



423rd Transportation Company - USAR

October 2006

3040 O'Connell Blvd, Bldg 8932 US Army Reserve Center, Ft Carson, CO 80913 ~ 719-526-2525

Roadrunners Deployment Update — 1st Platoon

For the month of September members of first platoon logged over 43,000 miles on the road. The high miler of the month was once again SPC Ewing, who logged 2,464 miles. The Soldier of the month is SPC Berry. Congratulations to both!

The weather here is starting to cool down. Highs are now typically in the 90's with lows in the 70's. The rainy season will be here soon bringing with it temps in the 60's and lots of rain.

We want to thank you for all the mail family and friends continue to send. Mail is one of the biggest factors in moral and ours continues to remain high in part because of your support. A special thank you to Mrs. Gross and Mrs. Trujillo for the box of candy and books they sent to the platoon.

LT Kevin Gross, FRG Liaison Officer

Roadrunners Deployment Update — 2nd Platoon

Soldiers continue to take R&R and enjoy it for the short period they are home. We have had a misfortune to have to send one of our soldiers back to the states, he is recovering fine at William Beaumont Hospital in FT. Bliss TX. SPC Casey Mayor suffered an injury to his left leg and calf muscle. He is being joined by his family for a short period of time during his recovery.

We have also promoted 2 more soldiers this last month they are SPC Cameron Hardman and SPC Casey Mayor, both promotions well deserved.

The Gazebo project is almost near completion thanks to the many talents of SSG Michael Turk, SGT Arthur Plum, and SGT Michael Szczepanik. They built it from ground up in approximately 7 days. Now they are just doing the minor finishes and upon completion we will post pictures on the website (www.carson.army.mil).

The soldiers continue to run missions on a daily basis. We all want to thank you for your support and prayers. Mrs. Hill, my wife, I appreciate what you are doing with the FRG and the newsletter is very nice and keep up the good work. "GO BRONCOS"

SFC Shaun Hill "Night Stalkers" 2nd Platoon



Roadrunners Deployment Update — 3rd Platoon

The Knight Warriors are reaching our stride, it seems. We have worked a lot of the kinks out of our administrative and operational functions. We are quickly approaching the 6 month mark, and sometimes it does seem like the time goes quickly. The Soldiers in 3rd Platoon have spent many hours doing maintenance and alterations to our vehicles, to insure they are mission ready. Our Platoon Leader, Chief Armstrong, has a Maintenance background and utilizing his skills, and the creativity and dedication of the other Soldiers in the Platoon; we have made great headway in maintaining our vehicles for mission. We have had 1 promotion; SPC Hansen was just recently promoted from PFC to SPC. SPC Hansen has also just reenlisted. One of our Soldiers, SFC Kelly was reassigned; she is now maintaining a Readiness Center that Units from all over the base use to prepare for the mission. If you hear one of the Soldiers saying that they are Driving "Betty", "Gertrude", "Bertha" or "Ethel", don't be alarmed, these are just some of the names the Soldiers in the Platoon have given our vehicles. It is befitting with all of the TLC and work put into these vehicles. The weather here is cooler now; it is much more comfortable and easier for the Soldiers to work in. Again we have many thanks for all of the packages, letters, and in general the wonderful support from the Families and Friends of the 423rd, and 3RD Platoon.

SFC Robert Brostoski, 3rd Platoon

Roadrunners Deployment Update — 4th Platoon

September has been a busy month. We have run 15 missions totaling over 3000 miles. SGT Gaye was our high miler for the month with 1888 miles. Everyone is doing great. We are working hard and counting down the days until we get out of here.

SSG Lind took over as the Platoon Sergeant while SFC Robinson is on leave and he has done a fantastic job. We are also doing a Platoon physical fitness test at the end of the month.

We would just like everyone to know that we are all doing fine and can not wait until we are back home with all of our loved ones. We would also like to personally thank the FRG for all of the hard work that they have done so far.

LT Kevin Gross, FRG Liaison Officer

Roadrunners Deployment Update - Maintenance

The Maintenance Crew is actively engaged in annual services on our vehicles, so far we have completed approximately 68 on our fleet of vehicles. Once we had gotten our broken fleet of M915A3's up and running strong, the Battalion took them away from us and replaced our fleet with a bunch of broken HUMVEES. We have since turned them into running machines that the platoons drive on missions every day. We also have a Recovery Section (from maintenance) that goes out on each mission, and they do an incredible job of keeping things moving. We have a couple of mechanics that have done the impossible to keep other people alive. SGT Jeremy Kuntz unhooked a burning 7500 gallon fuel tanker from a truck and pulled the truck to safety. His gloves and coveralls were destroyed by the heat of the fire, but he managed to have any harm come to himself. SGT Andrew Ford has also done his share of tough tricks by recovering a couple of trucks that were destroyed by the enemy. All in all the Maintenance Crew keeps high moral and count on each other for comic relief.

SFC Gary Graybill, Maintenance/Shop Foreman

423rd Transportation Company (FWD) Maintenance Platoon**OIF 2006-7**

Unit Level Maintenance... I don't know how better to describe our maintenance mission here except that the 423 Trans Co takes the definition of "Unit Level Maintenance" and adds the word TEAM. For that this unit excels. I attribute much of the Soldiers Success to the support of the Commander, MAJ Roger Uhe who actively supports and enforces his maintenance programs. Our vehicles and unit equipment are in a constant state of operation in an extremely harsh environment always charging forward as your Soldiers also do. Other units observantly are not this fortunate. Army doctrines tell us that effective unit level maintenance begins with the operators and crews. When they identify equipment faults, they seek our maintenance platoon or recovery personnel to assist them. I can certainly say we've had some major equipment issues. Our maintenance team always takes on these challenges relentlessly. We are very fortunate to have such a superior maintenance platoon. They manage over one thousand pieces of unit equipment inclusive of approximately 125 wheeled vehicles and trailers. No easy task by any means but somehow they manage to keep their units equipment gamefully employed. I can't expect everyone to realize the scope of work that this implies but I would convey to you that our maintenance team has certainly earned the unit's respect by meeting their challenges with dedication, hard work and long hours. Operators and crews are always lending a hand and taking responsibility for their equipment. Whenever I am in the shop, I can't believe the miraculous achievements and sacrifices they all make for the benefit of the unit. The theater provided equipment is generally worn out but somehow refreshed after crews and maintenance run it through our shop. I look around witnessing the daily transformation in our Mechanics starting out their day neat and clean enjoying a cup of joe with SSG Sears. They don a clean pair of coveralls that become grease, grime and dust from head to toe by days end. The unit always seems to meet even the most rigorous of missions with out fail. The QWEST laundry services are the only folks that have any legitimate complaints with us. Your Soldier take obvious satisfaction in their daily accomplishments knowing full well tomorrow brings more of the same. My hat's off to all of them.

We've come a long way finally reaching that significant half way mile marker to the road back home. Talking with your Soldiers in the mess hall, shop, or company area, most often mention that proverbial "second wind" always mustering the inner strength to push on diligently meet mission accomplishment and better pass the time towards that familiar bird that will bring us all back home. Every few weeks that pass we become another unit or two senior to the replacement units we welcome to QWEST. With a new Battalion on board, we see more and more new faces at the mess hall with the same thoughts we had when we arrived, "just how long is a year on QWEST anyway"? During the past 6 months we have seen Soldiers grow and develop into leaders, seen heroes in action, your Soldiers excitement as they depart for leave, sharing stories and news from home, dragging of care packages from the mail room, peers promoted, awards presented, and battle buddies helping each other. Soldiers know that their battle buddies aren't defined by the confines of squad, platoon or unit but in fact our battle buddies cross all boundaries. It's unconditionally clear that all Soldiers rely on each other daily, those that would not, will only find despair. With 423 Trans, Army Values clearly stand tall in your Soldiers.

It's clear the support your Soldiers get from home whether it be a letter, email, care package, or phone call. It is always evident in them like a recharged power cell. "Any Soldier" care packages consistently arrive with all sorts of morale boosters. Letters, hygiene items, treats, magazines, newspapers, memorabilia, DVDs, sweat bands, and the list goes on. Those packages are filled with heartfelt support. The photo album and FRG items are always a popular hit. The Post Exchange has shown some recent improvement lately with additional stock levels and finally receiving replacement items on previously empty shelves. The MWR audio video entertainment center is seeing a bit more use now that we have started a video library from the care packages and donated DVD's.

It hasn't rained since I can remember but the heat has finally begun to taper off. The desert winds have been kind so far but on those days where it picks up, the atmosphere is quickly opaque. All of our living areas have AC as do most of the staff and platoon offices. We finally have contractors installing AC in our 2 shops; however, we may soon be changing gears to look for heat in a couple months. I guess we should have requested the AC during the winter months. There are a lot of logistical challenges here but we always seem to make the best with what we have with great respect for the Soldiers who paved the way before us with much less.

Although all your Soldiers always give their best, a few stand out in their contributions. Among many other projects, crew maintenance and missions these next 3 Soldiers are not from the maintenance platoon but certainly deserve to be mentioned for their contributions. SGT Pluim, SSG Turk, and SGT Szczepanik recently supervised and built a very impressive gazebo for Soldiers to "take 5" during a busy day, or just to hang out during their down time. SGT Pluim a true contractor at heart also has a reputation as the local bike repair shop. I'm sure he looses a few bucks in the process but it clearly gives him a great deal of satisfaction to help his battle buddies with the luxury of a bicycle or the convenience of a hand tooled desk. In our maintenance platoon, SGT Kuntz, SGT Ovitt, SPC Young, SGT Ford, and SSG Montes are gamefully employed as our recovery section always on point to aid any disabled vehicles. SGT Ford was also recently promoted. SGT Nienhuis is our leading drivability and diagnostics technician. SSG McGowan is currently gaining some valuable experience as Motor Sergeant. She manages the ground equipment logistics section and resources. SSG Halenza is getting a long overdue break from the Motor Sergeant desk to go on leave. SFC Graybill was recently promoted and overseas shop operations and prioritization of work as the Shop Foreman. He is currently enjoying leave with his family. SPC Kuhns is always turning wrenches with a reliable dedication to our mission. SPC Nunnelee has taken leaps and bounds as the logistics clerk responsible for accurate data entry, dispatching and parts inventory. SSG Woody Supervises logistic operations and parts management. SPC Jeannette has recently returned to the maintenance section after an exhaustive stint with 4th Platoon operations. SPC Leiper is an all around mechanic primarily working services that keep equipment in good running order. SPC Hinton has been doing a great job with pre mission inspections of vehicles to make sure your Soldiers vehicles don't break down while on missions. SSG McQuagge currently manages shop operations for 2nd shift. SSG Sears manages the test measurement and diagnostics equipment (TMDE). He also manages the HAZMAT areas to protect the environment from contaminants and proper storage of petroleum products. SGT Walters made significant contribution to our maintenance section. We let her work so hard the doc had to send her home to get her out of the shop. We will miss having her with us.

Being here in Iraq has been a very enlightening and sobering experience. Seeing 1st hand a country that struggles for all the freedoms we sometimes take for grant it. The most predominant is our right to vote. As the absentee voting assistance officer, I recognize and participate in our constitutional right to vote and encourage all your Solders and their families to take advantage of their right to vote. We can clearly see the difference DoD voting initiatives have made in the past few years with all the favorable changes in the National Defense Appropriations Acts (NDAA). Our military benefits have taken leaps and bounds because our votes count. October 8th begins the military absentee voter week in which we look forward to exercising this constitutional right.

I am the Maintenance platoon leader and the unit maintenance technician. Those I mentioned make my job considerably easier although I too am no stranger to some very long days that somehow blend into the next before you know it. I provide a host of appointed duties in an effort to benefit your Soldiers and contribute to the unit mission. I certainly concur that keeping busy helps the time go by getting us closer to our redeployment window back to Ft Carson next spring. One of my primary concerns is the welfare and morale of your 423rd Soldiers and their families. If there is anything I can do for your Soldiers or families please don't hesitate to contact me. Any questions or concern within my authority would also be welcome. My email is paul.hogie@mail.us.army.mil and my cell phone is 011-770-18-45934.

God Speed Road Runners. HOOHAA! - CW2 Paul J. Hogie

*** UPDATES from FRG ***

We had our meeting 9/15/06 at the Reserve Center and was fortunate to have Nancy Montville from ACS, Dean Allen from ACS and we had SPC Guzman from 1st Platoon join us. SPC Guzman was home on leave and joined us the last night he was home and shared some helpful information with us. Thank you to all for your time and the information you shared with us. We also filled our Halloween bags for each soldier and they have been sent on there way along with the handprint project. Again "Thank You" to Gabrielle Gaye and her mother for the hard work they put into our bags and all the candy donations as well as money raised to allow us to do this project for our soldiers! Also thank you to all that joined us to help fill the bags as well. PLEASE LOOK FOR THE NEXT FUND RAISER OUR "CALENDAR KEEPSAKE" the calendar will include all the pictures from the website and families will have a chance to purchase squares to write well wishes. Look for more information to come!!!!

Helpful Phone Numbers:

Military One Source 800.342.9647

Army Community Service (ACS) 719.526.4590 Fort Carson

Nancy Montville 719.526.0460

Mental Health 719.526.7155 Fort Carson

Substance Abuse 719.526.2862 Fort Carson



*** REMINDERS ***

Next FRG Meeting Colorado Springs **Friday, October 27, 2006 @ 6PM

****Please note this is a later Friday than usual****

*****PIZZA PARTY*****

Our next meeting will be at the Reserve Center @ Fort Carson . **FRG is going to provide pizza, salad, dessert and drinks JUST BRING YOURSELF AND COME JOIN US.** We always welcome new family members so please share this information as needed. If daycare is need please call Lynn with that information.

We hope to be having a guest speaker from the Red Cross, we have asked them to talk about family emergencies. How to contact our soldiers, as well as maybe how to obtain help from the Red Cross should anything unforeseen happen. Also we are still trying to decide on the activity for the meeting.

Please also remember that we are still collecting Christmas lights, ornament etc because we want to be able to put together a box for each platoon of Christmas decorations.

Any question regarding the meeting please call Lynn Nienhuis 719.647.9989

Next FRG Meeting Denver

**** Saturday, October 21st @ 10:00 am**

The next Denver meeting will be held at The Hope Christian Church @ 3853 E 120th Ave in Thornton, again where September's meeting was held. We will continue to collect for the Christmas box through October.

We will be having a guest speaker, Mr. Dean Allen from ACS at Fort Carson. He will be talking about the services that ACS have to offer as well as his group and the role they play.

We always welcome new family members from Denver, Colorado Springs or wherever!! **Any question regarding the meeting please call Marie Liddiard 720.988.7315**

Attention all family members

We are pleased to partner with Story Rock Publishing Company to produce a commemorative CD for the Soldiers (and family members) of the 96th Regional Readiness Command. This project is called, "Every Soldier has a Story" and we intend to tell the stories of our Soldiers within each one of their units or detachments.

Each Soldier will get a CD containing the pictures, video, stories and memories of her or his unit (since 9/11/2001). This CD will be a "Virtual Year-book" that will be a memory that family members and Soldiers can keep forever. We hope to have the project done so by the end of this calendar year every Soldier will be able to take home his or her CD to share with family members.

We're asking for you to send us your pictures, videos, stories and memories about your family and your Soldier (that you would like to see on a unit CD). Please send us what you have – we'll do the work of putting this information on the CD. We have a special way of putting up to 1800 PAGES of pictures on each CD and we will be creating custom CD's for each Battalion in our command.

Please submit your pictures, videos, stories, and memories over the next two weeks (by 15 October 2006).

Instructions:

We need your help to make this project as comprehensive and meaningful as possible. Story Rock has set up an FTP (File Transfer Protocol) web site which you can access from home to upload photos, documents, and digital video clips.

Here's how to do it.

1. Click on this link, <ftp://schoolftp:3a5y2u53@ftp.ybi.com/96thRRC>
2. Double click on your Battalion or Unit folder
3. Begin uploading your content.
4. If you have a lot of information, you can create and name a new folder. Simply drag and drop (or copy and paste) your photos, documents, or video clips right there into your specific folder.
5. Please include a short explanation of what the photos or video are of (names, dates, event, etc.). You don't have to have a caption for every picture.
6. If you want to tell a story, just create a Word document.

Story Rock will then take the materials you have uploaded and incorporate as many of them into the interactive CD as possible.

If you have non-digitized clips on videotape that you would like to be considered for inclusion on the CD, please contact Jake Solomon, Story Rock

If you have questions and want to contact Jake direction, please call him at:

Office: 800.390.2766 ex. 16

Cell: 801.589.9293

Fax: 888.287.8612

Email: jsolomon@ybi.com

Please include a return address so Jake can get them back to you when finished.

If you have technical difficulties with uploading, please contact Jake at Story Rock at (800) 390-2766.

We appreciate very much your assistance.

Respectfully,

Adele O. Connell

Adele O. Connell

Colonel, US Army

Strategic Communication Officer

96th Regional Readiness Command

Ft. Douglas, Utah 84113

Army: 801-656-3305

Blackberry: 801-458-4889

Family Readiness Group... "Share Corner"

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FROM 2ND PLATOON

SPC Matthew Johnston 09-03
 SPC Keith Stambaugh 09-24
 SGT Tanja Batchelor 10-01
 SSG Kevin Guida 10-07
 SGT Gary Cheek 10-08



09-



HAPPY "25TH" BIRTHDAY 28-06

SGT DAVID CORSI -
 4TH PLATOON

FROM YOUR MOM...

She also wanted to let you know your auto insurance premiums have finally dropped!!!

ATTN: SKIERS & SNOW BOARDERS

Loveland would like to show our support for the troops by offering all active duty military personnel and their direct dependents a special deal on Loveland Ski Area Season Passes. Enjoy a full season of great skiing with all the perks of a regular season pass at a fraction of the cost. Valid military and dependent family member IDs must be presented at time of pass purchase. Military season passes must be purchased at Ski Shows attended by Loveland or at the Loveland Ski Area Ticket Office. Online and phone orders will not be accepted. Loveland will be attending the Front Range Military Winter Expo at the USAF Academy on October 21st from 9am - 2pm at which the Military Pass can be purchased. For any further information log onto www.skiloveland.com.

Just a Reminder...especially with the holidays approaching

The shipping address of our soldiers changed in September. If you have shipped something it should make it there it just may take longer. Please be aware of the changes.

Your Soldiers Name **(DO NOT include his/her rank)**

423rd Transportation Company **(Please use the entire unit, there is another 423rd in Iraq!!!)**

FOB Q-West
 APO, AE 09351



All of our soldiers are important but...

*It has been brought to FRG's attention that though all of our soldiers are important our female soldiers seem to have some requests... If you are interested in putting together a "Female Box" it has been requested for items such as chocolate chip cookies, pop tarts, granola bars, tootsie rolls, licorice, leave in conditioner, shower lotion, sanitizing wipes, disinfecting wipes, body sprays and women's magazines etc. Our females have said they just want to feel like a lady once in a while. Please make sure you address the box to someone, one of the ladies or a Platoon Sergeant because **due to security boxes not addressed to someone will not be delivered.***

SFC Braman, Maria D La Luz

SGT Batchelor, Tanja

SPC Beasley, Kelly

SGT Brown, Stacey

PFC Gurr, Amber

SPC Hansen, Heather

SPC Jackson, Yavemetete

SFC Kelly, Renee

SPC Ledoux, Marina

SSG Lopez, Yolanda

PFC May, Jacqueline

SSG McGowan, Jamie

SPC Miller, Tameshia

SGT Muriello, Angela

1LT Pinyan, Rebecca

SPC Lefin, Valerie

Things to think about

In the newsletter you will be seeing a "Share Corner" for our families as well as our soldiers. We are looking for a special story, letters, or well wishes to publish from the families and from our soldiers. Please understand that I may not be able to publish all submissions every month but I will do my best to publish them all as soon as I can. I will also take into consideration a sense of urgency (Birthday, Anniversaries, Births or any other special occasions)

Please submit them to me Cindy Norkett-Hill @ blnbrat99@msn.com.

I am also open for suggestions from anyone what you might also like to see in our newsletter. We all have challenges & successes everyday. My thoughts are if we can share those challenges as well as the successes with each other maybe it will your fellow FRG member avoid the same struggles of day to day life in hopes it will make this next year a little easier for everyone. Please also feel free to call me (720.922.8807 or 303.919.3282) and may God Bless each and everyone until they are all home safe.

Family Readiness Group... "Share Corner"

The Silent Ranks

I wear no uniform,
 no dress blues or army greens,
 But I am in the military among the ranks rarely seen,
 I have no rank upon my shoulder,
 salutes I do not give.
 But the military is the world in which I live
 I'm not the one who fires the weapon,
 who puts my life on the line,
 but my job is just as tough,
 I'm the one left behind.

My husband is a patriot,
 a brave and prideful man
 and the call to serve his country not
 everyone can understand.
 Behind the lines, I see the things
 needed to keep this country free.
 My husband makes the sacrifice,
 but so do our children and me
 and I love the man I married,
 Soldering is his life but
 I stand among the silent ranks known
 as the military wife.

Author Unknown

DON'T FORGET!!!

THE 423RD HAS A WEB PAGE

www.carson.army.mil,

Look under units on the left and find the 423rd.
 If you have any pictures to add to the web
 site contact Chantelle Fanning @
cgottfanning@hotmail.com

ACRONYMS, ACRONYMS, ACRONYMS (MWR, CLP, KBR, CHU ETC..)

*Do you ever feel lost in a conversation, letter or email
 from your soldier? Log on to www.myarmylifetoo.com.
 Thanks to ACS this website is an on-line course that
 teaches about military life to include acronyms. There
 are 3 levels available to take.*

ARMY TRIVIA

1. When was the Army established?
2. How many U.S. Army five-star generals have there been?
3. What does the military nickname "G.I" stand for and when was the term introduced?
4. What are four types of Army combat helicopters currently in operation?
5. Arrange the following wars in order according to the number of American soldiers served (greatest to least): WW1, WW2, Korean, Vietnam and 1st Gulf war?

Email me if you would like the answers –
blnbrat99@msn.com

Contact Information

Lynn Nienhuis - FRG Leader:
 New Home Phone (719) 647.9989
 Email Address: czgett.lynn.nienhuis@us.army.mil

Hannah Gross - Treasurer & Phone Tree Coordinator
 Home Phone: (719) 495.3065
 Email Address: khnluv2@msn.com

Marie Liddiard - Denver POC
 Home Phone: (720) 988.7315
 Email Address: gotartmlidd@yahoo.com

Jan Henscheid or Denise Ray - Utah POC's
 Home Phone (Jan) (801) 756.8653
 Home Phone (Denise) (801) 754.5747

Chantelle Fanning-Website Liaison
 Email Address: cgottfanning@hotmail.com

Cindy Norkett-Hill - FRG Newsletter & Denver POC
 Home Phone: (720) 922.8807
 Email Address: blnbrat99@msn.com



HELPFUL TIPS:

If you have any helpful tips to share please email me. There is no reason for all of us to struggle over the same thing....

blnbrat99@msn.com

**** Remember to have your sprinkler lines flushed and put away the water hoses BEFORE things start freezing**

Family Readiness Group

GREETINGS FROM THE 423RD...



These pictures and many others are also available to see on our web site.....

www.carson.army.mil Look under *units* on the left and find the 423rd

