

Indianhead

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Sept. 15, 2006

2ID remembers 9/11, lives lost, lives saved

By Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Mike Durham
Area I Chaplain

As the Nation took the time to remember the events of 9-11 this week - events that changed our world - the many chapels located throughout Area I were open for anyone who so desired to come and spend time in quiet reflection and prayer.

Additionally, several units sponsored prayer breakfasts and spiritual fitness events centered on the theme of "remembering and honoring" those who gave and have given so much in defense of our Nation.

Each of the chapels had available a slide show depicting the scenes of that tragic day both in New York City and at the Pentagon. Soldiers, family members and civilians were invited to share their thoughts with chapel staff who were available to provide support throughout the day.

On Camp Red Cloud, the Division Unit Ministry Team led a prayer breakfast with the theme, "Honoring the Warrior Spirit." One of the highlights of the event was the Lighting of the Deployment Candle by the Division Chief of Staff, Col. Michael Feil.

The candle is lit each week as part of the Protestant Worship Service at Warrior Chapel, but held greater meaning for those attending on that day as leaders, Soldiers and civilians gathered with specific Soldier sacrifices on their minds and hearts.

Another meaningful moment was when the Commanding General, Major Gen. James A. Coggin, told of his experience on that day and the timing of an assignment that spared his being in the area of the Pentagon that was struck by the terrorist plane.

Additionally he told of the impact of the Chief of Chaplains prayer at the close of a chaotic day. His remarks were followed by a Prayer for the Nation by the Division Chaplain and a slide show presentation of some of the scenes and the heroes of that day.

Across Area I, chaplains reported that a good number of people came by to offer prayers and to share their feelings about and stories of where they were on 9-11-01. It was a quiet and fitting tribute to the fifth anniversary of one of the darkest day in our Nation's recent history.

Unit ministry teams along with other care providers continue to provide a caring ministry of presence for our communities enabling the healing of hearts and minds.

By Gen. B. B. Bell
UNC/CFC/USFK Commander

Tuesday our Nation marked the fifth anniversary of the terrorist attack on the United States now known around the world simply as "9/11." On that day in the course of a few minutes, this country and the world were forever changed.

For many, it is still difficult to look back to that terrible day and to the subsequent actions that our country has taken without a deep sense of tremendous loss...loss of life...loss of peace...loss of security.

Though we cannot erase the memory or pain initiated by that historic event, we can find comfort in knowing that we came together as one Nation in the wake of that disaster and focused our attention on defeating the terrorist groups that declared war on the United States and our way of life.

This week especially, we remember the men and women who not only gave their lives on that fateful day, but also the service members and civilians who have died defending that freedom since 9/11. We honor their sacrifice and their devotion to duty.

America has entered a great struggle that tests our strength, and even more our resolve.

Our enemy consists of transnational extremist organizations, networks and individuals who have one thing in common--they exploit radical fundamentalism and use terrorism for ideological purposes.

The United States and its coalition partners are committed to fighting and winning the Global War on Terrorism as long as it takes.

We will prevail and our children and grandchildren will be the benefactors.

I want to thank all the Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines, Department of Defense Civilians, Contractors and Family Members of US Forces Korea for your continued commitment to the defense of our country and to the Republic of Korea.

The responsibility to protect our Nation has never been greater.

Thank you for your patriotism, your dedication, and your unwavering service to our country.

We Go Together!

Soldier of the Year moves to DA board

By Cpl. Lee, Yoon Joo
Staff Writer

Soldiers strive to be the best, and there is one brave Soldier who plans to prove he is the best Soldier in the U.S. Army. His name is Spc. Corey Luffler from 1st Battalion, 15th Field Artillery, 1st Heavy Brigade Combat Team, 2nd Infantry Division.



Luffler competed in the 8th Army Soldier of the Year board the first week of June at Camp Carroll and won.

As the 8th Army Soldier of the Year, he is qualified to run for the Department of the Army Soldier of the Year. Luffler will represent 8th Army at the Department of the Army Soldier of the Year Board Oct 1-8 at Fort Lee, VA.

"One of the hardships I went through at the 8th Army board was when we were on the Night Land Navigation Course and I fell into a two foot hole and rolled my ankle," Luffler said. "I was in pain for the rest of the competition, but luckily the Army Physical Fitness Test was already over."

The successful result was the outcome of many practices and studying and Luffler credits his NCOs with helping to prepare him.

"Before my first board, Master Sgt. (Olanda) Tolliver, my NCOIC, held a mock board which

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Ax Murder Incident
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VOICE OF THE WARRIOR:

How did the 9/11 attacks change your life?



"It made me want to do more for this country and that's part of why I joined the military."

Pvt. Shane Peacock
Combat Support Co., 501st



"I knew a few of the people who died. It was a tragedy."

Pfc. Lee, Jae Woo
HQ, 2ID

"I lost three good friends. It affected me spiritually and professionally."

First Sgt. Mark Deatcher
604th ASOS



"I realized life is too short to hold a grudge."

Tech. Sgt. Doris Bryant
604th ASOS



"It has made me more aware of my surroundings. Before 9/11, I was a very trusting person."

Pvt. Heather Laux
HHB, Fires Brigade



"I have become more aware of my personal insecurities."

Pvt. Timothy Gunzelmenn
1st Sig. Bde.

"It changed my view of other people. It was a major reason why I joined the Army."

Pfc. Mike Morgan
B Co., STB



"I was saddened, but I knew we would prepare for war."

Staff Sgt. Joseph Derevage
604th ASOS



"I saw a man (on T.V.) jump from the 95th floor to escape. The terror struck the heart of all humanity."

Pvt. Kim, Ho Sik
HQ, 2ID



"Teachers in school would talk about it more and I became more patriotic."

Airman 1st Class
Mario Romero
604th ASOS



"It makes me think that the world is not a safe place anymore."

Cpl. Kim, Chul Woong
HQ, 2ID



"I had just got out of the National Guard. It made me want to go active duty."

Sgt. Josh Daigle
HHSC, STB

**Tune into 2ID Talk Show
on Warrior Radio,
88.3/88.5 FM,
3 to 6 p.m.
every Wednesday.
To make a song request,
call 730-6324**

Indianhead

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KATUSA earns Top Gun

Story and photo by
1st Lt. Lee, Joon Bum
ROKA Support Group

Second Infantry Division's marksmanship school is for training and selecting the best rifleman and is done through evaluating Soldiers' skills of finding targets using binoculars, estimating the distance to

the target, live-firing and written test.

The best Soldier out of this evaluation is named honorable "Top Gun" which he must pass the test where he has to hit seven targets with only seven bullets.

It's a hot issue among the Soldiers that there is a KATUSA Soldier who outperformed all the other U.S. Soldiers in this M16 competition and became

the Top Gun.

The 2-9 Manchu Soldier, Pfc. Kim, Hyuk Joon participated in Marksmanship School at Montana Range where 57 Soldiers competed (55 U.S. Soldiers and 2 KATUSA Soldiers) last month and did a faultless job with his weapon.

What is significant is that all of Kim's competitors were the ones who were recommended by the U.S. Army officers and only Kim did 100 percent rate on hitting the targets.

It was difficult for the Soldiers to estimate the distance and tell the effect of the wind due to bad weather conditions, but Kim's self-esteem as a KATUSA Soldier and a Soldier of Republic of Korea helped him in concentrating the firing every bullet he fired.

"I am proud to let the U.S. Soldiers know of Korean Soldier's high ability as a KATUSA Soldier and to be acknowledged as the Top Gun among U.S. Soldiers," Kim said. "All of this is a big honor, and I think it is a result of being committed to the mission as a Soldier who protects those who loves our country. I will continue to do my best as a KATUSA Soldier, which symbolizes the ROK/US alliance, in order to enhance combined forces power and accomplish the mission."

Kim graduated from KATUSA Training Academy with high scores and volunteered to become a 2-9 Infantry Soldier. He also participated in the Expert Infantry Badge test and earned his badge in April 2006.



Pfc. Kim, Hyuk Joon competes during a portion of the testing. Kim earned best rifleman among peers.

SOY

From page 1

really helped me see what it is like and got me used to the procedures when

entering," Luffler said. "After I won the Division board, Command Sgt. Maj. (James A.) Benedict set up training for me at Camp Red Cloud."

After the competition, there will be a couple days where the participants get a chance to go sightseeing around the city. "I am now at the point where I real-

ly need to start kicking it up a notch because the competition is just around the corner and I am getting a little nervous," Luffler said.

302nd BSB holds first talent show

By 1st Lt. Crystal C. Opolot
XO, Bravo Co., 302nd BSB

On Sept. 1, the 302nd Brigade Support Battalion held their first Battalion Talent Show. The battalion's Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers program, led by Command Sgt. Maj. Luis Gonzalez, developed the idea of a barbeque and talent show to showcase the battalion's wide-ranging talents and to provide Soldiers with alternate activities on a Friday night.

Each of the eight companies had participants with acts ranging from dancers, musicians, and singers. The Iron Horse Battalion has a lot of talent and everyone ended up a winner with all participants receiving small gifts from the BOSS program with the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners receiving trophies as well as cash and electronic prizes from BOSS.

The event was kicked off with a promotion ceremony and safety brief by the Battalion Commander, Lt. Col. Brent Bolander followed by a barbeque and entertainment. Maj. Thomas Bryant, the Battalion S3, was the talent show's Master of Ceremony, entertaining the Soldiers with his singing and jokes.

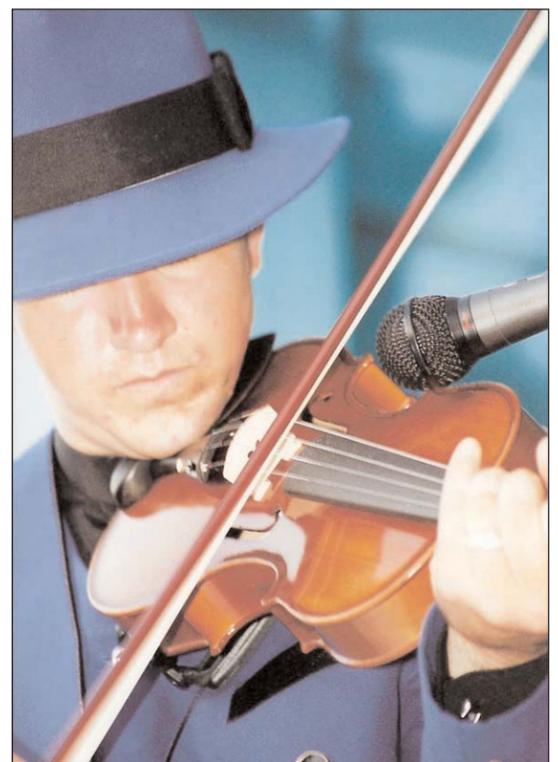
A total of five judges had the final word when it came to deciding the winners of the event. The 3rd place winner was Sgt. Carolin Harris from Alpha

Co. reading her own original poem. The 2nd place winners were KATUSAs from Charlie Co., Pfc. Yoo, Byung Chan and Pfc. Jung, Hoon Young who played the guitar and sang.

The 1st place winner was Pvt. Brian Ramsey from Alpha Co. who played the drums and performed a rap. There was also a close match between Alpha and Bravo Co. for showing the most motivation. Bolander had to determine the tie breaker and Alpha Co., took home that prize as well.

It was team effort with the Battalion BOSS representatives for putting this event together. Staff Sgt. Alicia Herbert, the battalion BOSS NCOIC, and Spc. Kieya Evans the battalion BOSS representative, took the planning lead along with the eight company BOSS representatives. The barbeque was provided by the Iron Horse Café run by Sgt. 1st Class Roy Towns. Evans, from Alpha Co. said she was very proud of the support she received from the company BOSS representatives and the talent show participants.

It took a lot of courage for Soldiers to get on stage and perform in front of their peers. Sgt. 1st Class Tracey Wilder, from Delta Co. felt that the event was a great morale booster. All of the Soldiers had a good time and eagerly anticipate the next battalion event.



Pfc. Kevin Lawson from Bravo Co., 302nd plays the violin dressed in style.

Pfc. Rosemary Best

Manchus hone warrior skills

Story and photo by
Sgt. Maj. Timothy Johnson
2-9 Infantry Operations Sergeant Major

The concept was simple. Conduct individual training on the 40 Warrior Tasks. That is just what 2-9 Infantry "Manchus" did Aug. 21-30.

Spread out within the Camp Casey and Camp Hovey enclave, over 400 "Manchu" warriors conducted training and testing to hone their individual war fighting skills.

With three days to set up and conduct validation, the instructors then began the training and testing portion of the event. The training was bro-

ken down into five different stations running simultaneously.

Each station consisted of a number of individual tasks drawn from the 40 and 11 Warrior Battle Tasks and Drills that all Soldiers are to be proficient in. Over the eight days of training, 36 individual tasks were trained and tested.

An additional task (Blue Force Tracker familiarization) was added since the Army has adopted this piece of equipment and the chain of command felt that all Soldiers needed to know the basic essentials in its operation and sending free text mes-

Even though all tasks are deemed essential, the 'shoot' station proved most valuable.

Each Soldier participating in training, regardless of their military occupational specialty, had the opportunity to borelight an aiming light to the M4/M16, M249 Squad Automatic Weapon, M240B machine gun and M2 .50 cal machine gun. The .50 cal machine gun had either an M68 Close Combat Optic or an M145 Machine Gun Optic mounted.

This gave some of the combat support Soldiers training on equipment that some hadn't seen as of yet but are required to have knowledge on. They also performed load, reduce a stoppage, and clearing of each one of the weapon systems.

This training all took place on day one of the 'shoot' station and then on day two each Soldier went back out to the range and qualified on the M4/M16 with the M68 CCO mounted.

One of the biggest challenges was faced by Sgt. 1st Class Clinton Housel, NCOIC of the 'urban' station. His task was to train the battalion on movement techniques during urban operations, enter and clear a room and finally the battalion standing operating procedure for marking a cleared room. When asked how he felt the Soldiers were grasping the training he said.

"They are very motivated and are thoroughly enjoying the training. The combat support MOS' really surprised me because they don't normally conduct this type of training but were eager to learn, and they did exceptionally well."

"Urban operations are an integral part of today's training from what is conducted in Iraq. Soldiers of all MOS' are clearing buildings so it is imperative that all have the knowledge of battalion SOPs," he said.

Throughout the eight days of training, the Soldiers, wearing full battle rattle of interceptor body armor, advanced combat helmet, protective mask and weapon and sweated their way through the 90 degree heat to complete the training.

Staff Sgt. Nelson, battalion master driver, commented, "The Soldiers love the training. They can't seem to get enough as it's a far cry from working in the operations section."

It was understood by all Soldiers conducting training that no one environment is perfect, nor will it be perfect when conducting combat operations.

Following the conclusion of Manchu Stakes, the senior NCOs and station NCOICs conducted an After Action Review to identify strengths and weaknesses of the training in order to make it a more effective and relevant training event in the future.



A fire team from A Co, 2-9 Infantry, prepares to enter and clear a room during the urban portion of "Manchu Stakes."

Warrior News Briefs

Holiday Greetings

The Army and Air Force Hometown News Service Agency is visiting Korea to tape 2006 holiday greeting messages for friends and family back home!

Soldiers and airmen in Area I can tape individual greetings at Camp Casey Sept. 25, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. at the PX. Video messages are free and service members are highly encouraged to participate in this program, as a morale booster and as an effective means to gain public awareness of troops stationed in Korea and other locations overseas.

It also promotes positive media coverage of Soldiers and allows family and community members to see their loved ones during the holiday season.

For more information, call Sgt. 1st Class Kanessa Trent at 732-8869.

Health Fair

There will be a Health Fair Sept. 16, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. at the Camp Casey Commissary and PX Parking Lot. The booths set up will have different physical and mental health focuses, hosted by 2ID, 18th MedCom. and 168th Medical Bn.

For more information, contact Capt. Daisy Wilson at 730-6796.

Home for the Holidays

The holidays may still be a few months away, but Morale, Welfare and Recreation and United States Airline Alliance have teamed up to make it just a little better for two people stationed throughout the Korean peninsula by giving away two round-trip tickets to the U.S. just in time for the holidays.

The contest is open to all military ID card holders stationed in Korea. Entry forms must be received in the Korea Region MWR office (Yongsan Building #1560) no later than 5 p.m. Oct. 12. Winners will be announced on Armed Forces Network Korea. Entry forms may be found in any MWR facility, your local newspapers, and on the MWR website at <http://mwr.korea.army.mil/> under "Promotions."

For more information on this program, please go to the MWR website or call DSN 723-3730.

Family Day

One military family will win a trip to New York and a special dinner courtesy of a worldwide contest to draw attention to "Family Day - A Day to Eat Dinner with Your Children."

This year it falls on Sept. 25. According to CASA research, the more often children eat dinner

with their families, the less likely they are to smoke, drink or use drugs. And they get better grades.

Commissary patrons can go to the DeCA Web site at <http://www.commissaries.com> to access links to the contest, make a "symbolic" pledge to have a family dinner on Sept. 25, get more information about "Family Day," or find healthy recipes. The contest is open from Sept. 1-30.

2ID Safety Guy Show

Tune in Fridays at 5 p.m. on Warrior Radio FM for "The 2ID Summer Safety Show" featuring Chuck Ryan, the 2ID Safety Guy. Listen all-week to the station, learn that week's Safety Phrase that Pays, be the right numbered caller, and you'll win a \$50 AAFES coupon courtesy of Area I Exchange New Car Sales.

New Chapel Event

The Camp Red Cloud Warrior Chapel will hold a male-only Bible study and breakfast at 8 a.m. every 2nd and 4th Saturday of the month.

If interested, call Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Mike Durham at 732- 7998, or just come in the Annex located just next door to the Warrior Chapel.

Gwangju citizens, 35th ADA Soldiers remember wartime humanitarianism

Story and photos by
Pfc. Dustin Roberts

35th Air Defense Artillery Brigade

GWANGJU – Nearly 30 Soldiers stationed at Gwangju Air Base were invited to Gwangju City Hall Aug. 14 to view an exhibit which was dedicated to the humanitarianism of American Soldiers during the Korean War.

Soldiers from 2nd Battalion, 1st Air Defense Artillery Regiment, 35th ADA Brigade attended the photo exhibit titled “GIs and Kids: A Love Story.”

“The exhibit brought American Soldiers and citizens of Gwangju together to remember the thousands of orphaned children who service-members cared for with medicine, clothes and shelter during the war,” said Park, Kwang Tae, mayor of Gwangju.

“I hope that this photo exhibit will be a significant occasion to look back over the beautiful footprints of numerous servicemen and women,” Park said.

Park also thanked the Soldiers of 2-1 ADA, who have been serving the community of Gwangju through the 35th ADA Brigade Good Neighbor Program. 35th ADA’s Good

Neighbor program is unique in that the brigade has units in all four Army areas of the Peninsula: at Camp Casey, Suwon, Osan, Kunsan and Gwangju.

The USFK Good Neighbor program was designed to strengthen the alliance between the Republic of Korea and U.S. Forces Korea by implementing programs that actively engage communities across the peninsula.

Thirty soldiers from 2-1 ADA visit 210 children in the Yongin and Ye-yook-won orphanages twice a month. “The Soldiers truly make a difference,” said Master Sgt. Garry Christman of Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 2-1 ADA.

The Soldiers not only help children in orphanages, but assist citizens with their English-speaking abilities.

Twice a week, Gwangju Soldiers teach English to elementary students at Gwangju Dohsan elementary school, university students at Gwangju Mudeung Dormitory and local citizens at Gwangju Mudeung Library.

“They really do show an interest; they’re curious,” said Christman. “They like to speak English with us and we get to practice our Korean

with them, so it’s really nice being here.”

Before the battalion deployed to Gwangju from Ft. Bliss, Texas, Mayor Park visited the Soldiers to, “let them know they were welcome.”

Despite Park’s visit, the 2004 deployment was a concern to U.S. officials because of the negative background with USFK and Gwangju.

The Soldiers overcame the negativity and strengthened their relationship with the city of Gwangju.

“The people are very warm and caring,” added Christman. “They’ve really welcomed us with open arms.”

Dr. George F. Drake, a Korean War veteran and coordinator of the Korean War Children’s Memorial, commented on the compassion of American Soldiers that has carried over from one generation to the next.

“One had to train our young men to aim a gun at another human being and shoot to kill. One did not have to train them to solace a crying child, feed a hungry child, take an injured child to a medic or find shelter for the homeless child. That came with being American. We learned that in our families, in our churches and in our communities.”

Filing property claims

By Capt. Candace White Halverson

Camp Casey Legal Center Chief

If you’ve been wronged, an Article 139 claim can help make it right.

If a Soldier has deliberately damaged or destroyed your property, Article 139 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice provides a quick and easy way for you to get that Soldier to pay you back - whether you are a Soldier, dependant or civilian.

The key to an Article 139 claim is that your property must have been either “willfully damaged” or “wrongfully taken” by a servicemember - usually through vandalism or theft.

You cannot be reimbursed under Article 139 for damage resulting from negligence or for death or personal injury. It also does not apply to contract disputes, debts or reimburse for remote or consequential damages.

To start a claim under Article 139, you need to make a written demand to the Soldier’s commander for a specific dollar amount, usually within 90 days of the incident.

The Casey Legal Center recommends that you submit your request through the claims office located at the Casey Legal Center.

Once a claim is submitted under Article 139, the offending Soldier’s commander (usually a brigade

commander) conducts an investigation into the matter. The commander can either investigate the claim or appoint an investigating officer to conduct an investigation.

After the investigating officer completes a report, it is legally reviewed before going back to the Brigade Commander for approval or disapproval.

If the claim is approved, it is submitted to the Finance and Accounting Office, who automatically withholds the amount of approved reimbursement from the offending Soldier’s pay and pays the money directly to the Soldier who submitted the claim.

The clear benefit of an Article 139 claim is that it is an administrative action and completely separate from any criminal UCMJ action that the offending Soldier may face.

Filing a claim under Article 139 is a way for people who have been wronged by Soldiers committing vandalism or theft to get compensated quickly for their losses without having to wait for any criminal action to be completed.

If you would like to file a claim under Article 139 of the UCMJ or have a question about filing a claim, please call the Casey Legal Center Claims Office at 730-3687/3660, located on the 2nd floor of Maude Hall, Bldg. 2440, or the Camp Red Cloud Legal Center Claims Office at 732-6017, located on the 1st Floor of Freeman Hall, Bldg S-631.

Movies

Camp Red Cloud

Show times: Fri.-Sat. 7 & 9 p.m., Sun. 6 & 8 p.m., Mon.-Tue. & Thur. 7p.m.

Sept. 15 ... *Idiocracy*;
My super Ex-Girlfriend
Sept. 16 ... *Clerks II*;
My super Ex-Girlfriend
Sept. 17 ... *Superman Returns*;
Clerks II
Sept. 18 ... *Little Man*
Sept. 19 ... *Click*
Sept. 21 ... *The Covenant*
Sept. 22 ... *The Covenant*;
Lady in the Water
Sept. 23 ... *Lady in the Water*;
John Tucker Must Die
Sept. 24 ... *My Super Ex-Girlfriend*;
Clerks II
Sept. 25 ... *John Tucker Must Die*
Sept. 26 ... *Lady in the Water*
Sept. 28 ... *The Last Kiss*
Sept. 29 ... *Miami Vice*;
The Last Kiss

Camp Casey

Show times: Fri.-Sat. 6:30 & 8:30 p.m., Sun. 3, 6:30 & 8:30 p.m., Mon.-Thur. 7:30 p.m.

Sept. 15-16 ... *Clerks II*;
My Super Ex-Girlfriend
Sept. 17 ... *Idiocracy*;
Idiocracy; *My Super Ex-Girlfriend*
Sept. 18 ... *Idiocracy*
Sept. 19 ... *The Lakehouse*
Sept. 20 ... *Clerks II*
Sept. 21 ... *My Super Ex-Girlfriend*
Sept. 22 ... *Lady in the Water*;
John Tucker Must Die
Sept. 23 ... *Lady in the Water*;
Clerks II;
Sept. 24 ... *The Covenant*; *The Covenant*; *Little Man*
Sept. 25 ... *Idiocracy*
Sept. 26 ... *John Tucker Must Die*
Sept. 27 ... *Little Man*
Sept. 28 ... *American Dreamz*
Sept. 29 ... *Miami Vice*

Camp Hovey

Show times: Mon.-Fri. 7 p.m., Sat.-Sun. 3 & 7 p.m.

Sept. 15 ... *Little Man*
Sept. 16 ... *Pirates of the Caribbean*;
Idiocracy
Sept. 17 ... *The Lake House*;
Clerks II
Sept. 18 ... *Little Man*
Sept. 19 ... *Idiocracy*
Sept. 20 ... *The Omen*
Sept. 21 ... *Clerks II*
Sept. 22 ... *My super Ex-Girlfriend*
Sept. 23 ... *My super Ex-Girlfriend*;
The Covenant
Sept. 24 ... *Lady in the Water*;
Clerks II
Sept. 25 ... *John Tucker Must Die*
Sept. 26 ... *The Covenant*
Sept. 27 ... *My super Ex-Girlfriend*
Sept. 28 ... *Little Man*
Sept. 29 ... *John Tucker Must Die*

Camp Humphreys

Show times: Mon.-Fri. 6:30 & 9 p.m., Sat.-Sun. 3:30, 6:30 & 9 p.m.

Sept. 15 ... *Idiocracy*
Sept. 16-17 ... *Monster House*;
Idiocracy
Sept. 18-19 ... *Lady in the Water*
Sept. 20-21 ... *Clerks II*
Sept. 22 ... *The Covenant*
Sept. 23-24 ... *The Lake House*;
The Covenant
Sept. 25-26 ... *John Tucker Must Die*
Sept. 27-28 ... *Miami Vice*
Sept. 29 ... *The Last Kiss*

For more information on movie schedules or to see if there are any changes, visit www.aafes.net.

Aviation battalion soars during UFL

Story and photos by
Cpl. Lee Yang-won
Area II Public Affairs

K-16 AIR BASE, Republic of Korea – Under a scorching sun, and with many hours of hard work, 2nd Battalion, 2nd Aviation Regiment Soldiers showed their vigilance during Ulchi Focus Lens 2006.

The Soldiers spent the two-week military exercise reacting to scenarios and providing airlift support to U.S. Forces Korea.

“We conduct air assaults, air movements, troop movements, emergency re-supplies, and personal recovery as to support the ground component commander during the exercise,” said 2nd Battalion, 2nd Aviation Regiment Operations Officer Maj. Regginal Barden.

The unit also had another important mission three to 10 times a day during UFL.

“We’re providing VIP flights throughout the peninsula,” said Assistant Planner Capt. Simon Kim. “The VIPs are high ranking officers, retired generals and civilians who help out with the simulation.”

The warrior team included U.S. Soldiers working alongside Korean Augmentation to the U.S. Army Soldiers and Korean Service Corps work-

ers. Soldiers said they were satisfied and proud with their role during the training.

“It’s a good learning experience and understanding of what the bigger picture looks like, and how we fit in,” said Assistant Battalion Operations noncommissioned officer Staff Sgt. Jaime Mendez. “It was great opportunity to work with our counterparts.”

Mendez said young Soldiers complied and understood their mission well and lived up to the expectations.

“They’re adapting and absorbing the information given,” he said. “Everybody is getting something out of it.”

First-time Soldiers said they were proud to have contributed to the missions.

“The working hours have been hectic,” said Aviation Operations Specialist Pfc. Lee Kang-woo. “Coordinating with different companies required a lot of work, but I felt proud to help my battalion accomplish its objectives.”

“What I’ve seen thus far as a planner, I feel we’ve made quite an accomplishment,” Kim said. “We got all our personnel distributed throughout the peninsula to help and support. Overall, our mission has been successful.”



Soldiers conduct maintenance and clean one of the fleet’s Blackhawk UH-60’s.



Flight Dispatcher Hong Won-pyo (right) and Pfc. Lee Kang-woo coordinate flight schedules.

Medics train for flight evacuation

Story and photo by
Pfc. Amanda Merfeld
Editor

CAMP CASEY – Medics from 302nd Brigade Support Battalion conducted flight evacuation procedures training Aug. 24 as part of Sergeant’s Time Training.

The Soldiers were trained to use Skedcos, or Sked, a popular name used by medics for this commercial product. Skeds are used for emergency extraction of victims in hard-to-get-to areas.

A Sked is a large plastic sled-like rescue device that protects victims from becoming entangled in environmental obstacles, and prevents unnecessary movement of the body.

The purpose of such procedures is to be able to get to victims in areas where aircraft are unable to make a safe landing, said Spc. Brandon Calavan, 2nd Bn., 52nd General

Support Aviation Battalion, 2nd Combat Aviation Brigade.

“As a medic, I will go down, evaluate, put them in a Sked then bring them up one at a time without having to bring the aircraft down,” said Calavan. “The Sked is used for high-angle rescues, or any kind of rescue where we can’t land the aircraft.”

During the training, Soldiers learned how to properly secure a victim to a Sked and prepare them for flight. Aircraft familiarization was also emphasized, as most Soldiers don’t work around aircraft on a day-to-day basis.

“They’re aware of the aircraft, they know how to load aircraft, but a lot of these Soldiers go through AIT (Advanced Individual Training) and they get to touch mock-models of aircraft and load them, but they never get to actually be around them,” said Calavan.



Spc. Brandon Calavan demonstrates how to secure a victim in a Sked.

Officer recalls Ax murder incident

By James Cunningham
Area I Public Affairs Office

When Wayne Kirkbride decided to write the story of "Operation Paul Bunyan," or the story of the U.S. Army's response to the infamous P'anmunjom ax murders on the Demilitarized Zone in Korea, he had the right time and the right place.

"I was the adjutant to the personnel officer for the 2nd Infantry Division unit that was at Camp Greaves at the DMZ. I was there when the ax murder happened and adjutant at that time," said Kirkbride. "We all had a story to tell."

He was in an infantry officer's advanced course at Fort Benning, Ga. six months after the incident happened Aug. 18, 1976. All of his classmates were there at the DMZ when the murders happened as well.

"Everyone in my class was in 2ID at the time and at Camp Greaves," Kirkbride said. "What I knew was my battalion's response. When I interviewed more people, I gathered more and more information about what happened."

He had the opportunity then in early 1977 to interview everyone involved and the research was close at hand.

"I assembled all the newspaper clippings of the incident that I could find," Kirkbride said. "I was able to

capture what happened from the 2ID's response to the P'anmunjom ax murders."

The histories of the heinous murders are recounted in his book, Operation Paul Bunyan. The grizzly events are infamous.

"In early Aug. 1976, a work force from the Joint Security Area went to trim a tree that stood between the two United Nations guard posts on the DMZ."

"Because it would grow out every summer and block the view from the guard posts, the Soldiers on guard duty could not see critical areas near the Bridge of No Return," Kirkbride recounts.

"When the work force went to trim the tree, they were told by North Korean soldiers that you cannot trim this tree because Kim Il sung personally planted it and nourished it and it's growing under this supervision."

"Ten days later a UN task force, which had two U.S. Army officers, a contingent of Korean and U.S. Soldiers for security, and Korean Service Corps employees to trim the tree, arrived where the tree stood."

"Lt. Pok Chol of the North Korean Peoples Army told them they could not trim the tree," recounts Kirkbride. "For a while, it seemed to be just a routine work detail, then the North Koreans sent for reinforcements and suddenly there were another 20 soldiers at the scene, making their force

30 strong," Kirkbride said. "There were only 10 American Soldiers there counting the two officers."

"When Lt. Chol took off his watch and wrapped it up in a handkerchief, which was the signal to attack, he

"For a while, it seemed to be just a routine work detail, then the North Koreans sent for reinforcements and suddenly there were another 20 Soldiers at the scene, making their force 30 strong,"

Wayne Kirkbride, former adjutant for the personnel officer

said, 'kill the Americans.' That force immediately attacked and the two American officers were the target. They chopped them to death with the axes they brought to trim the tree," Kirkbride recounts.

Kirkbride remembers the Cold War situations of the time and recounts the conditions precisely.

"During the time we just knew we had to do something. If you can remember the politics of the armistice back in 1976, we were riding the height of the Cold War; we just didn't want the North Koreans to do some-

thing against the UN forces without a response," Kirkbride said.

"When we were trying to figure out, 'should we do something more or should we do something less, the correct response was 'Let's cut down the tree that caused the incident,'" Kirkbride said.

At the time, many newspaper editorials asked why we didn't have any Soldiers there to protect the work force, but Kirkbride remembers the conditions of the times.

"It was a typical work force within the JSA that had gone to do a typical job. We were trained to respond with minimum pressure and to try and break contact if we could. When 30 North Korean soldiers gathered around the work force, the Americans didn't draw their firearms for several reasons, the least being that by the time they chambered a round the Koreans could have been already on them. We were always taught to react with restraint, the rounds were never chambered, and the fact is the security detail was the detail that got beat up," Kirkbride said.

The men picked for the ill-fated detail were known to Kirkbride.

"Col. Vera was commander of the JSA at that time and Capt. Boniface was one of his most experienced officers. He was hand picked for this detail because of his experience. Perhaps they thought if anything happened, he would be able to resolve the situation," Kirkbride said.

Operation Paul Bunyan was mounted with overwhelming force.

"The next day we had tanks that had moved into position; we had our infantry moved forward to the staging area at the JSA," Kirkbride recounts. "The immediate response was a diplomatic one; we submitted our case to the military armistice commission, that meeting went all day."

"The decision was made to go in and cut down the tree on a Saturday morning. General Brady, who was the division commander, said 'if we deploy our forces again, we really can't call them back because the operation has to do with engineers moving in to cut down the tree.' We had Korean Special Forces, black belts who protected the engineers without weapons, we had the 1st ROK Infantry Division reconnaissance company that was within 100 meters of the tree, and they had the weapons that could be used," Kirkbride recounts.

"The solution at the time was to go in and cut down the tree with enough force so that the North Koreans couldn't do anything about it and settle things with the diplomatic process," Kirkbride said.



Courtesy Photo

'Operation Paul Bunyan' was the most heavily armed tree-trimming operation in history.

A walk in Seoul: Insadong, Samcheongdong, shopping

Story and photos by
Cpl. Kim, Sang Pil
Staff Writer

Every day, nearly 100,000 people, both Koreans and foreigners visit Insadong, the first area in Korea to be designated as a cultural district.

Insadong is a unique traditional and cultural area of Seoul. There are many art galleries, craft and antique shops here and the atmosphere is filled with the beauty of traditional culture within the indigenous city structure and traditional architecture of Korea.

The name of Insadong consists of 'In' and 'sa' derived from the names of two departments of the Hanseong (old name of Seoul) City government of the Joseon Dynasty - Gwan-in-bang and Dae-sa-dong.

During Joseon Dynasty period, Insadong was middle class neighborhood with many art activities. In 1930, old art shops entered into this street.

In 1950, rice cake stores in Nagwondong market were introduced. In 1970, as galleries opened, this area became a cultural street. After 1980, Insadong became a center of traditional and cultural art activities in Seoul.

Every Saturday and Sunday, at 5 p.m., visitors can experience Podocheong and Sunragun, a reenactment of the police officers from the Joseon Dynasty. The visitors can interact with those who portray the

police officers. The show includes an interrogation as a criminal is taken away.

The police officers actually patrol the streets to help visitors find places, guide misbehaving youth, and provide emergency help to those in need.

One of the famous landmarks in Insadong is the Kwichon tea-house. It is named after the poet, Chun, Sang Byung (1930-1993)'s famous poem, Kwichon which means 'return to heaven.'

He wrote this poem in 1970. He and his wife ran this tea-house together until his death and today his wife Mrs. Mok, Soon Ok still runs the shop.

Another landmark, Ssamzigil, is a unique four-story building with a winding pathway which moves its visitors through the building with two basement subfloors and 72 stores.

The stores include art craft shops, souvenir shops, cultural product shops, galleries, tea houses and restaurants. It's not like any other shopping mall in the area.

As you walk up the coiled road within the building, you come across these stores and at the rooftop and see the view of Insadong. It's a mixture of walking and buying.

"People come to Insadong to see the galleries, eat, etcetera, but after all, they come to walk," said Choi, Moon Kyu, the architect who built Ssamzigil, according to an article in the Kyunghyang Newspaper Dec 23,



Ssamzigil, a newly-risen landmark building in Insadong allows visitors a unique city view from its rooftop.



The reenactment of Joseon Dynasty's police officers, Podocheong and Sunragun, is a major event in the street of Insadong on weekends.

2004. "This building is built to extend the horizontal streets of Insadong vertically. On the road, man meets man, man meets object, and man meets culture. That's why there are five entrances to the building but no main gate."

After you finish walking the Insadong street at the north Insa-madang, take a cab and go to Samcheongdong.

It is a five-minute drive and the village is located adjacent to Kyoungbok palace and the Blue House, the home of King of Joseon Dynasty and the current president of Korea respectively.

Samcheongdong is renowned as one of the five beautiful villages in Seoul. What makes it most attractive is its long road that leads to Samcheong tunnel and on either side of the road are filled with the most delicate restaurants.

The restaurants include

Samcheongdong Sujebi which specializes in Korean traditional food, sujebi; Poongcha (meaning 'windmill' in Korean) which has the best pizza and pasta in a classic interior; Noon-Na-moo-jib (meaning 'snow tree house') which has famous Kimchi noodles.

Many of these restaurants have people standing in line to get in. It's a very common scene in Samcheongdong restaurants. For cakes and bagels, try Pavillion and for spaghetti and wine try Suware.

To get to Insadong, take subway line number one (dark blue line) from Uijeongbu station and go down for 19 stops and get off at Jonggak station.

Get out at exit number 11 and go straight until you come across a big intersection of roads.

To your left, is laid the Insadong street, in a diagonal shape. That end is the south Insa-madang and the other end is the north Insa-madang.