Closet items? If you do, return them to Army Community Service in Building 9 on Pioneer Kaserne. Nearly all ACS items are loaned out now, and about 60 percent are overdue. Help ACS serve incoming and outgoing Soldiers and their families by returning the Lending Closet items.

Help with Summer Hire applications

Youth Services will assist teens in the preparation of resumes for the Summer Hire program Monday to Friday from 3-6 p.m. through May 17. To fill out an application, stop by the Galaxy or Millennium Middle School and Teen Centers. For information call Leon Garrison at civ (06181) 88-8231 or Janice Wheeler at civ (06042) 80-132.

April 22 is Earth Day — answer recycling questions to enter a prize drawing

After answering the questions, clip this form and submit it by April 26 to the 414th BSB Environmental Management Office in Building 27, Room 21, on Hanau's Pioneer Kaserne. Include your name, address and phone number. Call mil 322-8079 for more information.

1. What does SORT stand for?

2. Why is recycling important?

3. What are the five main categories of items that can be recycled?

4. Name at least five items that go into the yellow bag containers.

5. How can you dispose of your household batteries?

6. How can you dispose of POV lead acid batteries?

7. How can you dispose of your household hazardous waste, such as kitchen and bathroom cleaners, wax and polish?

8. The average American family throws away approximately 88 pounds of plastic a year. ___ true or ___ false
9. At which temperature does glass melt? ___ 400 degrees C ___ 800 degrees C or ___ 1200 degrees C
10. The United States uses 100 million tons of paper each year. How much energy and water can be saved through paper recycling? ___ 60-70 percent or ___ 40-50 percent more energy, ___ 55 percent or ___ 40-50 percent more water
11. How many recycling centers are located in the 414th BSB housing areas?

12. Recycling is easy. All that is needed for people to recycle is to collect paper, glass and yellow-bag items separately in their home and office and ensure they are put in appropriate recycling containers afterwards. ___ true or ___ false
13. Which 414th Base Support Battalion publication provides complete information on trash recycling? Where can a person obtain this publication?

14. How much money did the BSB spend last fiscal year to dispose of trash? ___ €1,116,094 ___ €2,110,115 or ___ €1,510,020
15. If residents recycle properly, the trash disposal costs are reduced significantly. ___ true or ___ false

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Spartan Army invades Mars Volta

Mock scenario tests Hanau air defenders' combat skills

By Pfc. Michael Taylor
69th Air Defense Artillery
Public Affairs Office

The Spartan Army invaded Mars Volta last month and occupied the western Defacto province for nationalistic motives.

Bravo and Delta Batteries of the 5th Battalion, 7th Air Defense Artillery, were deployed as part of Task Force 2-43. Their mission — to provide air and missile defense for III Corps as it attacked in zone to degrade the offensive capability of the Spartan military and restore peace in the region.

This was the fictional tactical scenario provided to Batteries B and D, 5-7th ADA, for the Army Training and Evaluations Program and Gunnery Table XII evaluations conducted by the 69th ADA Brigade.

“The ARTEP evaluates the critical, wartime mission essential tasks from an external perspective,” said Maj. Sean A. Gainey, the brigade operations officer.

“The ARTEP and Table XII certification are external evaluations designed to test the unit’s skills against tough, but realistic standards. The evaluations give units what they need to make improvements and to be able to perform their duties on the battlefield by forcing them to exercise nearly all of their mission training plan tasks,” Gainey said.

Capt. Walid R. Nasr, Battery D commander, said he found the ARTEP/Table XII process beneficial for his unit. “We have a lot of tweaking to do. This evaluation gave me a snapshot of the battery’s status which I will use to focus the battery’s Mission Essential Task List training.”

“This was a tremendous capstone event for the Soldiers who have been in the unit for awhile,” said Capt. George I. Corbari, Battery B commander. “The ARTEP/Table XII process pushed our veteran Soldiers to the limits, and it gave an incredible foundation for the new Soldiers in the battery to build upon. The experience can only get better for the next units involved. The inclusion of the tactical scenario from the ARTEP into the Table XII was a huge plus which enabled the battery to maintain its warrior ethos throughout the exercise. The Soldiers were tired by the end of the week, but carried their intensity into the Table XII,” Corbari said.

“The evaluations went well,” said Gainey. “Bravo and Delta Batteries were the first to go through this type of evaluation. Being the first can be tough. This training puts us leaps and bounds ahead of where we were and up to a level that we haven’t been to before. Exercises like this force the batteries to train collectively and that much harder in all aspects of the unit.”

Batteries C and E prepared to deploy with Task Force 2-43 to Mars Volta in the last week of March to defend critical III Corps assets and the 69th ADA Brigade evaluation team refined its ARTEP and Gunnery Table XII program to provide these units an even greater opportunity to excel, officials said.



Spc. William Lemke, Battery B, 5-7th Air Defense Artillery, emplaces the antenna Mast Group during an Army Training and Evaluation Program evaluation.

414th BSB – Büdingen, Hanau



Volunteers Rhonda Maultbay (left) and Terry Traun make beds and stock refrigerators in barracks for redeploying single Soldiers on Fliegerhorst Kaserne.



Sgt. Stephen Rodgers, 1-1st Cavalry, greets his daughter Mckenzie during his homecoming in Büdingen.



Pvt. 2 Marquette Gilchrest (left) and Spc. Larone Lewis, members of the 2-501st Aviation, beautify the grounds around Fliegerhorst single Soldier housing.



An advance party of 2-501st Aviation Regiment Soldiers stand in formation in a Fliegerhorst Kaserne hangar March 27 upon their arrival in Hanau after having served for a year as part of the Operation Iraqi Freedom mission.