

# HIGH DESERT WARRIOR

Fort Irwin



Volume 11, Number 9

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September 4, 2015

## Dailey: NCOs should strive to serve at NTC



Sgt. Maj. of the Army Daniel A. Dailey (left) conducts a town hall with Soldiers, families and the community of Fort Irwin, Aug. 5.

**Story and photos by Gustavo Bahena**

**Public Affairs Office**

Sergeant Maj. of the Army Daniel A. Dailey emphasized the importance of the mission of the National Training Center, which trains 10 brigades per year, and was the site of Exercise Joint Forcible Entry Dragon Spear (Aug. 5-6) during a visit here, Aug. 4-6.

“The National Training Center is the premier training location for the United States Army, and the job our Soldiers,

Family members and our great civilian team here are doing is paramount with regards to the way we need to train and educate our Soldiers for the future,” Dailey said. “Readiness is important. The chief of staff of the Army, the secretary of the Army – we hear them say that consistently and the National Training Center is doing just that, building readiness for our forces, so they’re ready to be globally engaged when that time comes.”

Dailey’s first stopover, since becoming the Army’s 15th sergeant major in January, to this installation was hosted by

NTC Command Sgt. Maj. Noe Salinas and Fort Irwin U.S. Army Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Carlos Esmurria.

Dailey stated that NCOs from throughout the Army should aspire to serve at the NTC and on Fort Irwin.

“This is one of those assignments that builds character, builds diversity with our noncommissioned officers [NCOs] and gives them the ability to be able to see how other organizations train and utilize their Soldiers throughout the

From DAILEY, page 1

battlefield,” Dailey said. “It’s an opportunity for them to broaden their experience and build upon the knowledge, skills, and attributes they need to go back and effectively train and lead Soldiers in the future in other organizations.”

During his visit, Dailey received a briefing from Maj. Michelle Agpalza, manager of the installation sexual harassment/assault response and prevention, and ready and resilient programs. Sexual assault response coordinators and civilian employees of the Fort Irwin Advocacy Center also attended the meeting and spoke with Dailey about the SHARP campaign.

Dailey’s initiative “Not in My Squad” augments the current SHARP program throughout the Army. He has described the proposal as an effort to empower junior NCOs to make an impact at the lowest levels within the ranks.

“This is really a grassroots approach, at getting at the heart of the problem ... That is young squad leaders, young Soldiers down there – those really are the ones who have to say at the end of the day, whether or not they’re going to fix the problem,” Dailey said.

Dailey said that he would like to see the Army’s SHARP program evolve to encompass a more positive approach.

“I think we have to change the tone of the SHARP program,” Dailey said. “I think it was very good to come in very hard and very heavy at first, but now the perception across the Army, at least from a Soldier’s perspective ... it’s very negative. It’s starting to cause a divide between males and females in the Army, where we don’t want to talk to each other and that’s not the intent. The goal is success – an environment conducive for everyone to succeed, where everyone works together and prospers.”

The sergeant major said that there needs to be a change in culture, where “it’s okay to talk to SHARP representatives, it’s okay to report.” Also, a positive culture permits bystander intervention to increase.

Later, at a town hall with sergeants major and senior NCOs, Dailey spoke about a fellowship program available to sergeants major. The one-year education program offers fellows a master’s degree and an additional three years of service in the Army. During the master’s studies, fellows focus on their academics, Dailey said. After graduating, they will serve as instructors at the U.S. Army Sergeants Major Academy on Fort Bliss, Texas.

Dailey briefed other initiatives and improvements he is working on including: enlisted professional military education, one Army school system, credentialing that is equivalent to civilian academics or training, ensuring Soldiers are trained to support regional alignment, performance triad, and personal readiness as it relates to Soldier deployability.

Daily, a career infantryman, stated that all Soldiers in the Army should be deployable. Approximately 45,000 Soldiers are currently not deployable. The American public pays and expects the Army to fight and win our nation’s wars, Dailey said.

During a community town hall, Dailey took questions from service members, military spouses and community members.



Sgt. Maj. of the Army Daniel A. Dailey shakes hands with Margie Chadwick, a transition facilitator for the Soldier for Life - Transition Assistance Program here, Aug. 4.



Maj. Michelle Agpalza, manager of the Sexual Harassment/Assault Response and Prevention, and Ready and Resilient programs here, speaks with Sgt. Maj. of the Army Daniel A. Dailey at the Fort Irwin Advocacy Center, Aug. 4.

“Your efforts do not go without great gratitude from the leadership of the United States Army,” he said. “This is an important mission out here and critical to the survival of the United States Army and is critical to our success in the future. I know this duty station is tough at times and has its challenges, but you are making a lasting impact on the future of the Army and securing our foothold in the nation and throughout the world.”

**WHO WE ARE**

**Maj. Gen. Joseph Martin**  
Commanding General

**Command Sgt. Maj. Noe Salinas**  
Post CSM

**Col. Scott Taylor**  
Garrison Commander

**Command Sgt. Maj. Carlos Esmurria**  
Garrison CSM

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**HIGH DESERT WARRIOR**

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Newspaper Competition — Tabloid Category

**Honorable Mention, 2008 Dept. of the Army**  
Maj. Gen. Keith L. Ware  
Newspaper Competition — Tabloid category

**3rd Place, 2007 U.S. Army IMCOM-West**  
Newspaper Competition — Tabloid Category

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## 39th Chief of Staff of the Army: Initial Message to the Army

Gen. Mark A. Milley

Army Chief of Staff

We have the most skilled, ethical, and combat hardened Army in our Nation's history. No matter where we are around the world, America's Soldiers are displaying courage, commitment and character. We are demonstrating unparalleled competence and agility. And no matter the challenge, no matter how complex the environment, or how dangerous the situation, our Soldiers fight and win.

I am honored to lead this remarkable team.

I have three priorities:

**#1. Readiness: (Current Fight)** Our fundamental task is like no other – it is to win in the unforgiving crucible of ground combat. We must ensure the Army remains ready as the world's premier combat force. Readiness for ground combat is – and will remain – the U.S. Army's #1 priority. We will always be ready to fight today, and we will always prepare to fight tomorrow. Our most valued assets, indeed, the Nation's most valued assets, are our Soldiers and our solemn commitment must always be to never send them into harm's way untrained, poorly led, undermanned, or with less than

the best equipment we can provide. Readiness is #1, and there is no other #1.

**#2. Future Army: (Future Fight)** We will do what it takes to build an agile, adaptive Army of the future. We need to listen and learn – first from the Army itself, from other services, from our interagency partners, but also from the private sector, and even from our critics. Developing a lethal, professional and technically competent force requires an openness to new ideas and new ways of doing things in an increasingly complex world. We will change and adapt.

**#3. Take Care of the Troops: (Always)** Every day we must keep foremost in our minds our Soldiers, Civilians, and their Families. Our collective strength depends on our people – their mental and physical resilience is at our core. We must always treat each other with respect and lead with integrity. Our Soldiers are the crown jewels of the Nation; we must love them, protect them, and always keep faith with them.

I am honored and proud to serve with you. Thank you for your service and commitment to a cause larger than yourselves.



Chief of Staff of the Army Gen. Mark A. Milley is the 39th Army CSA, having been sworn in Aug. 14. Education: Princeton University, bachelor's degree in political science; Columbia University, master's degree in international relations; U.S. Naval War College, master's degree in national security and strategic studies. Most recent assignment: 21st commander, U.S. Army Forces Command (FORSCOM), August 2014 to August 2015 (the National Training Center, an Army combat training center, is a direct-reporting organization to FORSCOM).

## New FORSCOM commander visits NTC

By Leslie Ozawa

Public Affairs Office

The commanding general of United States Army Forces Command, Gen. Robert B. Abrams, visited the National Training Center at Fort Irwin, Aug. 19-21.

Abrams observed force-on-force rotational training between the 116th Cavalry Brigade Combat Team and the NTC's 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment. The 116th CBCT – of the Idaho Army National Guard – is headquartered near Boise, Idaho, and has units based in Oregon and Montana.

Abrams, a previous commander of the NTC (March 2008 - Feb. 2011), took command of FORSCOM at Fort Bragg, N.C. on Aug. 10, from Gen. Mark A. Milley, who became the Chief of Staff of the Army on Aug. 14.

A graduate of the U.S. Military Academy, Abrams previously commanded III Corps at Fort Hood, Texas, before most recently serving as former Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel's senior military assistant. He is the son of former Army Chief of Staff Gen. Creighton Abrams and brother of Gen. John N. Abrams, a former commander of U. S. Army Training and Doctrine Command.

As the Army's largest major command, FORSCOM consists of more than 800,000 active-duty and Army Reserve Soldiers, including 10 active component major subordinate commands and the U.S. Army Reserve Command. Its mission is to prepare "conventional forces to provide a sustained flow of trained and ready land power to combatant commanders in defense of the nation at home and abroad."

The NTC at Fort Irwin annually trains approximately 50,000 military active duty and reserve personnel from all services to ensure their readiness to deploy in combat and contingency operations around the world.



General Robert Abrams (center), commander of United States Army Forces Command, met with the National Training Center command team of Maj. Gen. Joseph Martin (left) and Command Sgt. Maj. Noe Salinas. Abrams – who was sworn in Aug. 10 as FORSCOM commander – observed training here, Aug. 19-21, during rotation 15-09.

# Professional Development

## Education fair a jumpstart to degree

Story and photo by Gustavo Bahena

Public Affairs Office

The annual Fort Irwin Education Fair provided Soldiers, family members and the community an opportunity to speak with representatives from 35 educational, military and Veterans service organizations, Aug. 13.

The fair, hosted by the Fort Irwin Education Center, has become an annual event where those interested in starting or furthering higher educational goals can expect to see developments in degree programs and the way they are administered by the attending colleges. Colleges at the fair included: Academy Art Institute, Ashford University, California State University at San Bernardino, Colorado tech University, DeVry University, Embry Riddle Aeronautical University Worldwide, Los Angeles Film School, Liberty University, Sonoran Desert Institute and Trident University. Other organizations included the Troops to Teachers program and the United States Department of Veterans Affairs.

Education Center Director John Valentine said five colleges have permanent representatives on Fort Irwin and they are: Barstow Community College, Park University, American Military University, Kaplan, and the University of Maryland University College. Barstow and Park also administer classes on post.

Many of the colleges represented at the fair offer degree programs online.

Valentine stated the Army is pushing for Soldiers transitioning to civilian life to pursue education.

He thanked leadership – from company-level units to the National Training Center commanding general – for their support of education center programs.

“Without command support, the Ed Center could not be as successful as we are,” Valentine said. “With their support we can help train, we can help the Soldiers when they retire or when they transition out – and that includes family members, because the family members are the ones pushing servicemembers to become marketable when they get out.”

For more information, or to speak with a counselor, contact the education center here at 380-4643.



Pfc. Jacob Evans, a tanker with H Company, 2nd Squadron, 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment, speaks with Mike Ramlogan, manager of Military and Community, College Outreach with American Military University, at the Fort Irwin Education Fair, Aug. 13.

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# Operations Group welcomes new commander

By Public Affairs Office

Operations Group received a new commander during a change of command ceremony here, Aug. 4.

Colonel David Lesperance took charge of the unit after receiving the organization's colors from the commander of the National Training Center and Fort Irwin, Maj. Gen. Joseph Martin.

The previous commander, Col. (promotable) Jeffery Broadwater, goes to his next assignment as deputy commander support, 1st Armored Division at Fort Bliss, Texas.

Lesperance arrives from an assignment as chief of staff for III Armored Corps in Fort Hood, Texas.

Lesperance is a 1989 distinguished military graduate from the Portland State University ROTC program, where he was commissioned as an armor officer. His military education includes Infantry Officer Advanced Course (1993), Command and General Staff College (2002) and the United States Army War College (2012).

Lesperance's assignments have included: 2nd Squadron, 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment at Bad Kissingen, Germany where he served as tank platoon leader, support platoon leader and troop executive officer from 1990 to 1993, including a deployment to Kuwait in support of Operation Desert Storm; 1st Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division – serving as S-3 Air and later commanded D Company and Headquarters and Headquarters Co., from 1996 to 1999 – including a deployment to Bosnia-Herzegovina in support of Operation Joint Forge; from 1999 to 2001, he served at the United States Army Infantry School as a small group instructor and doctrine team chief; he commanded 1st Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment from 2008 to 2010, including a deployment to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom from 2009 to 2010; he then served as Scorpion 07 at the NTC from May 2010 to July 2011. After completing studies at the War College, he commanded 3rd Armored Brigade Combat Team "Greywolf," 1st Cavalry Division from June 2012 to June 2014.



Operations Group photo

Colonel David Lesperance (left), commander of Operations Group, receives the colors of his unit from Maj. Gen. Joseph Martin, commander of the National Training Center and Fort Irwin, during a change of command ceremony here, Aug. 4.





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# Community Calendar

## SEPT. 9

Soldier Show. 6 p.m. Freedom Fitness Center. Free and open to the community. Watch talented Soldiers sing and dance paying tribute to Gold Star families, Vietnam Veterans, Soldiers and their family members, SMA Dailey's initiative "Not In My Squad," 50 years of ACS, community outreach and holidays while deployed.

## SEPT. 11

9/11 Remembrance Ceremony. 10 a.m., participants gather at Army Field parking lot; 10:28-10:45 a.m., "Walk of Remembrance" to Center Chapel; 10:45-11:30 a.m., remembrance ceremony at Center Chapel; noon and 4:30 p.m., "Bound" movie screening at Center Chapel.

## SEPT. 17

Speed Friending luncheon. 11 a.m. Sam Adams Grille. Military and Civilian Spouses Club luncheon and back-to-school supply drive; go to [www.mcsctfirwin.org](http://www.mcsctfirwin.org) for a list of needs. \$15 buffet. RSVP by Sept. 13 at Web site.

## SEPT. 26

MCSC Chili Cook-off. 5-8 p.m. Shockwave. Think you have the best chili? Team entry packets available at [www.mcsctfirwin.org](http://www.mcsctfirwin.org). Event tickets: advance, \$6 or two for \$10; at the door, \$8 or two for \$15. For more information email at [irwinmcsctpublicity@gmail.com](mailto:irwinmcsctpublicity@gmail.com).

## SEPT. 30

Hispanic Heritage Month celebration. 11:30 a.m. Sandy Basin Community Center. This year's event is "Hispanic Americans: Energizing Our Nation's Diversity" and will feature a guest speaker, entertainment, educational displays and cultural food sampling.

## OCT. 5-6

Army Family Action Plan conference. 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Fort Irwin Event Center. The AFAP onference is an annual event where Soldiers, family members and civilians discuss issues submitted by the community, and recommend solutions. Local issues may be sent to higher levels for review and resolution. Soldiers and volunteers needed as delegates, facilitators, recorders, transcribers and for issue support. For more information contact Ben Burnette at [Benjamin.c.burnette2.civ@mail.mil](mailto:Benjamin.c.burnette2.civ@mail.mil) or 380-2382.

## OCT. 7

Fire Prevention Week Fire Station Open House. 1-4 p.m. Fire Station 1, 400 Langford Lake Road. Join Sparky and Firwin Blaze for educational fun, egg toss contest, Fire Safety House, puppet show, station tours, face painting, fire truck tours, bounce house, turnout relay race, exit drill/EDITH, fire bucket brigade (parents vs. fire personnel), and much more. Enjoy a barbecue, with all proceeds going to the Angel Tree holiday program. Minors must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

# Shopping the Exchange pays \$224 million in dividends

### Exchange news release

DALLAS (Aug. 26) – The Army & Air Force Exchange Service paid a dividend of \$224 million in 2014 to morale, welfare and recreation efforts for the Army, Air Force, Marine Corps and Navy.

In the past 10 years, the Exchange has provided more than \$2.4 billion in dividends to military programs such as youth services, family counseling and other activities that make life better for military members and their families.

"Roughly two-thirds of Exchange earnings are paid to the Services' morale, welfare and recreation programs, while the other third goes toward building new stores and renovating facilities," said Air Force Chief Master Sgt. Sean Applegate, the Exchange's senior enlisted advisor.

In 2014, the Exchange opened a new shopping center and Express at Fort Meade, Md. In addition, Expresses were opened at Homestead Air Reserve Base, Fla., Tyndall Air Force Base, Fla., and Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio. The Exchange also opened one troop store in Moon Township, Pa., serving Soldiers, Airmen, Reservists and Guardsmen in Western Pennsylvania, Ohio and West Virginia.

Exchange support to the military goes beyond Soldiers and Airmen. Because the Exchange operates at Marine and Navy locations, funds are also returned to



Pvt. Anthony Avalos, an anti-tank gunner with K Troop, 2nd Squadron, 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment, receives a drink from Dora Campione, a head cashier with the Exchange at the Fort Irwin 24-hour Shoppette, Aug. 28.

Marines and Sailors. The fiscal year 2014 dividend of \$224 million was distributed as follows: Army, \$125.3 million; Air Force, \$74.1 million; Marines, \$19.5 million; Navy, \$5.1 million.

The Exchange's mission of providing quality goods and services at competitively low prices while generating earnings to support quality-of-life efforts means that the Exchange benefit is more than finding a good price on merchandise.

This structure ensures that shoppers who take advantage of their Exchange benefit at brick-and-mortar stores or online at [www.shopmyexchange.com](http://www.shopmyexchange.com) are working to better their communities.

"100 percent of Exchange earnings serve Soldiers, Airmen and their families," Applegate said. "When service members shop or dine at their Exchange, they're investing in their own community, making it a better place to live and work."

## Middle School/Teen Center Activities:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| Sept. 1 BGCA-Smart Girls, EDGE-Crafts Mod Podge  | Sept. 16 4H - Drama                              |
| Sept. 2 4H - Ceramics                            | Sept. 17 BGCA - Wise Guys                        |
| Sept. 2 4H - Drama                               | Sept. 18 Fuse Bead, Teen Choice                  |
| Sept. 3 BGCA - Wise Guys                         | Sept. 19 Origami, Teen Choice                    |
| Sept. 4 Fuse Bead, Teen Choice                   | Sept. 22 BGCA-Smart Girls, EDGE-Crafts Mod Podge |
| Sept. 5 Origami, Teen Choice                     | Sept. 23 4H - Cooking                            |
| Sept. 8 BGCA-Smart Girls, EDGE-Crafts Mod Podge  | Sept. 24 BGCA - Wise Guys                        |
| Sept. 9 4H - Cooking                             | Sept. 25 Fuse Bead, Teen Choice                  |
| Sept. 10 BGCA - Wise Guys                        | Sept. 26 Origami, Teen Choice                    |
| Sept. 11 Fuse Bead, Teen Choice                  | Sept. 29 BGCA-Smart Girls, EDGE-Crafts Mod Podge |
| Sept. 12 Origami, Teen Choice                    | Sept. 30 Paintball                               |
| Sept. 15 BGCA-Smart Girls, EDGE-Crafts Mod Podge |  |

## AT THE Movies

- |  |   |   |   |
|--|---|---|---|
| <b>Sept. 4</b><br>7 p.m. Southpaw (R)                          | <b>Sept. 6</b><br>7 p.m. Vacation (R)                             | <b>Sept. 12</b><br>4 p.m. Mr. Holmes (PG)<br>7 p.m. Ricki and the Flash (PG-13) | 4 p.m. Shaun the Sheep Movie (PG)<br>7 p.m. The Man from U.N.C.L.E. (PG-13) |
| <b>Sept. 5</b><br>4 p.m. Minions (PG)<br>7 p.m. Pixels (PG-13) | <b>Sept. 11</b><br>7 p.m. Mission Impossible Rogue Nation (PG-13) | <b>Sept. 13</b><br>7 p.m. Vacation (R)  | <b>Sept. 20</b><br>7 p.m. Fantastic Four (PG-13)                            |
|  |   | <b>Sept. 18</b><br>7 p.m. Fantastic Four (PG-13)                                | <b>Sept. 25</b><br>7 p.m. Hotel Transylvania 2 (PG)                         |
|  |   | <b>Sept. 19</b>   | <b>Sept. 26</b><br>7 p.m. Hotel Transylvania 2 (PG)                         |

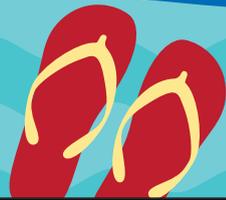
Tickets: Adult - \$5.00/3D-\$7.00, Children 6-11 - \$2.50/3D-\$4.50 Five and Under are FREE. This schedule is subject to change at the last minute to accommodate changes in movies and free showings. ID cards are required from all personnel not in uniform when purchasing movie tickets. For more information and movie updates, call 380-3490.

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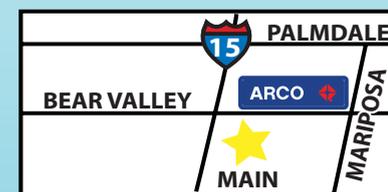
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# Your Troopers

## Regimental logisticians adapt to force-on-force environment

By Capt. Kimberly DeFour, Support Operations

Regimental Support Squadron, 11th ACR

During counterinsurgency operations in deployment areas, Army logisticians' concept of support for maneuver units originated from the perspective of being near a forward operating base, with logistical support already in place.

However, with the battlefield changing, FOB logistics is no longer a viable way to support maneuver units – including the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment at the National Training Center.

The 11th ACR – with approximately 3,000 Troopers – provides an opposing force or “enemy” to rotational training units, who “fight” here in a force-on-force environment. With the focus on decisive action rotations, there has been a reduction in reliance on FOBs. With the BCTs conducting maneuvers throughout the NTC's 1,200 square miles, the opposing force maneuver area can be just as wide.

Since 2014, the Regimental Support Squadron, 11th ACR has adapted its logistical support to Blackhorse units maneuvering in the DA battlefield. The NTC DA rotations are constantly shaping logisticians' ability to plan and provide precise logistics on a fluid battle field.

“As the commander, I oversee all logistical operations within the RSS and continuously emphasize the importance of supporting combat operations with precise logistics,” said Lt. Col. James Stephens, commander of RSS, 11th ACR.

Logisticians, serving in the support operations office of RSS, must understand the maneuver unit's mission in order to provide a concept of support that will fully support the combat mission. Once the concept of support is developed, it is imperative to capture all logistical efforts



11th ACR photo

Soldiers of the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment serve as an opposing force to a rotational training unit here in July. The OPFOR relies on the logistical support of the Regimental Support Squadron, 11th ACR, for ammunition (simulated), food and fuel to perform its mission and maneuver in the same battle space as the RTU.

on a synchronization matrix.

“The world of logistics is vast and complex,” said Maj. Carmen Rosado, support operations officer with RSS, 11th ACR. “While conventional brigade combat teams support operations officers exercise their logistical knowledge by conducting training twice a year, the 11th Armored

See **LOGISTIANS**, page 9

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Cavalry Regiment support operations office never stops supporting.”

Several SPO sections – plans, maintenance and materiel management – provide support to Troopers in the field with water, food, fuel, ammunition and maintenance.

The plans section receives the concept of operation and determines where and when logistics support is required throughout the operation. Additionally, the plans section determines how to provide the maneuver unit with the required logistics.

Supporting maneuver units with water and food presents a challenge. The field feeding section can no longer conduct on-site feeding operations in a force-on-force environment. Due to the high operational tempo and mission requirements of the 11th ACR, the section in charge of food and water is required to support Soldiers at multiple locations throughout the NTC's battle space. The method the Army uses to facilitate such an operation is known as ration break procedures. Ration break procedures depend on the quantity and type of ration, personnel, time and transportation available. On average, the section supports 15 breaks, each with a headcount of 20-50 Soldiers.

In the case of fuel, the SPO plans, coordinates, and synchronizes bulk fuel for the support elements in order to sustain the maneuver unit's op-tempo on the battle field. Therefore, planners need to understand the different types of combat operations and how it affects the maneuver unit's fuel consumption rate.

Understanding the concept of operation is key to providing precise logistics, and ammunition is no exception. Logisticians must balance the required supply rate with the controlled supply rate. The CSR doesn't present logisticians with the opportunity to tell costumers "No" to a resupply request. However, when mission dictates an increase in ammunition requirements, it's up to the logisticians to determine the most efficient way of obtaining and transporting the required ammunition while staying within ammunition and explosive safety standards.

Due to the high op-tempo, maintenance of all equipment is vitally important to the mission conducted by the 11th ACR. Maintenance and the materiel management work hand-in-hand in order to maintain combat power on the battle field. Materiel management represents a major portion of the Regiment's logistics operation; the section ensures the units within the regiment adhere to policy, thereby assuring the effective and efficient management and stewardship of all materiel's necessary to help build combat power.

Building that combat power is crucial and is a result of being proactive.

"Anticipatory logistics is the difference between battlefield dominance and death," said Chief Warrant Officer 4 Jimmie Lee, officer in charge of material management, RSS, 11th ACR.



Photo by Maj. Carmen Rosado, 11th ACR

Logistician Soldiers of the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment conduct a combat support sustainment rehearsal to synchronize logistical efforts for 11th ACR operations during decisive action rotation 15-8.5 here, July 14.

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# Your Installation

# Fire Prevention Week: check smoke alarms

Provided by Tina Rhodes

Fort Irwin Fire Prevention Bureau

During fire prevention week, Oct. 4-10, the Fort Irwin Fire Prevention Bureau will be sharing important safety tips with Fort Irwin and surrounding communities regarding fire awareness, fire prevention, as well as home fire safety – home fires being the leading cause of loss of life and property. This year's theme is "Hear The Beep Where You Sleep. Every Bedroom Needs a Working Smoke Alarm!"

The Web site of the National Fire Protection Association provides the following information:

Fire Prevention Week was established to commemorate the Great Chicago Fire, the tragic 1871 conflagration that killed more than 250 people, left 100,000 homeless, destroyed more than 17,400 structures and burned more than 2,000 acres. The fire began on October 8,

but did most of its damage on October 9, 1871.

According to popular legend, the fire broke out after a cow – belonging to Catherine O'Leary –kicked over a lamp, setting first the barn, then the whole city on fire. Chances are you've heard some version of this story yourself; people have been blaming the Great Chicago Fire on the cow and O'Leary, for more than 130 years. But recent research by Chicago historian Robert Cromie has helped to debunk this version of events.

Like any good story, the 'case of the cow' has some truth to it. The great fire almost certainly started near the barn where O'Leary kept her five milking cows. But there is no proof that O'Leary was in the barn when the fire broke out – or that a jumpy cow sparked the blaze. O'Leary herself swore that she went to bed early that night, and that the cows were also tucked in for the evening.

But if a cow wasn't to blame for the huge fire, what was? Over the years, journalists and

historians have offered plenty of theories. Some blamed the blaze on a couple of neighborhood boys were near the barn sneaking cigarettes. Others believed that a neighbor of O'Leary may have started the fire. Some people have speculated that a fiery meteorite may have fallen to earth on October 8, starting several fires that day – in Michigan and Wisconsin, as well as in Chicago.

While the Great Chicago Fire was the best-known blaze to start during this fiery two-day stretch, it wasn't the biggest. That distinction goes to the Peshtigo Fire, the most devastating forest fire in American history. The fire, which also occurred on October 8, 1871, and roared through Northeast Wisconsin, burned down 16 towns, killing 1,152 people, and scorching 1.2 million acres before it ended.

Historical accounts of the fire say that the blaze began when several railroad workers clearing land for tracks unintentionally started a brush fire. It was the small town of Peshtigo,

Wis., that suffered the worst damage. Within an hour, the entire town had been destroyed.

On the 40th anniversary of the Great Chicago Fire, the Fire Marshals Association of North America (today, the International Fire Marshals Association), decided the anniversary of the Great Chicago Fire should be observed not with festivities, but in a way that informs the public about fire prevention.

In 1920, President Woodrow Wilson issued the first National Fire Prevention Day proclamation, and since 1922, Fire Prevention Week has been observed on the Sunday through Saturday period in which October 9 falls. According to the National Archives and Records Administration's Library Information Center, Fire Prevention Week is the longest running public health and safety observance on record. The President of the United States has signed a proclamation proclaiming a national observance during that week every year since 1925.

**EVERY BEDROOM NEEDS A WORKING SMOKE ALARM.**  
FIRE PREVENTION WEEK OCT 4-10, 2015  
firepreventionweek.org

## Fire Prevention Week

Oct. 7  
1-4 p.m.  
Fort Irwin Fire Station 1  
400 Langford Lake Road

Come on down and join Sparky and Firwin Blaze for some educational fun, games and prizes to include: egg toss contest, Fire Safety House, puppet show, station tours, face painting, fire truck tours, bounce house, turnout relay race, exit drill/EDITH, fire bucket brigade (parents vs. fire personnel), and much more.

Enjoy a barbecue – with all proceeds going to the Angel Tree holiday program.  
All minors must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

## Smoke Alarms at Home

**SMOKE ALARMS ARE A KEY PART of a home fire escape plan. When there is a fire, smoke spreads fast. Working smoke alarms give you early warning so you can get outside quickly.**

**SAFETY TIPS**

- Install smoke alarms inside and outside each bedroom and sleeping area. Install alarms on every level of the home. Install alarms in the basement.
- Large homes may need extra smoke alarms.
- It is best to use interconnected smoke alarms. When one smoke alarm sounds they all sound.
- Test all smoke alarms at least once a month. Press the test button to be sure the alarm is working.
- There are two kinds of alarms. Ionization smoke alarms are quicker to warn about flaming fires. Photoelectric alarms are quicker to warn about smoldering fires. It is best to use both types of alarms in the home.
- A smoke alarm should be on the ceiling or high on a wall. Keep smoke alarms away from the kitchen to reduce false alarms. They should be at least 10 feet (3 meters) from the stove.
- People who are hard-of-hearing or deaf can use special alarms. These alarms have strobe lights and bed shakers.
- Replace all smoke alarms when they are 10 years old.

**FACTS**

- Smoke alarms should be installed inside every bedroom, outside each sleeping area and on every level. Smoke alarms should be connected so when one sounds, they all sound. Most homes do not have this level of protection.
- Roughly 3 out of 5 fire deaths happen in homes with no smoke alarms or the alarms are not working.

**Fort Irwin Fire Prevention**  
380-6845

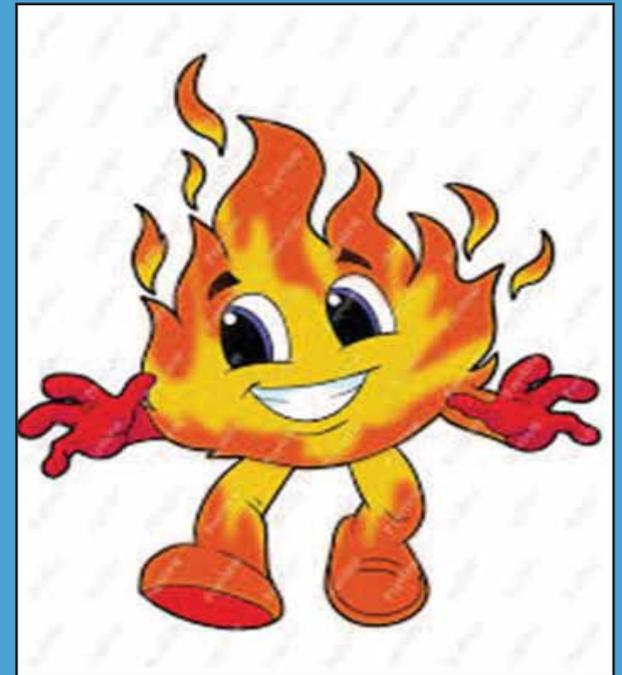
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## Fire Prevention Week 2015

### “Create A Song” Contest

**Contest rules:**

- Song must be created with the fire prevention week theme including the words “Hear the beep, where you sleep. Every bedroom needs a working smoke alarm!”
  - Ages pre-k to eighth grade are encouraged to participate
  - All entries are voice recorded for a minimum of 60 seconds and maximum of 90 seconds
  - Entries can be sent to Fire Prevention email at [fifdprevention@gmail.com](mailto:fifdprevention@gmail.com) or by disk at building 1207
  - Email or disk must contain the following information: full name, age, grade, school and contact number for the contestant
  - All entries must be received no later than 1:30 p.m., Oct. 2
  - In order to participate, parent/guardian must sign a waiver releasing the rights of audio submitted. Waiver form can be picked up at building 1207 from John Weston, Fire Prevention Specialist
  - Additional certificates and prizes given
- Grand prize winner will receive a surprise and have the song played on the Fort Irwin radio station “The Heat.”



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# Legal

## Special Victim Counsel Program advocates for sexual assault victims

By Capt. Nick Bartholomew, Special Victim Counsel

SJA, NTC and Fort Irwin

Sexual assault is one of the most pressing and difficult issues in today's Army.

As part of the Army's efforts to combat sexual assault within our ranks, the Special Victim Counsel Program was developed to strengthen our support of victims of sexual assault and enhance their rights within our military justice system, while neither causing unreasonable delay nor infringing upon the rights of an accused. The role of a Special Victim Counsel is to zealously represent the client's interests throughout the military justice process within the scope of representation outlined by Army regulation.

A Special Victim Counsel is a legal assistance attorney who has received special training to provide legal representation to victims of sexual assault. Preferably, attorneys assigned as SVCs will have also had military justice experience. The SVC provides legal services to active duty military members, their adult dependents, and persons in other specialized categories. Further, SVCs are able to provide support and legal services to certain child victims of sexual assault, by representing the child through the child's parent or guardian. Victims of sexual assault are eligible for SVC representation once they have filed either a restricted or unrestricted report. Victim Advocates will provide victims with information about an SVC if the victim qualifies to receive assistance from the SVC, including contact information.

The primary duty and loyalty of the SVC is to the client, not

to any other person, organization, or entity. Privacy and confidentiality apply, meaning that the SVC cannot share anything their client has told them without permission from the client. The SVC's primary duty is to advocate for the best interest of the client.

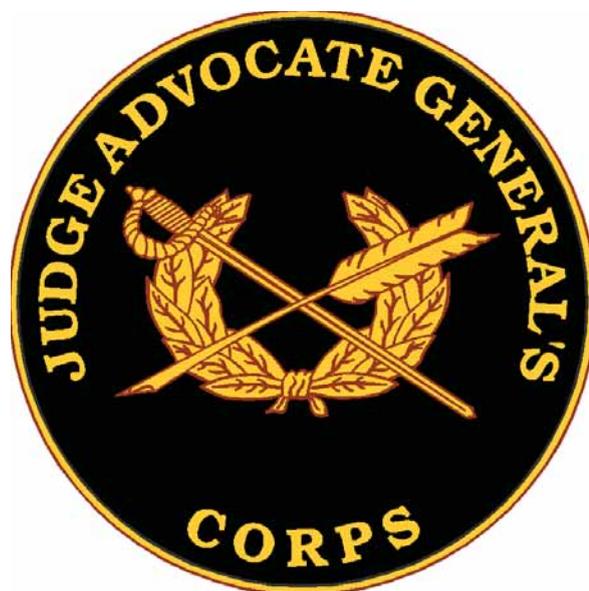
The SVC will further assist their clients in navigating the court martial process, accompanying them to interviews, examinations,

hearings, and court proceedings, as well as providing legal advice during this process.

In addition to the right to consult with an SVC, victims have the following legal rights: to be treated with fairness and respect for their dignity and privacy; to be reasonably protected from the accused offender; to be notified of court proceedings; to be present at all public court proceedings related to the offense, unless the court determines that your testimony would be materially affected; to confer with the attorney for the government (prosecutor); right to available restitution; right to know about the conviction, sentencing, imprisonment, and release of the offender.

In the past several years, the National Defense Authorization Act has significantly changed the landscape of sexual assault prosecutions as well as the role of the SVC and rights of sexual assault victims. Army SVCs will continue to help their clients navigate the ever expanding complexity of sexual assault prosecution now and in the future. The SVC program has grown significantly since its initial inception and will continue to advocate for victims of sexual assault well into the future.

Victims of sexual assault have a right to obtain and meet with a SVC prior to speaking to law enforcement or their command, or undergoing any medical examination. If you feel you need SVC representation, or have any questions regarding the SVC program, I can be reached at 380-6840 or nicholas.c.bartholomew.mil@mail.mil.



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# Joint exercise projects decisive combat power

By Jason Miller

Public Affairs Office

More than 600 United States Army Paratroopers from the 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division filled the night sky over the Mojave Desert, during Joint Forcible Entry exercise dubbed Operation Dragon Spear, Aug. 5-6.

The exercise was the largest joint training activity in more than a decade at the National Training Center, comprising more than 1,500 Soldiers from the 82nd Airborne Division, 75th Ranger Regiment and Special Forces, demonstrating the Army's ability to project decisive combat power anywhere in the world.

Prior to execution of the exercise, former Chief of Staff of the U.S. Army Gen. (ret.) Raymond T. Odierno and Gen. Joseph L. Votel, commanding general for Special Operations Command, briefed reporters on the importance and purpose of the training.

"We're making sure that everybody understands that we have a capability, if we have to, to force our way into an area if it's in our nation's best interest," Odierno said.

Votel said the drill would give senior leaders more military options in the future.

"What's important tonight is we're exercising this integration in a different scenario than we probably have over the last several years," Votel said.

Along with the two senior leaders, there were more than 40 distinguished visitors, including Deputy Defense Secretary Robert Work and Rep. Paul Cook, (R-CA 8th District), viewing the training event.

At dusk, Soldiers from C and D Troop, 1st Squadron, 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment, fired more than 60 engagements with spine-chilling accuracy utilizing two M1 Abrams tank platoons. At one point during the barrage, AH-64 Apache helicopters were called to fire upon an occupied ridge line. All engagements were to set the stage for the positioning and firing of a high mobility artillery rocket system.

After the 11th ACR unleashed their assets, distinguished visitors and media representatives were escorted to a flight landing strip to view the joint exercise. The JFE operation began with the U.S. Air Force delivering pre-assault fires, a tactic to destroy and disrupt the enemy's area access and to remove any surface to air capability. This was all in preparation for Soldiers from the 2nd Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment, to assault on the flight landing strip in the mock country called Atropia, which was under attack by rebels from the neighboring country Donovia.

Once the surface to air capabilities were destroyed, the Rangers landed in two V-22 Osprey's and attacked the rebels utilizing the new MRZR, a special operations tactical vehicle with unique strategic and tactical capabilities. The goal of the Ranger assault was to drive back the rebels to make way for an airborne forcible entry, which included five gun trucks, two M777 Howitzer's, 16 MRZR's and 600 Soldiers from 2nd BCT, 82nd Airborne Division – all delivered by 12 U.S. Air Force C-17 and C-130 aircraft.

The exercise showcased the interoperability of the Army and Air Force, as well as the interdependence of the Army's conventional force and Special Forces in a complex and dynamic environment.

At the end of Dragon Spear, Secretary Work made his remarks on the operation's complexity.

"There are very few organizations in the world that would be able to put together an exercise like this," Work said.

Odierno concurred, saying, "The National Training Center, here at Fort Irwin, is the crown jewel of our training areas."

United States Army Forces Command is preparing Army units that can seize, retain, and exploit the initiative to gain and maintain a position of advantage in sustained land operations – all to create conditions for favorable conflict resolution. The JFE exercise at the NTC illustrated the Army has forces prepared for this contingency.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Steve Cortez

National Training Center and Fort Irwin Commander Maj. Gen. Joseph Martin makes his closing remarks after exercise Joint Forcible Entry Dragon Spear here, Aug. 6.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Jason Hull, 82nd Airborne Division

Two MRZR ultra-lightweight combat vehicles transporting Paratroopers assigned to 1st Battalion, 325th Airborne Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division, speed across the Mojave Desert during a tactical movement toward an assault on an enemy-held urban environment at the National Training Center.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Jason, 82nd Airborne Division

A M1 Abrams tank from 1st Squadron, 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment fires its main gun during a combined arms live-fire exercise here, Aug. 5. The 11th ACR was one of several units participating in Operation Dragon Spear, a demonstration which included a joint forcible entry operation.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Jason Hull, 82nd Airborne Division

Two AH-64 Apache helicopters fire their weapons during the exercise Joint Forcible Entry Dragon Spear here, Aug. 5. Several organizations from across the United States military participated, including: XVIIIth Airborne Corps, 82nd Airborne Division, 75th Ranger Regiment, 10th Special Forces Group and the Air Force, showcasing the global response force's ability to deploy, fight and win.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Jason Hull, 82nd Airborne Division

Paratroopers of the 82nd Airborne Division and XVIIIth Airborne Corps flow out of a C-17 Globemaster III aircraft during the exercise Joint Forcible Entry Dragon Spear here, Aug. 6.



U.S. Army photo

More than 600 U.S. Army paratroopers from the 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division successfully exploit surprise to control the objective, prepare for reinforcements and a possible counterattack during exercise Joint Forcible Entry Dragon Spear at the National Training Center.

## In the Box

## Task Force Talon soars at the NTC

By Lt. Col. Darren T. Blagburn

## Idaho Army National Guard

Two UH-60 Black Hawk helicopters kicked up dust on a hilltop in the Mojave Desert as Soldiers piled out, hit the ground and established security during a practice air insertion here, Aug. 20.

Air insertions were just one of the tasks the 1-183rd Aviation "Task Force Talon" executed in support of the 116th Cavalry Brigade Combat Team's rotation, Aug. 14-25. The 1st Battalion, 183rd Attack Reconnaissance provided 12 AH-64 Apache helicopters and a company of pilots to support the rotation. Battalion leadership oversaw command and control of the task force.

"During NTC rotation 15-09, Task Force Talon is providing the 116th CBCT full aviation operational support in terms of attack aviation, lift and medical evacuation operations," said Maj. Chris Schoonover, of Boise, Idaho and commander of the 1-183rd Aviation Task Force.

Composed of Army National Guard units from six states, the 1-183rd Aviation Task Force consisted of an attack aviation company and multiple companies of general support aviation assets. Each airframe had a unique mission, and the units' Soldiers trained to increase their proficiency as pilots, support personnel and maintainers. Together, Task Force Talon ensured the 116th CBCT had the advantage when it came to fighting, moving Soldiers and equipment, and medical evacuation support.

"The ability to bring together units from six different states and come together as a task force, move out to the field and execute operations, really demonstrates the level and abilities of National Guard Soldiers to work as a team," Schoonover said.

The 116th CBCT lift support consisted of Idaho's A Company, 1st Battalion, 168th General Support Aviation and pilots from B Company, 2nd Battalion, 224th Aviation of Maryland and Virginia. Two CH-47 Chinook helicopters from B Company, 2nd Battalion, 149th Aviation from Arlington, Texas, rounded out the heavy-lift capabilities.

The 116th CBCT received combat aeromedical evacuation



A UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter performs a mock insertion during air assault training conducted by members of A Company, 1st Battalion, 183rd Aviation Task Force here, Aug. 19. The task force, made up of National Guard units from six states, provided air support to the 116th Cavalry Brigade Combat Team during force-on-force battle simulation training.

support from C Company, 5th Battalion, 159th General Support Aviation from Montana and Wyoming.

"The other states' units operate in a different environment and they haven't conducted dust or mountain-top landings," said Sgt. Jason Tugby, of Boise, Idaho, a UH-60 Black Hawk crew chief with A Company, 1-168th GSAB. "We have been training together, so the Maryland and Virginia pilots have experienced a new style of flying and it will increase their abilities."

Airspace was managed by a section of air traffic controllers from F Company, 2nd Battalion, 211th General Support Aviation from Arkansas. The air traffic controllers tracked the locations and communicated with aircraft to de-conflict airspace.

Soldiers from B Company, 449th Aviation Support Battalion from San Antonio, augmented the units' organic maintenance support personnel. Soldiers of E Company, Forward Support Company, 1-183rd ARB fed, fueled and completed vehicle maintenance to keep the Soldiers and equipment in working condition.

Pilots flying one of the most advanced attack helicopters in the world practiced their target acquisition skills during live-fire gunnery in support of the ground combat units. After gunnery, they transitioned to supporting the ground units during a three-day, force-on-force mission against the opposing force.

"This training allows us to see the big picture and how we would be utilized," said Chief Warrant Officer-3 Mike Barbero, from Boise, Idaho, with C Company, 1-183rd ARB. "It is a little different than when we go out and plan our aviation-based missions; now we are fighting with the ground commander."

The Idaho, Maryland and Virginia Black Hawk pilots conducted dozens of missions moving dignitaries, unit leadership and equipment throughout the training area.

"We have been conducting missions moving the Battalion and brigade commanders who want to see their troops to check on their condition as well as critical repair parts," said Warrant Officer Derrek Bohman, of Boise, Idaho, a Black Hawk pilot with A Company, 1-168th GSAB.

An important mission for the utility helicopters was the air insertion of Soldiers. Crew chiefs conducted training sessions with Soldiers to teach them the proper methods of entering

and exiting the aircraft during air assaults. Each Black Hawk transported up to 11 Soldiers and their gear, while Chinooks carried 36 Soldiers, but it wasn't a bus ride for the Soldiers. The pilots typically flew fast and low to the ground to avoid enemy contact. Like a shell game, the pilots executed false insertions to protect the location of the real insertion.

"We completed an air assault mission behind enemy lines, so the forward observers could coordinate for Apache air support during the battle," Bohman said. "The mission took a lot of time to plan and coordinate between the aviation and ground units, but it was a success. We got them in undetected, and they completed their mission successfully."

Another vital mission of the Task Force was to provide MEDEVAC support, which could be completed by HH-60 Black Hawks staffed by a crew of medics and medical equipment.

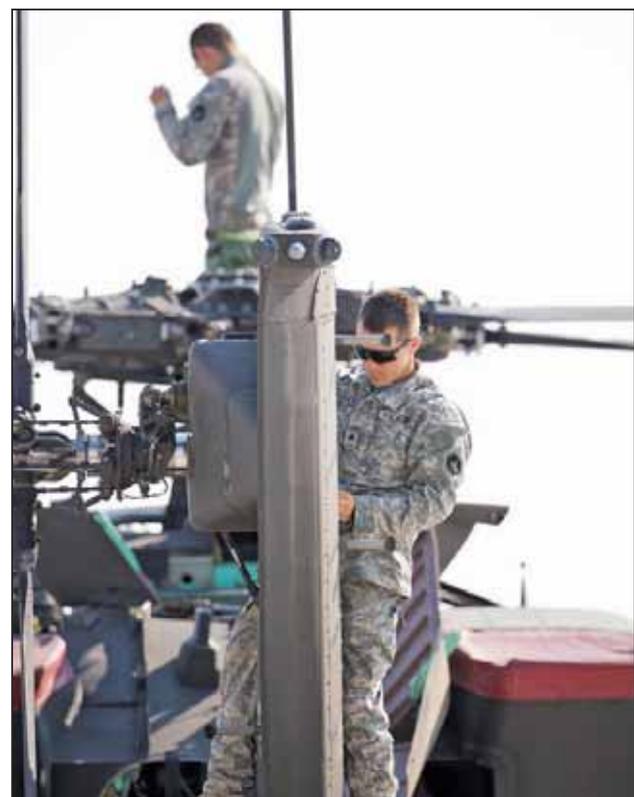
Maintenance and logistics was also critical to the success of Task Force Talon.

"The maintenance of the helicopters is going very well," said 1st Lt. Jordan Dosch, of Boise, Idaho, a maintenance platoon leader with D Company, 1-183 ARB. "All of the Apaches are fully mission capable except one that received notional 'battle damage.' Morale is highest when the Soldiers get to do work on the Apaches to bring them back into operational status."

Getting parts to the helicopter mechanics was the responsibility of E Company, 1-183 ARB, as was pumping bulk fuel into the fleet. Mechanics maintained the task force's vehicles and the cooks fed the task force.

By being focused and armed, the 1-183rd Aviation Task Force became a battlefield multiplier for the 116th CBCT. Without the team of pilots, mechanics and support personnel, the more than 20 helicopters would not have made it off the ground. Each airframe had a particular mission, but every Soldier was essential to winning the fight.

"Each Soldier in the task force is a contributor to the success of this organization," Schoonover said. "This training shows how vigilant, prepared and ready to support our nation's defense the National Guard is."



Photos by Maj. W. Chris Clyne, 115th MPAD

Sgt. Kole Newberry with C Company, 1st Battalion, 183rd Aviation Task Force, performs 50-hour maintenance on an AH-64 Apache attack helicopter here, Aug. 20.



Sgt. Nicholas Deem with 1st Battalion, 183rd Aviation Task Force, gives a block of instruction on air assault mission procedures to a combat observation lasing team here, Aug. 19.



Sgt. Nicholas Deem, Sgt. Glen Morgan, Chief Warrant Officer 3 Tony Weston and Chief Warrant Officer 2 Will Tobin (left to right) with 1st Battalion, 183rd Aviation Task Force, conduct a pre-flight briefing here, Aug. 19.



Spc. Trenten Kammerman, a combat observation lasing team member provides security during air assault training conducted by members of A Company, 1st Battalion, 183rd Aviation Task Force, here, Aug. 19.

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# Your Health: Weed Army Community Hospital



## Thinking about urgent care? The Nurse Advice Line can help

When an urgent health problem arises, it is hard to know whether you should try to tough it out or seek medical care.

Luckily, TRICARE beneficiaries can call the Nurse Advice Line to get advice on their health care questions. Not all health problems require a visit with a medical specialist, but a registered nurse at the NAL can help you make the decision on whether you should seek care at an urgent care center. While going to an urgent care clinic for a high fever or a sprained ankle may seem like the easiest option, if you call the NAL first you can save time and money.

The NAL is made up of a team of registered nurses, who can answer your healthcare questions. There is always a person on the line to answer your concerns. When you call, the nurse will ask several medical questions based on your symptoms. These questions were developed by physicians to help the RNs get the most accurate assessment of your medical problem.

If you are not calling for yourself, make sure that the family member in question is present, so you can assess their condition as the nurse asks questions.

If self-care is recommended, the nurse may provide you with advice on home treatments and remedies. However, if you or your family member needs an urgent care appointment, the NAL will help you with next steps.

If you are on TRICARE Prime and enrolled to a medical treatment facility or clinic, the NAL will try to schedule a same or next-day appointment for you. If you are a TRICARE Prime beneficiary enrolled to a MTF and the NAL is unable to get you an appointment in your MTF when you need it, the NAL will follow-up with your MTF to ensure your urgent care referral is submitted. If you are a Prime beneficiary and receive care through the civilian network, and the NAL determines you need urgent care, contact your primary care manager for care or to obtain a referral to an urgent care facility.

The NAL is an easy option for beneficiaries to get information on their medical problems quickly and at any time.

To access the NAL dial (800) TRICARE (874-2273) and select option 1. Get more information about the NAL on the TRICARE Web site.



## New law requires TRICARE beneficiaries to refill some drugs through TRICARE Pharmacy Home Delivery or pay full cost

**Starting Oct. 1**, a new law requires that all TRICARE beneficiaries, except active duty servicemembers, get select brand name maintenance drugs through either TRICARE Pharmacy Home Delivery or from a military pharmacy.

Beneficiaries who keep using a retail pharmacy for these drugs will have to pay the full cost.

Maintenance drugs are those you take regularly for a long time, such as drugs to control blood pressure or cholesterol. The law does not apply to drugs you take for a short time, like antibiotics, or generic drugs.

The TRICARE pharmacy contractor, Express Scripts, will soon send a letter to beneficiaries taking an affected drug, explaining their options. Beneficiaries can contact Express Scripts at (877) 363-1303 to see if they are affected.

In September, affected beneficiaries will receive a letter from Express Scripts notifying them of the need to switch their drug.

After Oct. 1, beneficiaries still filling an affected drug at a retail pharmacy will receive another letter informing them of the change to the benefit. After that, beneficiaries will have one final "courtesy" fill at a retail pharmacy. If they fill at a retail pharmacy again, they have to pay 100 percent of the cost of their medication.

TRICARE Pharmacy Home Delivery is a safe, convenient and low cost option to get maintenance drugs. You can get up to a 90-day supply, as opposed to a 30-day supply from a retail pharmacy. You save up to \$176 a year for every brand name drug you switch to home delivery. Military pharmacies offer up to a 90-day supply of drugs at zero co-pay, but not all drugs are available. Check with your local military pharmacy to see if they carry your prescription.

For more information about this change to TRICARE's pharmacy benefit, visit [www.tricare.mil/RxNewRules](http://www.tricare.mil/RxNewRules) or call ESI at (877) 363-1303.

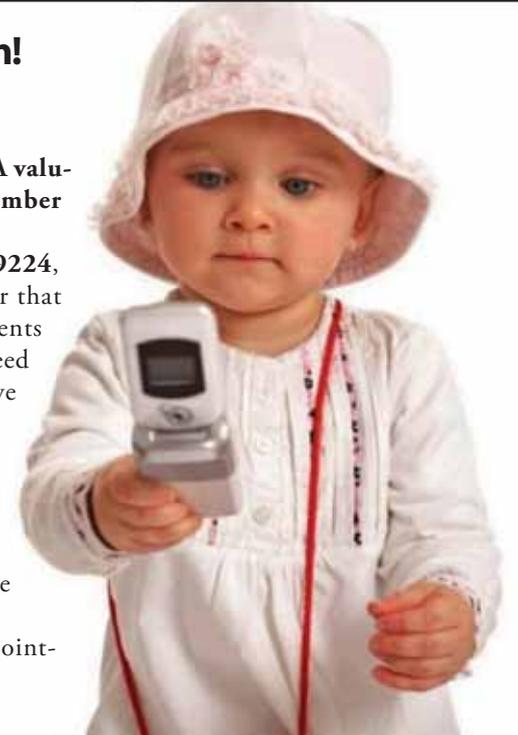
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Please note: The Weed Army Community Hospital asks all of our patients to arrive 10 minutes before their scheduled appointment. This allows them to be screened and ready for the provider at the appointment time. If you arrive late, you may be asked if you are able to wait until the provider has a chance to see you later in the day.

By being late, you run the risk of having to reschedule your appointment for a later date.



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# 'A store for the military by the military'

Story and photo by Gustavo Bahena

Public Affairs Office

Kaleidoscope Crafts and Creations opened for business after a ribbon cutting at the Exchange, Sept. 1

The store sells decorative and artistic home décor items made by Fort Irwin military spouses.

Cathy Jacobi, a military spouse here who spearheaded the establishment of the venue, said everything in the store is hand made. Customers can also request customized articles from the vendors. Seven spouses currently have works for sale. They will be volunteering to run the store, Monday through Saturday.

Jacobi credited the spouses "who jumped in" with her and agreed to "make this happen."

"There's so much talent out there that we miss, and don't realize what military spouses really can offer you," Jacobi said.

Misty Dennis, military spouse and artist, assisted with the launching of the store and consigning of other artists.

"We all have something that we can contribute, and this is just our way of contributing to the military community," Dennis said.

Jacobi described the new locale by saying: "It is a store for the military by the military, and it's everybody's small business."



Kaleidoscope Crafts and Creations opened for business after a ribbon cutting at the Exchange here, Sept. 1. United States Army Garrison Fort Irwin Commander Col. Scott Taylor (second from left) and Cathy Jacobi, military spouse who spearheaded the store's opening, hold the ceremonial scissors.



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**SAFETY**  
wherever you are



SOUTHWEST GAS

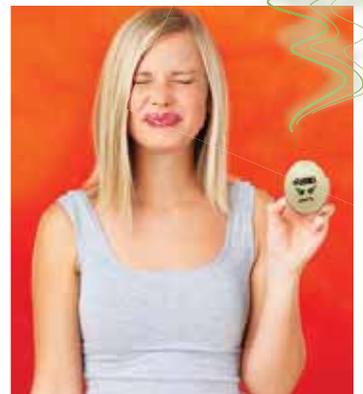
**Natural gas lines can be buried anywhere. So it's important to know how to recognize and respond to a natural gas leak...no matter where you are.**

### A leak may be present if you:

**SMELL:** An odor similar to rotten eggs, even if it's faint or momentary.

**HEAR:** A hissing or roaring sound coming from the ground, above-ground piping, or gas appliance.

**SEE:** Dirt or water blowing into the air, unexplained dead or dying grass or vegetation, or standing water continuously bubbling.



### If you suspect a leak:

- Leave the area immediately.
- From a safe place, call **911** and Southwest Gas at **1-877-860-6020**, day or night, whether you're a customer or not. A Southwest Gas representative will be there as soon as possible.
- Don't smoke or use matches or lighters.
- Don't turn on or off any electrical switches, thermostats, or appliance controls; or do anything that could cause a spark.
- Don't start or stop an engine, or use automated doors.

For more information about natural gas safety, visit [swgas.com/safety](http://swgas.com/safety) or call **1-877-860-6020**.

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**Fort Irwin Outreach Center** • Barstow Road

**Chevron** • I-15 and Barstow Road

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