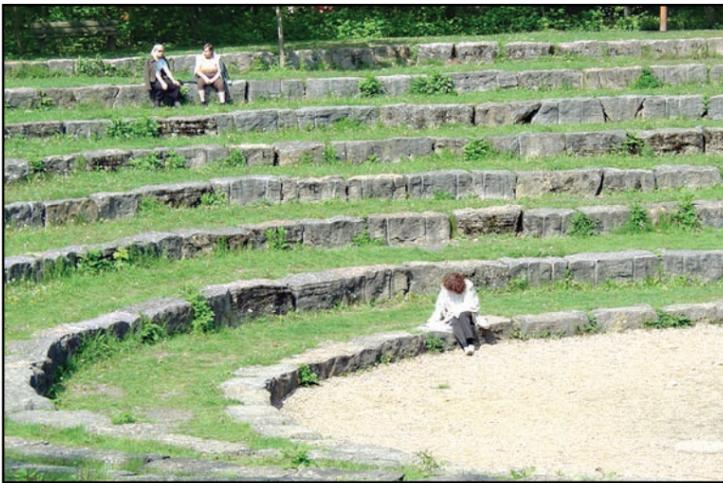


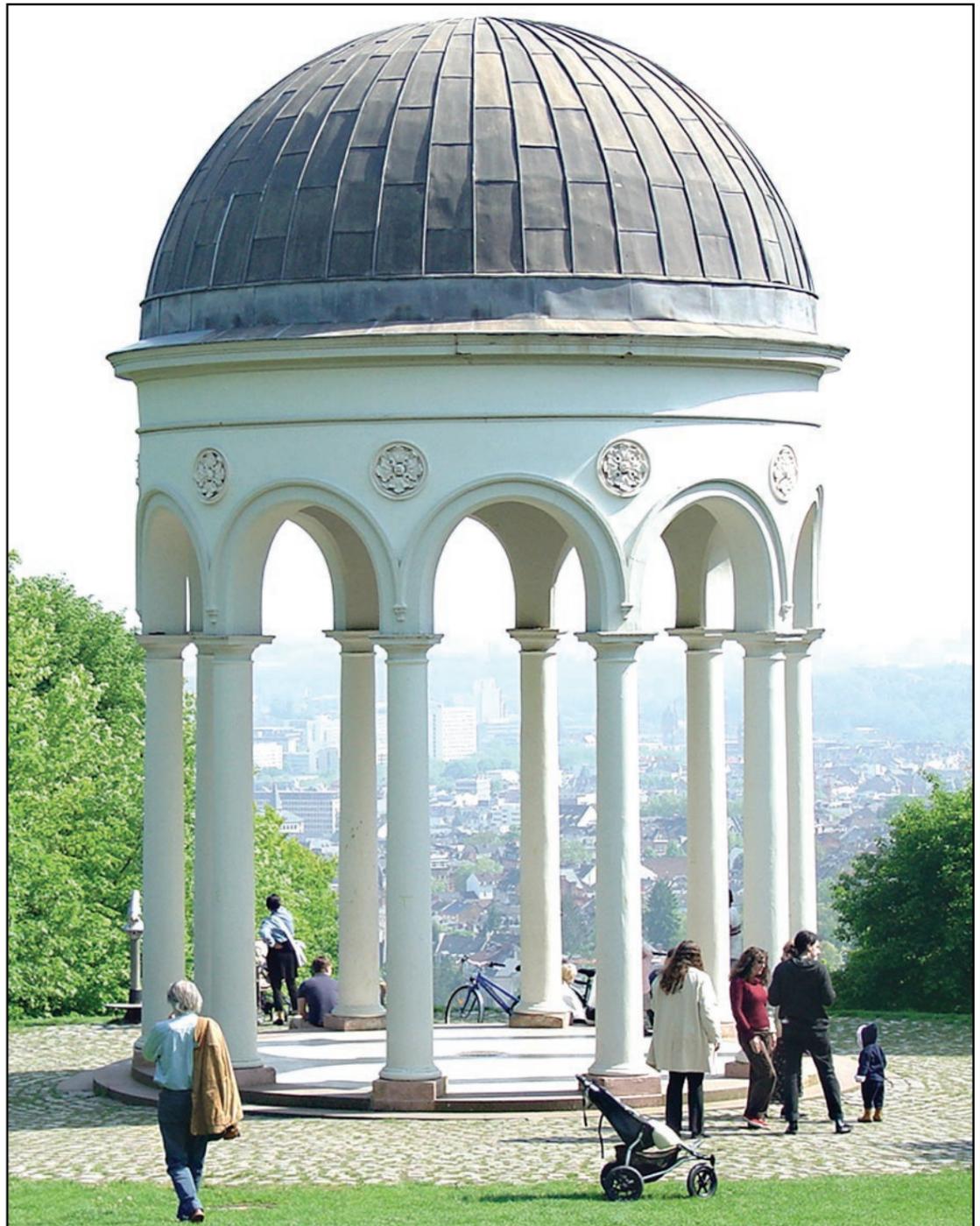
221st BSB – Wiesbaden, Wackernheim, Dexheim



Visitors to the Neroberg take a break in an amphitheater that is the site of small performances on weekends.



A woman's walking group takes a break on top of the Neroberg overlooking the city of Wiesbaden. Photo below: A memorial dedicated to German soldiers killed during World War I is one of many in the park.



A domed pavilion sits atop the Neroberg overlooking the city of Wiesbaden. On a clear day visitors can see as far as the city skyline of Mainz across the Rhein River.

Park provides scenic view

Story and photos by
Cassandra Kardeke
221st Base Support Battalion
Public Affairs Office

Although the summer months are coming to an end it doesn't mean the outings have to stop.

Warm days and beautiful sunshine make the Neroberg a great place to kick back, relax and enjoy the view over Wiesbaden.

Located just above Wiesbaden one can find a Russian church, a swimming pool, a cafe and a park overlooking the entire city. Visitors can even catch a glimpse of Mainz on a really clear day.

The Neroberg provides an excellent place to take the family out for a picnic. Visitors can drive up to the top of the hill or park at the bottom and enjoy an even quainter experience — tak-

ing the Nerobergbahn to the top. This water-powered train carries up to 30 visitors to the top of the hill for a small fee.

Once at the top be sure to wander through the surrounding area. A domed pavilion shelters visitors who wish to take a look at the breathtaking view over Wiesbaden, while a grassy park area is perfect for picnics and family gatherings.

A small amphitheater hosts performances on weekends and a cafe provides refreshments and food for those who wish to just sit back and while away the time.

But the top of the hill isn't all there is to see. Wander around on the many trails and you will find the Opelbad, a giant outdoor pool where sunbathers enjoy the weather, monuments dedicated to fallen World War I soldiers and a Russian

church built in the mid 1800s in honor of Elizabeth Michailovna, the niece of Czar Nicholas I and Alexander I.

To get to the Neroberg from Wiesbaden Army Airfield take B-455 toward Wiesbaden Stadtmitte. Go through the tunnel on Frankfurterstrasse past the American Arms Hotel and take the mandatory left onto Rheinstrasse. Take a right at the next intersection onto Wilhelmstrasse and follow it to the end. Then take a left onto Taunusstrasse which will turn into Nerobergstrasse. Following the road to the end you will find parking at the bottom of the hill for those who wish to take the Nerobergbahn, or take a sharp right onto Weinbergstrasse and follow the signs up the hill for the Opelbad. There is plenty of parking at the top.

221st BSB – Wiesbaden, Wackernheim, Dexheim



Soldiers of the 1st Battalion, 4th Air Defense Artillery, present the unit's cased colors during its deactivation ceremony in Wackernheim. Photo below: Wrapping up their history, 1-4th ADA soldiers furl the unit's colors and case them as a symbol of the unit's deactivation.



Brig. Gen. Mark Hertling (left), 1st Armored Division deputy chief of staff, and Lt. Col. Richard Reid, 1st Battalion, 4th Air Defense Artillery commander, salute the colors during the playing of the national anthem at the deactivation ceremony.

Unit cases colors Deactivation follows deployment

Story and photos by Karen Edge
221st Base Support Battalion Public Affairs Office

For 218 years the 1st Battalion, 4th Air Defense Artillery, 1st Armored Division, answered the call to duty, defending the United States and its allies.

Aug. 4 marked another milestone for the 1-4th ADA as it was deactivated at Wackernheim.

In 2004 the Department of the Army approved an initiative to rebalance forces between its active and reserve components, said officials. The 1-4th ADA is the first U.S. Army Europe unit affected under this plan.

"As we continue to transform our Army and as we transform our air missile defense force, air defense artillery will continue to be relevant," said Lt. Col. Richard Reid, commander, 1-4th ADA. "The divisional air defense has been activated and deactivated numerous times and moved around the world. I think some day in the future, 1-4th ADA will be asked to serve again."

From the War of 1812, the battle of Cold Harbor and the siege of Petersburg to the Panama Canal in 1924, to North Africa and the Cold War, Operation Just Cause and Operation Enduring Freedom, the 1-4th ADA, under one name or another, has answered the call.

Its colors, carrying streamers with names

such as Antietam, Manassas, Wilderness, Chickamauga, Chattanooga and Appomattox, are furlled in the casing that symbolizes the deactivation of the 1-4th Air Defense Artillery.

"We served well. I am proud of all our Soldiers. They all have a bright outlook and future in the Army. They are all proud to serve," said Reid.

As air defense forces are rebalanced throughout the Army, maybe someday the 1-4th ADA will once again be called to serve.



Bürgermeister Karl-Werner Rump, mayor of the Heidesheim community that includes Wackernheim, presents the city flag to Lt. Col. Richard Reid, 1-4th ADA commander, commemorating the good relationships and friendship between the community and the 1-4th ADA.



Photo by Volker Ramspott

New commander at DLA

Incoming Defense Logistics Agency-Europe commander Col. Paul Abel passes the DLA-E colors to his senior enlisted adviser, Master Sgt. Guy Brooks, while director, Vice Adm. Keith Lippert (far left) and outgoing commander, Col. David Mintus look on during change of command ceremonies at the Community Activity Center on Wiesbaden Army Airfield July 15.

DLA vets honored

By Stephen Abney
Defense Logistics Agency Public Affairs
Office

Two former Soldiers who transitioned to civil service careers in Germany were recognized last month for their 40 years of combined federal service.

Vice Admiral Keith W. Lippert, Defense Logistics Agency director, presented certificates and 40-year pins to Robert Baker and Earl Milligan during a visit to Defense Supply Center Philadelphia European Region offices at Mainz-Kastel. DLA is the parent organization of DSCPE.

A native of Springfield, Ohio, Baker joined DLA in January 1996 as a help desk technician, a position he currently holds with DSCPE. Baker enlisted in the Army in 1962 as a wheeled vehicle mechanic and later became a Military Policeman. After 21 years of military service he retired in Germany and went to work for AAFES Europe as Chief of Safety and Security.

Memphis-native Earl Milligan enlisted in the Army in 1963, retiring in 1985 as a master



Robert Baker (left) and Earl Milligan display pins they received for 40 years of service.

sergeant. Milligan joined Defense Subsistence Region Europe in January 1994 as a supervisory inventory management specialist. In June of that year DSRE became Defense Personnel Supply Center Europe and relocated from Pirmasens to Mainz-Kastel. In April 1999 Milligan was assigned to the position of chief, Prime Vendor Europe/Readiness Branch.

Iraq war trophies strictly prohibited

By Jim Garamone
American Forces Press Service

Do not even think about bringing back war trophies from your service in Iraq.

With about 140,000 American service members currently rotating out of Iraq and Afghanistan, U.S. Central Command officials made it clear that service members cannot bring home weapons, ammunition and other prohibited items.

A few Soldiers of the 3rd Infantry Division now understand how serious the command is. Some Soldiers tried to smuggle weapons back from Baghdad, and they have gone through courts martial. Others received Article 15 administrative punishments.

"There is a whole spectrum of punishments, depending on the severity of the offense," said Maj. Robert Resnick, an Army lawyer at Fort Stewart, Ga.

Gen. John Abizaid, commander of the U.S. Central Command, has put out the policy which states that under no circumstances can individuals take as a souvenir an object that was formerly in the possession of the enemy. The taking of war trophies goes against the coalition mission in Iraq and Afghanistan, officials said.

"We didn't go into Iraq or Afghanistan to conquer them, but to liberate them," said Marine Capt. Bruce Frame, a Central Command spokesman. "Taking articles from those countries sends the wrong

message."

Service members with questions should work through their chains of command, said CENTCOM officials. Service members will be given ample briefings on what is allowed and what is not. In the case of Iraq, unit commanders will brief service members on the policy before leaving for Kuwait, where Military Police are to explain the policy and permit an amnesty period before searching gear and vehicles.

In the United States, U.S. Customs Service officials will examine individual gear.

The same prohibitions pertain to American civilians serving in the Central Command area of operations.

Other federal laws pertain to other items. For example service members cannot bring back plants, animals or other organic materials. Some Marines returning from Afghanistan in April 2002, for example, tried to bring back the skulls of sheep attached to their guidons. The Customs agents met the Marines as they landed on the beach at Camp Lejeune, N.C., and confiscated the items.

No one can bring antiquities into the United States and, of course, no one can bring drugs or drug paraphernalia into the United States. The overall prohibition does not pertain to souvenirs that can be legally imported into the United States, officials said.

221st BSB – Wiesbaden, Wackernheim, Dexheim

Community news notes

Military Lodge meets

The Willie H. Dixon Military Lodge No. 143 holds its first meet and greet social at the Community Activity Center Aug. 28 from 7-9 p.m. All members of the Prince Hall Masonic family, active and inactive members, are invited to attend. Call civ (0179) 2398816.

Singers wanted

The Sweet Adelines Hearts of Hessen women's barbershop group is looking for new members. Previous singing experience is recommended. Barbershop singing experience is not necessary. This German-American group rehearses Monday evenings in Wiesbaden. For more information call mil 322-8851 or civ (06181) 5008820, (0611) 86748.

Soldier's club meets

The Sgt. Morales Club meets the first Wednesday of the month in Room 210 of the Welcome Center at Wiesbaden Army Airfield at 2 p.m. All Sgt. Morales and Sgt. Audie Murphy inductees are welcome to attend. For more information call civ (0160) 9211 2266.

AFTB marathon training

Sprint through the first three levels of Army Family Team Building Training Sept. 13-15 and 20-22. AFTB instructor courses will be held Sept. 27-29. Classes will be held at Army Community Service in Hainerberg Housing from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. For more information and to sign up call mil 337-5034 or civ (0611) 705-5034.

Emergency care providers needed

Army Community Service is seeking emergency placement and respite care providers. Emergency

placement provides interim care for children removed from a home due to abuse, neglect or other family emergencies. Respite care provides a temporary rest period for family members responsible for regular care of children with disabilities. Anyone interested in volunteering their home and time to provide care should call mil 337-5034 or civ (0611) 705-5034.

Kabbalat shabbat

Jewish religious services are held every Friday at 7:30 p.m. in Mainz-Kastel Housing. For more information call mil 337-5180 or civ (0611) 705-5180.

Free lunch program

Applications are now being accepted for the free and reduced school lunch program at the 221st Base Support Battalion School Support Office. To find out if your children are eligible for the program call mil 337-7004 or civ (0611) 705-7004.

Vo-tech courses offered

Central Texas College Wiesbaden offers **Emergent Literacy for Early Childhood** and **Legal Aspects of Law Enforcement** courses in the upcoming term. Both courses are classroom-based and earn three credits toward an associate in applied science degree. Registration for CTC is ongoing until Aug. 20. Classes start Aug. 23. Stop by the Wiesbaden Education Center for more information or call mil 337-5561, civ (0611) 705-5561. Check out CTC programs on their website at www.europe.ctcd.edu.

Boot camp sessions

The Tony Bass Fitness Center hosts beginner, advanced and baby boot camp sessions beginning Aug. 30. To sign up stop by the fitness center or call mil 337-5943 or civ (0611) 705-5943.

Possible R&R reimbursement

Military personnel who travelled while on Rest and Recuperation leave from Operation Enduring Freedom of Operation Iraqi Freedom may be eligible for reimbursement of airline costs incurred during on-ward commercial airline travel between Sept. 21 and Dec. 8, 2003. To find out if you are eligible call mil 337-5563 or civ (0611) 705-5563.

Belly dancing workshop

Sign up now for an introduction to belly dancing with the USO Aug. 28 from 3-6 p.m. Cost is \$9. The class will be held at the USO Cottage in Hainerberg Housing. For information stop by the USO office at Hainerberg Shopping Center.

Position available

Army Community Service is seeking a Mobilization and Deployment Program educator. The part-time position requires applicants to have sound knowledge of the mobilization and deployment process, flexible hours and the ability to travel throughout the 221st Base Support Battalion. Resumes can be submitted at ACS, Building 7790 in Hainerberg Housing. For more information call mil 337-5034 or civ (0611) 705-5034.

Comedy night

Need a good laugh? Come on out for Comedy After Dark at the Community Activity Center Aug. 22. Doors open at 7 p.m.; the show starts at 8 p.m. Tickets can be purchased for \$10 in advance or \$15 at the door. For more information call mil 337-5750 or civ (0611) 705-5750.



EFMP support

Join the Exceptional Family Member Program support group the first Wednesday of each month from noon to 1 p.m. in Room 22 at Army Community Service, Building 7790 in Hainerberg Housing. For more information call mil 337-5034 or civ (0611) 705-5034.

Victim support offered

If you are the victim of domestic violence, help is available. Contact the Victim Advocacy Program coordinator at mil 337-5034 or civ (0611) 705-5034.

Clinic closure

The Wiesbaden Health Clinic will be closed Aug. 20 for its organizational day. Sick call will be available until 9 a.m. for military personnel only.

School physicals

The Wiesbaden Health Clinic will conduct school physicals Aug. 17 from 1-5:30 p.m. at the Youth Services gym. Parents must be present and bring the child's shot records.

Flea market

Clean out your closets and make some money at the same time or find that something you've been looking for. Either way you will not want to miss the monthly flea markets at the Wiesbaden Community Activity Center. Doors open at 11 a.m. Sellers can rent a table for \$10. Tables are limited. Dates of upcoming flea markets are Aug. 28, Sept. 25, Oct. 23 and Nov. 20. Call mil 337-5750 or civ (0611) 705-5750.

Nutrition classes

The Wiesbaden Women, Infants and Children-Overseas office offers free nutrition classes the third Tuesday of the month. Classes are held at 1:30 p.m. at the WIC-O office, Building 7005 in Crestview Housing. For information call mil

338-7366 or civ (0611) 380-7366.

Boss night

Tough day at the office? Chips and dips are on the house and drinks are on your boss every fourth Thursday of the month at the Victory Point Bar at the Community Activity Center.

Free bowling

Spouses and families of deployed Soldiers can bowl for free at both the Wiesbaden and Dexheim Bowling Centers every Thursday from 3-6 p.m. during Iron Family Bowling. Shoe rental is also free. Contact your Family Readiness Group leader to obtain your special programs pass.

FCC providers needed

Join the 221st Base Support Battalion Family Child Care program. Stay at home with your children while building a career. Providers receive free training and nationally recognized accreditation. For information call mil 338-7729 or civ (0611) 380-7729.

School registration

Hours of registration for all Wiesbaden and Dexheim schools during the summer will be from 8 a.m. to noon and 1-3 p.m. Monday through Friday. Registration at Aukamm Elementary School will only be held in the mornings. For information call mil 337-7004 or civ (0611) 705-7004.

Meet at Rheinblick

Hold your next gathering at the Rheinblick Golf Course. Conference facilities are free of charge when combined with a catering package. Unit tournament packages starting at \$20 per person. For information call mil 336-2816.

Family inprocessing

Spouse and family member inprocessing training is conducted by the 221st Base Support Battalion. Learn about services and activities available in the community and life in Germany. Sessions are held every Friday from 9 a.m. to noon. Call mil 337-5034/5754 or civ (0611) 705-5034/5754 to sign up.

Youth sponsorship

Teens in grades six to 12 are needed to become ambassadors to other teens moving into the 221st Base Support Battalion area. Youth sponsorship training will be held at Army Community Service, Building 7790, Room 22, from 3:30-5 p.m. Sept. 8 and Nov. 10. For information call mil 337-5034 or civ (0611) 705-5034.

222nd BSB – Baumholder, Neubrücke, Strassburg

222nd BSB reintegration efforts recognized

By Ignacio "Iggy" Rubalcava
222nd Base Support Battalion Public Affairs Office

Reintegration will soon be nothing but a blur for the many who spent countless hours in the tents and behind the scenes ensuring that Soldiers harmoniously reintegrated with their families and into the community.

Countless hours were dedicated to ensure that Soldiers and families had all the possible support they needed to make it not just through reintegration, but also during the 15 months of deployment.

It was an unprecedented effort by the Baumholder community and it set the Army standard for future deployments, said Lt. Col. Todd A. Buchs, 222nd Base Support Battalion commander, addressing more than 200 members of the 222nd BSB staff who assembled Aug. 6 in the Wagon Wheel Theater, where he recognized many of them for their contributions to the reintegration effort.

He told them that Baumholder had made history in the past few months.

"It took enormous planning to put this together, one because of the size of this event and two, it's never been done in the history of the Army. You all have got to realize that we've never done this before, so we've had to start from scratch," he said.

U.S. Army Europe and 7th Army led the way for the Army in terms of the planning for this event.

"But we in the 222nd took the ball, took higher guidance, and we planned this event



Photo by Ignacio "Iggy" Rubalcava
222nd Base Support Battalion Command Sgt. Major Ann MacDaniels and Lt. Col. Todd A. Buchs, 222nd BSB commander, award certificates during the awards ceremony.

collectively and as a result we ended up with a model operation," said Buchs.

The awards ceremony was the last opportunity Buchs had to recognize the members of the 222nd BSB who served with him during the past two years. He will leave for an assignment at USAREUR headquarters in Heidelberg after his change of command ceremony Aug. 20.

"I wanted to bring a select few together to be able to recognize them in front of the rest for the Herculean effort in making this possible in this community," he said.

He told the BSB that the impact of what they accomplished would not be seen until months from now, when Soldiers return from leave and complete unit reconstitution. Only then will the efforts of the community begin

to surface. Not until then will we "actually start seeing the impact, the effect of what we've done here, and I don't want you to underestimate what we've done for our Soldiers," he said.

"Everybody in this community is represented here. This is not a 222nd BSB operation. It wasn't an 8th Finance operation or whatever. It was everyone. We couldn't have done it without every partner involved in this process. That's why we became the model, because everyone was involved in this process," said Buchs.

He emphasized that this was the first time in Army history that such an operation was undertaken and explained why the Army will continue with the reintegration process — because of lessons learned from previous deployments.

"I don't want to say bad lessons learned, but lessons learned. We are an Army that learns quickly and we learn from things that we have failed to do. We overcome that in the future and that is exactly what the Army has done with reintegration. We have taken care of Soldiers. We have taken care of families," he said.

In closing he again emphasized the meaning of reintegration. "I want you all to remember why we did this. We did this for our Soldiers. This directly reflects on readiness, the future readiness of this Army. Always remember that. Always remember what we've done for our Soldiers and what we've done for our families."



Photo by LeAnne MacAllister

Saying good-bye to 'the Old Man'

Bianca Bowen presents Col. George A. Latham II, outgoing 104th Area Support Group commander, with a bag of Baumholder goodies during a farewell barbecue July 21. Lt. Col. Todd A. Buchs, 222nd Base Support Battalion commander, presented Latham with a gift from the community.

Commander bids farewell

The 222nd Base Support Battalion will have a new commander in a couple of days. Lt. Col. Todd A. Buchs who has commanded the battalion through the long days of deployment, redeployment and reintegration during the past two years leaves "the Rock" for an assignment at U.S. Army Europe Headquarters in Heidelberg Aug. 20.

Lt. Col. James H. Larsen will take command of the 222nd BSB on that day.

"I wanted to get everyone together from the 222nd BSB one last time, mostly to say thank you for all that you have done over the last two years," said Buchs, addressing members of the 222nd BSB staff for the last time at a general personnel assembly Aug. 5.

"Together, all of you continue to amaze our senior leadership in what you've accomplished in this community and how well you serve this community, our Soldiers, our families.

"I wanted to get everyone together and reminisce on what we've accomplished together as a team because none of what we've done over the last two years could have been done by one directorate, by one individual," said Buchs.

The assembly viewed a 15-minute slide presentation that recapped the major accomplishments the 222nd BSB for the past

two years.

"When I sat back and looked at this slide presentation, I didn't have that feeling of exhaustion. Rather I had that feeling of immense pride because I realized the magnitude of what we've done over the last two years, major muscle movements as I call them.

"Nothing happened by chance or by accident. It happened because we are a quality, best-in-the-Army, in my eyes, work force. We have a mission. We've performed our mission extremely well...and we have a vision for this community," said Buchs.

"I'll never see it on my watch, but I guarantee you next year, sitting up in Heidelberg, I'm going to open up the Stars and Stripes and I'm going to read that Baumholder has been named first place in the Department of the Army worldwide Community of Excellence competition because you've got it in you, you've got the people, you've got the teamwork and I know you can do it," he said.

"I want to say one final thanks for all your commitment, all your dedication, all of your teamwork and everything you put into this organization because I am nothing but a leader who tries to guide people in the right direction — but you all are the ones who have made this happen."

Motorcycle course taught in Baumholder

By **LeAnne MacAllister**
222nd Base Support Battalion
Public Affairs Office

After daydreaming of riding a motorcycle along curvy German mountain passes, Soldiers are returning from deployment anxious to hit the roads again. But before they rev up their engines they will need to complete the Motorcycle Safety Course, said officials.

The 222nd Base Support Battalion has arranged for the Motorcycle Safety Course to be held in

Baumholder every Tuesday and Thursday. Classes begin at 8 a.m. at the 40th Engineers motor pool and are limited to 12 participants. All participants must hold a valid motorcycle license.

Motorcycle safety training is a requirement of the Department of Defense. Two USAREUR Soldiers who were recently involved in serious crashes had not completed the course. "We must do better in preventing tragedies," said Gen. B.B. Bell, U.S. Army Europe commander,

noting the requirement is critical.

The 222nd BSB realized Baumholder Soldiers could benefit from holding the course locally, and steps were taken to make the program more accessible.

Baumholder riders previously had to travel to Vogelweh to take the course. The 222nd BSB created a temporary solution to help the Soldiers returning from deployment. Four rider coaches were brought to Baumholder to teach the course locally through the duration

of reintegration.

Capt. Jonathan Cornett, who recently took the class, said he found it beneficial because it served as a refresher for basic riding skills.

"It's especially beneficial for the Soldiers returning from downrange who have been off their bikes for a year and a half. It's great that they are running the program in Baumholder as well because going to Ramstein or Vogelweh was difficult," he said.

The course will be suspended

once reintegration ends because the motor pool will be needed for equipment, but the 222nd BSB is looking forward to having a permanent course on the airfield next year.

The Motorcycle Safety Foundation has two programs, the Basic Rider Course and the Experienced Rider Course. The Experienced Rider Course, known as the refresher class, is required for anyone who has not ridden during the last six months. For information call mil 485-6509/7406.



Photo by LeAnne MacAllister

Experienced motorcyclists refresh their skills with the Motorcycle Safety Foundation course.

CARE Fair coming up

Information pertaining to anything and everything you ever wanted to know about services and facilities in the Baumholder community will be available during Baumholder's annual CARE Fair from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Aug. 28 at the Rheinlander.

The event is geared for new members of the community, orienting them to everything Baumholder has to offer, but everyone is encouraged to attend.

More than 51 agencies ranging from Army Community Service, Baumholder schools, clinic, Education Center, to the commissary and post exchange will have information available.

Some agencies such as the Education Center will offer registration for courses while others will hand out job information and even conduct interviews.

"We take this time to pass out information for programs that agencies will be offering in the coming months," said John Visneski, event coordinator.

"The CARE Fair is simply one-stop shopping for information for anyone new to Baumholder, but we do encourage everyone to attend," he said.

To encourage even more people to attend, event coordinators will have drawings for prizes throughout the day.

Documentation is key to recovery of household goods

As you prepare for your next move, there are certain things you should know which will assist you in filing a claim if your property is lost or damaged.

First and foremost, most claims are paid based on the documentary evidence claimants supply to establish that a loss occurred and the value of the loss. In establishing that a loss occurred there is no set rule on how much proof claimants must provide. Generally the inventory is the most important document used in establishing a loss of household goods or hold baggage. If the inventory is well prepared, listing the contents of boxes in detail, this will normally serve as sufficient proof of loss.

Pay attention to the inventory that is prepared by the carrier. It will be completed before departure from your quarters by the carrier's representative. It is a listing of your personal property and you will be required to sign it before the driver leaves. The inventory should be an accurate, legible, descriptive list of your household goods.

During the packout, be proactive in reviewing the preparation of your inventory and the packing of your property. This may ensure better packing performance and act as a deterrent to potential pilferage.

Ensure each carton and loose item has an inventory tag and appears on the inventory.

Ensure the content of cartons accurately identifies the property. If a box contains crystal make sure the inventory says "crystal," not "kitchen items."

Identify contents left in drawers. Be sure the inventory reflects the contents.

It is important that your high value items such as stereo components, televisions, cameras, video recorders, jewelry, comic books and baseball cards are listed on the inventory. Failure to do so makes it difficult to prove that you actually gave the item to the carrier to be shipped.



Compact disks, videotapes and VCR tapes should be counted. Have the packer enter how many were packed on the inventory and have him indicate if these are originals.

Audio-video equipment must be identified by make, model number and serial number.

Televisions must also be identified by size and indicate whether they are color models or black and white.

If you are shipping a multimedia system it should be identified as such and not merely as a television.

Separate your professional items and authorized consumables. Be sure they are identified on the inventory as professional books, papers and equipment or authorized consumables as the items are weighed separately.

Monitor the wrapping and packing of your items. Make sure everything is wrapped individually and adequately. Make sure heavy items aren't packed on top of light items.

Don't allow your property to be taken to the warehouse to be packed without first consulting the transportation office.

Furniture items usually reflect the condition of the property by codes. These codes are called "exception symbols" and "location symbols." An explanation for these symbols is found at the top of each inventory page. Check the string of symbols listed for each item closely because this is how the packers show preexisting damage.

For example, "BR 2453" means "broken, bottom front left corner." A good inventory shows what condition the item was in at the time of pickup.

If your inventory is inaccurate, tell the carrier's representative and write down why you disagree at the bottom of the inventory in the space marked for exceptions. Identify the inventory line number and the item you

are commenting on. Be specific as to why you disagree.

Carefully read the inventory prepared by the carrier's representative before you sign. Look at it from time to time while the items are being packed.

Do not sign anything until you have read, understood and agreed with it. You must be provided a legible copy of everything you sign. Never sign a blank, incomplete or illegible form or a form you cannot clearly understand.

Do not argue with the carrier's representative. If you have a problem call your Transportation Office at once.

By signing the inventory at the end of the pack out, without taking exceptions, you are acknowledging your agreement that the inventory is a true reflection of what you tendered for shipment and its condition.

Remember, you the shipper, are the person best suited to know what you shipped and the condition of the listed items. If these items are subsequently damaged it could affect the adjudicated amount of your claims award.

If you have any questions pertaining to claim policies contact claims personnel at the Baumholder Legal Center, Building 8222 on Smith Barracks, or call mil 485-6507. (Courtesy of the Baumholder Claims Office)

Devoted ‘Rear Ds’ always on duty



Photo by LeAnne MacAllister

Maj. Richard Redfield (left) and Capt. Joel Leeflor meet after the daily reintegration update briefing at the 222nd Base Support Battalion headquarters.



Photo by LeAnne MacAllister

Capt. Phillip Burns (left) and Capt. Joel Leeflor coordinate their rear detachment duties before the daily reintegration update briefing.

By LeAnne MacAllister
222nd Base Support Battalion Public Affairs Office

If during this latest deployment there were any unsung heroes, the Soldiers of the rear detachment would top that list, working diligently and ensuring that nothing fell through the cracks.

The Rear Detachment Commanders and Soldiers have served the families of the Baumholder community for 16 months. When asked what their duties entail, many state that there are 1,000 things that cannot be named. Though the Rear Detachment Commanders shoulder the responsibility of putting out fires 24 hours a day, defining their positions is quite a challenge. They have many stories to tell, yet the “Rear Ds,” as they are commonly called, have remained outside of the spotlight, working tirelessly to help Soldiers and families.

“The rear detachment mission is to make sure that the units downrange can do their mission without having to look back here and worry. Whatever needs to be done, we do,” said Maj. Richard Redfield, 1st Armored Division’s Division Artillery Rear Detachment Commander.

The rear detachment carries the responsibility of taking care of families. In addition to making sure families have the support they need, they work with personnel, redeployment and reintegration issues. This includes behind the scenes logistics and administrative needs.

The Rear Ds usually attend PT at 6:30 a.m. and start work at 8 a.m., and there is nothing unusual about putting in a 14-16 hour day. In addition they receive calls on many nights and have to return to the office, a family member’s home, the hospital or wherever they may be needed. Seven days a week, 24-hours a day, the Rear D is on duty.

“The needs of the families, the unit and the job always come first,” said Capt. Joel Leeflor. “I spent Christmas and New Year’s at Landstuhl with wounded Soldiers and their families,” said Redfield. Responsibility did not stop for holidays or weekends.

The RDCs have faced many challenges throughout their tenure. Capt. Jonathan Cornett served as the 2nd Brigade RDC, overseeing the RDCs of six battalions and two companies.

“Reporting injuries and deaths back to the local community was one of the hardest parts of the job. It is a very difficult thing to go through. The intensity of the position also increased when the announcement was given that Soldiers were extended,” he said.

“When I was downrange I didn’t have the full spectrum on the importance of the rear detachment or what they did. I thought it was an easy job, but that’s not true. Now I see how key and essential it is to the mission. Taking care of issues back here is just as important and it cannot be overlooked. It requires patience, competence and understanding,” said Cornett.

Capt. Jeffrey Scott, who has served as the 1st Battalion, 35th Armor Regiment Rear Detachment Commander for 16 months, said that the job required all the rear detachments to work as a team. “Everyone helped each other when they needed it. We all worked together closely. That’s how we survived it.”

Family Readiness Group leaders put in extraordinary levels of effort in working with the families and the units, often serving as a bridge in problemsolving, said Scott.

“This is probably the most challenging job I’ve had in the Army, but I’m glad they sent me,” Cornett said. “Most Rear Ds will tell you they do not want this job again, but they worked hard, learned a lot about another side of the Army and had a chance to develop valuable skills beyond their technical branch.”

“Rear detachment is a job that has to be done by the right people. You’re not going to get patted on the back. It’s extremely difficult, but Baumholder had the right people on the job,” said Redfield.

“How and what the rear detachment does relates directly on readiness, warfighting and re-enlistment. This rear detachment has done an excellent job,” said Lt. Col. Todd A. Buchs, 222nd Base Support Battalion commander.



Photo by Madeleine Dwoiakowski

Capt. Jonathan Cornett (left) and Capt. Ryan Bromenschenkel relax after a welcome home ceremony for returning Soldiers, one of the many rear detachment duties.



Photo by Ignacio "Iggy" Rubalcava

A Soldier checks his paperwork during the personnel asset inventory directed by the Department of the Army.

90th PSB counts Soldiers

Personnel Asset Inventory follows deployment

By Ignacio "Iggy" Rubalcava

*222nd Base Support Battalion
Public Affairs Office*

The Army wants to know where all its Soldiers are so it has directed all units to take inventory — a Personnel Asset Inventory.

It's a paper-pushing process with no room for error, and Soldiers from the 90th Personnel Services Battalion are assisting local units get through the process error free.

To a commander it can mean the difference between being able to account for all his Soldiers or having to explain to other commanders or family members where a Soldier is.

Heading up the local inventory effort is Sgt. Pircilla Joseph of Detachment A, 90th PSB, who explained that discrepancies are not tolerated.

"Units have one to three days to make any corrections. If it is not corrected then the Soldier must go through the PAI again because

we have zero tolerance. We can't have one discrepancy," she said.

This personnel inventory is directed by the Army, but a PAI is usually done whenever the chain of command directs it, during a deployment or when a commander wants to have Soldier accountability.

In addition to a face-to-face accounting of Soldiers, items such as ID cards, dog tags and Serviceman's Group Life Insurance are reviewed. Soldiers also had an opportunity to complete their voting registration during the PAI.

"We have units from 2nd Brigade and Division Artillery participating," said Capt. Phillip Burns, 90th PSB rear detachment commander. The 222nd Base Support Battalion also participated.

"We are assisting the units in performing an accountability of all their Soldiers and it must be 100 percent. If a Soldier is on leave or in the hospital we must see the paperwork," he said.