



THE STRIKER STATEMENT

Issue # 26 OIF

13 November 2003



Editor

If there is anyone who would like to receive this by email simply drop me a line and I will add you to the distribution list. ted.m.preister@us.army.mil

CPT Ted M. Preister
BCT Rear-D Commander

HELLRAISERS



Over the hump! Company soldiers privately celebrate the second half of any training exercise or deployment. "Hump Day" as the soldiers of the Brigade TOC call it is the halfway point. We reached that point on 27 OCT 03. So now it's all downhill so to speak.

We have added a few of facilities to the Striker FOB. The first is a new dining facility for 200 personnel, second is a new Internet cafe, and third is a weight room. These facilities are intended to provide the very best quality of life for our deployed soldiers.



The brigade headquarters welcomes CW2 Hicks as the new Food Service Officer; CW2 Hicks is coming to us from 2nd Brigade, 82nd Airborne Division. The brigade headquarters farewells CW3 Nero. CW3 Nero was awarded the Army

Commendation Medal for her work as the Brigade Food Service Officer over the past two years. Her hard work has provided high-quality food service for our soldiers both in Baumholder and during Operation Iraqi Freedom.



The soldiers send many thanks to the FRG for the g great Halloween care packages. There is nothing left to be found of them. The cookies were a big hit with the soldiers.

CPT. Arosemena

CONQUERERS

Sports Big in Baghdad by: 1LT Dallas Cheatham

Baghdad, Iraq 14 SEP 03 – The soldiers of A Company, 2-6 Infantry (Task Force 1/35) are hard at work conducting support and stabilization operations in Baghdad, and do what they can to take a break when the day's missions are over. After coming off of patrols in sector or force protection at checkpoints, many soldiers use sports to relax and exercise. Whether they are playing a game of volleyball or basketball, working out in the company's weight room, or even watching football games on TV, soldiers are benefiting from having different types of sports available to them while on deployment in Iraq.

After soldiers expressed a need for weight lifting equipment, the chain of command was able to locate and purchase several items off the local Iraqi economy. 1SG Alec Lazore headed the project and was able to obtain weight lifting machines for a new company weight room. With help from eager soldiers, the brand new weight lifting equipment was moved into a room and supplemented with some "homemade" weights. Soldiers used whatever they





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could find to add to the company weight room by making weights out of sand-filled jugs and scrap metal pieces. Although most soldiers feel that they can get a complete workout in the weight room, some still use their free time to put together new equipment or think of innovative ways to use the existing equipment for all of their weight lifting needs.

With a little help from the company Headquarters' platoon and Maintenance section, the company was also able to buy and install two basketball goals and a full-size volleyball net for the sports lovers in the company. The Maintenance section's M88 recovery vehicle was called into action to install the basketball goals and make a volleyball court. Crewmembers, SGT Brent Rich and SPC Jonathan Duncan, removed trees and leveled a playing surface using the M88's large front plow. HMMWV driver, PFC Brett Ehrhardt, and M249 SAW gunner, PFC Erik Lind then went to work pouring cement and installing the net. Because most soldiers don't have time to play during the day, the company medic, SGT Matthew Renfro, took on the task of repairing existing floodlights for night games.

If you are ever by Assassin Base in the evening, you'll more than likely be able to get into a pick-up game of basketball or volleyball. That is of course, if you're good enough to make the cut. SSG Kevin Olson said, "Some of these guys take these games very seriously. They are all having fun, but they are still very competitive." Some soldiers see the nightly game as a mandatory scheduled event, and someone is always keeping score. It is easy to see from the sweat soaked uniforms and the focused looks on the soldiers' faces that they put the same effort and commitment into sports as they do into their missions.

Don't worry, if you don't make one of the Assassin teams you can still cheer for your favorite one on the TV. Thanks to an Armed Forces Network satellite and decoder provided from higher supply channels, soldiers are now able to watch college and NFL football games from thousands of miles away. Although it means staying up a little late or waking up earlier than usual (Monday Night Football airs at 5:00 am Tuesday), many soldiers still crowd around the television to watch.

The chain of command at all levels has realized that sports play a large role in the overall well being of soldiers. Leaders have dedicated time and money for continuing to improve the quality of sports

equipment and availability. A larger TV, viewing stands for the volleyball court, and a weight room expansion are all projects in the works.

The entire chain of command agrees that these efforts are more than worthwhile, because of the ability for sports to improve morale and small unit cohesion. Although the current operational tempo has slowed the plan for company level tournaments, the Company Commander, CPT Scott Nauman, is confident that there will be some tournaments in the near future. Until then, the soldiers of A Co. 2-6 IN will be practicing out on the courts or taking notes from the pros on the TV.

Battalion FGR Meeting November 18 at 18:00 at the Wagon Wheel Theater.

C. Company, 1/35 Birthdays:

6 Nov (Belated) - Jennifer Leija
24 Nov – SSG Carlos Hern-Martinez
26 Nov - Kevin Revette



Charlie Company ladies and their children celebrated a Thanksgiving dinner on Saturday, November 8. SGT Tasker, the new FRG POC, attended the dinner and took photos.

THUNDER

Greetings from Baghdad. The Thunder Battalion has achieved much during the month of October. On the operational side, the Thunder Battalion detained thirty-one Saddam Hussein loyalists and religious fundamentalists. These individuals were responsible for funding and recruiting personnel to attack Coalition Forces or attacking our forces directly. In addition to these detentions, we seized twenty-four





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SA-7s (surface to air missiles), ten AK-47 assault rifles and forty 60mm mortar rounds. Every weapon we seize is one less threat against American soldiers. Most significantly, through the tremendous efforts of our soldiers our zone has been down graded from Red to Amber based on the decline in the attacks against forces in our zone.



LTC McKiernan and the command drivers SGT Smith and SGT Grepl

The Thunder FOB continues to improve with each passing month. We now have a new indoor Dining Facility, which allows the soldiers to eat without fending off the flies. This facility is a godsend. In addition to our new D-FAC, we now get our food from a food service contractor and the quality is good. In four days we will complete construction of another barracks building and in three weeks we expect to finish construction of the last barracks.

Over the past month, the Rest and Recuperation plan for the battalion has been changing for the better. First, our environmental leave allocations have doubled and we are now able to send fourteen soldiers home on leave per week. There is also an additional R & R site now in Baghdad that soldiers can go and unwind for three days. We still continue to send soldier on the three-day pass to Qatar as well.

Thank you family members for all you do at home to support our battalion in Baghdad. Your sacrifices are not forgotten

LTC Brian J. McKiernan

GATORS

Soldier Places 10th in Army Ten Miler

SPC Adan Rivas, Bravo Company maintenance supply specialist placed tenth overall in the Army Ten Miler at the Baghdad International Airport early last month with a time of one hour and two minutes.



The Baghdad race coincided with the annual Army Ten Miler in Washington, D.C. and drew over a thousand participants. For Rivas, a thirty-one year old native of Chihuahua, Mexico, this is an impressive performance, especially considering the limited amount of training time available to soldiers deployed in Iraq. Though he ran the 400m, 200m races as well as the 4x400 and 4x100 races in college this is the first long distance event in which Rivas has competed.

While he has been deployed to Iraq, his wife, Rocio Rivas and their two children, Adan who turns 7 on the 25 Nov, and Ivan, four, have patiently waited in Germany. SPC Rivas has a special message for his wife, "I would like to thank my wife for all the support she has given me since I have been in Iraq. This is my first deployment, and I know it has not been easy on her or the kids, but I just want her to know that I love her, and that I will be home soon."

Gator Bite Inn Has Its Grand Opening

The Gator Bite Inn, TF 2-6 IN's, latest MWR addition, is now officially open for business. Offering everything from a fully stocked concession stand to a pool table and satellite TV. The new recreation center is a great place for soldiers to come and relax after a hard days work.





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Joe (left) and SFC Bachelor (right) at the Gator Bite Inn

SFC Sidney Batchelor, HHC, Food Service NCOIC and Akram "Joe" Franso run the Gator Bite Inn. Both men have gone to great lengths to meet the needs of the soldiers from TF 2-6 IN. Currently, pool, ping pong, foosball, four television sets and a X-box are available for the soldier's use.

In addition to the recreational equipment, Joe operates a concession and overnight laundry service for the convenience of the Inn's patrons. The concession stand offers everything from Coke, Sprite and Snickers candy bars to cigarettes and blankets. SFC Batchelor has plans to expand the Gator Bite Inn to include a souvenir shop that will allow soldiers to purchase Iraqi goods from the convenience of the Camp Muleskinner compound.

RAMS

Why I joined the Army by: PFC Erik W. Metcalf (C. company/ 40th)

I grew up in your average Indiana town. Having just scraped through High School and thrown into the real world, I found life's bitter reality of bills, responsibilities and facing the harsh consequences of my young ignorant actions. It seemed that no matter where I turned or how hard I tried I could never come out on top or just even for that matter. My girlfriend was having her own problems only adding more stress to my life. She was the only thing I had, and I loved her more than anything in the world. I had promised her that I would always take care of her, and I was failing.

This is the reason I turned to the military. What I needed was a base to begin my life. Having come

from a family that was prior enlisted in the Army, I chose the same path to start my family. For the short time I have been in I have managed to do just what I had always dreamed and hoped of. My wife and I have been able to do things and go to places we never dreamed of being able to go and do when we started out. We still have our ups and downs just like any marriage, but I no longer worry over future endeavors because I know that the Army will take care of its soldiers and their families. By the military doing this, I am able to keep my promise to my one true love, my dear wife.

PIONEERS

B/47th Forward Support Battalion

We have finally reached the half way mark. Time is going by extremely fast. Soldiers are starting to go back on R&R leave. This time off is well deserved for the very hard working soldiers of Bravo Company. The Bravo Bulldogs have been extremely busy as usual this month. Running ranges is becoming the norm for the Bulldogs. On 28 October, 2LT Miles and SSG McRoberts ran a M249 range. 2LT Freedman and SFC Taylor ran a M249 range last week as well. 2LT Miles and SSG McRoberts, again are planning for the M249/M16 range they are scheduled to run in two weeks. The Bulldogs have been providing the Battalion with the majority of gun trucks for our daily convoys. SFC Collins, SSG Harris, SSG Thomas, SSG Yealey, SGT Knoop, SGT Hosier, SPC Cooke, SPC Fairconature, and SPC Kosal have been doing an outstanding job providing security on all of their convoy missions.



B. Company soldiers enjoying some cooler weather!





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The climate here in IRAQ has changed over the last couple of weeks. We have been experiencing cooler temperatures. This is a great thing. But, when it is time to take showers outside it becomes a problem. As usual, First Sergeant Buck came to the rescue. He fixed the hot water boilers in both of the barracks, so that soldiers can take a hot shower after a hard days work and physical training. The soldiers had the opportunity to spend some of their hard earned cash at the local bazaar this past weekend. Many bought holiday gifts for their loved ones back in Germany and in the states. The local Iraqis had some great items for sale such as: televisions, perfume, jewelry, clothing, rugs, pictures, and toys just to name a few. Loved ones will be amazed when they receive those precious gifts.



Well, the soldiers of Bravo Company would like to thank you all for all of your support. We are ½ of the way through our deployment! Keep us in your prayers.

2LT Maurice Miles

EVENTS

- FRG Meeting November 18 at 1800 hrs in the Wagon Wheel Theater

REGULARS

In the early morning hours, Monday, the soldiers of 1-6 were suddenly awakened by what at first seemed to be a mortar attack. As many tried to take inventory of the situation a bolt of lightning flashed across the sky and a loud "boom" soon followed. For the second time in a week it was raining and for the first time since arrival in country last April the rain

was accompanied by lightning and thunder. Thus relieved, the soldiers went back to sleep for a few more hours before starting their day. The seasons are changing.



Platoon Leader 2LT John Kendall, gunner SGT Daniel Dishman, and driver PFC Willy Montanez, sit anxiously on their Bradley during line-up in front of FOB Regular

As the troops watch the progress of the calendar, they can also see progress being made in their missions. Members of Alpha Company took center stage on the university campus this week as they participated in the dedication of the newly renovated Civil Engineering building. The company commander, CPT McBride, and the Fire Support Officer, 1LT Sean Gifillan were walking around and visiting with students and faculty as LTC Peter Jones and Dr. Omar oversaw the ribbon cutting ceremony. A student and member of the Engineering Council, Lena, said the students were appreciative of all the work the Coalition Forces had done for the school. Bravo and Charley companies formed the backbone of a taskforce-sized operation this week into another battalion's area.

Supported by our Scout platoon as well as elements from the Brigade Recon Team, 40th Engineers and a company from our sister battalion, 2-6, our boys pulled out from FOB Regular about Midnight on an operation that lasted till dawn. Intelligence sources suggested that the gang responsible for the recent rocket and mortar attacks on the Green Zone was located in the area controlled by the 2-70th Armor.





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CPT McBride with Dr. Omar and members of the Engineering Council.

As the operation came to a close it was apparent that it was a resounding success as it was discovered that the team had captured all 10 of their primary suspects as well as weapons, explosive equipment, and even an improvised mortar tube. Though tired as the troops returned to FOB Regular around 0600 the next morning, they were filled with a great sense of satisfaction at having been able to strike back at the terrorists and pull some of them off the street. Well done to Warrior and Commando.

Fortunately the medics accompanying the Taskforce on this raid, as on most of the operations we have participated in, were not needed. But, this doesn't mean that they have been idle. In addition to their daily duties for sick-call, the medics have been sharpening their skills and maintaining their certification with a refresher course on Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) tasks. Our own organic assets taught this refresher course. The Battalion Surgeon, CPT Jeff Alden, the Physician's Assistant, CPT Al Goddard, EMT-Intermediate, SGT George Cassidy, and the Platoon Medical Education Coordinator, SGT David Joslin provided instruction for the 36 blocks of instruction over the course of seven days. The final test consists of written (100 questions) and practical (7 hands-on) exercises.

Each completed mission or training event lets us know that we are that much closer to task complete. As we have traversed the midpoint and we look to the Holidays, our hearts and minds are longing for you, our friends and family.

Still we recognize the need to stay focused on the mission at hand. Greetings from Baghdad as we continue on point for the nation. **"Regulars...By God!"**

- Dessert Night 27 Nov 18:00-19:00 in Conference Room

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

By: Ch. Stevan Horning

Yesterday I spied a glossy paper, half-crumpled, lying on the ground just outside Brigade Headquarters. Since I'm trying to attain the rank of Model Citizen, the leave-my-world-cleaner-than-I-found-it type, I picked it up. Instantly, I realized what it was, and simultaneously wadded it together as I headed for the dumpster. Pornography! I felt startled, sickened, and angrily indignant...and tempted. Even though something gross and vile and stupid had flashed before my eyes, I realized my sin-nature was curious, prying. I felt offended, not only because that particular specimen was at root ugly, but also because some fellow Soldier had brought a stumbling block into my environment. That piece of paper interrupted my innocent thoughts and sullied them; it intruded into my workaday world like a robber and vandalized my "domestic peace and tranquility". The whole episode lasted hardly five seconds, from ground to dumpster, but you see my moral machinery still cranking today.

No one really denies that the multi-billion dollar porn industry wrecks millions of lives. Can you persuade an anguished wife that porn did not dilute her husband's devotion to her? Can anyone restore innocence to a child who was molested because of porn-fed lust? Here's the principle: whatever you feed, will grow. Perhaps some Soldier or family member has no recognized problem with porn. But, if that person starts feeding porn to his or her desires, the little Chihuahua will grow soon into a raging monster of lust like a Tyrannosaurus! Remember the proverb: sow a thought, reap an act; sow an act, reap a habit; sow a habit, reap a character; sow a character, reap a life. And you always reap what you sow - the same thing, but more of it, and later than when you sow. Do you believe what I'm saying? How will you respond?

The Commandant of the Marine Corps once was asked in a public gathering, "Why are you allowing





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porn to be sold in military exchanges?" The good man turned to his aide and asked for a report, then promised the questioner that something would be done. He recognized his command responsibility. But even if the highest echelons of command were to forbid the sale and possession of pornography among troops, we clever Soldiers could find ways to disobey their intent. A desire for purity must start in the hearts of Soldiers and their family members. Only when the market for porn dwindles will that scourge trouble us less. Let's be honest: nothing good comes from porn, but only harm. It's fraud; fake pleasure. Let's reject silly excuses: if you don't care whom your porn use hurts, admit that you don't care. Then expect a troubled conscience, guilty thoughts, and dissatisfaction. The 9-11 hijackers used porn and guilty pleasures before they boarded the planes; why should WE do what they did?

Alexis de Toqueville, famous observer and admirer of American culture in the early years of our nation, remarked, "America is a nation with the soul of a church." He was drawing attention to the faith-informed consciences of our ancestors. When asked why, in his opinion, America already was so great among the nations, de Toqueville replied: "America is great because America is good; when she ceases to be good, she will cease to be great." Please, fellow Soldiers, let's think good thoughts; keep doing good acts; let's keep establishing a reputation for decency.

Veterans Day: you'll be pleased to know that our friends in Europe -and we do have friends here among Europeans! - still are remembering with fondness the sacrifices our nation made to secure their liberties, especially during the two World Wars. The American Cemetary in St Avold, France, is impeccably maintained in every respect, for example. A very friendly guide, his words tinged with a charming French accent, showed my little group the displays about Medal of Honor recipients. He frankly admired the character and goodness of America. He hoped that the macro-echelon relations between our countries would not remain strained.

Thanksgiving Day: Consider that this is the most purely religious or spiritual of our entire nation's holidays. All the others have been colored by commercialism, and attempts have been made to reduce even this one to "Turkey Day." But as soon as we say, "Thanks-giving" we must acknowledge

that thanks are due to Someone. A Thanksgiving service is being planned for 11:30 on Wednesday, November 26, in Chapel One in Baumholder.

Striking Scripture

By ordinary Providence, the incident I related above in Chaplain Corner ties into the Seventh Commandment, which some of us here studied this week. In EXODUS 20 and DEUTERONOMY 5, Moses wrote down this prohibition from God: *You shall not commit adultery*. We learned that each commandment has broad applications, both in what each requires us to do, and also to forbid the contrary things. Our sin-nature wants to adulterate much more than just our marriages. Sin suggests that we show disloyalty in all our covenants, it tempts us to dilute our right affections, it divides our heart in our devotion to God and what He has called us to do. So after studying a number of Scriptures, we wanted to respond to God's commandment with this resolve: **We will keep faith and purity toward God, our life-partners, and our calling; we will act honestly in our business, and will not cause others to stumble in theirs.**

Our forerunners in the faith realized the wide scope of this commandment. Drawing on Scriptures such as MALACHI 2:14 and I CORINTHIANS 6: 12-20, they wrote, "The Seventh Commandment requires the preservation of our own and our neighbor's decency, in heart, speech and behavior." To cover the bases more thoroughly, they added, "The Seventh Commandment forbids all immoral thoughts, words, and actions." The famous Larger Catechism of 1648 elaborates: "The **duties required** in the seventh commandment are: purity in body, mind, affections, words, and behavior; the preservation of it in ourselves and others; watchfulness over the eyes and all the senses; temperance, keeping of chaste company, modesty in apparel; marriage by those that have not the gift of continency; conjugal love, and cohabitation; diligent labor in our callings, shunning all occasions of uncleanness, and resisting those types of temptations." The Heidelberg Catechism (1563) puts it simply: "Since we, body and soul, are temples of the Holy Spirit, it is God's will that we keep ourselves pure and holy."

Okay. Suppose we realize we have violated this commandment: how can we be reconciled to God and to our mate? Flee to the Throne of Grace, the Bible says in Hebrews 4:16, and **ask forgiveness**.





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God has provided a way: "Though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow" (ISAIAH 1:18). Talk to your chaplain or pastor, or to someone who understands the message of grace. Don't fester in guilt or do something rash that only makes things worse. Humbly admit your fault and look up to God in hope: He can "restore the years the locusts have eaten"! (JOEL 2:25) If your mate asks your forgiveness, give it just as generously as God gives grace to you. Then start a new habit of accountability and good conscience.

BAUMHOLDER INFORMATION

November

21-23 Holiday Bazaar at Hall of Champions

25 Town Hall

26 Deployment Support Group

LINKS

27 Thanksgiving Day

Thanksgiving Meal at 2nd BDE and Strassburg Dining Facilities from 11:00-15:00.

28 USAREUR Training Holiday

German Worker Shop Day Off

December

5 Community Holiday Tree Lighting

7 Sunday Brunch

19 Niki Barr MWR Concert

24 USAREUR Training Holiday

German Holiday

25 Christmas Day

26 German Holiday

30 No Townhall

31 USAREUR Training Holiday (No Links)

Volunteer Santa's are needed for the holiday

season! If you have a jolly disposition, and like milk & cookies please call John Visneski at 485-8779

DoDDS CALENDAR

1st Tuesday of the month SAC Meeting, Baumholder High at 1630

3rd Thursday of the month SAC Meeting, Wetzel Elementary at 1430

17 Nov 1515 IAC Meeting, BSB Conference Room

18 Nov 1430 SAC Meeting, Smith Elementary

27 & 28 No School, Thanksgiving Recess

RHEINLANDER EVENTS

- Indoor Garage Sale 15 Nov, 0900 – 1300.

- Tuesday night Kids' Night with movies, board games, and a \$3.50 per child menu

Internet Access only 9 cents/minute in the Cyber Zone!!

POC: Amy Gee at DSN 485-7507

OUTDOOR REC TOURS

15 Nov Metz Flea Market

15 Nov Centre O Mall

20 Nov Ikea Shopping

22 Nov Frankfurt Zoo

28 Nov Trier Christmas Market

07 - 10 Nov 03, Veterans' Day Ski trip – Kaprun, Austria

26 - 30 Nov 03, Thanksgiving Ski Trip – Kaprun, Austria

POC: Jeffrey Milkes at DSN 485-6352

HOST NATION SPONSORED EVENTS

15&29 Nov Flea market at Metz, France

28Nov Christmas market at Oberstein

29Nov Christmas market at Reichenbach

29Nov Christmas market at Berglangenbach

29Nov Andreas market at Kirn

BAUMHOLDER HEALTH CLINIC

- Baumholder Health Clinic has a new phone system. 485-8080 is the only working number.
- When you call central appointments, 485-8080, the computer voice will assign you a number. Please hold the line and the clerks will take your calls in order.
- To save time, the system will ask you to punch in your sponsor's SSN. Please have it ready when you call. Rotary and digital phones will have to wait to speak with a clerk, as they cannot be used to input the SSN. They can still be used to get an appointment.
- This new system also comes with elevator music for your listening enjoyment





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Prescription refills MUST be done over the phone. Prescriptions called in before 11:30pm will be available for pick-up after 1:30pm on the next duty day. Please call 485-6879! This system speeds up the line for those filling both new prescriptions and refills alike.

Baumholder Health Clinic Physical Therapy is seeing patients with back, neck, shoulder, elbow, hand, hip, knee or ankle pain. You do not need to see your Doctor first! Come straight to us. Bring your records. Call 485-6357/7151 for more information. Active Duty can walk-in to sick call during these hours: Mon, Tue, Fri: 8:00-10:00am or Wed 9:30-11:00am

CHILD & YOUTH SERVICES EVENTS

POC: Joanne Hernandez at 485-7198

22 Nov – Midnight basketball at the HOC, no cost
26 Nov – Thanksgiving dance for 9th - 12th grades at the Teen Café, Cost: \$3

Breakfast With Santa

Saturday, 13 Dec at Neubruecke YS

Time: 1000 – 1200

Cost: \$5 per family including a photo

Parents Night Out – Nov 15 from 18:00-22:00 at Smith. Spaces limited – call now!

YOUTH WINTER SPORTS

Basketball – \$30 for first child, \$27 for second
Cheerleading – \$20 for first child, \$18 for second
Registration ends 5 Dec 03
Minimum 5 years old
Winter sports season: Practice starts in December
Games begin in January

BAUMHOLDER EDUCATION CENTER

- **Functional Academic Skills Training (FAST)**
03-17 Nov 2003
- **Term 2 College and Adult Education Courses**
27 Oct – 19 December 03
Central Texas College & UMUC courses now available

• **Adult Education**

ESL course Wed/Fri 11:30 – 12:30

• **Effective Military Writing II** 17-21 Nov 03

• **REMINDER: Army Emergency Relief (AER)**

Spouse Education Assistance Program

AER will pay up to 50% of an active duty spouse's tuition at local colleges!

- New financial aid forms for 2003-04 now available.

Visit the Education Center in building 8332 or call 485-7557

www.baumholder.army.mil/education

BAUMHOLDER COMMUNITY SPOUSES CLUB

The **Angel Tree** is a tradition that goes back many years. It's a way that we can give to children in our community. The Angel Tree will be located in the old Doner Kebab restaurant next to the PX. It will have angel ornaments decorating it that will list the child's age, gender and a gift that will be under \$20. All you need to do in order to participate is take an ornament, buy the gift and you can even get it wrapped at the gift wrapping table. Bring it back to the tree and BCSC will distribute the gifts. In order for this to be successful, we need your help. **If you know of any child that might benefit from this tradition, please contact your FRL in your unit, or either April Reneau@us.army.mil or BC/185 412 or Tina.Olson@us.army.mil or BC/900 654 by November 25.**

BAUMHOLDER RECREATIONAL EVENTS

- Baumholder Bowling Center has a "Hulk" and "Spiderman" club! Take home a free bowling bowl (6-15 lbs) after the completion of the club.
- The Rolling Hills Golf Club is offering a "Turkey Shoot" on Nov 15 at 10:00. \$25 entry fee for members. Non-members pay green fees. Drawings for a free turkey after the event! The club has several Christmas gift ideas for the golfer!





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HOLIDAY MAILING DATES

These are the recommended dates to have Christmas cards, letters, and parcels placed in the mail to ensure proper delivery by Christmas Day.

FROM GERMANY TO CONUS

SAM PARCELS 20 November 2003, Thursday

PAL PARCELS 04 December 2003, Thursday

PRIORITY PARCELS 11 December 2003, Thursday

FIRST CLASS LETTERS AND CARDS 11 December 2003, Thursday

EXPRESS MAIL 18 December 2003, Thursday

FROM GERMANY TO CENTCOM AOR

MPS PARCELS 20 November 2003, Thursday

SAM PARCELS 6 November 2003, Thursday

Mailing Guidance to CENTCOM AOR

While there is no specific limit to number of MPS packages mailed to CENTCOM AOR, patrons should take into consideration time, space availability, and resources to transport the mail. Helpful hints include:

- ❖ Recommend mailing 5 MPS packages per visit to ensure quicker processing of the mail at the finance windows.
- ❖ Appointments can be made at the local APO between the hours of 0800 - 0900 hours for personnel with more than 5 packages.
- ❖ Smaller parcels generally move quicker due to space availability as opposed to larger parcels, which has more space requirements.

Keep the mailing deadlines in mind when sending packages. Earlier is better.

ARMY COMMUNITY SERVICES

RELOCATION ASSISTANCE FOR SPOUSES

If your spouse is currently deployed, but has received orders to relocate, then don't delay planning and organizing your move! You can take care of many move-related tasks before your spouse returns to Baumholder. The more you get done now, the less stressful your move will be. And, as an added bonus, you will have more quality time to spend together when the soldier returns from the deployment.

The Baumholder ACS invites all spouses to schedule individualized relocation planning consultations. Whether the service member is currently deployed or in Baumholder, spouses can obtain the same quality assistance as the service member. We will provide you with a comprehensive packet about your new location, as well as information to help you organize a smooth move. Relocation assistance is available whether the move is a PCS move or the service member is retiring or separating from the Army.

Please call ACS at 485-8188 or 06783-68188 for information and to schedule an appointment.

RE-INTEGRATION AFTER DEPLOYMENT

ACS is offering a class on Wednesdays that focuses on issues after the deployment. Free child care is available, and lunch is provided. Please call 485-8188 or 06783-68188 to reserve your seat!

ACS NEEDS VOLUNTEERS!

MWR Holiday Bazaar

Tree Lighting Ceremony

ACS

Post Office

Library

Call 485-8188 or 06783-68188 for details!

IACS INFORMATION

It has been a while since the temporary mass registration ended (6 Sep). 8,000 people in Baumholder have been registered. Baumholder is doing great on the Installation Pass side of the house. However, judging from the weekly stats, it appears that there are some family members out there that have not yet registered. **Here is a reminder of a few items:**

1. If you have not registered in IACS, and you have family coming from the U.S. to visit you for a while, you won't be able to obtain an installation pass for them (the system will not allow the issue of an installation pass under the Visitor category if the sponsor (you) is not registered in the IACS).





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2. DOD ID card holders: If you have not registered, call 485-7298 for appointment. Don't wait until the last minute just because IACS is not fielded at the gates. That could happen anytime. Please keep in mind that upon our soldiers' return, they will have priority in getting registered!
3. If you have registered, but have obtained a new ID since the registration, you must re-register again.
4. Good News: If you have family that are visiting you, and they have obtained a 222d BSB installation pass, then they may access other BSBs without being signed on PROVIDED they are escorted by a DOD ID card holder!!! (Before a BSB pass issued to Cat 11 and 12 Visitors, was only valid for access to the BSB that issued the pass, and the visitor had to be signed on if he/she went to a different BSB (i.e., K-Town, Wiesbaden, etc).

Please feel free to contact Bianca Bowen, IACS Program Manager, at 485-7141 if you have additional questions.

