

Spartans deliver supplies to girls school

Friedberg Soldiers aid Baghdad students

Cpl. Benjamin Cossel
122nd Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

Students of the city's 14th of July Girls School received an unexpected gift when Soldiers of the 1st Battalion, 36th Infantry Regiment, handed out 500 backpacks loaded with school supplies, candy and other items.

As part of an ongoing effort to reach out and work within those communities in their area of operations, commanders look for locations where the United States can best provide civil assistance.

"We were constantly receiving emails from friends and family members back home wanting to know what they could do to help out," said Staff Sgt. Joseph Campbell, the battalion civil-military liaison non-commissioned officer (S-5).

"We worked with the area coun-

cil members and identified an easy and affordable means by which they (friends and families) could help," he said.

Located in the Rusafa district of Baghdad, the 14th of July School, an all-girls school, is part of the battalion's neighborhood.

"This was a win-win type situation. Family members were able to be involved, and we were able to give something back to the community in which we live," Campbell said.

Speaking through a translator, Lt. Col. Charles Sexton, the battalion's commander, led the students in a chant of "S-C-H-O-O-L" and held a competition to see which class was the loudest.

The class deemed the loudest received their new backpacks first.

"We all know how important school is, and we all know how important it is that you have the



Photo by Cpl. Benjamin Cossel

Pupils of the 14th of July Girls' School in Baghdad examine the contents of backpacks donated by Soldiers of the 1-36th Infantry Battalion.

right supplies to be able to complete your studies," said Sexton.

"And that is why I am proud to present to you this little gift from

the Soldiers of the 1-36th Spartans, and the American people," he said.

On their fourth visit to area schools, Soldiers of the 1-36th have

delivered about 400 backpacks per school bringing the distribution total to 1,500, Campbell said.

The pupils often let excitement get the better of them, much to their teachers' dismay. Ignoring calls to stay within their assembled groups, children asked the Soldiers for autographs and to have their picture taken with them.

"I love the American Soldiers, they are beautiful. I love what they do for us," said one student as she stood in line.

"As I look out on this group of outstanding students, many of you reaching an age where you will soon be going on to college, I'm happy to say that you are taking a step into a new future for Iraq," said Col. Pete R. Mansoor, 1st Brigade Combat Team commander, "a future where all will be able to receive an education no matter their race, religion, creed or gender."

Long time coming

Unit finally receives WWII recognition



Lt. Col. William S. Rabena, 2nd Battalion, 3rd Field Artillery commander, attaches the Luxembourg battle streamer to the unit's colors during ceremonies April 5.

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

Because of the steadfastness and diligence of one World War II veteran, the 2nd Battalion, 3rd Field Artillery Regiment, received a long overdue Presidential Unit Citation April 5.

During ceremonies honoring the "Gunner" battalion's Purple Heart and Combat Medic Badge recipients, the battalion added the Luxembourg streamer to its colors.

Fighting the Battle of the Bulge

For the Soldiers of Combat Command Alpha, 9th Armored Division, Dec. 16, 1944, began as a normal day during World War II.

At 5:30 a.m. on that bitterly cold morning, the 352nd Volksgrenadier Division launched the Ardennes offensive. This offensive was later dubbed the "Battle of the Bulge" by American historians because of the pronounced bulging shape of the battleground area as seen on a military map.

During the ensuing 41-day battle, Maj. Gen. John Leonard, 9th Armored Division commanding general, said the actions of the 3rd Armored Field Artillery Regiment deserved special note. Firing an average of 3,000 rounds per day, the battalion aided in the breakup of every enemy attack.

The artillerymen's barrage helped hold the center of a 10,000-yard firing line and enabled dismounted troops to take up their positions and begin a counteroffensive.

With U.S. 3rd Army and XII Corps able to assemble unhindered, the counteroffensive would ultimately end the siege of Bastogne and contribute to saving much of Luxembourg.

Due to the deactivation of the 9th Armored Division shortly after World War II, paperwork and recommendations for the unit's recognition with a PUC were never carried forward. It was only due to the diligent efforts of 9th AD veterans that the award was finally presented.

Former President George H.W. Bush awarded the PUC to Combat Command A, 9th Armored Division, June 12, 1991 for

"extraordinary heroism and gallantry in combat" during the Battle of the Bulge.

The 3rd AFA battalion World War II commander, Maj. Gen. George Ruhlen, contacted the battalion's current commander, Lt. Col. William Rabena.

"He's been in contact with me via letters since I took over this battalion," Rabena said. "He's an amazing historian."

The efforts of Ruhlen, a former commanding general of the 1st Armored Division, were pivotal in ensuring 2-3rd FA received the battle streamer, Rabena said.

"After the general found out about the 9th AD receiving the award, he went to work," Rabena said.

Updating and submitting paperwork, and making sure that the lineage of 2-3rd FA was properly documented, were necessary to get the Presidential Unit Citation presented.

"This has been a labor of his [Ruhlen] for a very long time and for it to finally be paying off," Rabena said.

With the battalion assembled, the command of "Present arms" was given and the battalion colors were lowered.

Col. Pete R. Mansoor, commander of the 1st Brigade Combat Team, and Rabena attached the Luxembourg streamer to the battalion's colors, adding another chapter to the long and storied lineage of 2-3rd FA.

Closing the loop on history

"He's been wanting so bad to make this happen for the few living veterans of the time period," said Rabena of Ruhlen's persistent efforts. "He just wanted to know this had been taken care of, to close the loop on it."

It's estimated that 15 members of the 3rd AFA that fought in the battle for Bastogne are still alive today. Ruhlen himself is currently in poor health, stricken with emphysema.

"If you have a ceremony, I would certainly like to see photos of it," Ruhlen wrote in a letter to Rabena. "Fort Sill (the U.S. Army's Artillery Center and School) may have a ceremony, but it is very doubtful that I could make it for health reasons. It would be a formation I that have anticipated for 56 years."

KAT supports Madrid terror victim families

Giessen youth group shows sympathy through Easter gifts

By Alexandra Williams

284th Base Support Battalion Public Affairs Office

Members of the 284th Base Support Battalion's Kids Against Terror helped ease the suffering of Spanish family members affected by the terrorist train bombings in Madrid.

The Youth Services group, founded by 284th BSB youths in answer to the Spanish terror attacks, visited Spanish Consul Haver Romera in Frankfurt April 7, dropping off Easter baskets and banners showing their sympathy and support for grieving children who a lost family member during the March 11 bombings in Madrid.

The group's goal was to show solidarity as world citizens and to give support in times of need, said Arleton Romaine Johnson, Giessen YS program director.

"As Americans living abroad we in the military community are to a large extent a strong source of representation for the United States and are responsible for supporting not only our military communities but also playing an active role as world citizens. After explaining to the kids what had happened and how it affected the lives of so many children, our youth were not only supportive but became proactive about getting everything finished as soon as possible while making sure that the things we sent over would be of use to the kids receiving them," Johnson said.

With the help of Angela Picco-Hamler, Johnson wrote a letter in Spanish to the Spanish consul explaining the plan and asking for an appointment.

Support shows unity between United States, Spain

"I want to thank the American community for the gifts. We are very touched by this gesture and I must say that the American Youth Program is great," said Romera.

"It shows us that there is unity between our countries, and they wholeheartedly take part in what's going on. Regardless of the political situation there are many reasons for us to be grateful because there are many links with your people," said Romera, "not only because of Christopher Columbus who discovered America — regardless of the discussions whether he did it for the Italians or Spanish. Spanish is spoken in many parts of your country, and there are ties between our nations.

"The Western society as a whole has to face the threat and must unite against terrorism. And I am pleased to see that young Americans care about what is going on," Romera said.

"I joined the [KAT] group because I am against terror, because it's no good to bomb other people," said 13-year-old Richard McCann. "I wish adults would do more to stop the violence. There are many ways to stop the worldwide terror. One — don't start fights with other countries, second — don't threaten other countries with nuclear, chemical and biological weapons, three — respect others. There is so much more adults could do."



Photo by Alexandra Williams

Members of KAT present Easter banners to the Spanish Consul, Haver Romera (right), in Frankfurt to show their support for the children of the victims of the attack on the Madrid railways.

"I feel so sorry for the Spanish kids. I heard about the terror attacks at the Torch Club. The day when it happened they were talking about it. It's so sad that adults are doing such things," said 11-year-old Karie Lucas. "After I heard what had happened I wanted to do my part in supporting the Spanish families, so I helped make the boxes and in decorating them.

"I was glad we were able to visit the consul and to tell him that we are supporting his country. The visit was very exciting. The consul was nice and I was glad that he spoke English. I only wish we could have spent some more time with him and talking to him. But he probably has a lot of work to do," she said.

"I wish there was a way to end terror attacks, but I am not sure if it will ever end. Most important is that everyone, regardless what country they are living in, unites and supports each other," Lucas said.

"To me it was important to show my support to the Spanish people because I know how we Americans feel when something bad happens, and how happy we are when other countries show us their support," said 12-year-old Kayla Shaffer. "I wanted to help the Spanish children because I know they are hurt. Some have lost their mom or dad or a good friend. I hope that our boxes and posters help them a little and show them that we care for them.

"I think everyone has to get together to stop the terror,

not only the Soldiers. There are probably many ways to stop terror. I think adults should not always talk so loud and tell everything on TV and in the news. They should not always explain everything in detail and say what they are getting ready to do. Terrorists can hear that and then they know how they can hurt others," she said.

"I couldn't be more proud. Many times you'll find that you have to give kids a little tug for any type of community work," said Johnson. "These children could have easily said 'well our parents are in danger everyday and fighting for their lives over in the Middle East,' but instead they looked upon this as an opportunity and pulled together to perhaps touch the lives of others who have suffered. Their actions proved to be a great tribute and testimony to the military families.

Looking for ways to help others

"We are always looking for ways to help others. Last Christmas we went to the Frankfurt USO location and served refreshments and gave out gifts donated by BGCA and Toys R' Us to military members and their families passing through on rest and recuperation leave. Now, because of the nature of this particular situation, it is difficult to predict whether or not we will take on this exact project in the future. We can only hope that we won't have to. But if such an occasion should again arise then the KAT team will once again dig our claws in and move full steam ahead in our mission to help others in need," Johnson said.

Family members cope with 'extension stress'

Chaplains, social workers advise community members to talk about their feelings

Story and photo by Alexandra Williams
284th Base Support Battalion Public Affairs Office

The news of a possible extension of 1st Armored Division Soldiers in Iraq caught families in the 284th Base Support Battalion by surprise as they prepared for reunions. Anger and disbelief were among the range of emotions expressed by family members as they began to come to terms with the change in plans.

"The news has been a kick in the stomach for everyone," said Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Scott Davies, 284th BSB chaplain. "We are currently seeing an increase in general and acute distress, and we are working with our clients on an individual basis."

"Right now I would say that you can divide the community into three groups. First you have the folks who are more experienced. They don't like the news, but they roll with the punches," said Davies. "They support our guys and carry on with life. Next are the folks whose primary action is to act out, venting out their anger. They need to talk to someone to get it off their chest. They feel hurt and disappointed and they want that someone acknowledge their feelings. The last group are individuals who hung on by their fingertips throughout the past year and after learning that the troops are being extended they just let go."

"Our main goal is to provide families with open ears to listen to them so they can get their emotional stress off their chest and to recognize those who need more support to make it," Davies said.

Army Community Service officials said they have not noticed an increased need for counseling, said Perry Tripp, 284th BSB ACS Family Advocacy Program manager.

"We are currently planning to host one big Community Hearts Apart lunch for all spouses. My idea is to assist them to actually sponsor the lunch on their own, and maybe we can find a guest speaker as well," said Deborah Gantt, 284th BSB ACS Mobilization and Deployment Readiness Program manager.

"As of now no special programs are planned, but ACS staff is always available to help anyone coming in — even if they only need to have someone listen to them," Gantt said.

Gantt's husband deployed with the 1st Brigade's Headquarters and Headquarters Company, so she is also affected. She has had moments of despair, but said she knows how to handle it.

"When I got the news I ran home to talk to my 15-year-old son," said Gantt. "Then I called my mother-in-law and my son



284th BSB family life chaplain (Maj.) Suk Jong Lee provides an 'open ear' to family members needing to talk about their emotions or stress.

in college and told them that my husband is not coming home. Of course I was upset then and I thought, 'I cannot believe they are keeping us separated.'

"I think everyone was upset that day and we are entitled to be upset. It's just understandable," she said. "But life has to go on, and to me it's important to support my husband and the troops. My job at ACS is helping me a lot to deal with the situation and I have the support of the staff. We have to do everything we can to stay positive and to support our Soldiers because they rely on our strength. They need to keep alert downrange and not worry about us."

Other spouses shared Gantt's opinion that support of the troops has priority over feelings of misery.

"When I first heard about the extension I just kept to myself because I had a bunch of kids with me and I did not want to ruin their day. I was at Europa Park with my kids and some of their friends, and they were just on the roller coaster when my Family

Readiness Group leader called me," said Janice Burton, whose husband is assigned to Company A, 1st Battalion, 37th Armor Regiment.

"Later on I told my kids, Amanda, age 16, and Robert, 13, and they took it very well. I called my mom and my best friend in the evening and vented at them," said Burton. "I just had to do that. But now we are living our lives as normally as possible because I know that's what my husband wants. He told me before he left

that he might be deployed longer than a year. Actually he helps me a lot by explaining everything and I know what to expect. My Family Readiness Group leader calls me a lot too. She has a hard time just like everyone else, but she puts herself on hold and makes sure that we get all the information and support we need."

"I knew what to expect when I married a Soldier. My dad was in the Marine Corps for 20 years. I cannot change it so why dwell on it? It's best to get on with your life and to support your husband," said Catherine Holt, whose husband is assigned to HHC, 2-37th Armor.

When she is in need of emotional support she talks to her best friend, she said.

"I know that the extension helps protect all the other Soldiers just arriving in Iraq too. Our Soldiers are experienced, and if it weren't for them, even more Soldiers would die," said Holt. "I have a cousin who just deployed from Camp Pendleton, Calif., to Iraq and I don't want anything happening to him. I am glad that my husband is there to protect him and all the other Soldiers who just arrived."

"We are entitled to be upset, but the bottom line is that we are not helping our Soldiers by hanging on to the process," said Michelle Teets, a Family Readiness Group leader for Company C, 16th Engineer Battalion. "We need to deal with the fact that they are not coming home now. The Army offers so many resources that help you deal with deployments. Talk to a close friend, to a chaplain, go to ACS and see what they are offering to support you. It's important to be strong for our husbands downrange. It's not helping them when they have to worry about their families at home."

"The bottom line is to realize that you are not a victim, and the Army is not doing this to you personally. I suggest that spouses go to an Army Family Team Building class," said Teets. "It's so much easier dealing with the Army when you know how it works and all the things that you or your Soldier might have to go through. The Army is offering a lot of help and support, and I encourage spouses to go and find the help they need to be strong and to support the Soldiers."

Anyone needing support or just wanting to talk to someone can contact ACS in Giessen at civ (0641) 402-7618, in Friedberg at civ (06031) 81-3465 or stop by the office. Free, 24-hour-a-day counseling is also provided 365 days a year by the Army OneSource toll-free counseling service at civ (00800) 4648 1077. For more information go to www.armyonesource.com.

The 284th BSB Chaplain's Office is located in Building 115 on Giessen Depot and can be reached at civ (0641) 402-8020.

Counseling service is also provided by Dr. Randy Cooke, clinical psychologist, for family members over the age of 17 at the Butzbach Health Clinic. He is available from Tuesday to Friday from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Marriage and family counseling is provided by David Lawler Monday, Wednesday and Thursday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Butzbach clinic and Tuesday and Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. in Friedberg. Call the Butzbach Health Clinic at civ (06033) 982 135 and ask to speak to one of their counselors.

"It's best to get on with your life and to support your husband." — Catherine Holt, family member

EFMP provides range of assistance for exceptional family members

By Florine King
284th Base Support Battalion ACS EFMP

The Exceptional Family Member Program provides services to Soldiers and family members with special needs.

Program officials work with military and civilian agencies to provide a comprehensive, coordinated approach with community support, housing, medical, educational and personnel services.

When a soldier is alerted for an assignment, the Human Resources Command coordinates with the gaining command to determine if the services the Soldier needs are available. Should they not be available the Human Resources Command will consider

alternative assignments based on the assignment process or will send the Soldier on an unaccompanied assignment.

All Soldiers with assignment instructions outside of the United States who elect a tour with their family members must have their family members medically and educationally screened and, if warranted, they are required to be enrolled in the EFMP.

This action should be initiated within 30 days of receipt of assignment orders. Early enrollment in the program is the Soldier's guarantee Army officials will do their best to match the Soldier with a location where the family needs can be met.

Soldiers must realize they are still subject

to worldwide assignments and like any other Soldiers may serve an unaccompanied tour of duty.

Soldiers are enrolled permanently in the program unless medical or special education needs warrant their case to be closed or they separate from the military.

Soldiers must keep family information current.

Department of the Army civilian employees are not required to enroll in the program. However, they must identify dependent children with special needs each time they process for an assignment to a location outside the continental United States.

New forms are now being used by the

EFMP. They can be obtained from your EFMP program manager at your Army Community Service. The program manager can assist in referring your family members for evaluation.

When you are ready to depart your duty station, your program manager ensures your next assignment is to a location where your family needs can be met. Your family members must be screened before an intra-theater transfer.

For more information on the Exceptional Family Member Program in the 284th BSB contact your EFMP manager at the Giessen/Friedberg Army Community Service located at Giessen Depot or Ray Barracks at mil 343-7618 or 324-3465

284th BSB – Friedberg, Giessen

Community spotlights

Asian-Pacific Heritage Month Celebration May 15

The 284th Base Support Battalion hosts an Asian-Pacific Heritage Month Celebration May 15 from noon to 7 p.m. at Whiddon Park on the Giessen Depot (behind the Outdoor Recreation Center). Everyone is invited to enjoy free island food, door prizes, activities for children, dance performances, music and a martial arts demonstration by the Panther Martial Arts Club. Inclement weather location will be the Alpine Catering Center. For more information call Sgt. 1st Class Reginald Lucas at mil 343-8521.

Design contest

The 284th Base Support Battalion seeks artistic individuals to participate in a throw blanket design contest. The design should be non-unit specific, but must include the Giessen, Butzbach, Bad Nauheim and Friedberg communities' most remarkable landmark and the 284th BSB crest. The deadline for submissions is May 31.



Designs may be dropped off in Building 7, Room 261 on the Giessen Depot, emailed to eleonora.vodopija@104asg.mwr.army.mil or sent to 284th BSB, Directorate of Community Activities, Attn: Eleonora Vodopija, Unit 20911, APO AE09169. For more information call mil 343-8621 or civ (0177) 363-9856.

Getting fingerprinted

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 Wednes-

day from 1-5 p.m. To make an appointment for another day call mil 343-6623/7666.

Part-time job opening

The 284th Base Support Battalion Directorate of Strategic Plans and Programs seeks someone 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 on the Giessen Depot. Call Jane Wingate at mil 343-7568 or Charles Butler at mil 343-6010 for more information.

FCC providers sought

Enjoy working with children? Want to make money in the comfort of your home and schedule your own hours? The 284th Base Support Battalion Family Child Care program is in great demand for FCC providers for all communities. FCC providers receive ongoing training in developmental care. For more information and to register for FCC training call mil 343-7626 or civ (0641) 402-7626.

Volunteers sought for various jobs

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

Outprocessing briefing

The next PCS/ETS outprocessing briefings are scheduled for April 27 starting at 9 a.m. in Classroom 7 on Friedberg's Ray Barracks and May

11 at 10 a.m. in Building 4 in the ITC classroom on the Giessen Depot. For more information call mil 343-8077.

Thrift Shop hours

The Giessen Thrift Shop opens Tuesday and Thursday from noon to 5 p.m. Thrift Shops are also located in Butzbach, Bad Nauheim and Friedberg.

School happenings

A Giessen Elementary School Field Day is scheduled for May 7. Volunteers are needed to assist in this event. For details call mil 343-7248. Butzbach Elementary School holds its next Knights Luncheon April 29 from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the school cafeteria. The Giessen Middle/High School Band will perform for the students May 10 at 12:30 p.m. Employment opportunities are available at the Giessen and Butzbach elementary schools. Positions include secretaries, classroom aides, substitute teachers and a supply clerk. Stop by the school offices to pick up applications.

Students needed for play

Missoula Children's Theater will present "Red Riding Hood" May 15 at 3 and 7 p.m. at Giessen Elementary School. Students in grades kindergarten through 12 are needed for this production. Auditions will be held May 10 from 3:30-5:30 p.m. For more information call David Turner at mil 343-6515 or Barbara Mueller at civ (0641) 402-7248.

New AFN show

The 284th Base Support Battalion bids farewell to Judi Klaasen, member of the "Jammie and Judi" Friday morning radio show on AFN's Z-98.7 radio. The show has been replaced by the "Vince and Amy" show from 7-9 a.m. Fridays.

Farewell to Ezernieks

After working for more than 30 years in Germany Linda Ezernieks, 284th Base Support Battalion supervisory arts and craft specialist, bids farewell to the 284th Base Support Battalion community.



Ezernieks is moving on to a new assignment at the Community Family Support Center Headquarters in Alexandria, Va.

"It's not easy to leave after three decades. The Giessen community has been my home for such a long time and I have a lot of fun memories," Ezernieks said.

Ezernieks and her family first came to Germany in 1974 and Giessen in 1979 when she organized the first Renaissance Fair.

"We were only a few staff members and Soldiers, and everybody loved it and was enthusiastic about it. The following year we had more participants and the fair grew every year. More props were made and the quality of the craftsmen that participated became better. In 1999, after 20 years we quit doing the fair. It was sad but it had almost grown too big," she said.

"I also enjoyed the time when we provided recreational activities on site in tents during the annual REFORGERS," she said.

"We never thought that we

would stay in Germany for that many years. My husband really liked his job with the Department of Defense Dependents School system and I loved my job in the arts and craft branch. We had a lot of fun and somehow the 30 years went by so fast," said Ezernieks.

"I met Linda in 1983 when she hired me to help with the Renaissance Fair and

ever since that time we've worked together closely. She also participated in many of the theater's plays. I'll never forget the time when she played Virginia Woolf — she did a marvelous job," said David Turner, 284th Base Support Battalion entertainment director.

"Linda is a very generous-minded person and she has always been very helpful. Something will be missing when she's gone. Linda is a person with great personal integrity," said Gabi Denhard, 284th BSB library specialist.

"It's sad that the troops do not return to Germany this spring. It hurts me just as much as it hurts the spouses, especially since many members of my staff are spouses of 2-3rd Field Artillery Soldiers. I hope all of them will come back safely," said Ezernieks.

Outdoor Rec trips

Outdoor Recreation sponsors an overnight trip to Paris June 5-6. Cost for adults is \$129. A trip to

explore the nightlife in Amsterdam is scheduled for June 12. Cost is \$49 per person. For more information and reservations call the Outdoor Recreation Center at mil 343-8020.

Tuesday night skating featured in city of Giessen

Starting May 18 at 8 p.m. Intersport Begro hosts its weekly Tuesday Night Skating in Giessen. The tour will lead skaters from the Schifftenberger Tal, through Bismarckstrasse, Ostanlage, Kennedyplatz, Marburger Strasse, Wiesecker Weg, Ringallee and Wieseck. Every week the skaters will go another route through the city of Giessen. Everyone is invited to attend the free event. Being able to break is the only requirement.



414th BSB – Büdingen, Hanau



Community notes ... Community notes ... Community notes

'News from the Front' on website

For the latest information on the extension of the 1st Armored Division deployment to Iraq, visit the 414th Base Support Battalion's website at www.hanau.army.mil and click on "News from the Front" on the homepage.

College Career Day

There will be a College and Career Day at Hanau High School, May 7 from 1:30-2:50 p.m. The high school is looking for graduates of two and four-year colleges and technical schools to represent their alma mater. Volunteer to talk about your school and career. For information call Janice Martin at civ (06181) 906-9939, Janice_Martin@eu.odedodea.edu or Colleen Fleming at civ (06181) 906-9963, Colleen_Fleming@eu.odedodea.edu.

'I Ought To Be In Pictures'

Neil Simon's "I Ought To Be In Pictures" will play April 29-30 and May 1 at the Five Pfennig Playhouse on Old Argonner Kaserne. The show starts at 7:30 p.m. and tickets cost \$12 or €12. Tickets are available at the Hanau USO. For reservations call mil 322-8725 or email 5pfennig@104asg.mwr.army.mil.

Army Emergency Relief fundraising campaign

Army Emergency Relief is a program to meet valid emergency financial needs of active-duty Soldiers, retirees and their families. Assistance can also be provided to survivors of Soldiers who died on active duty or in retirement. Each year between March 1 and May 15 AER officials conduct a fundraising campaign. Units have an AER representative to provide information about the campaign and to solicit donations from each person in the unit. For questions or information contact the AER campaign coordinator, Staff Sgt. Ramel, at mil 322-8144 or civ (06181) 88-8097.

Hanau High to hold talent showcase

The Student Talent Showcase, "Hanau Idol," will be presented at the Hanau High School Cafeteria, Thursday, April 29 at 6:30 p.m. This is a fundraiser for the junior/senior prom.



Photo by Dennis Johnson

Hanau Middle School students shoot, cut and edit

Hanau seventh-graders Allison Troxel and Sarah Ricker review footage they shot with a Mini-DV camera for their Hanau Middle School video production class. Students at Hanau Middle School had a new elective to choose from this semester, Video Production. Taught by Carolyn Cloud, school information specialist, the class teaches students the basics of writing, storyboarding, shooting and editing a video feature or news story. "This is the first time it's been offered here. I asked the principal if I could teach it because there was such a lot of interest from the students. It's an elective class, but since this is a pilot program, for now we have just seven students," said Cloud. "If we can expand our facilities, we'll be able to increase the number of students who can participate."

Spring Bazaar to be held May 7-9

Shop till you drop at the fourth annual Morale Welfare Recreation "Spring into Spring" Bazaar. Vendors from around Europe will display antiques, furniture, art prints, Polish pottery and jewelry May 7-9. A Children's Fest will be in full swing right next to the bazaar on Sunday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Food, rides and activities such as face painting await your children at Pioneer Fitness Center on Hanau's Pioneer Kaserne.

Community CPR and First Aid

This two-session Red Cross course offers CPR on the first day and First Aid on the second day. Class dates are May 15 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. and May 16 from 1-4 p.m. Call Kristi Kolthoff at mil 322-1760 or civ (06181) 88-1760.

School Advisory Council

The Hanau High School Advisory Council is a forum for communicating concerns and advice to the principal on educational matters. Parents are needed to share their ideas and participate on committees. Council meetings will be held May 5 and June 2 at 3 p.m. in the high school conference room. For more information contact Melissa Schuchmann at melissa_schuchmann@eu.odedodea.edu or civ (06181) 9069956.

Hanau athletic events

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

behind the Health Clinic on New Argonner Kaserne. Games start at 10 a.m. For information call Melissa Schuchmann at Hanau High School, civ (06181) 9069956.

'Miss Saigon' encore shows

The Five Pfennig Playhouse will present encore performances of "Miss Saigon" 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. They 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 have Army Community Service Lending Closet

items that are overdue, return them to ACS 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 items.

Summer Hires

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 your 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.

AAFES jobs

U.S. citizens can apply directly online for Army and Air Force Exchange Service jobs at www.aafes.com. Local nationals can visit the Human Resources Office at the Wolfgang Shopping Center or call civ (06181) 958 4403. The office is open Monday to Friday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Tax Center

The Hanau Tax Center offers free tax assistance and electronic filing. The center is open Monday to Wednesday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Thursday from noon to 8 p.m. and Friday from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. It's located in Room 14, Building 2 on Pioneer Kaserne. For more information call Capt. Brian Adams or Spc. Jim Wallner at mil 322-8993/9577.

Boy Scouts

Do you enjoy camping, hiking, sports, archery, friends and learning new skills? Visit a Boy Scout Troop 49 meeting any Thursday at 6:30 p.m. in Building 40 (across from the CMR) on Pioneer Kaserne.

School jobs

Argonner Elementary School has vacancies for GS educational technicians, educational aides, substitute teachers and lunchroom monitors. Applications are available at the school.

Foster Care Month

May is National Foster Care Month. Join Army Community Service at a luncheon for Child Abuse Awareness and Foster Care Appreciation May 6 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Building 9 on Pioneer Kaserne.

Get the latest news online at www.hanau.army.mil

414th BSB – Büdingen, Hanau



130th Engineers unfurl colors, present awards

Col. Gregg Martin (left), 130th Engineer Brigade commander, and Command Sgt. Maj. Michael Buxbaum unfurl the brigade colors during a ceremony symbolizing the official return of the unit to Germany from Iraq and the resumption of its responsibilities from the rear detachment. Soldiers of the 130th Engineer Brigade's Headquarters and Headquarters Company, along with Family Readiness Group members, a German partnership unit and community members, were honored at an awards ceremony held at the Pioneer Kaserne Evening Star Theater March 26. Members of the brigade presented 59 awards including 14 Bronze Stars, 20 Army Commendation Medals, two Heart of Victory awards, four Civilian Service awards and 19 Certificates of Achievement.

Photo by Jayme Loppnow

Redeployment schedule revised

Soldiers redeploy then turn around and head back to Iraq; families express happiness, frustration

Many Soldiers based in the 414th Base Support Battalion who were scheduled to redeploy have been stopped in their tracks. Units of the 4th Brigade, which moved from Iraq to Kuwait, are headed back to Iraq. Other Soldiers spent a week here with their families before flying back

Meanwhile members of the 127th Military Police Company deployed for its first tour of Iraq.



Liz Larsen sees her husband, Lt. Col. Jay Larsen, 4th Brigade executive officer, for the first time in months at Fliegerhorst's 1-501st Aviation hangar April 5. Because of the recent uprisings in Iraq, Larsen was on a jet back to Iraq five days later.



Photos by Dennis Johnson

The first Soldiers of the 4th Brigade "Baghdad Main Body" march into the 1-501st Aviation hangar to a warm welcome April 5. Some of the Soldiers have already returned to Iraq as part of the 1st Armored Division deployment extension.



Ashleigh Wiley (10) sees her dad, Chief Warrant Officer 2 Chris Wiley at the return of 4th Brigade troops to Fliegerhorst Kaserne from Iraq April 5.

A veteran returns to reminisce

Mark Maher points to where "the cage" used to be on Fliegerhorst airfield's tarmac. That was a fenced area where the helicopters were kept secure. Maher, from Aurora, Ill., was stationed at Fliegerhorst Kaserne from 1977-1980 as a Cobra helicopter crew chief. He returned for a visit for the first time in 24 years on March 26.

