

A photograph of a soldier in camouflage and a helmet holding a young girl with pigtails. The soldier is smiling and looking towards the camera. The girl is looking down and smiling. The background is a blurred outdoor setting.

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Looking at the human
side of war



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Cover photo by Staff Sgt. Kevin Wastler

The Soldiers of the U.S. Army Intelligence and Security Command quickly found out that wars, such as Operation Iraqi Freedom, have a profound impact on everyone involved. Whether it be the Soldiers who are away from their loved ones, or local Iraqi citizens, such as this young girl from the town of Al Quosh, everyone's life is affected.



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From the commander's desk

By Maj. Gen. John F. Kimmons
Commander, INSCOM

INSCOM remains engaged in the Global War on Terrorism and in preparation for regional contingencies as part of the Joint Intelligence Team. This is a message I've shared with you before, but it is important and bears repeating. The significant accomplishments of the past two years laid a foundation for major advances in the way we collect, move, process and analyze information along tactically useful timelines to satisfy Joint warfighter requirements, but we need to keep moving ahead. Discussions with INSCOM personnel tell me we're focusing on the right areas in support of current force operations in Southwest Asia, the Horn of Africa, Korea, Colombia, the Philippines and elsewhere. That is and will remain "Job #1" – with robust support to Operation Iraqi Freedom at the top of the list. INSCOM is concurrently preparing for advanced experimentation in Korea to "push the envelope" in collection and processing solutions – the potential is breathtaking.

The ability of deployed INSCOM intelligence elements to leverage tactically engaged, high capacity fusion hubs (achieve responsive "reachback") has never been greater. Shared access to multi-discipline databases is now widely recognized within the Intelligence Community as an operational imperative; the "walls" are starting to come down. INSCOM is leading the effort to link tactical operators to national networks and knowledge centers – the Information Dominance Center, National Ground Intelligence Center and theater brigades/groups are central to this effort. Counterintelligence and human intelligence capabilities are deploying and operating as integrated teams for maximum synergy. Advanced fusion techniques and tools are being developed, proliferated across the battlefield and successfully employed in support of ongoing GWOT targeting and analysis. Innovation and hardware/software solutions are now subject to non-waiverable Joint interoperability standards with the full backing of the Army Chief of Staff, Gen. Peter J. Schoomaker. The ultimate objective is clear, as recently noted by Lt. Gen. Keith B. Alexander, deputy chief of staff, intelligence: "see first, understand first, act first and win decisively across the operational spectrum."



DA photo

Maj. Gen. John F. Kimmons.

We stand on the edge of realizing this objective; we have the most important resource – brilliant, selflessly dedicated Soldiers, civilians and contractors. With continued Army, intelligence community and Congressional support, we can get where we need to go.

Our success and progress has been built on the back of our active duty, reserve, National Guard and civilian components – the value of each team member has never been greater. They and their families continue to bear a heavy load tied to wartime deployments, pre-deployment training and round-the-clock support operations. That places a premium on both Soldier and family readiness. From what I've seen, we're properly preparing our personnel for their wartime role (the most sincere form of caring). We need to ensure that our "INSCOM Family" is equally well prepared to face this next year's challenges. Comprehensive family support programs, full use of home station resources and solid communications are key for success.

INSCOM is truly the Army's Operational Intelligence Force – it's a privilege to be part of this cutting edge team.

Selfless service vital to Army success

By **Command Sgt. Maj. Terence McConnell**
Headquarters, INSCOM

Loyalty, Duty, Respect, Selfless-Service, Honor, Integrity and Personal Courage.

These words are personified by every Soldier who wears the uniform. These seven words, collectively serve as their compass on and off the battlefield. But, of the seven, selfless-service has been most evident since the horrific attacks against us more than two years ago.

Selfless service lives in our Soldiers who are deployed throughout the world in defense of our great nation. From the unforgiving terrain of Afghanistan and the deserts and cities in Iraq to the jungles of the Republic of the Philippines, our Soldiers are risking their lives to defend our country against terrorism.

Over the course of our history, Soldiers not only accept this but embrace it. Our ranks, whether they are active duty, reservists or guardsmen, are filled with extraordinary men and women, who volunteer to serve and protect our freedoms. Everyday when they put on the uniform, every Soldier no matter if they are here or abroad, know what is expected of them. It is this unselfish commitment that separates us from other armies across the globe. We are truly the best Army in the world.

It is not our superior technology and weaponry that makes us the best. They give us a decisive edge on the battlefield. But, they do not make the United States Army the best fighting force in the world. It is the Soldiers behind the technology who are willing to accomplish the mission regardless of the sacrifice. It is this commitment to each other and our nation that distinguishes our Soldiers from the rest.

From the birth of America during the Revolu-

“From the birth of America during the Revolutionary War to Operation Iraqi Freedom, our Soldiers have put the mission and their fellow Soldiers above their own personal well-being.”

*Command Sgt. Maj.
Terence McConnell*



DA photo

Command Sgt. Maj. Terence McConnell.

tionary War to Operation Iraqi Freedom, our Soldiers have put the mission and their fellow Soldiers above their own personal well-being. No matter how difficult or dangerous it is, our Soldiers will be on point, performing admirably, defending our nation and helping those who cannot defend themselves.

Soldiers are not the only ones who know selfless service. Their families also know what it means to serve their nation. Parents, husbands, wives, sons and daughters, who go on with their lives while their loved ones are deployed thousands of miles away. Jobs have to be done, children have to get to school, and birthdays and special occasions still occur. It takes special people to continue their lives while their loved ones are on point, defending our nation while in harm's way.

For many Soldiers, it is this steadfast support of their family back home that drives them to be the best under the most daunting circumstances. During this year's Veteran's Day celebrations, let's not only remember the Soldiers of the past and present, who have made us the greatest country in the world, but remember their families also for they too know what selfless service means.



courtesy photo

(From left to right) Carol, J.R., Andrea and Michael spend time together days before his deployment.

Not just an Army of One

For every Soldier deployed there is a family waiting back home

By Brian Murphy
INSCOM Public Affairs Office

It's difficult enough as a Soldier to learn that in one week you will be deploying to a desert halfway across the world during a time of war. Now imagine the reaction of that Soldier's parents when they learn their only son is off to make their life safer.

This is the less than enviable situation Sgt. Michael Root, a counterintelligence agent with the 308th Military Intelligence Battalion, 902nd MI Group, Fort Meade, Md., was faced with when he had to call his parents, J.R. and Carol, and inform them of his pending deployment last October.

"It was a very difficult phone call to make," Root said.

To say that everything happened unexpectedly would be an understatement. Somehow Root went from an everyday kid growing up in Phoenix, Az., to a soldier in the U.S. Army leaving for parts unknown.

"When I was growing up I always wanted to be

a doctor," Root said. "After I graduated from high school I went to the University of Arizona to study pre-med."

But much to Root's dismay, the university didn't offer a major in pre-med. Root decided to stay and changed his major to engineering, a decision he would soon regret.

"It didn't take long for me to get disheartened," Root said. "I quickly realized that I would always be just one of a hundred guys working on some sprocket on a piece of machinery. I was never going to get any recognition. I was never going to move up the ranks – I was just going to be an engineer. I decided that it wasn't for me."

Nine months later, in November 1999, Root decided to join the military.

"My father was supportive when I first told them I was joining the Army," he said. "He knew it would be a good place for me. He had spent four years in the Army when he was younger and looking back on it –



courtesy photo

With deployments come sacrifices both big and small. When Root arrived at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait he shared a tent with 11 other Soldiers.

he wished he had stayed in for 20 years. He didn't want to see me bouncing around from blue collar job to blue collar job my whole life."

Root's mother's reaction wasn't as positive. Carol responded ... well, as a mother.

"My mother was a little upset," Root admitted. "Her only son was leaving, and there was no telling where I would be going or what I would be doing. But at the time, with the exception of what was going on in Bosnia, it was a fairly peaceful time."

Root made it through basic training and his advanced individual training and reported to his first duty station, the 308th MI Battal-

"As soon as they knew I was going away to war, they thought the worst. They thought that I was going to die."

*Sgt. Michael Root,
308th MI Battalion*

ion, in August 2000.

Everything remained quiet until October 2002, when Root got the news that he would be deploying to the Middle East in one week's time.

"This isn't a unit where your bags are always packed and you're ready to go at a moment's notice," Root said. "It really did come as a surprise."

Root's parents, who are both retired after long careers with the local Arizona school district, were understandably upset at the news their son was leaving for the Middle East.

"As soon as they knew I was going away to war, they thought the worst. They thought that I was going to die," Root said.

Root's parents immediately cancelled everything and flew to Maryland to see their son.

"He's our only son," said J.R. Root, who served in the Army as a signal Soldier from 1960-1963. "With everything going on in the Middle East, we wanted him to

know that we loved him and supported him. It was very important to us to spend some quality time with him before he left."

Breaking the news to his parents wasn't the only tough phone call Root had to make. While all of this was going on he also had to inform his fiancée, Andrea, he would soon be leaving.

"She knew how tough everything was on me already," Root said. "So even though it was difficult for her as well, she was very supportive. She kept a smile on her face and did anything she could to help me."

The four of them spent as much time as possible together before Root's deployment.

"We tried to do normal stuff, like site-seeing," Root said. "But at the end of the night when I dropped them off at their hotel, I could see the tears in their eyes. You could tell that they were thinking 'I have two days left with my son before I may never see him again.' It was a really tough time for all of us."

Root stepped on a plane and left Fort Meade Oct. 25. After receiving all of the necessary deployment training at Fort Gordon, Ga., Root was off to Kuwait. Within days Root realized that everything wasn't as bad as he and his family had feared.

Although his deployment started with him living in a 12-man tent on Camp Arifjan, in Kuwait, Root remained positive.

"I got the chance to do my job the way it was intended to be done," Root said. "I deployed with Soldiers from the 513th MI Bri-

gade. They are constantly deploying or training to deploy. Some of the guys I was with were on their third deployment in a year and a half. They knew their stuff. It was nice for me personally to be out there with people like that.”

And much to the delight of Root’s parents, he never came anywhere near the heat of the war.

“There were no bullets flying by my head,” Root said. “Camp Doha had a few incidents, but things around Camp Arifjan were much quieter.”

Root was lucky to be able to keep in constant contact with his parents and fiancée. And once he talked them into limiting the amount of war coverage they would watch, the situation became less hectic for his loved ones as well.

Root returned home June 12, 2003.

“I watched the news, but my wife couldn’t,” said J.R. “It affected us in different ways. I wanted to be

up to date with what was going on over there, so I would watch every night. My wife reacted much like any mother would. She just wanted her son would get home safely.”

Reflecting back, Root cherishes the seven-month deployment.

“Once everything was over and I had the chance to look back I’m really glad I deployed,” Root said.

“I’m definitely better at my job now that I have real-world training. You can only learn so much from a text book. I gained experiences I otherwise never would have had, and I had the chance to do my job the way it was intended to be done.”

That wasn’t the only benefit he walked away with.

“With all of the extra pay and the improved living conditions out there, it definitely wasn’t as bad as it could have been. I really couldn’t have asked for better conditions during a deployment,” he said.



Sgt. Michael Root spent seven months in Kuwait with the 308th Military Intelligence Battalion.

courtesy photo



photo by Spc. Felicia Thompson

Lt. Col. William Duffy receives a Bronze Star medal from Col. Jon Jones, commander, 513th MI Brigade.

Not your average ‘weekend warrior’

By Spc. Leslie Pearson
513th MI Brigade

Throughout the 23 years Lt. Col. William Duffy has served in the Army there have been several occasions where Uncle Sam has called up reservists to forgo their civilian way of life and take up arms in support of America.

During U.S. involvement in world affairs such as the operations in Grenada and Panama, and the first Persian Gulf War, Duffy was attached to units that didn’t get activated. However when he was assigned with the 345th Military

Intelligence Battalion in 1998, it wasn’t long before he was mobilized. In December 2001, he went directly to Kuwait to help out with the 513th MI Brigade command post and has been on active duty ever since.

“During the operation in Afghanistan I worked with the 202nd MI Battalion setting up the joint interrogation facility (JIF) and doing interrogations on the Al Qaeda and Taliban guys who were being captured. My focus was on making sure the reports were getting through,” Duffy said.

“Another part of my responsibility was to brief Lt. Gen. Paul Mikolashek, the 3rd Army and Coalition Forces Land Component Commander (CFLCC), daily on the status and the progress we were making with the interrogations and the counter intelligence work that was being done,” he said.

The brigade’s work in Afghanistan continued until the end of May when the 18th Airborne Corp took over operations and most of the brigade redeployed. Duffy stayed and took on the role as the brigade forward commander.



courtesy photo

Lt. Col. William Duffy was able to get away from his job long enough to spend time with his son. The West Point graduate and his son, who currently attends West Point, were able to hike together during an academy exercise.

“The brigade stayed very busy at that time in preparation for the war that became known as Operation Iraqi Freedom. A lot of things were going on then; the building of camps, pipelines, and extending runways—things that were very crucial to the eventual war effort,” said Duffy.

In November 2002, the 513th MI Brigade got the order to deploy to Kuwait, and by March the war was on. During this time, Duffy spent most of his time in Kuwait then moved into Iraq towards the end of April where he worked closely with the 202nd MI Battalion again for a mission at the Baghdad International Airport.

In his civilian life, Duffy spends his days in Georgia with his wife and their three sons where he’s been an engineer program manager with Lockheed Martin for 18 years.

After being deployed for eight or nine months, he was able to come home briefly for a special visit with his oldest son, who goes to U.S. Military Academy at West Point, he said.

“At the end of their summer training they did a hike back from the training area to the main West Point campus, 15 or 20 miles away. They let the old grads come and walk with the new cadets and I’m an old grad, so I got to walk that with my son who I hadn’t seen since I’d deployed. That was a special trip for me to be able to do that with him,” Duffy said.

“In 2001, right after September 11th, Duffy deployed to South West Asia and he was there for what seemed like forever; that’s just a tribute to how good an officer and man he is,” said Stewart Smith, 513th MI Brigade reserve officer. “He’s one of my heroes,

and he is to a lot of the officers and Soldiers because he’s a very strong leader.”

“He’s a warrior; he cares about accomplishing the mission and he cares about Soldiers and it shows; as one of his former Soldiers, I really appreciate that. He has a leadership aura about him and Soldiers want to follow him because they trust him and his abilities, said Smith, who was a company commander in the 345th MI Battalion when Duffy first deployed.

During a ceremony Sept. 12, in which Duffy received a Bronze Star Medal for his efforts in support of Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom, Col. Jon Jones, 513th MI Brigade commander said, “He kept the brigade on its feet, he kept it focused and together and always moving forward. There were many times when he had to represent me and the brigade and I knew I could rely on him every time.”

In December, after serving two full years of active duty, Duffy will be demobilizing back to the civilian life but he says he has no intention of retiring any time soon.

“I didn’t get called up for Kosovo or Bosnia for the peace keeping; to me it’s kind of ironic that after 23 years this is the first time I’ve been mobilized. So the fact that I’ve had to spend so much time deployed this time is not an issue, that’s what I’m in the reserves for,” Duffy said.

“I’m just glad that I, like the rest of the folks, was able to come and do the job I needed to do and get on with life,” he said.

Soldier exchanges wedding bouquet for M-16, heads off to war

By Spc. Leslie Pearson
513th MI Brigade

In the “old days,” daddy kissed mommy good-bye and headed off to war to serve his country and protect his family. Times have changed.

In a scene that is becoming more and more common, female Soldiers are experiencing a role reversal.

Spc. Amanda Hale, a counter intelligence agent in the 513th Military Intelligence Brigade, experienced this reversal first-hand when she deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, leaving her husband behind.

The two met at Fort Gordon, Ga. when Peter, a reservist originally from Maryland, was activated in 2001 after the Sept. 11th terrorist attacks.

“When we met he had a broken ankle and couldn’t drive so I helped him get around to work and to his doctor’s appointments. We really clicked and soon fell in love; by September we were engaged,” she said.

Hale’s husband was eventually medically discharged from the Army because of his ankle, but as a former reservist with the 345th MI Battalion, 513th MI Brigade, he understood that she would most likely be deployed as the situation in the Middle East intensified.

“In November we were at home planning our wedding when I got a call letting me know I’d be



courtesy photo

Spc. Amanda Hale and husband, Peter, spend time together prior to her deployment to the Middle East in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

deploying the next week. We were going to cancel the whole thing, but after giving it some thought, I called him and said ‘hey let’s just do this before I leave,’ so we went to a Justice of the Peace in north Augusta with our families and said ‘I do’.”

This seems like a flip version of a scene from an old black and white film where two young lovers are caught between their passion for each other and their sense of patriotic duty. With no time to waste, they elope and enjoy a few precious nights as a married couple but alas, he must say good-bye and head off for the war. The new bride chokes back her tears and tries to

be brave for her beloved Soldier. She promises to wait for him, write him everyday and to keep the home fires burning.

Not so for Peter and Amanda, in this scene it is she who is the heroic Soldier going off to war and it is he who must remain behind to tend the house and patiently wait for her to return.

“At first he really didn’t feel good about it because I was going and he wasn’t, but we were able to work out those issues. It was very hard but I knew I had to go so we just dealt with it,” she said.

“When I got over there, the first two months were really hard

(continued on page 11)

INSCOM Soldiers 'do their part'

Commentary by Staff Sgt. Andre Butler
116th MI Group

The 116th Military Intelligence Group, located at Fort Gordon Ga., prides itself in providing accurate and timely intelligence to the warfighters on the battlefield.

This unit's intelligence capabilities have been used to support the United States and coalition forces in all operations since 1994 -- the most recent conflict being Operation Iraqi Freedom.

During this war, the 116th MI Group deployed Soldiers throughout the world in support of the efforts in winning this war and liberating Iraqi citizens.

Intelligence provided by this unit was a vital part of how forces on the ground accomplished their primary as well as their continuous life-threatening missions.

116th MI Group Soldiers work around the clock refining their technical skills, which are used daily, yielding results instantly as seen in current operations.

Widespread operations continue to be conducted though the war has been declared over. But, for these quiet professionals of the military intelligence corps the battle is ongoing. Their mission is never-ending.

When there is no conflict to be seen or reported in the media, the intelligence provided by these individuals remains the key ingredient needed to support battlefield operations. Fighting against the enemy is a daily

task for 116th MI Group Soldiers.

Most units in the army train in peacetime for wartime missions or situations. For these warfighters, that distinction disappears - because every day, when they are at work, they are performing their wartime mission.

Knowing that good intelligence saves lives of Soldiers fighting in distance lands is what keeps these silent heroes motivated to endure countless hours of detailed research and analysis needed to build products for use by the frontlines.

Without good intelligence provided by units like the 116th MI Group, the American Soldiers who risk their lives for their country would not have a chance to fight or defend themselves against hostile forces on the battlefield.

As war strategies change, so does the intelligence. That's the reason for the 116th MI Group's continuous upgrade of systems and operational tactics used in accomplishing its mission.

Soldiers of the 116th MI Group are constantly reminded of how important their daily duties are to the Soldiers in the field - especially to the warfighters in the hot zones.

Customers of this unit - America's fighting men and women and their commanders - should never worry about the services provided to them by these dedicated Soldiers, because on this front of the battlefield, business continues as usual.

(continued from page 10)

but after that I just said to myself, 'Ok. I'm here, let's do this' that made it a little better. You can almost forget about the things you're missing back home because you're so involved in what's happening there. It becomes your whole world; everything around you is Army, you're surrounded by it there. It's not that you forget about home, but it's not at the forefront of your mind as much," said Hale.

Hale was deployed for seven months, and although she admits she experienced feelings of guilt about being away from her husband for such a long time, her sense of duty helped her to overcome any doubt that she was doing the right thing.

"Actually, I think this has made Peter very proud of me. If I ever do decide to settle down and be a

housewife and mother I can feel good about it because I know I've done something I can tell my kids about. I know I made a difference in some small way," she said.

"He really did a lot to support me while I was gone. He took care of everything back home, he handled all of my finances and would help me get my mind off of things when I called him," said Hale of her husband who returned to his position as a police officer in Washington DC.

Hale deployed again in September to take part in Brightstar, a training exercise held in Egypt. However, she and her husband are currently planning a big wedding reception in which they will make a public declaration of their love and commitment to each other in front of their friends and families.

MI Soldiers aid POWs

By Jayme Loppnow
66th MI Group

While Americans awaited the homecoming of seven freed U.S. prisoners of war in April, eight 2nd MI Battalion Soldiers helped debrief the former POWs at Landstuhl Regional Medical Center.

The 2nd MI Battalion Soldiers assisted the European Command repatriation team, along with members of the Joint Personnel Recovery Agency with the mission.

Debriefing is done to capture information, gain lessons learned for future training, and to help the returning Soldiers deal with the experience, said Sgt. 1st Class Jennifer Comley, a debriefer and former Survival Evasion Resistance and Escape school instructor.

"The process helps U.S. servicemembers understand and cope with what happened to them during capture and captivity," said Comley. "They have experiences that no one else really understands, but talking about what they have been through helps to come to terms with it."

The Joint Personnel Recovery Agency, or JRPA, based out of Fort Belvoir, Va., is a subordinate unit of the U.S. Joint Forces Command. JPRA is responsible for shaping the planning, preparation, and execution of personnel recovery for the Department of Defense.

"The DOD personnel recovery mission is important for a number of reasons," said Staff Sgt. Danny Kimball, one of the debriefers. "They include the return of isolated personnel to friendly control, denying the enemy a potential source of intelligence, preventing the exploitation of captured personnel in propaganda programs designed to influence our national interest and military strategy, and to maintain morale and the national will."

In preparation, Kimball said human intelligence collectors conduct extensive research prior to the repatriation process.

"The collector gathers the pertinent background information and maps from various sources as well become informed about the subject," Kimball said.

Comley said it will be a while before she is able to put the stories she heard behind her, but she feels



photo by Spc. Felicia Thompson

2nd MI Battalion Soldiers debriefed these former U.S. prisoners of war at Landstuhl Regional Medical Center.

honored to be part of the repatriation process.

"Hearing first hand what happened to a captured U.S. Soldier is something none of us will soon forget," Comley said.

"Any time a Soldier is repatriated, it makes me feel good as an American, and as a Soldier, but especially as a former SERE instructor. To be part of the process that helps the returnees reintegrate into the military and the American way of life would make anyone feel worthwhile."

Kimball said he had hoped to be directly involved with Operation Iraqi Freedom, but said that debriefing the former POWs is just as significant.

"This mission was also important in ensuring that intelligence was being processed and sent to the appropriate consumers," he said.

One debriefer put their mission in perspective.

"Although the events that happened to the POWs should not be wished on any person, we had the responsibility to assist them with the repatriation and the telling of their story," said Sgt. Christopher Aston, a debriefer.

"We came together on very short notice to perform as a team and execute the mission in a very limited amount of time. We participated in a once in a lifetime experience," Aston said.

Vigilant Hunters get reassigned

By Spc. Leslie Pearson
513th MI Brigade

The 204th Military Intelligence Battalion (Aerial Reconnaissance), which has been under the operational control of the 513th MI Brigade, has been reassigned to the 470th MI Group at Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio, Texas. The transition was made official during a ceremony in August; however, the 513th MI Brigade will continue to assist the 204th MI Battalion in the areas of resource management and civilian personnel support until mid-October when the 470th MI Group will take over those responsibilities also. The change will not affect the overall mission of the 204th MI Battalion, which is to aid in drug suppression by providing aerial signals and imagery intelligence products and conducting important reconnaissance and surveillance operations in the United States Southern

Command area of responsibility. SOUTHCOM is the unified command responsible for all U.S. military activities on the land mass of Latin America south of Mexico; the waters adjacent to Central and South America; the Caribbean Sea, with its 13 island nations, and European and U.S. territories; the Gulf of Mexico; and a portion of the Atlantic Ocean.

“Col. Jones (the 513th MI Brigade commander) gave the directive to have the 204th MI Battalion split out from under the 513th MI Brigade and come under the 470th MI Group because the brigade has been very busy with missions in Kuwait and Iraq and he wants the brigade’s focus to be on that area. He felt that the 204th MI Battalion would be better assisted by the 470th MI Group because they have the same AOR,” said Charles Cook, force integration officer for the brigade, who has

been integrally involved in coordinating the transition.

“The 204th MI Battalion is a self sustained unit and will continue to do their mission as usual, there are no changes taking place other than the shift in command control; all personnel will remain the same. The 470th MI Group is taking over the 513th MI Brigade’s role in acting as a ‘big brother or sister’ and will offer support for things like making sure they’re doing evaluation reports, their awards are being processed and by making sure that if they need help in any way they get it; mostly just oversight support,” said Cook.

The past few months mark an exciting time for the 204th MI Battalion, not only were they being reassigned to another command group, they had a change of command within the battalion and Soldiers from the battalion took the titles of both the NCO of the Year and the Soldier of the Year.

“The 204th MI Battalion certainly has much to reflect upon, and the right to be exceedingly proud,” said Jones. “When you think of the 204th MI Battalion you think of Colombia, of constant deployments and of its outstanding reputation. If you’ve been around these Soldiers and civilians for any amount of time at all you think of the intangibles that make these things happen. You see their pride, their professionalism, their teamwork and their initiative. These are the ingredients that earn the battalion its reputation.”



file photo

The 470th MI Group, which the 204th MI Battalion now falls under, was reactivated in a ceremony Oct. 2002.

First to arrive, last to leave

By Spc. Leslie Pearson
513th MI Brigade

In the event of a war, everyone's role is integral to accomplishing the overall mission and when units deploy, there's a lot of dirty work behind the scenes that has to get done to make things run smoothly. Someone has to prepare for the incoming Soldiers and someone has to stay behind until everything is cleaned up and sent back home.

Last February, when the 202nd Military Intelligence Battalion was in the thick of Operation Iraqi Freedom's onset, Spc. Johnathan Robinson and about 15 other Soldiers in an advanced party (ADVON) were the first to go from Camp Arifjan to Camp Udairi in Kuwait to set up permanent communication systems.

When Robinson and his OIC, Capt. Robert Johaneck, arrived at Camp Udairi, Kuwait had just had one of its biggest sand storms in 50 years. With no living space to be seen, the team soon took steps to prepare for the rest of the battalion's impending arrival.

"While we were there we lived in these huge, white tents and every tent except the one we were scheduled to stay in, had been blown down in the storm. So we set up a tent for the Tactical Operations Center (TOC) and the Alternate Operations Center (ALOC) areas, where the plans and operations officer and the battalion command group could work from," said Robinson.



file photo

Soldiers from the 202nd MI Battalion set up the Trojan Lite System.

Robinson and the rest of the his shop had their own tent where they maintained servers to the computer networks.

On their first day, they established communication with the same secure network being used in the rear detachment. The Soldiers became known as the Trojan Team because they set up the Trojan Lite System, a satellite dish that allowed the battalion to bring in a secure network feed.

"Living conditions were one of the things that kept the battalion from moving to Udairi," said Robinson, "Our battalion commander wanted to make sure there were adequate living conditions for the Soldiers; as adequate as you can get for the desert anyway. We were there for about two weeks by ourselves until things were ready, then the rest of the battalion

showed up on Valentine's Day."

Robinson, who spent a year in Korea before coming to the 513th MI Brigade, was used to inclement weather conditions but said the sand storms and the sounds of mortars going off and patriot batteries shooting down missiles at night time when he was trying to sleep, took a little getting used to.

"Even though we weren't exactly in the middle of it since we were in Kuwait, when I started hearing those things that's when it hit me that we were in a real war time situation, so we just tried to stay focused on work to keep our minds off it," he said.

When convoys of food, water and mail would go out to the soldiers in some of the more dangerous locations, Robinson would go out too to do communi-

cations support, he said.

“The intent of sending an ADVON to Udairi was to cut down on the chaos that could happen if everyone in the battalion all came at once. The people who were sent were the ones the commander felt could get up there and get it done the quickest and most efficient in the shortest amount of time,” said Robinson.

In mid-June, when the main body of the battalion left the desert to return home, 35 people from the battalion were selected to stay back for an indefinite amount of time to take care of the aftermath. Robinson was among those who were chosen for the ‘push team’.

“Our job was to clean every vehicle in the battalion, make sure all the equipment was accounted for, packed properly and loaded onto an aircraft

headed home,” he said.

While most of the Soldiers were on their way home, the push team stayed in Udairi an extra week before moving back to Camp Doha where they stayed another month.

“We were out at the wash racks pretty much non-stop for three days cleaning roughly 60 vehicles. We were all sore, tired, sunburned and irritable and there were times when we nearly bit each others heads off but we knew we had to keep going so we could get home too. As cliché as it sounds, we all stuck together to get through the situation,” said Robinson.

While being a part of the ADVON or push teams is never something a Soldier usually volunteers to do, they are just as crucial to the overall completion of the mission as anything else, he said.



photo by Staff Sgt. Eric Reinhardt

Saluting ‘Lieutenant Dan’

Actor Gary Sinise signs a cast for Pfc. Evan Gray during a USO-sponsored visit to the 66th Military Intelligence Group headquarters, Darmstadt, Germany, Sept. 2. Sinise, best known for his performance as "Lieutenant Dan" in the film "Forrest Gump," spent the day visiting Soldiers and families of the Darmstadt military community.

Gone, but never forgotten

Commentary by Lt. Col. Peyton E. Smith III
470th MI Group

I am reminded of an experience in my college Reserve Officer Training Corps program over 20 years ago when a Vietnam veteran, Special Forces command sergeant major asked me my thoughts on the book “Living Proof,” by Clebe McClary – in which a Marine lieutenant recounts his courageous story of rebuilding his devastated life after having his body shattered by the weaponry of modern warfare.

In Clebe’s own words he goes on to say: “I never thought I’d be hit. It was not arrogance but rather confidence — in myself, in my men, and in God who had seen us safely through danger time and time again. I had no dark premonitions about the mission to Hill 146, a stationary combat observation post deep in enemy-controlled territory. In five months as patrol leader I hadn’t lost a man; I didn’t expect to this time.”

There is no logic to explain the randomness of tragic accidents — it is a mystery. When a Soldier dies in battle we find a small amount of comfort knowing it was for the nation and our way of life. However, in the case of a random accident, finding meaning in the confusion breeds desperation. To despair is to turn your back on your fellow man; therefore, making it nearly impossible to escape that desolation or isolation.

Spc. Dustin Arnold, a signals intelligence analyst in my battalion, went riding on his new motorcycle, the same week of his 21st birthday. That day, his motorcycle exploded in a tragic accident costing him his life. We do not know exactly why he crashed — we only know he lost control and crashed into a ditch that acted as a ramp, throwing him into the air, then a tree. His best friend looked behind, expecting to see him, but what he saw in his rearview mirror was an explosion. He flew on feet to his friend and without hesitation began first aid. When it seemed as if Arnold was almost lost, his best friend looked past the blood, bone, and muscle with the singular hope of preserving Dustin’s life. He swiftly applied a tourniquet, made from his very own shirt, and squeezed his friend’s hand as he tightened it. Strangers around offered assistance,



courtesy photo

Spc. Dustin Arnold passed away the week of his 21st birthday after a motorcycle accident.

following the direction of Dustin’s best friend — a Soldier. The strangers thought nothing of the blood on their clothes and cradled Dustin in their arms as if he were their own brother or son. All came forward and did whatever was asked of them. Their actions arose from that intangible bond which connects all of humanity: empathy, compassion and what has throughout history been the unspoken code between Soldiers, “We will not leave our fallen comrades.”

Hours later, after the paramedics rushed Dustin to the hospital, in Enid, Okla., a father received the worst call of his life. He drove all night to stand at the hospital bed where his son lay dying, but not alone — with another type of father, and other brothers standing at his side. That last week was filled with heavy hearts, but it was a collective grief. Many Soldiers freely offered their homes, their money, and their cars

to Dustin's family; they wanted to do anything they could to relieve some of the family's grief. Only 24 hours after learning blood was in short supply at the hospital, Company A and the battalion staff organized a Medina Regional Security Operations Center blood drive in honor of our fallen Soldier. Soldiers, sailors, airmen and marines waited in line for hours to give their blood in the hopes Dustin would make it through this tragedy. Unfortunately he never did; and I lost a man.

What are we to make of the tragedy? We know a bright, energetic and selfless young man was lost in a tragic accident and he will not be forgotten. We also know that there are many bright, selfless Soldiers whose actions contributed to something greater than themselves and those actions ensured Dustin and his family were taken care of until the very end. They would not leave their fallen comrade. And, if ever called upon again, I am confident they will do the same in the future.



courtesy photo

Marine Lt. Clebe McCrary, author of "Living Proof."



photo by Pfc. Hugo A. Baray-Vasquez

When a Soldier dies in battle we find a small amount of comfort knowing it was for the nation and our way of life.

Benavidez: definition of true hero

**Commentary by Sgt. 1st Class
Marty Smith
513th MI Brigade**

This is the time of year when we all pause to honor and remember those brave men and women who have served before us.

November is a time for giving thanks, but also, it is the month in which we have Veteran's Day.

Before Veteran's Day though, is Hispanic Heritage Month, which begins in the middle of September partly because many Latin Ameri-

can countries celebrate their independence around that time.

This year's Hispanic Heritage Month theme was "Honoring Our Past, Surpassing Our Present, and Leading Our Future."

The term Hispanic, as defined by the U.S. Census Bureau, refers to Spanish-speaking people in the United States of any race. On the 2000 Census form, people of Spanish/Hispanic/Latino origin could identify themselves as Mexican,

Puerto Rican, Cuban, or "other Spanish/Hispanic/Latino." More than 35 million people identified themselves as Hispanic or Latino on the 2000 Census.

Fresh out of the Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute, my first assignment as an equal opportunity advisor was at U.S. Army South in Panama.

As one might imagine, USARSO put on what I believe was one of the best Hispanic Heritage Month celebration anywhere. Dancers were invited from all over Central and South America, attendees were able to sample a veritable smorgasbord of local dishes, and musicians played in the different styles of the region. We also had one of the best guest speakers – Master Sgt. Roy P. Benavidez – a man I had actually done research on while I was a student at DEOMI.

Benavidez was born the son of a Texas sharecropper; he was a 7th grade dropout and an orphan who grew up taunted by the term "dumb Mexican."

Benavidez joined the Army at the age of 19, went to airborne school, then was injured by a land mine in South Vietnam in 1964. Doctors feared he would never walk again, but he recovered and became a Green Beret.

Benavidez's destiny took him to Vietnam a second time, where, as a member of Detachment B56, 5th Special Forces Group (Airborne), 1st Special Forces, he challenged death on May 2, 1968.



photo by Ron Hall

Master Sgt. Roy P. Benavidez (center) is flanked by Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger (left) and President Ronald Reagan at his Medal of Honor presentation ceremony in 1981. Benavidez is one of the 37 Hispanic Americans among the 3,400 recipients of the Medal of Honor since the award was created in 1861.

A staff sergeant at the time, Benavidez “distinguished himself conspicuously by gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty,” as his Medal of Honor citation states. The citation credits him with helping to save the lives of eight of his Special Forces comrades during helicopter evacuations during a firefight with North Vietnamese regular forces west of Loc Ninh.

Benavidez suffered a broken jaw and 37 bullet and bayonet puncture wounds in the fight. He was so mauled that his commanding officer thought he wouldn’t live long enough to receive a Medal of Honor. He nominated Benavidez for the Distinguished Service Cross instead, because the No. 2 award would take less time and paperwork to obtain.

Benavidez, however, survived his wounds and received the Distinguished Service Cross from Gen. William C. Westmoreland. Only years later did the general learn detailed particulars of Benavidez’s heroism. The Distinguished Service Cross was upgraded to a Medal of Honor, and Benavidez received the award in 1981 from President Ronald Reagan in a White House ceremony.

“Master Sgt. Roy Benavidez was a true American hero, rising from humble origins in South Texas to

become an Army legend,” said former Army Secretary Louis Caldera, nearly 20 years later. “The military’s recognition of his selfless service is truly an appropriate tribute to Master Sgt. Benavidez’s memory, and to the ideals of our nation that he epitomized.”

Benavidez is one of the 37 Hispanic Americans among the 3,400 recipients of the Medal of Honor since the award was created in 1861.

Benavidez made the ultimate sacrifice for his country. As we honor veterans and servicemembers of Hispanic heritage, please remember Benavidez and the many others who have helped to protect this country.



courtesy photo

Since his heroic actions in Vietnam, Master Sgt. Roy P. Benavidez has been honored in many ways. One of which was the creation of his own action figure.



courtesy photo

Benavidez passed away in 1998, at the age of 63 from respiratory failure at Brooke Army Medical Center.

Shots from the Field



photo by Spc. Lisa Misevicz

A Soldier from the 314th MI Battalion, 470th MI Group reacts to an NBC attack during a training exercise.



courtesy photo

Soldiers and Family Support Group members of the 203rd MI Battalion were honored for their contributions to Operation Iraqi Freedom during an award ceremony at Aberdeen Proving Grounds Oct.1.



photo by Spc. Leslie Pearson

Staff Sgt. Gregory Lindner tosses horseshoes during the 513th MI Brigade Organizational Day.

Shots from the Field



photo by Capt. Tom Webber

Staff Sgt. Christopher Lust, of the 704th MI Brigade, sweeps a building with a force protection team in Baghdad, Iraq.



courtesy photo

Maj. Darryl Pooler, 1st Information Operations Command Field Support Team, hands out gifts to children in Irbil, Iraq.

INSCOM *flying high*

By Thomas Hauser
INSCOM history office

As Dec. 17 nears – the 100th anniversary of the Wright brothers' first sustained, powered flight in a heavier-than-air machine – many Americans will commemorate the birth of aviation. The first flight was the product of American ingenuity, and to this day, aviation stands as one of our proudest achievements. From the Wright brothers to Charles Lindbergh and from the Army Air Corps to NASA, innovations in flight sew a common thread among many institutions in the United States. The U.S. Army Intelligence and Security Command, in no small part, is among them. With a critical mission of aerial surveillance and reconnaissance, the air crews and aircraft of INSCOM have earned a place in our commemoration of this 100th anniversary.

At its inception in 1977, INSCOM embodied the consolidation of most theater intelligence assets in the U.S. Army. An aerial surveillance mission was inherited early on when INSCOM acquired a Special Electronic Mission Aircraft (SEMA) unit from the former Army Security Agency. Designated as the 146th Aviation ASA Company, the unit operated in Korea under extreme conditions, receiving kudos—the Army Aviation Unit of the Year Award for 1979 and the 1980 Outstanding Unit Medal—for operational excellence. The company was eventually enlarged to become the



courtesy photo

The OV-1 MOHAWK was part of the Army intelligence inventory for more than 30 years, from 1960 to 1996.

3rd MI Battalion.

The success of the 146th ASA Company not only came from the dedication of its personnel but also from a sophisticated equipment inventory of which GUARDRAIL was most acclaimed. The advantage of GUARDRAIL was in its transmission apparatus: its host aircraft, unlike previous SEMA systems, carried no operators. In ground-based trailers, operators remotely adjusted intercept receivers and listened over a secure data link.

GUARDRAIL operated day and night. In fact none of the aircraft were ever remembered to be in the hangers. During intense moments on the Korean DMZ, GUARDRAIL IV aircraft remained in the air so long that pilots often declared fuel emergencies. The

company commander, to determine the validity of these emergencies, began measuring fuel levels after each landing, frequently finding only fumes inside empty tanks. In updated versions, GUARDRAIL has proven its worth and continues to provide effective intelligence.

Also used in Korea, the OV-1 Mohawk is noted for its effectiveness and longevity as a reconnaissance platform. Its design resembled the shape of a dragonfly with a bulbous cockpit to facilitate observation. "It's not real pretty to look at but it's a beautiful aircraft," one Mohawk mechanic commented. "It can take about anything the weather throws at it and still fly." Its inventory consisted of a variety of imagery machines such as infrared cameras and, most importantly, the Side-Looking

Airborne Radar (SLAR). A fixed-beam radar system with an antenna mounted parallel to the longitudinal axis of the fuselage (side looking), SLAR projected radar in a very narrow beam at a low angle, perpendicular to the flight path of the OV-1. Radar waves struck objects or targets and returned to the airborne antenna, which allowed operators to track objects in all light and weather conditions. With the production of only 80 aircraft, the Army and INSCOM received many returns on their investment as the Mohawk served 36 years in continuous flight until its retirement in 1996.

INSCOM Aviation during the 1980s was characterized by the utilization of new technologies for diverse missions. Systems such as QUICK LOOK, GRISLY HUNTER, and CRAZY PANTHER provided a variety of visual and electronic intelligence. Accidents during test flights of new equipment only underscored the dangers of flying when, for instance, a CASA C-212 turboprop crashed in 1989 in the Patuxent River in Maryland, killing all crewmembers.

Low intensity conflicts significantly changed the mission of INSCOM during the 1980s, especially in the Western Hemisphere. A higher tempo of Marxist insurgencies in Latin America precipitated a greater demand for intelligence in the region. Under the 470th MI Brigade, the CRAZYHORSE platform supported operations in the Caribbean Basin and Central America.

In the 1990s, INSCOM

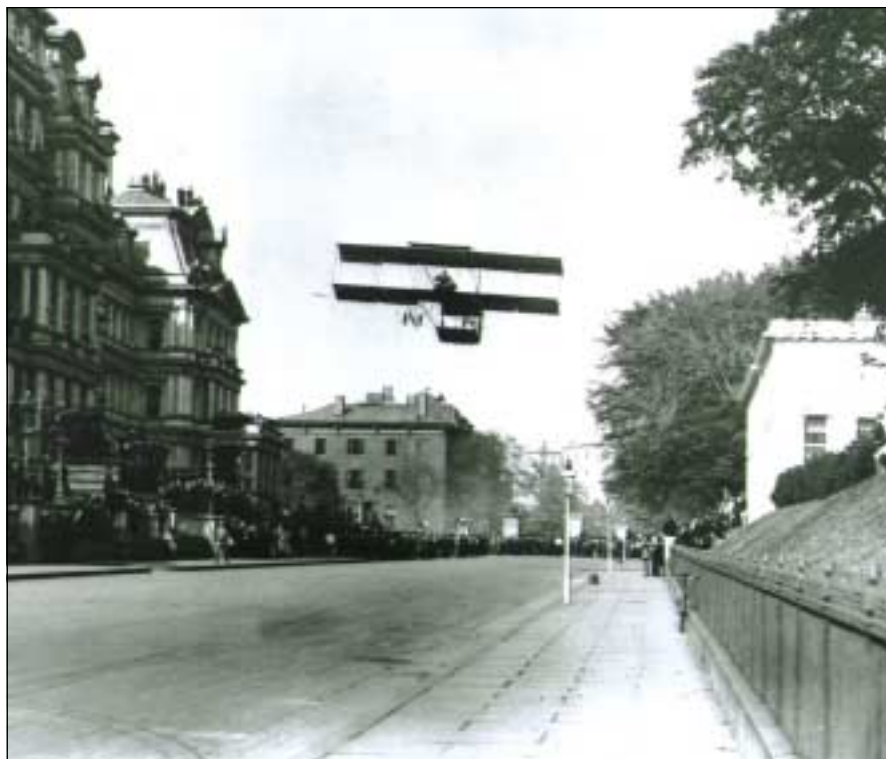
contributed significantly to joint missions. In a partnership with the U.S. Air Force, INSCOM provided operators for the Joint Surveillance and Target Attack Radars System (JSTARS). The system, designed to detect enemy vehicle movements within a theater of operations, is a radar aperture mounted on an underbody “canoe” aboard a Boeing 707. From JSTARS, joint combat commanders receive imagery of ground objects hundreds of kilometers away in near-real time.

The Aerial Reconnaissance Low (ARL) platform continues where the Mohawk left off. ARL is a system developed to accommodate diverse mission requirements using radar, low-light TV, and multi-spectral cameras. With the ability to stay on target longer, ARL has seen service on four continents

and is the latest in surveillance platforms.

Army intelligence planners are keeping an eye to the future. Plans are underway to acquire a platform that will replace ARL and GUARDRAIL with one system. Currently known as Aerial Common Sensor, this system will provide commanders with up-to-date intelligence using combined technologies.

INSCOM carries one of many torches that passed from the Wright brothers. Just as aviators have perished in their undaunted endeavors to push flight from its origins on the dunes of Kittyhawk to new levels, the aviation crews of INSCOM have made their sacrifices in aerial reconnaissance. Thus when commemorating the pioneers of flight, those personnel of INSCOM should be remembered.



courtesy photo

An early Wright Pusher Biplane flies over Washington D.C.

INSCOM's Mission

Synchronize the operations of all INSCOM units to produce multi-disciplined, operationally relevant intelligence in support of Department of the Army, Army Service Component Commander, and intelligence community requirements. Current operational focus: Operation Iraqi Freedom, Phase IV support (hostile activity trend and pattern analysis), Global War On Terrorism, foreign intelligence services, and computer network operations.

