



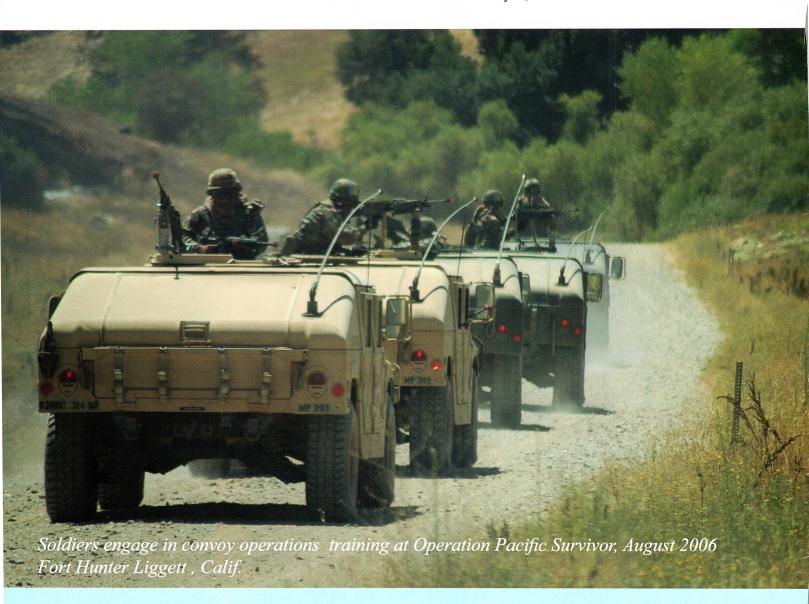


63rd Regional Readiness Command

Commanding General Maj. Gen. Paul E. Mock Command Sgt. Maj. Mark Wilsdon



Cover Story - Page 3 - Soldier from Group A, Convoy D 2 provides security as they work through their exercise scenario delivering goods to the town of Dhi Qar during Operation Pacific Survivor. Photo by Patricia Ryan, 63rd RRC PAO



The Blade is an unofficial publication under the provisions of AR 360-1 and distributed through Army Reserve Centers within the 63rd Regional Readiness Command. Views and opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Department of the Army or of the U.S. Army Reserve. Average circulation is 5,000 quarterly. Stories, photographs and suggestions are welcome. Mailing address is: 63rd RRC PAO ATTN: Blade Editor 4235 Yorktown Ave. Los Alamitos, CA 90720-5002 (562) 795-2358/2356 fax: (562) 795-1370 email: kent.a.ambrose@usar.army.mil john.d.wagner@usar.army.mil



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Let's be optimistic!

This year has been one of the most challenging ever. The 63rd Regional Readiness Command has not been shortchanged in requirements for mobilizing Soldiers; or in supporting the Army's Transformation. So, if you are uncomfortable with change, the Army is a miserable place to be right now. Change is all over the place. During the recent elections, the majority vote caused a shift in political power in the nation and the secretary of defense announced his resignation.

I hear some Soldiers complaining and afraid, others are rejoicing. It is our position, while on duty and wearing the uniform to be apolitical. In other words, we work for our Civilian bosses no matter who they are, as we have always done. There is always room for improvement. We will continue to focus on those areas we have influence on and work toward making this command a desired place to be and work. The 63rd has a proud history.

With all the unknowns out there, it is an easy time to be pessimistic. Just look at the looming changes within our Army and Army Reserve. Now focus on how those changes will impact the 63rd RRC. How do these changes affect our Soldiers, Civilians and our families? We are all struggling with these issues. We are in the first year of executing a wave of changes that will occur through 2011. Organizationally, we are developing answers as fast as we can, but many answers are slow in coming. The leadership team is committed to providing real answers that are based on fact as soon as we get it. I would ask each of you to be positive and make a contribution making your section or unit a better place to be.

So let's be optimistic. We have many ongoing programs that are being improved and developed to support you, the Soldiers, civilians and families of the 63rd. We are blessed to have a superb leadership team in charge of our USAR. We are working to build momentum and strength within our family

programs, our Well Being Advisory Council and Ambassador Program. In early December, Lt. Gen. Jack Stultz, commander of the Army Reserve, will visit and kick off the first council and Regional Ambassador conferences right here. We have the smartest force programs team in the business working through the issues of Army Reserve transformation.

Our ambassadors provide much needed services within our communities in support of all of us. Our Family Readiness Program volunteers provide countless hours of service to benefit us. We have tremendous organizations such as Association of the United States Army and Reserve Officer Association working to support us at all levels. And we have you, the Soldier, serving the nation at levels of performance which are unprecedented.

I see pride in our Soldiers everyday that is humbling. Many of us become blinded by increasing demands and short-handed staffs. As I visit units throughout our area of responsibility, I see Soldiers and Civilians who are proud of what they do and what they represent. I see volunteers providing support to our Soldiers. I see Soldiers that have endured tremendous sacrifice, yet are proud to be members of this great organization called the Army. On the more somber side, I see grieving families who have lost loved ones. Being in the Army is serious business, and we cannot forget that.

It is important to remember that our Army has a series of standards in place. I ask each of you to take a look at our No Slack 10 – revised. Follow these simple rules, and you can't go wrong.

As we enter the Holiday Season and the New Year, I ask that each member of the Command have a safe Holiday Season and a Great New Year. Thanks for what you do. You are America's very best.





Transformation matters NOT'

I hope this gets your attention. Everyone speaks about transformation, transformation of units, personnel and ways of doing business. However, none of this matters if you are not ready.

You must remain personally and professionally proficient, tactically ready and focused on your reason for being. Do not get distracted by all the news, stories, and rumors. Our duty under federal law is to be able to deploy ready units and personnel..... that's you! Regardless of rumors, you will always have a home in the Army Reserve. I need all of you to focus on getting yourself ready and to that end, the commanding general and I are reinforcing and demanding you follow the "No Slack 10":

- Always be deployable. This means you are qualified in your specialty, completed required NCO or officer education, your MODS is up to date, you are fully SRPed and ready, your family is ready and you are mentally, physically, and spiritually fit.
- 2) Pass the APFT. Shoot for 280 or above, barely passing in the 180s displays a marginal attitude and marginal readiness.
- Make Height and Weight. The goal is to make weight without taping.
- Always wear the Army Uniform Properly and Proudly. If you are overweight, this is



impossible. You need to also wear your uniform while traveling in country; it is good for recruiting and the public perception of the Army.

- Leaders will train their replacement. The best sign of a good leader is to have your subordinates ready and able to step into your shoes.
- Safety, Safety. Remember you are your unit's Safety NCOIC/OIC. Use designated drivers, NEVER drink and drive, always use ASMIS-2 for traveling and going on leave. Demand the same of your Soldiers and families.
- Treat others with dignity and respect. This doesn't mean you can't be tough, but you must be fair. No sexual harassment, live the Army Values and the NCO Creed and do not take personal advantage of your position or abuse it.
- Family Readiness Planning. Make this a personal priority. NO Soldier will fight well when their family is not behind them and well taken care of. This distractor can get Soldiers killed. Have a good and viable Family Readiness Group.
- Know and live the Army Values and the Warrior Ethos. Believe them, do them, and be the example....no hypocrisy! Your Soldiers see it. Usually, if you have to think about whether something is right or wrong, it's wrong! Always behave as if someone is watching and knowing. it! Don't embarrass your family, this command or the Army.
- 10) Leaders are always accountable. Take ownership of who and what you are!

Follow these mandates and the well being of both you and your family will improve. Not only will you be able to deploy to meet your obligation, but your family and civilian employer will benefit. Adhere to all these values and your life will be better for it, regardless of transformation. Do the right thing for the right reason...God Bless you all!

BEHIND THE LIN. at Operation

By Francis X Segura
Staff Training Officer
63rd Regional Readiness Command

It is a common understanding that necessity is the mother of all innovations. And precisely in this regard, the Global War On Terrorism has prompted military organizations to become more flexible, more resourceful and more proficient at executing their assignments.

Continuously evolving war fighting tactics dictate new skill sets Soldiers must learn, practice and hone for their survival when called to duty. Individual and collective responsibilities have been re-defined and refined as the Army executes its mission while transforming itself as a leaner, tougher and more responsive force with new equipment, new operational structure and more demanding standards.

One military challenge that has remained constant during this transformation is the Army's ability to remain flexible; to accept new missions; fight and contend with an unconventional enemy; and adapt to the changing tactics learned on the distant battlefields in Afghanistan and Iraq. Key to our Army's success has been this ability to effectively

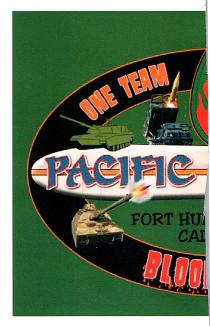
"I intend to conduct a safe, realistic training operation focused on producing confident, adaptable Soldiers and units trained and ready to win in a Contemporary Operating Environment. I will focus on collective Battle Drills and Warrior training. End state will be Soldiers with increased proficiency in combat tasks. Training operations will demonstrate a WARRIOR ethos and proficiency in battle drills, and integrated risk management. Soldiers and equipment will redeploy to home station safely and with full accountability."

- Maj. Gen. Paul E. Mock

redirect efforts and resources when confronted with a change of mission. This situation has challenged Army Reserve leaders at every level to keep pace with the focus and direction in training doctrine to provide a meaningful and relevant training experience for units and the individual Soldier.

One recently concluded training exercise providing this experience was the 63rd Regional Readiness Command's Operation Pacific Survivor '06, conducted at Fort Hunter Liggett, Calif., in August. Pacific Survivor evolved from the USARC directive to to plan and conduct Warrior Exercises

designed to provide "a realistic battlefocused environment incorporating all the Battle Operating Systems and components / services on the battlefield to enhance battle drill training and sustain technical proficiency in preparation for a validation event," such as an operational rotation at the National Training Center, Fort Irwin, Calif., or the Joint Readiness Training Center, Fort Polk, La.



Normally, such training events are scheduled two to three years in advance. This is due to the complexities involved with developing an appropriate

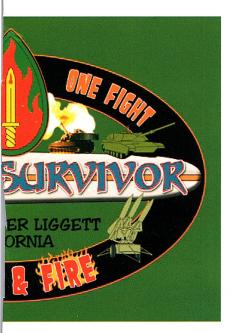
exercise scenario, assigning and coordinating the functions, duties and responsibilities of the command elements involved, constructing and marshalling the task organization to meet the mission objectives, programming and scheduling the participating units for the event, and providing ample opportunity for these units to rehearse their mission-essential related tasks.

and ensure individual Soldiers are DMOS and leader development qualified. When the decision was made to conduct Pacific Survivor '06, the challenge for the 63rd RRC was to plan, coordinate and execute this training event inside the training year already underway.

Pacific Survivor involved over 1,000 Soldiers in the development of the exercise concept, operational planning, life support coordination, and execution of the logistical, administrative and training support missions for the training events scheduled in the hot and austere environment of summer at Fort Hunter Liggett.



Pacific Survivor '06



Making Pacific Survivor happen required 63rd RRC staff working diligently with the 91st Training Support Division, 104th Division, Western Army Reserve Intelligence Support Center, and Army Medical Command. Together they developed the training scenario, designated the command and control structure, and assembled the necessary resources to produce a memorable training experience for Soldiers

from four RRCs and the Army Medical Command.

The exercise was designed for each Soldier to participate in a training environment focused on individual combat skills and knowledge. The training was in four categories subdivided into 10 events conducted daily on a round robin basis. The four training categories were: weapons ranges (qualification and familiarization), convoy operations training, selected Warrior Training Tasks, and classroom instruction covering Law of Land Warfare and Cultural Awareness.

All Soldiers were assigned to one of 10 "company" elements. Junior leaders were selected to "command" their units and conduct the scheduled training for each company over the 10-day exercise period. This process allowed young leaders to experience the responsibility for other Soldiers they had never met, and develop their leadership skills in the process. The exercise operations tempo and daily change of events challenged the Soldiers and encouraged immediate esprit de corps.

The 6045th Garrison Support Unit from San Jose, Calif., (Col. Joel Mjolsness, commanding) assumed command and control for the exercise. The 6045th established the training site, opened the exercise and later passed operational control to the 5035th GSU from El Paso, Texas (Col. Samuel Friar, commanding). The GSUs also initiated the "Leaders Mentorship" program for the junior NCOs commanding their units. Daily pre-operation briefs and end of day after- action reviews were a key part of their responsibilities.

Conducting a transition of authority from one command to another during a training exercise is unusual and difficult. However, these two GSUs managed this seamless transfer of responsibility without impacting scheduled training. All missions from the initial reception of Soldiers, the conduct of training operations, and redeployment of all units and equipment to home stations were accomplished.

An indication of the professional competence and organizational capabilities of the GSUs was reflected in not a single serious heat injury, nor a single disciplinary incident from initial arrival of advance parties through the departure of the final elements.

The 91st Division conducted convoy operations training using M1026 Humvees with mounted Mk19 40mm grenade launcher. The training consisted of rolling a string of the vehicles down a road through both friendly and hostile villages. Opposing forces and civilians on the battlefield provided a challenge for each convoy mission. Soldiers from the 63rd RRC subordinate units, many recently returned from overseas, impersonated the "enemy" and the civilians. Their experience in that environment added much to the realism on the lane.

Continued on next page



The 6045th GSU passes the guidon onto the 5035th.

cont. Behind the Lines at Operation Pacific Survivor '06

Weapons qualification and familiarization was organized and conducted by Master Sgt. Michael Patrick, 104th Division. Patrick oversaw the conduct of primary marksmanship training before Soldiers were allowed on the weapons qualification ranges for the M16A2 and M9 pistol. Additionally, Soldiers were provided familiarization with the M249 Squad Automatic Weapon (SAW), Mk19 40mm grenade launcher, and the M2 .50 caliber machine gun. Every Soldier was provided the opportunity to qualify on their personal weapon, and become familiarized with the squad and crew served weapons.

Cultural Awareness Training was conducted by Military Intelligence personnel. This class provided Soldiers with an introduction to the cultural, political

and religious aspects of Islam and national cultures in Afghanistan, Iraq and Kuwait. The class became one of the most popular training events for both Soldiers who had been deployed

in support of operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom, and for those who will soon deploy.

Selected Warrior Training Task instruction included first aid, land navigation, the hand grenade course, leader's confidence/obstacle course, and a

10km road march. Senior NCOs from the 63rd RRC G7 developed the program of instruction for conducting these various tasks. Instructors for each task

were identified from subordinate units of the 63rd RRC. All the NCOs participating in this instruction were commended for

their outstanding work in developing their lane and executing the training in

an exceptional manner each day.

The most important aspect of Operation Pacific Survivor



photo by Kent Ambrose

was the satisfaction of each Soldier participating in the event. Across the board of ranks, units, MOS, and experience, the Soldiers provided consistently positive feedback during the daily AAR session on the training they had received each day.

Operation Pacific Survivor '06 was an outstanding success in every phase of the training conducted, the development of young leaders, the administrative support operations,

the responsive logistical coordination support, and the unparalleled planning effort to pull it together.

Pacific Survivor was accomplished

because this training event was made a necessity by the rapidly changing demands on preparing individual Soldiers to become familiar with the real-world challenges of deploying to engage a hostile and determined enemy. Each individual effort reflected great flexibility, adaptability and resourcefulness of those asked to accomplish their mission.

All Army organizations understand the muscle movements involved with a short-notice change of mission order. For the officers, NCOs and junior Soldiers who participated in this event, Operation Pacific Survivor '06 was a worthwhile experience with many valuable lessons not soon forgotten.









Operation Pacific Survivor – Fort Hunter Liggett, C

Y BLADE

VOLUME 1 ISSUE 11



we don't need no stinking GPS!"

Spc. Oliver Ojih swiped the eat off his neck, looked at a map grid and continued tramping through the sheet grass.

"Back this way, Ojih," the other

wo members of his team shouted. This was a land navigation course and not one member of the team wa using a compass

"We had a bad compass," team member Sgt. Eduardo Acosta said. "So, we had to use terrain association and go off our grid coordinates in order to find our

Amazingly, the team managed to

Amazingiy, the team manageu to find two points out of four—some teams found none. Shrugging his shoulders, Acosta said, "You just have to readjust to your situation. You can't always depend on your supports and what happened to us here is a perfect." equipment, and what happened to us here is a perfect



points nave posed the most challenges to Soldiers during the past nine days of the exercise. The Each class is broken down into teams. Each team is given amap with four marked points. Each team is tasked to find the four points.

points have posed the most

four points.
"Land navigation is always easy to forget because you

"Land navigation is always easy to lorger occause you don't use it all the time," Alvarez said.

Alvarez said the instruction begins with classes and then moves into the practical exercise of finding points over real

terram.

Ojih said, "Before today, I wasn't too confident on land navigation, but I'm very confident now."



Team members Spc. Oliver Ojih, Pfc. Jason Zant, Sgt. Eduardo Acosta hold up the broken compass they had to contend with during their Land Navigation course. The team ended up using terrain features and reference points to find assigned points on rough



Acosta and Spc. Oliver Ojih, eir map in the Land Navigation n compass but managed to gh terrain and high h good compasses found less n association and go off our d our points," Sgt. Acosta

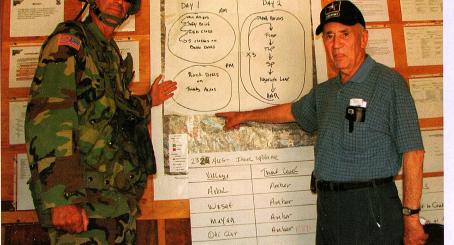


photo by P.Ryan PAO 63 RRC

Lt. Col. Robert G. Hartley, commander 2-360th Training Support Battalion, 91st Division, personally greeted USAR Ambassador Howard Schwartz when he visited the convoy operations training lanes at Operation Pacific Survivor. In spite of 100° + weather, Schwartz bumped along in the PAO Humvee in his Kevlar to see firsthand the training the Soldiers are participating in. "I will take all this back to the veterans groups and community leaders who always ask me what is being done to train our Soldiers," he said. The USAR Ambassadors provide a valuable link between the military and the public in their continued efforts to gain support and understanding of Soldiers and the military.

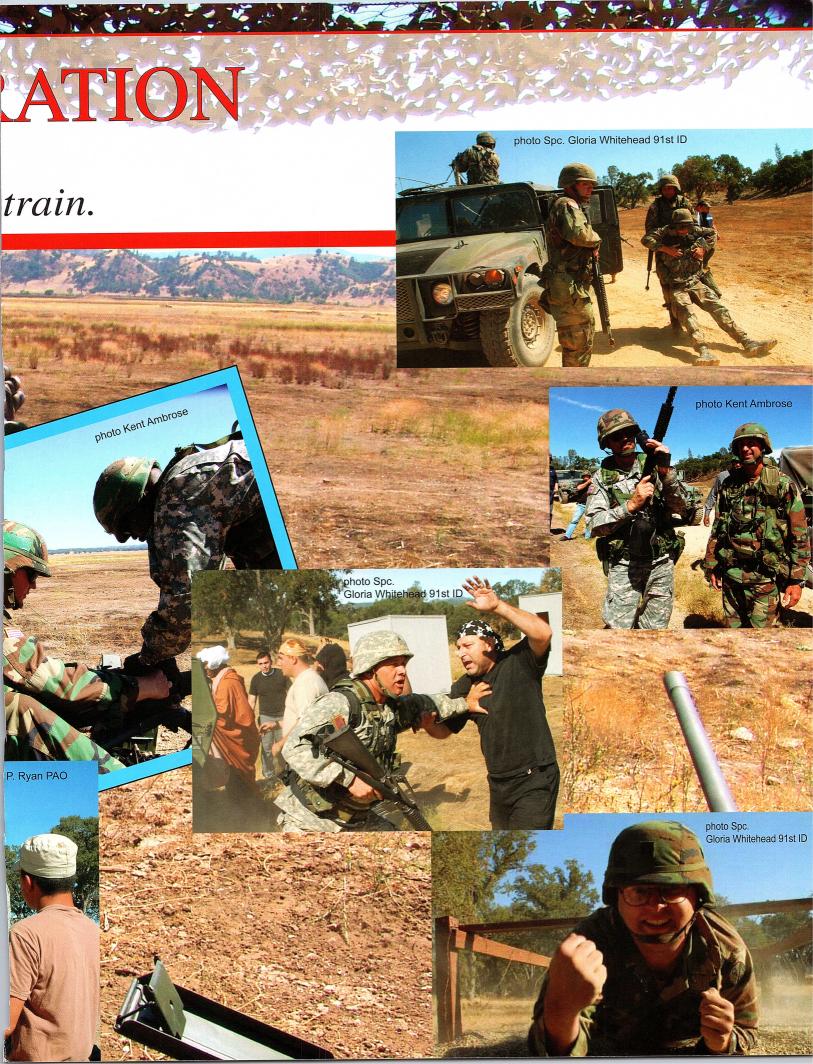


ARMY STRONG.

ARMY FORCE GENER

The new process of the Army Reserve Operation Pacific Survivor—train, train and





TRANSFORMATION what this

By Col. Terry Morgan ^{63rd} RRC

Chief, Army Reserve Vision Statement:

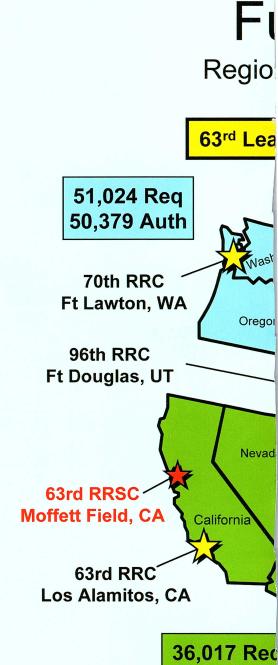
"A community-based federal operational force of

skill-rich Warrior-Citizens providing complementary

capabilities for joint expeditionary and domestic operations."

-Lt. Gen. Jack C. Stultz

THE WAY AHEAD - What does this mean to Soldiers of the 63rd RRC? Will I have a position, new unit, new facility, or new duty? These are but a few of the questions we routinely hear from the troops. Our goal in the Transformation Integration Office is YES when it supports the mission and takes care of Soldiers. We see many new facilities being built with Base Realignment Closure (BRAC) funds, new type Modified Table of Equipment (MTOE) units standing up, new MOSs being developed and a home for everyone. This is hard work, ever changing and is challenging the abilities of the full-time work force and our drilling reservists. DoD/ Army resources are constantly under fire making planning difficult to say the least. Transformation and change is never done and is an ongoing process. BRAC 2005 actions have been signed into law with an expiration date in year 2011, so we are working hard to complete modularization and Army Reserve restructuring to coincide with this target date. (Continued on page 11)



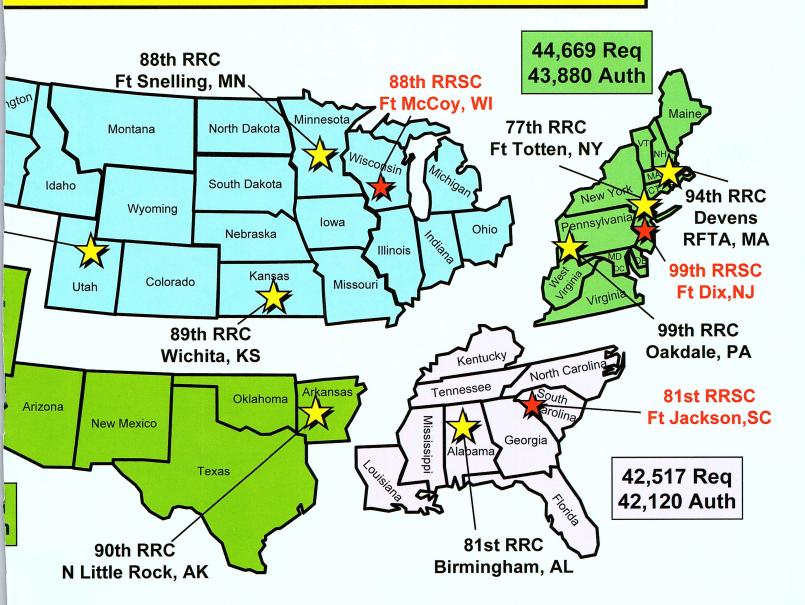
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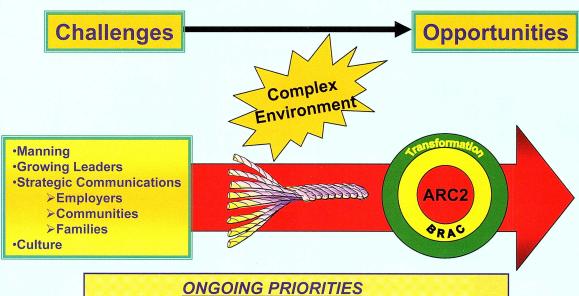


U.S. Army Reserve Transformation

Change is not new and a key ingredient to DoD efforts to find cost savings for the American tax payer and improved weapons systems to protect the peace and our Soldiers. The Base Re-Alignment Commission (BRAC) is one of many ways DoD attempts to reduce costs and provide better support for all the services. One of the ways the Army gets involved in supporting DoD efforts is through the Army Campaign Plan, which addresses hard issues as modernization, modularization, new doctrine, and training challenges, to name but a few. Simply put, modularization is a process whereby we design the force to fit the fight.

USAR Transformation

2006 & Beyond



- Global War On Terrorism Integrating ARFOGEN
- WAREX Pacific Warrior Ft Hunter-Liggett
- **Army Modularization Future Combat Systems**

"...The Army Reserve used to be considered a strategic reserve focused force, the old paradigm of one weekend a month, two weeks in the summertime and, if World War III breaks out, we'll be called to respond. We would also have advance warning and plenty of time to mobilize and train before being expected to respond. The events of 2001 changed the playing field and the rules of the game. Since early 2003, we have had about 40,000 Army Reserve Soldiers mobilized ongoing in support of operations Noble Eagle, Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom. The challenge is to maintain that level of support to the war on an enduring basis. To that end, we have no choice but to change our structure." Lt. Gen. Jack Stultz, Chief, Army Reserve, Soldiers Magazine Summer 2006

"....The major initiative right now involves transforming the RRC structure. We have 10 RRCs that have done a miraculous job of preparing units for mobilization and providing base operations support for those units in a geographic area. The problem is that all TDA structures we can't afford. We are inactivating these 10 Regional Readiness Commands so that we can take that structure and reinvest it into the Army Reserve MTOE force. We are not reducing the size of the Army Reserve. What we are doing is restructuring spaces within the Army Reserve to put them into war- fighting-type units. We are doing the same thing with the headquarters structures for the training divisions."-- Lt. Gen. Jack Stultz, Chief, Army Reserve, Soldiers Magazine Summer 2006

Army introduces new plan for Soldiers to deploy every 5 years

By MAJ Ramon Torry 63d RRC Mobilization Planner

The U.S. Army Reserve is playing an indispensable role in the *Long War*, with operations here at home, in Kosovo, Afghanistan, and Iraq, Reserve Soldiers are indistinguishable from those on active duty. The Reserve force adjusted extremely well to a constant state of mobilization and there is no end in sight. It all began years ago with operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm, when over 89,000 Army Reserve Soldiers were mobilized in support of the coalition effort. Since then the Army Reserve has become an operational force, rather than a strategic force in reserve.

Since Sept. 11, 2001, the demand for Army Reserve forces has been in total operational- support mode. More than 158,000 Army Reserve Soldiers have been mobilized for an average of 380 days. Currently more than 22,000 are serving abroad in support of operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom. There are also, 10,000-plus Reservists serving here at home, in a wide range of support roles for the *Long War*. From training Soldiers ready to deploy, to performing surgery at military hospitals and caring for Soldiers when they redeploy. Getting mobilized in the Army Reserve is now considered routine.

The new acronym in the Army Reserve is ARFORGEN (Army Force Generation). It is a process that moves Soldiers and equipment through defined phases to reset, train and attain full mission readiness as they approach deployment. Under the Army Reserve version of the model, a Soldier would expect to mobilize and deploy every five years, if needed. It provides a programmed time-phased level of predictability that allows the Army, Joint Force and regional combatant commanders to know what capabilities the Army Reserve can provide during any given year. This is fantastic news for all Reserve Soldier because it lets their family and their employers know the stability and predictability they will have in the process.

To keep up with the demands of the Long War, the Army Reserve no longer has the luxury of extended time periods for training after mobilization; thus, they now employ a "train-alert-deploy" model. This is to prioritize scarce training resources. In the past, Army Reserve units trained during two-day monthly battle assemblies, and during the 14-day annual training event. Under the new system, the Army Reserve's five-year training cycle increases unit annual training requirements from 14 days in the first and second years to 21 days in year three and 29 days in year four. The increase in annual training days better prepares units to conduct pre-mobilization training and participate in collective training events, such as National Training Center or other combat training center-type exercises.

Take great pride in knowing that the Army Reserve will always be ready to contribute to today's threats, because its greatest asset in doing so has always been, and will always be the men and women that make up its ranks as Soldiers.





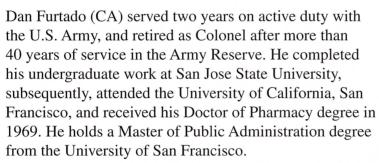


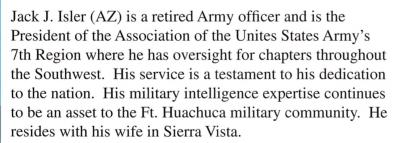


Mr. Bushey (CA) retired from LAPD as a Commander; was the San Bernardino County Marshall; Deputy Chief, San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department and is currently a Senior Law Enforcement Liaison with the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office. He is a retired Colonel in the United States Marines, and served in combat as the SEAL Commander in Desert Shield/Desert Storm.



Ron Dunn (CA pending) is Executive Vice President and Staff Director of Creative Center, a division of Vandum Communications Corporation. Mr. Dunn was awarded the Civilian Armed Forces Humanitarian Service Medal for his service as a first Responder in Mississippi in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina and is actively involved in many media projects in support of the military.

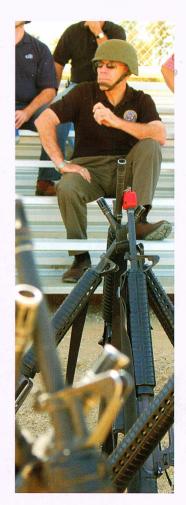




Dr. Richard A. Lundin (CA) is a senior officer in the Napa and Solano counties Area Agency on Aging. He holds a BA and MBA in Business Administration and a PhD in Education. He is a member of the California Military Museum and a member of the Drug-Demand Reduction Program in the Vallejo School District.

Ronald H. Markarian (CA) is the California State Director of the U.S. Selective Service System. He holds a BA from California State University at Fresno and a MS from George Washington University in Washington, DC. Ambassador Markarian has served in numerous volunteer assignments with local service agencies such as the Fresno Chamber of Commerce, California Veterans Board and the California State Veterans Commanders Council.





Ambassador Dan Furtado watches Soldiers qualifying at the small arms training lanes during Operation Pacific Survivor.

Army Reserve Ambassadors Mission

- Support Soldiers and their families during the mobilization and deployment process
- Welcome Home Warrior Citizen ceremonies
- Reach out to community leaders and organizations
- Promote service in the Army Reserve *CAR letter, 21 December 2005*



Ambassador Russell Park joined MG Paul Mock at the airport in San Diego Oct. 27, to welcome home the 96th MP Battalion from a long year in Iraq where they shut down the infamous Abu Gharib Prison.



Ambassador and Mrs. Howard Schwartz and Ambassador Ron Markarian attended the 311th COSCOM Change of Command Sept. 17, 2006, where MG Bruce Casella assumed command of the new 63rd Regional Readiness Sustainment Command (RRSC).



photo by Kent Ambrose

Ambassador Richard Lundin was out on the training lanes at Operation Pacific Survivor meeting with Soldiers and gaining first-hand experience of pre deployment training. Ambassador James McEachin (CA) received a Silver Star for his courage under fire and bravery as an infantryman during the Korean War. Mr. McEachin is a distinguished actor with hundred of credits in the film industry. His commitment to Soldiers and veterans has resulted in a CD titled "A Tribute to Veterans" that is an uplifting salute to all veterans. He currently resides in Encino, California.

Russell Everett Park (CA) is a retired Public Affairs Officer and Attorney. He holds at BA from the University of Southern California and a JD from LaSalle University. Mr. Park has served in numerous volunteer assignments with local service agencies such as a team leader in the Greater San Diego County U.S. Army Retiree Council; U.S. Navy MWR Special Events Committee and with the San Diego and Coronado Police Departments.

Ambassador Sharon Powers (NV) is a vice-president for the North Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce. She has devoted many hours helping Soldier families and is a catalyst for bringing business together to support Welcome Home ceremonies in the State of Nevada.

Ambassador At Large Anthony T. Reed, is Founder of the Renaissance Group of Vienna, Virginia and Cofounder of GoodWood Partners, LLC, of Las Vegas. He holds a BA degree from National Louis University and a MS degree in Administration from Central Michigan University. Mr. Reed continues to serve his community in numerous volunteer assignments such as Vice President Kiwanis International, Campaign Manager the American Cancer Society and Nevada Christmas in April.

Ambassador Dr. John J. South (Pending) Chaplain John South (U.S. Army Col. Ret.) served with the 63d Regional Readiness Command as the command chaplain between 1998 and 2006. South enlisted in the Army Infantry in 1962, volunteered for duty in Viet Nam and was awarded the Purple Heart for combat injuries sustained there. A former police officer, and currently a chaplain for the Phoenix Police Department, he deployed to Iraq in support of the Global War on Terrorism.

Ambassador Howard Schwartz (CA) is the owner of Howard Schwartz & Associates, a management consulting firm in Encino, California. He holds a BA, MA and PhD as well as a certification as a Senior Professional in Human Resources. Ambassador Schwartz is a volunteer Ombudsman with the California Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve program and a supporter of various veterans' activities.





Safety By Jeff Harris, 63rd RRC Safety Office

Sending out Army Preliminary Loss Reports to commanders, leaders and warriors of the 63d RRC every week accounting for Soldier fatalities, accidents, and injuries is not fun. Invariably, a number of motorcycle riders are included.

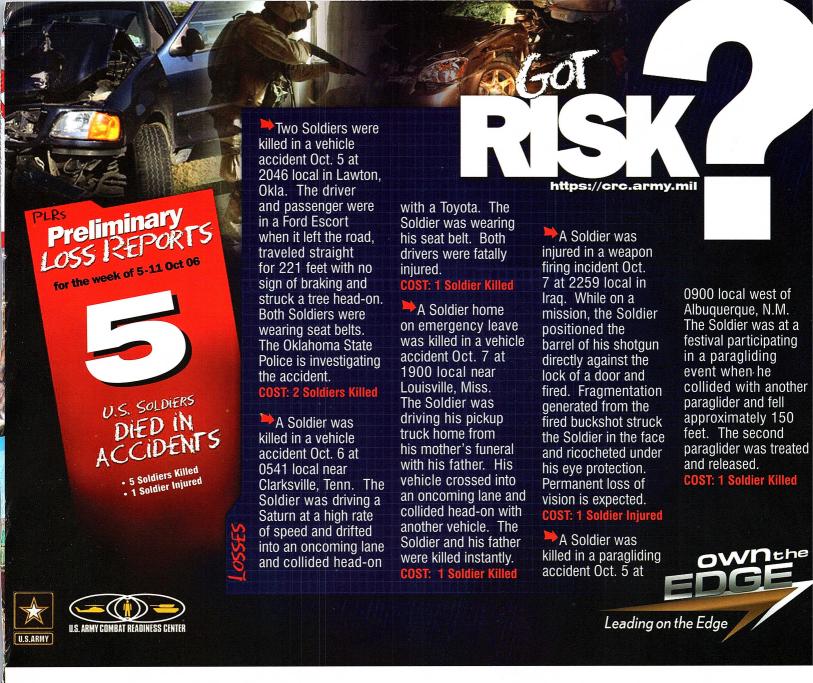
Once you read a couple of these reports you begin to get an awareness of a motorcyclist's vulnerabilities. An automobile has more stability because it's on four wheels, and because of its size it is easier to see. A motorcycle suffers in comparison when considering vehicle characteristics that directly contribute to occupant safety. What a motorcycle sacrifices in weight, bulk, and other crashworthiness characteristics is somewhat offset by its agility, maneuverability, and ability to stop or swerve quickly when necessary. It takes training in motorcycle riding skills to learn those capabilities.

Maj. Gen. Paul E. Mock, commander of 63rd RRC, is adamant about preventing the loss of a 63rd warrior due to motorcycle mishap. Additionally, 63d RRC trainers are trying to upgrade our safety posture by coordinating motorcycle safety training courses mandated by DODI 6055.4, and Appendix B of AR 385-55. Riding skills are learned; therefore attendance in a Motorcycle Safety Foundation approved course should be the first step for all riders. Motorcycle safety courses are required and provided by U.S. Army installations. All riders must meet the requirements of the course, which is provided to Soldiers and DoD civilians. Information on the courses and their contents can be found at http://www.msf-usa.org/. Consult your Safety Office on local classes and policies. Information for commander's use is available at https://crc.army.mil, in the POV Tool Box and Six-Point Program.

Additionally, to operate a motorcycle on a military installation, riders are required to wear proper personal protective equipment. Department of Defense Instruction (DODI) 6055.4, para 3.2.7.1,2, and 3 define the requirements, along with Army Regulation 385-55, Appendix B, Para B-3, sub para, a, b, c, d, and e. The U.S. Army Combat Readiness Center offers a poster illustrating proper wear of PPE at: https://crc.army.mil/ riskmanagement/driving pov/Motorcycle poster.pdf

Let's be committed to the safety of our warriors, civilian employees and contractors, and be confident that with a single purpose of mind we will reduce accidents and improve readiness, force stability, and well being. "You Own the Edge – Commit."

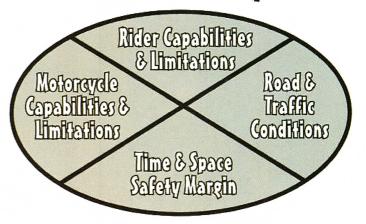




A margin of time and space must be maintained for safety. The rider's capabilities and limitations, motorcycle capability and limitations, and road and traffic conditions each play a part. New riders or riders who graduate to a larger, heavier or faster bike should pay special attention to their capabilities and limitations. The safety margin is gone if a required maneuver calls for a skill beyond that of the rider. The safety margin is gone if a situation calls for more steering or braking than your motorcycle is capable of providing. The safety margin is gone if there is no time or space to maneuver.



Oval of Safety



304th Sustainment Brigade Soldiers get lift from the Air Force

By Spc. Tracy Ellingsen 311th Sustainment Command Public Affairs Office photos by Kent Ambrose

When the 304th Sustainment Brigade was told to

relocate from an Army Reserve center six miles from the beach to an Air Force Reserve Base some 60 miles inland, most people probably thought they would just drive. But the brigade's deputy commander, Lt. Col. Bill Steinkirchner, isn't most people.

"I walked into the Air Force Operations Center and said 'Want to help move a brigade by air?" said Steinkirchner. And the Air Force Reserve's 452nd Air Mobility Wing said "yes."

After only four months of planning, the joint operation was ready to take off. To add to the training, the entire operation was done under the guise of a reaction to a Tsunami threat to the West Coast.

On the morning of July 15, the air crews from the 452nd Air Mobility Wing and commanders from the 452nd and 304th filed into a conference room on March Air Reserve Base. Army Master Sgt. Arturo Padilla donned a crisp blue suit and played the part of Mr. Padilla from the Department of Homeland Security. He briefed

the room with details of the impeding Tsunami that would have wiped out the headquarters of the 304th in West Los Angeles.

"Today we are going to do what separates us from Delta and United," said Col. Jeff Barnson, deputy commander of the 452nd Air Mobility Wing, during the briefing. "We're going to move a brigade."

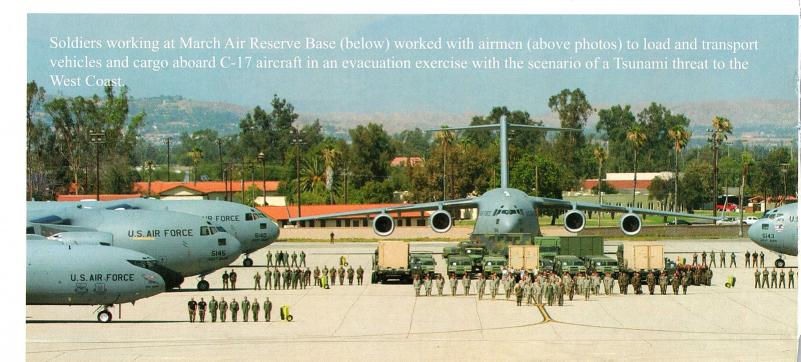
Meanwhile at the reserve center in West Los Angeles, the Soldiers of the 304th were busy preparing their vehicles and equipment for "evacuation" from the coast. In an evacuation of

> Los Angeles, Padilla estimated that all East/West routes of travel would be jammed with more than 4 million people trying to flee the coast. So instead of heading east, the 304th drove north to Point



Magu Naval Air Station.

There they were met by five C-17s from the Air Force Reserve's 452nd Air Mobility Wing. Two and a half hours had been set aside for the loading of the 304th's equipment, but with the help of the Air Force's load





masters, the planes were ready to take off in 75 minutes.

"A C-17 crew usually has three people; two pilots and a load master," said Air Force Master Sgt. Gamache before the exercise. "Because of what we're going to load, they wanted to get a few extra people to tie stuff down."

"And it showed," said Steinkirchner. "It's unheard of to load that many vehicles in that short amount of time.

"The Air Force sent a team to West Los Angeles for a weekend to train us. The Soldiers had to learn how to prepare their equipment to meet the load masters' standards. If a Humvee had an oil leak, it wasn't going on the plane.

Each C-17 had three or four load masters to help with the enormous amount of equipment the 304th was moving to March Air Base including more than 25 Humvees , 16 ISU 90 containers, and five 2-1/2-ton trucks.

When the aircraft touched down at March, the Soldiers and Air Force load masters worked quickly-but safely-- to unload all of the equipment. The Air Force wanted to capture the moment on film, so the Soldiers

and air crews
posed in front of
the aircraft with
the off-loaded
equipment.
"It is

"It is incredibly unique that an Army Reserve unit and Air Force Reserve unit can do what we did in one battle assembly weekend," said Col. Gregory Maida, who took command of



the 304th the weekend before the exercise. What we did is exactly what we would do in a deployment."

One of the advantages of the 304th Sustainment Brigade's new location is the joint environment at March.

"We have ideas and hopefully we'll do more training with the Air Force," said Sgt. Maj. Timothy Quick, who was the sergeant major of the 304th Sustainment Brigade at the time.

The 304th Sustainment Brigade is one of the first of its kind in the U.S. Army. The unit was known as the 304th Corps Materiel Management Center until it was rededicated last July as a sustainment brigade. The new type of unit reflects the Army's current transformation to a more modular force.

The purpose of the command is to plan, coordinate, synchronize, monitor, and control logistics within an assigned area of responsibility. The 304th is capable of providing logistical support to joint and multinational forces.

"Our mission is to become the premiere sustainment brigade in the Army Reserve," said Maida.

"I think we set a very high standard for a unit that is two weeks old," said Steinkirchner. "I don't think we set the bar too high for this brigade, but maybe too high for the other sustainment brigades to live up to."

Gift from an artist



photo by Kent Ambrose

Beso Kazaishvili, an internationally recognized artist, unveiled his original acrylic on canvas painting entitled "Look to the Stars," to a gathering of Soldiers and civilians at the 63d Regional Readiness Command headquarters in July. Through Pentagon officials and Beso's manager, Rick Hancock, 63rd USAR Ambassador, Howard Schwartz, arranged for endowing the piece to the Army Reserve. Maj. Gen. Paul E. Mock, accepted the artwork on behalf of the U.S. Army Reserve Command. "Beso has an incredible story to tell and shows tremendous artistic talent."



News From Family Pr

The Family Programs office of the 63rd RRC recently added a new member to its staff. Mrs. Ann Nacino came on board on July 17th as the Army Family Team Building and Army Family Action Plan Program Manager. Her office is located within Family Programs in Bldg. 18 at the 63rd RRC Headquarters in Los Alamitos, CA. Mrs. Nacino is married to a newly-separated Soldier and experienced four deployments, countless field exercises and TDYs during their nine years in active duty. Mrs. Nacino can be reached at 562-795-2686 if you have any questions, or would like more information about AFTB or AFAP.

The purpose of Army Family Team Building (AFTB) is to prepare Soldiers and their families to adapt to Army life, manage change, and accept challenges.

Our mission is to educate and train all of America's Army in a wide variety of knowledge, skills, and behaviors designed to prepare our Army families to move successfully into the 21st century.

AFTB is a global educational program whose primary objective is to improve overall readiness by teaching and promoting personal and family readiness through education of family members. Education is provided through standardized, sequential classes. In addition, the program can be used flexibly to meet the needs of the individual audience. For example, AFTB modules can be incorporated at Family Days, Family Readiness Group meetings, other specially organized family member training, volunteer training, Family Program advisor training, and even excerpts for newsletter articles.

The AFTB Program recognizes that leaders in the Army have a responsibility to establish

a partnership between the Army Reserve and families. Numerous studies indicate that Soldier performance, readiness, and retention relate directly to family satisfaction with Army Reserve life.

Training for family members are divided into three levels: Level I-Introduction to the Army, Level II-Intermediate for Emerging Leaders within the Army community, and Level III-Advanced for those in advisory and leadership roles.

In support of this increased emphasis on family awareness and responsibility, courses developed for AFTB educate the Army family (Soldiers-Active, Reserves, and Guard, DA civilian employees, and family members) in a wide variety of knowledge, skills, and abilities fostering personal and family preparedness to enhance Army readiness. Lesson topics include:

- 1. The elements needed to build cohesive teams within the family member structure.
- 2. The military and civilian community resources available to family members at installations and Reserve Component centers. Awareness and understanding of the resources available will empower family members to better manage their lives during separation and while living within the Army Reserve culture.
- 3. The importance of political savvy as it relates to understanding organizational structure and policy.
- 4. The techniques for building effective professional relationships within the community and unit.
- 5. The methods and techniques that provide family members with professional growth and leadership development opportunities.

Levels can be taught in their entirety, or as individual modules. In addition, modules can be

ograms



1st Sgt. Acosta welcomes home troops from Iraq

pulled together into "concept blocks" to achieve a particular objective.

Army Family Team Building training is now available online as well. NetTrainer is an excellent resource, allowing individuals to take Levels I, II and III from the comfort of their homes, despite geographic separation.

For more information about NetTrainer or to begin training, visit www.myarmylifetoo.com.

The Army Family Action Plan (AFAP) is an Army-wide program to improve Army quality of life. Through AFAP, all members of the Army, including Active, Reserve, and National Guard Soldiers, family members, retirees, surviving spouses, DA Civilians, and military technicians have a forum to voice concerns to Army leadership and make recommendations for change.

You may submit issues through your Regional Readiness Command's (RRC) AFAP Program Manager (PM) at any time. The PM will provide assistance with writing the issues to ensure they meet DA AFAP guidelines. PM's will research the issue to determine if a similar one is already in the AFAP process or previously deemed unattainable, and if so, submitter will be informed.

If issues impact only the local community, they are resolved locally. If they have a broader scope, they are sent forward and evaluated for submission into the Army Reserve (AR) AFAP. About 95% of AFAP issues are retained and worked at the local level and result in ongoing community improvements. Your Program Manager can assist, train or brief the program to local commanders, family members, and Soldiers at Family Readiness Group (FRG) meetings, Family Day, or upon request.







First Sgt. Jesse Acosta, blinded from a mortar attack in Iraq, welcomes back Soldiers from the 376th Personnel Services Battalion during an October homecoming in Long Beach. Acosta had served as the unit's top NCO until his injury in early 2006. The 376th was assigned at Logistics Support Area Anaconda. (Photos by Kent Ambrose)

Chaplais Court by Chaplain (Col.) Scott Hubert, 63rd RRC

Counseling, prayer and chapel services for Soldiers and families are part of the ministry of chaplains and chaplain assistants. Family members should not hesitate to think of and call upon the ministry team to connect them to community resources. Ministry teams know of community groups and church groups that teach, train, and comfort military families and assist them to find the resources they need for support, counsel and advice.

The teams can guide families to church and community family support groups. Soldiers and their families are urged to value and utilize the activities that local youth programs and church youth programs offer. These groups will give children stability and direction since community and church youth programs know the hardships of separation on spouses, teenagers, and children. Church and community groups want to honor Soldiers by encouraging family members and providing a safety net in times of need.

College students can benefit from this same type of support as well through college groups that reinforce study goals, connecting their studies to honoring the convictions of faith for them as they are involved in their academic pursuits. Ask your unit chaplain where to plug in to programs in the community. Your children will prosper from



District attorney employees answering the call to service

By Bernie LaFortenza, Aide de Camp to Maj. Gen. Paul Mock



photo P. Ryan PAO

Bernie LaFortenza

On the 18th Floor of the Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center in Los Angeles, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office honored its employees serving in all branches of the military Reserve and Guard by installing photographic murals on their elevators.

Mounted in April 2006, the paintings on the the elevator doors depict 17 members of the District Attorney's Office who serve as reservists in the armed forces. These Citizen Soldiers are employed as Deputy District Attorneys and District Attorney Investigators. Some of the employees serve as Judge Advocates while others serve in other branches of their respective services.

Louis Avila, a Deputy District Attorney, spent 14 months in Ar Ramadi, Iraq as a senior watch officer in the combat operations center. He was recently promoted to Colonel in the United States Marines.

Steven Frankland, an Assistant Head Deputy District Attorney and Deputy Commander of the 78th Legal Support Organization at Los Alamitos, was mobilized in 2004 to assist in the prosecution of terrorists detained at Guantanomo Bay.

Deputy District Attorney Elan Carr, the Deputy Staff Judge Advocate at the 311th ESC, deployed to Iraq to work with Iraqi attorneys and jurists to prosecute terrorists and insurgents.

Deputy District Attorney Bernie LaForteza spent a year at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait with the 377th TSC(F) conducting courts-martial as an Army prosecutor and as an Administrative Law Officer.



photo P. Ryan PAO

Louis Avila, Deputy District Attorney

Derek Harris, a Navy reservist and a member of the "Seabees" at the U.S. Naval Construction Force, built crates and other materials used to send equipment to the troops in Iraq.

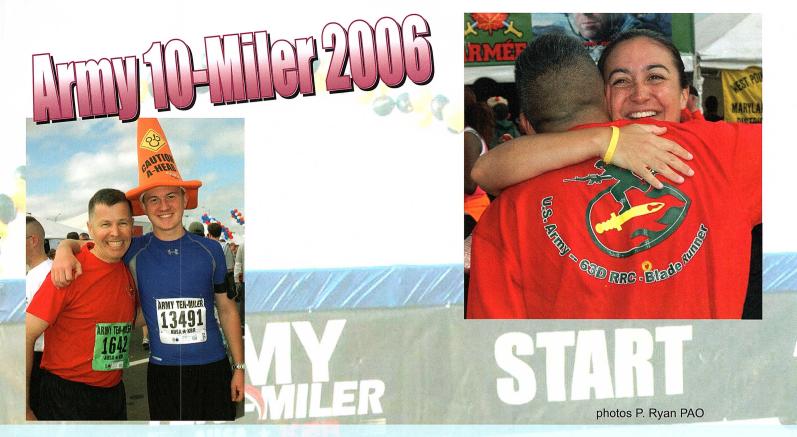
Randal McNary, a District Attorney Senior Investigator, was recently mobilized as a Coast Guard Investigator conducting criminal investigations for the Coast Guard.

On November 7, 2006, Major General Mock visited with Steve Cooley, the Los Angeles County District Attorney, and the other military service members depicted on the elevators. He saw the murals honoring the office's military reservists and presented Mr. Cooley with a Certificate of Appreciation for employer support. Mr. Cooley told General Mock that the District Attorney's Office wanted to honor his employees who are serving in the military reserve and Guard.



photo Kent Ambrose

Maj. Gen. Mock presents D.A. Steve Cooley with a Commanders coin in appreciation of his support.



Oct. 8, 2006 - The Army Ten-Miler attracted participants from around the world, from civilian and military elite athletes, to former Olympians and beginner-runners. The 63rd RRC team did the Region proud as the team thundered to a victorious and respectable finish.



