

## News notes

### Air Force family day

All airmen, civilians and family members of U.S. Air Force geographically separated units in the Wiesbaden area are invited to an Air Force Family Sports Day at the Wiesbaden Army Airfield Youth Sports Field March 14 from 2-8 p.m. Meet other Air Force personnel in the area and enjoy games and sports for the entire family. For reservations or information call civ (0611) 563-0281, 532-7514 or 204-3756.

### Library open

The Aukamm Elementary School Library is open to the public from 2:30-6 p.m. every Wednesday. Check out books, use the Internet for research or just enjoy a story hour. Enjoy a special performance and Native American stories March 5, courtesy of the Aukamm Parent Teacher Association and Choctaw Nation storyteller Tim Tingle.

### No DA photos

No Department of the Army photos will be available at the Training Support Center March 18-21. Customers needing DA photos must make an appointment before or after this time. For more information call mil 337-5006 or civ (0611) 705-5006.

### Emergency care providers needed

Wiesbaden Army Community Service seeks emergency placement care providers. Free training and certification will be provided. For more information call mil 337-5034 or civ (0611) 705-5034.

### VFW meeting

Nominations for Veterans of Foreign Wars Post officers will be held during a VFW Post meeting March 11 at 6:30 p.m. in Building 6553 at Anderson Barracks. For more information call civ (06241) 58737 or (0177) 7279807.

### Health and fitness

In celebration of National Nutrition Month, the Tony Bass Fitness Center offers a free Healthy Eating/Maintaining the Balance Workshop March 8 from 10 a.m. to noon. A TurboKick demonstration, nutritional information and guidance from a personal trainer will be available.

### Maintenance class

Learn how to change oil, check tire pressure, change a flat tire and maintain fluid levels at a free basic maintenance class at the Mainz-Kastel Auto Skills Center March 21 from 4-6 p.m. For more information call mil 334-2460.

### Talent show

The Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers program presents the Dexheim Idol Talent Show March 13 at 7 p.m. at the Dexheim Theater. The show is suitable for the entire family. For more information call mil 334-5971.

# What you need to know about smallpox vaccination program

By **Cassandra Kardeke**  
221st Base Support Battalion Public Affairs Office

The smallpox vaccinations have not been a small issue among soldiers and family members in the Wiesbaden military communities. Several spouses and family members have raised concerns to 221st Base Support Battalion and health officials.

The following Frequently Asked Questions should help ease the minds of soldiers and family members regarding the dos and don'ts of the vaccination process. The information was provided by Dr. (Capt.) James G. Lamphear, smallpox clinical consultant at Wiesbaden Army Airfield Health Clinic, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and Military Vaccines websites.

**Q: What does the vaccination do?**  
A: The smallpox vaccine contains a live virus called *vaccinia* that is introduced under the skin during vaccination. This causes a mild, localized reaction that stimulates the body's immune system to produce protective mediators. In the event of exposure to the smallpox virus, these mediators will protect the body from the life-threatening disease caused by smallpox.

**Q: How do I care for the vaccination site?**  
A: The vaccination site should be covered by a bandage or shirt sleeve for usually seven to 14 days after the vaccination or until a scab begins to form.

**Q: Is it necessary to cover the vaccination site?**  
A: Yes. The smallpox vaccine does cause a pus-filled blister to form. A bandage is used as an added protective measure to prevent inadvertent contact with the vaccination site. If you touch the vaccination site, wash your hands right away. Warm water and soap kills the virus. Do not let others touch the vaccination site or materials that covered it.

**Q: What if the bandage falls off?**  
A: The vaccination site should remain covered either by a bandage or shirt sleeve until the site has been healed and the scab has

fallen off (usually within two to three weeks of receiving the vaccination). The bandage should be removed and changed at least once a day, especially before taking a shower.

**Q: How do I get rid of used bandages at home?**

A: Put used bandages in a sealed or double plastic bag and throw it away. You may carefully add a little bleach to the bag, if desired, to kill the virus. When the scab falls off, flush it down the toilet or dispose of it carefully (in a plastic bag with bleach) in the trash. Be sure to wash your hands with soap and hot water.

**Q: What will help the vaccination site heal?**

A: Leave the vaccination site alone and let nature take its course. Do not use creams or ointments. This will only slow the healing process and can cause the virus to spread. Keep the vaccination site dry. Airing the site can help the scab to dry and fall off; however, this should only be done when the vaccinated person is not around others.

**Q: Can I (or family members) get infected through contact with the vaccination site?**

A: Since the smallpox virus itself is not used to vaccinate individuals, family members can not manifest the smallpox disease. However, the blister formed by the vaccination is considered infectious. It is possible that if someone comes in contact with the site or contaminated materials and then touches another part of their body, they could introduce the virus into a mucous membrane or break the skin. Therefore the site should remain covered until it is healed. If contact with the site is made, be sure to wash with soap and hot water.

**Q: Can a vaccinated person swim in a public pool?**

A: The vaccination site must be kept dry at all times. It is best not to swim until after the scab falls off.

**Q: After a bath or shower, does the bathtub need to be cleaned before other people use it?**

A: No, a bathtub or shower does not need to be sanitized after use. The virus is already

killed with soap and water and does not survive when washed off the body. Clean any surface that touches a dirty bandage or the vaccination site with soap and water.

**Q: Can I sleep in the same bed with a person who was just vaccinated?**

A: Yes, unless there is a medical reason such as a chronic skin condition, disease or medication that weakens your immune system. Again, the vaccination site should be covered by a bandage or sleeves.

**Q: Can I have sex with someone who was just vaccinated?**

A: Yes. The virus is not transmitted by sexual contact, but the vaccine virus can be moved by touching the vaccination site. Be sure the site is covered and neither partner touches it.

**Q: What about the laundry?**

A: Do not share clothes, towels or toiletries with someone who just received the smallpox vaccination. Wash clothes and linens that touch the vaccination site with hot water and detergent or bleach to kill the virus.

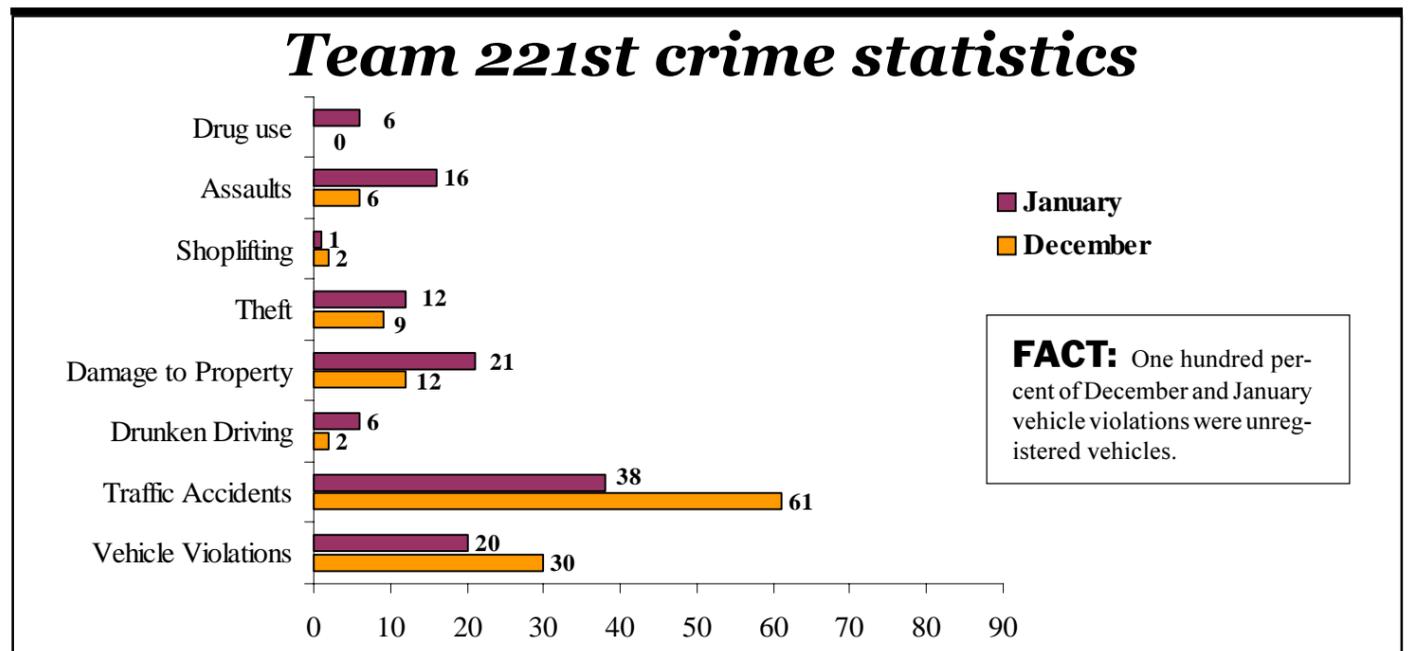
**Q: Can the vaccinated person hold a baby?**

A: Vaccinated people should reduce the contact with infants under a year old until the scab falls off; however, as long as the vaccination site is bandaged, sleeves cover the bandage and the person washes his or her hands with soap and water before handling a child, the risk is reduced.

**Q: How close can a vaccinated person come in contact with a child, pregnant woman or somebody with a serious medical condition such as eczema?**

A: Be careful when around others and remember three simple steps: bandages, sleeves and hand washing. In a household, contact is more intimate. Normal contact is fine, but avoid rough play with children or other physical contact that could result in brushing against the site.

For more information on the care and treatment of the vaccination site browse to [www.vaccines.army.mil](http://www.vaccines.army.mil) or [www.cdc.gov/smallpox](http://www.cdc.gov/smallpox).



## Dental Clinic officials call for patience

By Cassandra Kardeke  
221st Base Support Battalion  
Public Affairs Office

Recent questions during Town Hall Meetings and issues brought up during the Army Family Action Plan conference last month indicate that community members are unclear on procedures for obtaining dental care through the Wiesbaden Army Airfield Dental Clinic.

Concerns regarding eligibility, appointments, exams and emergency care have spurred dental clinic officials to help clarify the Dental Clinic's mission.

"Our primary mission is to ensure that the soldiers are dental ready and have no dental needs holding them back from their Army mission," said Dr. (Lt. Col.) Derrick Carter, Dental Clinic commander. With only 14 available dental chairs, a staff of 11 and a community population of over 15,000, that mission gets harder and harder.

### Multiple patients

"The doctor-to-chair ratio is more a problem than understaffing," Carter said. In a perfect world scenario, Carter said with more chairs a dentist can rotate in between patients. "As one is receiving anesthesia or waiting for it to take effect the dentist can be working on another patient. However, we just don't have enough chairs to accommodate this," he said. "Whether we have enough chairs or not, we make do with what we have and try to squeeze people in when and where we can."

Allowing exams to be done on a walk-in basis only is one way clinic officials attempt to squeeze in as many patients as possible. Because dental exams can typically be done in 15 minutes, appointments are saved for longer and more in-depth dental care. "It may seem like a hassle to come in and sit and wait, but once the exam is done we can determine exactly what (if any) kind of an appointment is needed and ensure the appropriate dental care is provided," Carter said. Exams are available on a walk-in basis for family members Monday and Tuesday

from 7:30-10:30 a.m. and 12:30-3:30 p.m., Wednesday and Friday from 7:30-10:30 a.m. and Thursday from 12:30-3 p.m. Sick-call hours are 7:30-9:30 a.m. Monday through Wednesday and Friday, and 12:30-2 p.m. Thursday. Active duty soldiers can come in at any time during duty hours to be seen.

"Monday mornings are pretty busy due to the sick-call patients," Carter said. He recommended patients attempt a walk-in visit Monday afternoons or later. "The best time to be seen is Friday. That's our slow day," he said. Families with three or more people needing an exam can call ahead to make an appointment.

The biggest problem the clinic faces is failed appointments. Although failed appointments have dropped 15 percent over the past year, 25 percent of patients routinely miss their appointments. "Our biggest offenders are active duty soldiers," said Dr. (Lt. Col.) Naomi Horowitz, clinic affairs director. "Patients missing an appointment without a cancellation in a private practice would get charged. We can't do that here," she said. Although a 10-minute grace period is allowed, that 10-minute delay causes the next patient to be seen late and creates a domino affect for the rest of the day. "Patients who are seen here know that parking is difficult or there will be delays at the gate, in the mornings and right after lunch, but they really must make sure they have plenty of time when coming in for appointments and should be here at least 15 minutes beforehand," Carter said.

Another service available is emergency dental care. "We have a dentist on call 24 hours a day, seven days a week," Horowitz said. Many patients with dental emergencies see a dentist on the economy and then get stuck with the bill because the visit wasn't covered by Tricare. "A chipped tooth really isn't an emergency, but patients with severe pain or trauma can request the on-call dentist to treat the immediate concern," Carter said. Patients living within the 221st Base Support Battalion communities need-



Dr. Janine Randazzo (right) and assistant Samantha Fox provide dental care to patient Michelle Knight at the Wiesbaden Army Airfield Dental Clinic.

ing emergency dental care after hours can call the Wiesbaden Military Police Desk at mil 337-5096 or civ (0611) 705-5096 and ask for the on-call dentist.

The top complaint at the Wiesbaden Dental Clinic is the wait for exams. There is a place patients can go with virtually no wait. "Our best kept secret is the Dental Clinic at McCully Barracks," Carter said. With six chairs and two dentists, the facility is underused, he said.

"It's just a little more of a drive than coming to the airfield, but it's worth it. You can be seen practically right away for exams, cleanings and other general dental work," said Carter.

"Appointments can generally be made within days as well," said Horowitz.

### Orthodontics

Orthodontic service will be moving to the McCully Barracks Dental Clinic during the summer as the airfield clinic relocates to temporary buildings while the clinic undergoes renovations.

"The move will be inconvenient and services will be limited, but the end result will be a top-notch facility," Carter said.

In the meantime, patients are asked to be sure to cancel their appointment if they can not make it, arrive early and most of all, be patient.



Spc. Nicole Smith, dental lab technician, places acrylic over a dental model at the Wiesbaden Army Airfield Dental Clinic.



**After duty hours  
emergency  
dental care  
available — call  
(0611) 705-5096**

Have a dental emergency? Don't get stuck with a bill not covered by Tricare. Call the Wiesbaden Military Police Desk and ask for the on-call dentist.

# 221st BSB – Wiesbaden, Wackernheim, Dexheim

## Employment

### Jobs available

The Wiesbaden Nonappropriated Fund Civilian Personnel Office has open and continuous announcements for the following positions: Child Development Center program assistant, operations assistant, custodial workers, cooks (in Dexheim), food service workers, recreation aides, food and beverage attendants, material handlers, bar assistants and waiters (Dexheim). Announcements are also listed at [www.chrma.hqusa.army.mil](http://www.chrma.hqusa.army.mil). For more information call mil 337-5272 or civ (0611) 705-5272.

### Job fair coming

Army Community Service and the Army Career Alumni Program sponsor a job fair March 20 from 2-5 p.m. at the ACS cafeteria in Building 7790 in Hainerberg Housing. For more information call mil 337-5034 or civ (0611) 705-5034.

### Positions available

Choctaw Management Services Enterprise has a full-time position for a registered dietitian/nutritionist and an administrative assistant at the Wiesbaden Women, Infant and Children office. Both positions require a U.S. Army Europe driver's license and travel. Resumes can be sent to [wieswicnurse@yahoo.com](mailto:wieswicnurse@yahoo.com), faxed to civ (0611) 380-7836 or dropped off at the WIC office, Building 7005 in Crestview Housing.

### Program educator needed

The 221st Army Community Service Family Advocacy Program needs a full-time program educator.

This position requires a bachelor of science degree in social science with two years of experience dealing with domestic violence. For more information and to apply contact ACS in Building 7790 in Hainerberg Housing or call mil 337-5034, civ (0611) 705-5034.

### AFTB training

Share your knowledge and get involved with your community. Army Family Team Building instructor training will be held March 10-12 from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. in Room 22 of Army Community Service in Hainerberg Housing. For more information call mil 337-5034 or civ (0611) 705-5034.

### Troops to teachers

Learn how to transition Army leadership skills to America's classrooms March 5 from 2-3:30 p.m. at the Wiesbaden Army Airfield Education Center. Call mil 337-6524 or civ (0611) 705-6524 for information.

### Child care providers needed

Do you like children? Become a Family Child Care provider. Stay home with your children, work from your home, develop professionally with free training and get paid at the same time. Call the FCC office at civ (0611) 380-7729 for information.

### Babysitters needed

Babysitters are needed to provide child care in the home of a family. Sign up at the 221st Central Enrollment Office. For more information call mil 338-5383 or civ (0611) 380-5383.



Photo by Patricia Simoes

## Celebrating African American heritage

Fitness gurus put their workout to a rhythm during an African American aerobics class at the Tony Bass Fitness Center at Wiesbaden Army Airfield Feb. 22. Wiesbaden community members celebrated Black History Month with several activities throughout the month of February. Photo below: Local youth raise their hands and dance to the music of the New Hope Baptist Church Gospel Choir during a heritage celebration at the Youth Services Complex Feb. 21. Youth in leadership programs such as the Torch and Keystone Clubs planned the activities that featured a home-cooked dinner of fried/barbecued chicken, cornbread, collard greens and black-eyed peas followed by recitals and a history lesson in African-American heritage. Other events during the month included luncheons at the Rheinlander Club in Dexheim and at area dining facilities.



Photo by Cassandra Kardeke

## New credit aids taxpayers

By Cathy Pulley-Ballard  
Wiesbaden Tax Assistance Center

Let the Internal Revenue Service pay you to save money. How?

New for 2002, the IRS may give you a credit on taxes due if you put money into a Thrift Savings Plan or Individual Retirement Account

during the year.

If you are single and your Adjusted Gross Income is less than \$25,000; head of household and your AGI is less than \$37,500; or married filing jointly and your AGI is less than \$50,000, the IRS will give you a credit against taxes owed based on the amount that you contribute to a TSP or IRA. The credit can mean hundreds of dollars applied to your refund or to taxes owed.

Take advantage of this opportunity to save. If you put money into a retirement savings, the government may give you money back. If you didn't invest in an IRA last year it's still not too late as long as you do so by April 15 of this year.

Ask your tax office about the Retirement Savings Credit. The Wiesbaden Tax Assistance Center is located at Heer Strasse 31 on Wiesbaden Army Airfield. No appointment is necessary. Just bring all W-2s, identification and last year's tax forms.



**SNAP!**  
Safe Neighborhood Awareness Program  
Neighbors helping neighbors  
keep their community safe and secure

## Be a SNAP volunteer



Welcome to Team 221st

Volunteer today and help safeguard your community by:

- Increasing threat awareness
- Actively observing your surroundings
- Watching out for your families and fellow soldiers

Please cut out and return this form to the Army Community Service Installation Volunteer Coordinator at ACS in Hainerberg Housing, Building 7790.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number \_\_\_\_\_

Housing area \_\_\_\_\_

# 221st BSB –Wiesbaden, Wackernheim, Dexheim

## Community happenings

### Pottery bingo

The Wiesbaden Community Spouses Club hosts Polish Pottery Bingo at the Wiesbaden Community Activities Center March 7. Doors open at 6:30 p.m.; games begin at 7:30 p.m.

### Volunteer recognition

Army Community Service is now taking nominations for Distinguished Volunteer of the Year to recognize at the Team 221st Volunteer Recognition Ceremony April 23. All agencies and organizations must turn in a complete listing of volunteers to the Installation Volunteer Coordinator by March 15; however, only one volunteer per unit/organization can be nominated for the annual award. Nominations must be received by March 13. For more information call mil 337-5034 or civ (0611)705-5034.

### Scouting in Wiesbaden

Bored? New in town? Make new friends and get together with old ones with Wiesbaden Scouts. Sign up today — Girl Scouts, call civ (06123) 899 593; Boy Scouts, call civ (0611) 520 532; Cub Scouts, call civ (01728)0448247.

### FRG session

Family Readiness Group networking sessions are held at Army Community Service, Building 7790 in Hainerberg Housing. The next FRG session will be held March 11 from 6-7 p.m. at ACS. Call Edwina Brown at mil 337-5034 or civ (0611) 705-5034 for information.

### Spouses Club luncheon date set

The Wiesbaden Community Spouses Club monthly luncheon will be held March 19 from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Wiesbaden Catering Center. For reservations call civ (0611)565 7401 or (0611)505 5712.

### German lessons

Learn how to speak German for free at Dexheim Army Community Service every Wednesday and Thursday from 6-8 p.m. Call mil 334-5622 or civ (06133) 69622 to register.

### Newcomer class

Army Family Team Building offers evening newcomers classes at the Information Center in the American Arms Hotel the first and third Monday of the month from 6-7:30 p.m. Register at the Information Center or Army Community Service.

### Volunteers needed

Volunteers are needed to deliver refreshments to troops on force protection duty. For more information call the USO at civ (0611) 721-010.

The Tony Bass Fitness Center needs volunteers for equipment issue, athletic events and enforcing facility rules. Work schedules can be tailored to meet individual needs. For more information call mil 337-5943 or civ (0611)705-5943.

The American Red Cross is looking for volunteers for the Healthy Baby Pregnancy class and at both the community mailrooms and the Army Post Office. For more information call mil 337-1760 or civ (0611)705-1760.

### Go skydiving

Skydiving is available through Wiesbaden and Dexheim Outdoor Recreation centers. For more information call mil 337-5760, 334-5818 or civ (06133)69818.

### Art workshops

The Römer Art Center offers Saturday art workshops in basket weaving, gift making, glass and tile painting, watercolor, quilting and even Russian Easter egg painting.

### Sponsorship training

The Army Community Service Relocation Readiness Program offers unit sponsorship. Although S-GATE is a primary training tool it does not include the entire scope of sponsorship. The next training is scheduled for March 12 from 2-4 p.m. at ACS. Units wishing to schedule a different day can call the relocation manager at mil 337-5034 or civ (0611) 705-5034 for assistance.

### Saturday Art Workshops

Römer Art Center realizes you're busy. To better provide you every opportunity to get in touch with your creative side they offer Saturday workshops. Every weekend creative projects are happening, such as art history movies, basket weaving, gift making, glass and tile painting, watercolor, quilting or Russian Easter egg painting.

### Digital lab

The Römer Art Center offers a digital lab to work on 35mm or digital photos, scan negatives and photos, or learn techniques in Adobe PhotoShop. Call mil 337-5722 or civ (0611)705-5722.

# 222nd BSB – Baumholder, Neubrücke, Strassburg



Photo by Ignacio "Iggy" Rubalcava

## Grand Groundhog Job Shadow Day opening

Austin Buchs, acting 222nd Base Support Battalion commander during Groundhog Job Shadow Day, performs the ribbon-cutting honors at the grand opening of the new School-Age Services building. With Buchs is his father, Lt. Col. Todd A. Buchs, the real 222nd BSB commander, Gwyneth Bowen, School-Age Services coordinator, and Joanne Hernandez, Child Development Services coordinator. The renovated state-of-the-art facility is available for first- through sixth-grade students and includes a gym, a cooking and food preparation station for the children and a large basement storage area. The facility, renovated at a cost of \$1,069, 000, includes a computer lab and an arts and crafts room as well. Another \$350,000 was invested in furniture and other materials for the facility.

## A note of thanks

By Ignacio "Iggy" Rubalcava

222nd Base Support Battalion  
Public Affairs Office

Bundeswehr soldiers are now watching out for U.S. interests in Germany. What this means is that German soldiers recently took over force protection duties at Baumholder and many other U.S. installations in Germany.

The first unit, whose soldiers were from Logistic Regiment 17 in the Magdeburg area and the officers and NCOs from the Verteidigungsbezirkskommando 10 in Hamburg, arrived Feb. 4 and stayed through Feb. 21.



1st Sgt. Andreas Schneider

"As the first unit to take over the force protection duties here, the officers, NCOs and soldiers would like to thank all who supported us. Everyone from the S-2/3 to the cooks were very supportive. We were well received and there was absolutely no problem. And that's why we would like to say thank you," said Hauptfeldwebel Andreas Schneider, unit first sergeant.

He added that the same unit would return in October but that he would not be accompanying the soldiers.

"We didn't know what to expect," he said. The details, of course, were ironed out and discussed in advance but "we didn't really know what to actually expect," said Schneider.

"We were all very positively surprised that all the U.S. soldiers, regardless of rank, came together to help. It was a good working relationship. And that was really great," he said.

As in any new venture, there were a few unforeseen issues that cropped up, but even they were not a problem. "When we had a problem we went to Bianca Bowen and she took care of it," said Schneider.

"I personally thank Maj. John Bettasso, Ms. Bowen and all others who had anything to do with our support. They really made our stay here very easy," he said.

"Working with these soldiers was a true pleasure because of their true determined professionalism and their unwavering support of our community both during our recent

force protection exercise and the real world mission that they took on," said Bettasso. "They are extremely professional and it makes us proud to serve with them. Their ability to work with

us in supporting the force protection mission, the flexibility and the resolve that they've had is truly commendable," he said.

Bowen noted that it was literally a seamless transition of force protection responsibilities and that the German soldiers were well received by everyone. "The German soldiers have been well received by the military and civilian community here," said Bowen. "Everyone in Baumholder is grateful for the support they are providing for our community."

Working with the U.S. military was a new experience for the German soldiers but, "it was an official assignment that we received and it had to be accomplished," said Schneider.

"Naturally duty at the gates is rough. I'm sure your soldiers also realized this.

"But they enthusiastically accomplished their job and everywhere we went we had help and support. It was great," he said.

"For me personally, it was a great thing," said Schneider. "I learned a lot about how we can work things out together. It was a real enrichment for me, and they were two great weeks."

## Main gate closes for renovation

Baumholder's main entrance to Smith Barracks will close for renovation beginning March 10. Officials of the 222nd Base Support Battalion urge everyone's cooperation during this renovation

process that will enhance traffic flow procedures. A reopening date has not yet been determined.



# 222nd BSB – Baumholder, Neubrücke, Strassburg

## Phantom regiment keeps history alive

By Ignacio "Iggy" Rubalcava

222nd Base Support Battalion  
Public Affairs Office

Are you an Army history buff with a desire to know what it felt like to be a part of yesterday's Army? Maybe you'd like to experience the feel of an M1 carbine in your hands, or ride in an open general purpose vehicle, better known to the GIs of yesteryear as a jeep.

Perhaps you'd feel more comfortable tooling around Baumholder in that popular half-breed with wheels and tracks commonly referred to as a half-track? If armor makes you break out in goose bumps, how about slipping behind the controls of an operational vintage M4-A1 Sherman tank powered by an engine that makes it sound like it should be airborne?

Throw in the occasional opportunity to travel and bond with other aficionados of military memorabilia and you can consider yourself a candidate for Baumholder's Phantom Regiment, a living history detachment dedicated to preserving the Army's heritage.

The Phantom Regiment is look-

ing for recruits to join their ranks and bring a little bit of Army history back to life by maintaining, operating and displaying historical U.S. Army equipment and gear.

The regiment obtains all of its equipment and uniforms from Baumholder's 1st Armored Division Museum. The jeeps, half-tracks and antique armored vehicles belong to the museum.

Members of the regiment volunteer to maintain the equipment and display it at nostalgic military gatherings in Europe and other appropriate settings. When they travel, they often are the only U.S. military representatives at these shows that draw scores of military buffs from throughout the continent.

The Phantom Regiment is currently comprised of soldiers from 1-35th Armor, but any soldier who would like to join their ranks is welcome.

Anyone interested in signing on with this elite group of flashback GIs may call Spc. Tony Housey at mil485-7194 or civ(0162)891-3687. He can also be reached by email at [cavalrydog@hotmail.com](mailto:cavalrydog@hotmail.com).



Photo by Ignacio "Iggy" Rubalcava

Sgt. Jeremy Rickettes, Pfc. Darrell Borst, Sgt. Maj. Joseph Hall and Spc. Tony Housey model some vintage uniforms and equipment.

## Post notes

### UM offers automotive class

The University of Maryland offers a special class for automotive technology March 11 through April 5, Tuesday and Thursday from 6-10 p.m. and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Register now at Baumholder Army Education Center.

### New museum hours

To better accommodate soldiers and their families during their off-duty time, the 1st Armored Division Museum in Baumholder now has new operating hours. The new hours are Wednesdays through Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sundays from 1-5 p.m.

### Tax forms available

Service Credit Union is now providing laser-printed Internal Revenue Service tax forms for 2002 and previous years. Customers may request these forms from any SCU branch office.

### Sports roundup

A community level soccer and volleyball meeting is scheduled for 5 p.m. March 6 in the Hall of Cham-

pions. People interested in playing one of these sports are encouraged to attend.

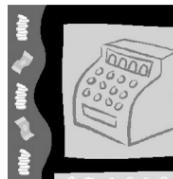
A boxing night is scheduled for March 15 in the Hall of Champions. Weigh-ins and physicals are from 10 a.m. to noon and bouts begin at 6 p.m.

A powerlifting meet will be held at the Mountaineer Fitness Center March 29. Weigh-ins will be from 8-10 a.m. and competition begins at 11 a.m.

### Winter sale

The Baumholder Community Spouses Club Thrift Shop is now having a big winter clearance sale. The thrift shop is located next to the Service Mart in Building 8544, across from the PX. Its hours are Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., and Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Consignment hours are Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and Thursdays from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and again from 2-4 p.m. For details call civ(06783) 6-6653 or mil485-6653.



# Community tests response capabilities



Photos by Ignacio "Iggy" Rubalcava

German Red Cross members, U.S. firefighters, Baumholder clinic personnel and Military Police respond to the mass casualty exercise with a full complement of equipment and resources.

**By Ignacio "Iggy" Rubalcava**

*222nd Base Support Battalion Public Affairs Office*

Responding to emergency situations, be they real world or simulated, is something members of the U.S. military do for a living. The reality of it is that the military does not always act alone in emergency situations, so Baumholder enlisted the assistance of U.S. civilians and agencies recently to help exercise its emergency response and force protection capabilities. Local host nation organizations including the German Red Cross and Polizei were key players in the exercise.

Anyone passing through Baumholder's gates Feb. 12 quickly noticed a difference in security procedures as the facility exercised the escalation of the numerous force protection postures.

"We tested the mass casualty plan, the activation of the emergency evacuation shelter, the barrier plan and guard force requirements," said Bianca Bowen, 222nd Base Support Battalion S-2. "We also had host nation support and involvement during the exercise. Overall, it was a very successful exercise."

On the American side, participants included the 222nd BSB, 2nd Brigade, Division Artillery and the Health Clinic. "We also had support from the Junior ROTC, who participated as casualties in the exercise, and from a group of volunteer family members during the emergency evacuation and shelter plan portion of the exercise," said Bowen.

While Pond's Security Service guards and soldiers were busy throughout the day inspecting vehicles as they entered the post, numerous agencies came together during a key portion of the exercise that exercised Baumholder's capability to respond to a mass casualty situation. Made up in moulage to simulate a wide range of injuries, JROTC members braved the chilly weather and provided realistic casualties for response teams from Baumholder's fire department, the health clinic and the German Red Cross.

First on the scene were Baumholder Military Police, who immediately notified emergency response agencies. No shortcuts were taken. Every emergency team that responded used all the equipment and material that would actually be used in a real emergency. Donning their respirators, the firefighters

evacuated the injured on stretchers while clinic personnel went as far as filling out paperwork with personal information from the injured. The fire department also unpacked and inflated a temporary shelter that served as a staging area for the injured. Inside German Red Cross participants broke open their medical kits and applied bandages and even strapped intravenous needles, hoses and bottles (without piercing the skin) to the most serious injuries.

"Everyone from the JROTC to the volunteer family members, who were actually residing at the Lagerhof when it was evacuated, to the emergency response teams such as the German Red Cross and Polizei were great. There was excellent support from everyone," said Bowen.



A JROTC volunteer "victim" lies unconscious before being evacuated from the warehouse.



German Red Cross members hook up an intravenous medication bottle to a "victim" after a simulated explosion.



A force protection team of soldiers and Pond's Security Service guards thoroughly inspect each vehicle passing through Iron Crossing Gate.

## ISA prepares soldiers for deployment

By Ignacio "Iggy" Rubalcava

222nd Base Support Battalion  
Public Affairs Office

Some 20 years ago the focus of U.S. forces in Europe was to defend Europe against aggression from its eastern borders. U.S. Army units concentrated on their capability to reach their German defense plan positions should the need arise.

As the geopolitical climate continues to evolve in Europe and throughout the world, so does the mission of U.S. Army Europe. The name of the game today is deployment, leaving Europe to fight the battle elsewhere.

Baumholder has taken the lead and in doing so has set the standard for deployment operations in the European theater, said officials. Deploying soldiers, along with their equipment and vehicles, need to be ready for any contingency once they leave their home base. Baumholder's 222nd Base Support Battalion has developed the Installation Staging Area, a sequence of stages that track and wheeled vehicles must pass through before deployment.

To get members of deploying units acquainted with the ISA process, units leaving Baumholder to train in Grafenwöhr or Hohenfels must process through the ISA just as they would during a real deployment.

"One of the things the ISA is doing is that it helps us prepare and

ensure that our vehicles and equipment are ready to get onto rail and onto ships, and that those vehicles are in fighting condition once we get at the other end," said Maj. Robert McAleer, 1-94th Field Artillery.

"We're not likely ... to fight here in Europe. So we're decreasing the time between a deployment order and the time that we would physically get out of here and be ready to fight somewhere else," said McAleer.

The ISA stages cover everything from mechanical checks to documentation. When vehicles first arrive at the ISA, they are received and inspectors ensure drivers have an appropriate check-

list and paperwork.

The next phase involves vehicle documentation. "There's just a ton of different paperwork that has to be filled out. Each battery has about a two week school in Vilseck to get trained up on this paperwork," said Capt. Richard Johnson, 1-94th Field Artillery.

The vehicles then move to the mechanical checkpoint to ensure everything is in working order. "If something is broken or if the vehicle documents are faulty, the vehicle is what we call 'frustrated,'" said Johnson. "The vehicle goes to the 'frustrated vehicle' area, which

is at Camp Aulenbach right now," he said. "There our own battery maintenance people will come down to fix the vehicle."

The last stage of the ISA is the fuel and defuel stage. "This stage is just to make sure that they have the proper amount of fuel either to get on the train or to go on a road convoy," said Johnson.

It can take about 30-40 minutes for a vehicle to go through the ISA if it doesn't have to wait in line or if it doesn't have a problem.

After successfully completing all the stages, track vehicles go to the railhead and wheeled vehicles

go to Camp Aulenbach. "They then get regrouped ... and they get on the road to their next destination," said Johnson.

Surveying the recent success of 1-94th FA at the ISA, Johnson said, "We have the entire battalion going through in two days. We're trying to get about 160 vehicles through the ISA. We have a deadline because we need to get them on the railcars to get them to Grafenwöhr.

"We shouldn't have any problem. We're a little bit ahead of schedule so everybody is in good spirits," he said.



Staff Sgt. Barry J. Barkley, 1-94th Field Artillery, inspects a vehicle at the first station of the ISA.



Photos by Ignacio "Iggy" Rubalcava

Vehicles are inspected for any mechanical defects at the second station of the ISA.



Vehicles cue up at the receiving station of the ISA as inspectors ensure they have all the necessary paperwork to process through the ISA.