



The Rocks
Support

THE ROCK

A Publication from the 10th Field Artillery Regiment Association

Spring 2009

<http://www.warfoto.com/10FA>

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Editor:
Dennis Noes



FROM THE EDITOR:

Since the last edition of the "The Rocks' Support", a lot of events have occurred with the 10th FA Association and the 1-10th BN over the last year. This edition of "The Rock's Support" comes to you from Camp Victory, Baghdad, IRAQ. My Florida National Guard Unit, 146th Expeditionary Signal Battalion out of Jacksonville, Florida has been in IRAQ since November 2008 providing Signal Support for the BCTs of the 1st ID and the 1ST CAV. If all goes well, I should be able to be home in time for the St. Barbara Ball and Christmas with the family.

In this issue, we will cover the election of new Association Officers, the re-deployment preparations of the BN from IRAQ to Ft. Benning, The Rocks Change of Command, BN and BTRY SITREPS and other "Rock Support" items of interest that we hope you will enjoy.

In closing, I want to encourage all Veterans and Members of the 10th Field Artillery Association (to include input from the 1st, 2nd, and 6th of the 10th Battalions to contribute to the "THE ROCK" newsletter by submitting letters/articles/photos and other items of interest. This is YOUR newsletter, submit or voice your opinion on subjects you wish to have published. Send your contributions to me care of dennis.noes@us.army.mil.

Rocks' Support and Rock of the Marne!
Dennis Noes



ANNUAL MEETING REPORT

Society of the Third Infantry Division 89th Reunion—Columbus, GA.

The Society of the 3ID and attached units in war or peace held it's 89th Annual Reunion and welcomed The Division and the 10th FA home from Iraq. From 18 through 21 September, 2008, members the Society were hosted by their respective units of the hammer BCT and provided equipment displays belonging to the units today.

The 10th FA Association hosted a dinner for its members and members of the Rock Support BN. During this Dinner, Association business was discussed, awards presented, and the election of new officers took place.

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**10th FA
REGIMENT
ASSOCIATION**

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**10th FA BN
COMMAND
STAFF**

Bn Commander:
LTC Shaun Tooke

Bn CSM:
CSM James A.
Benedict

Bn XO:
MAJ Jeremy
Moore

Bn S3 OIC:
MAJ Glen Mosher

**HHB
"Head Hunters"**
CDR: CPT Sean
Penley
1SG: 1SG Gerry
German

**A Btry
"Automatic
Steel"**
CDR:
CPT Charles
Cannon
1SG:
1SG Maurice
Gibbs

**B Btry
"Raging Bulls"**
CDR: CPT Mike
Smith
1SG:
1SG Chris Bates

Plans are already underway for the next annual meeting and 10th FA Dinner which will be held in Branson, Mo. Sept

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***The 10th Field Artillery association will mail a letter to our members on this subject as the reunion gets closer. The letter will attempt to gain a head count of those members and quests who plan to attend. We would like to get enough members to justify a separate dining room so that we may hold our own Regimental Dinner, rather than share a room with the 15th Infantry as they have so graciously allowed us to do in the past.*



ELECTIONS OF NEW 10th FA REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION OFFICERS:

As per the Bylaws of the 10th Field Artillery Association, election of officers were held during the 10th FA Regimental Association dinner at the Society of the Third Infantry Divisions Annual meeting held at Ft, Benning this past fall. Many of the new officers' names should be quite familiar to the active and veteran Rock Support Soldiers.

President: LTC Mark S. Sullivan.

LTC Sullivan was the Rock's BN Commander during OIF 2006- 2007. Mark is a native of Huntsville and graduated from Jacksonville State University, Huntsville (1988). Mark also has a Master's Degree in Information Systems Management from Florida Institute of Technology Mark's operational experience includes Operations Desert Shield/Storm (Saudi Arabia/Iraq), Operation Iraqi Freedom I (Kuwait/Iraq), and Operation Iraqi Freedom III (Camp Liberty, Baghdad Iraq) .

Vice President: Tom Dale (1SG RET)

Tom was the 1SG of HHB 1-10th FA during OIF 2007-08 and the 1SG of B Btry during 2005.

Membership/Treasurer: Christopher Vegas, Chris was the Commander of B BTRY Commander during OIF – 2007-2008.



10th FA ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT: LTC MARK M SULLIVAN

Greetings from Fort Benning Georgia, home of the future Maneuver Center and more importantly the 10th FA Regiment. First, thanks to Dennis for working so hard to get the newsletter out and having to wait patiently as I drag my feet and contribute just a short piece. Still serving our great country during the day and chasing six children at night offers some reason but certainly no excuse for procrastination. As I enter the first year as your President, want to extend my sincere gratitude to Ed Driscoll and Ed Demaso for a smooth transition of leadership and to Tom Dale, Chris Vegas, and Greg Taylor for stepping up and helping carry the torch. All of us have served together and understand the significance in recording the history of the regiment and



G 203 Company
"Spartans"
CDR: CPT Steve
Austin
1SG: 1SG Clark
Elbert

1-10 FA BN
8797 Marne Road
Bldg 9170
Fort Benning, GA.
31905-5640

keeping the regiment alive after retirement through the association. It is our pleasure to serve and encourage other to respond in turn.

My focus for this issue is to encourage those members of the regiment, both past and present, to consider joining the association. I believe it is the best way to stay connected to an organization after your service whether you PCS, ETC, or retire. If you consider what the regiment has contributed since its inception, and certainly this most recent War on Terror, the decision is pretty simple. Yes, we want to be part of those types of organizations. The annual membership to join the association is a measly \$10.00, and for that you will stay connected as long as you chose. For membership applications, please contact Chris Vegas at christopher.vegas@yahoo.com.

Okay, next issue I will report on the status of the regiment as 1-10 FA completes the preparation and deployment to Iraq....for the last time I imagine. I am very proud of the regiment, because when you consider the sacrifices of all members past and present, we were the first in Iraq and the last out. You know the Army knows who to call when they want 1st class service. Lastly, thanks to those who have gone before us in defense of a grateful nation. Only 1.5 % of the Country will ever put on the uniform on which makes it pretty special to know you served in a time of need. Take Care and "Rock's Support"

R/
LTC (P) Mark S. Sullivan

 **MEMBERSHIP IN THE 10TH REGIMENT ASSOCIATION:**
BY CSM (RET) GREG TAYLOR

One of the objectives of the 10th Field Artillery Regiment Association is to promote morale and high esprit de corps among past and present members of the regiment. The Association wants to provide opportunities for uniting past and present veterans in a close and cooperative alliance. The Association provides members a means to carry on with the spirit and comradeship that has been prevalent in the Regiment during its illustrious history.

The past seven or so years have been tough on Soldiers. The Soldiers have been deployed for as much as 35 months in those seven years. But Soldiers do what Soldiers Do, They Soldier on. The deployments are going to continue for a little while longer.

I encourage all past and current members of the 10th Field Artillery Regiment Association to recruit new members. I also ask every current member of the 10th FA regiment to join the 10th FA Association. It goes without saying that the Association fully supports the active members of the Battalion, whatever their mission, wherever they serve, while defending our nation. We need to increase the membership to ensure that we can continue to support the Soldiers for generations to come. It is an honor to serve as the Sergeant Major of the 10th Field Artillery Association and I look forward to meeting all the new members at the reunion this year.

**TREASURERS REPORT:**

This report is as of 4/14/2009.

Current Balance:	\$3459.33
Income:	
Dues Income:	\$12.00
Member Donations:	\$8.00
Sub-Total:	\$3479.33
Expenses:	
None	\$0
Sub Total:	\$0
Ending Balance:	\$3479.33

I hope this update finds you all well. I have recently assumed the duties of treasurer for the association in the past few months. As you can see, there has not been much recent activity, but I will soon be sending out dues reminders and an updated roster to you all. If you would like to send in your dues early, please send them to the following address:

Chris Vegas
1111 Abe Lincoln Way
Jefferson, GA 30549

I look forward to serving the organization and getting to know you all in the near future. If you have questions you can contact me at Christopher.vegas@yahoo.com.

Chris Vegas
Treasurer, 10th FARA

**1- 10th FIELD ARTILLERY REGIMENT CHANGE OF COMMAND****Fort Benning – Lt. Col. Tooke assumes command of 1-10 Field Artillery Regiment**

FORT BENNING – The 1st Battalion, 10th Field Artillery Regiment of the 3rd Heavy Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division welcomed a new battalion commander, Lt. Col. Shaun Tooke, at a ceremony on July 15, 2008

on Sledgehammer Field in front of the 3rd HBCT headquarters on Kelley Hill. Tooke is assuming command from Lt. Col. Mark Sullivan who has commanded the battalion since June 2006.

LTC Sullivan is going to serve as the Deputy Director Combined Arms Tactics Directorate and Chief of Combined Arms Leadership Division at the Infantry School, Fort Benning, Ga.



**LTC SHAUN E. TOOKE
COMMANDER
1ST BATTALION, 10TH FIELD ARTILLERY**

Lieutenant Colonel Shaun E. Tooke is a 1990 graduate of Cameron University in Lawton, Oklahoma. Upon completion of the Field Artillery Officer Basic Course, his first tour of duty was with 1st Battalion, 39th Field Artillery Regiment (Airborne) followed by 1st Battalion, 319th Airborne Field Artillery Regiment at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. While there, he served as battery Fire Direction Officer, Platoon Leader, and Fire Support Officer at the company and battalion level.

Following the Field Artillery Officer Advanced Course, he served with the 1st Infantry Division in Germany from February 1996 to May 1999. While in the Big Red One, he served as Task Force Fire Support Officer for 1st Battalion, 63rd Armor Regiment (Vilseck), Division Assistant Fire Support Coordinator (Bosnia), battalion S4 for 1st Battalion, 6th Field Artillery Regiment (Bamberg/Bosnia), and Battery Commander. Upon completion of battery command, he served as an Observer Controller/Trainer in 5th Training Support Brigade at Fort Jackson, South Carolina with duty in Greer, South Carolina from July 1999 to June 2001.

After graduating from the Command and General Staff College, MAJ Tooke served at Fort Sill, Oklahoma from July 2002 to June 2007. He Served as a concepts officer in the Futures Development and Integration Center. 2001, Battalion S3, Battalion XO, and Brigade XO. He concluded his Fort Sill tour as the Secretary of the General Staff to the Commanding General, Fort Sill, Oklahoma. His previous assignment was as the Deputy Director Combined Arms Tactics Directorate and Chief of the Combined Arms Leadership Division at the Infantry School, Fort Benning, Georgia.

His operational experience includes: Bosnia and OIF. He joined 2nd Battalion, 5th Field Artillery Regiment in Ramadi, Iraq as the Battalion Operations Officer supporting 3d Armored Cavalry Regiment during OIF I. He deployed as the Brigade Executive Officer with 212th Field Artillery Brigade where they performed as the Joint Area Support Group in support of MNF-I Headquarters and Department of State during OIF 05-07.

He holds several unit and personal awards and decorations to include the Combat Action Badge, Master Parachutist Badge, Pathfinder Badge, and Ranger Tab. He is married to the former Renee Harris. They are the parents of two children, Erin and Braxton.

CSM MARK A. AARON
COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR
1ST BATTALION, 10TH FIELD ARTILLERY

Command Sergeant Major Mark A. Aaron is a native of Camden, Alabama. He enlisted in the United States Army on August 18, 1987 as a 13B Cannon Crew member. He completed Basic Combat Training at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, under One Station Unit Training (OSUT). Command Sergeant Major Aaron has held a wide variety of leadership position in the Army from Howitzer Section Chief, Platoon Sergeant, Chief of Firing Battery, First Sergeant, Operations Sergeant Major to Command Sergeant Major. His assignments include: Gunner and Howitzer Section Chief, B Battery, 1st Battalion, 17th



Field Artillery, Fort Sill, Oklahoma; Howitzer Section Chief, A Battery, 1st Battalion, 78th Field Artillery, Fort Sill, Oklahoma; Howitzer Section Chief, B Battery, 5th Battalion, 11th Field Artillery, Fort Wainwright, Alaska; Gunnery Sergeant, A Battery, 1st Battalion, 78th Field Artillery, Fort Sill, Oklahoma; Chief of Firing Battery, A Battery, 2nd Battalion, 11th Field Artillery, Fort Wainwright, Alaska and Schofield Barracks, Hawaii; First Sergeant, A Battery, 6th Battalion, 27th Field Artillery, Fort Sill, Oklahoma; First Sergeant, Headquarters, and Headquarters Battery, 75th BDE, Fort Sill, Oklahoma; Operations Sergeant Major, 3rd Battalion, 7th Field Artillery, Schofield Barracks Hawaii; Command Sergeant Major, 3rd Battalion, 7th Field Artillery, Schofield Barracks Hawaii.

His awards and decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal (3 Oak Leaf Clusters), the Army Commendation Medal (8 Oak Leaf Clusters), Army Achievement Medal (15 Oak Leaf Clusters), Good Conduct Medal (7th award), National Defense Service Medal, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Non-Commissioned Officers Development Ribbon numeral 4, Army Service Ribbon, and the Overseas Service Ribbon numeral 3. His military and civilian education includes Basic Combat Training, Advanced Individual Training, Primary Leadership Development Course, Basic Non-Commissioned Officers Course, Advanced Non-Commissioned Officers Course, First Sergeant Course, Battle Staff Course, Basic Instructor Course and the Sergeants Major Academy Course Class 58. He has earned his Bachelor Degree in Human Resources from the University of Maryland.



10TH FIELD ARTILLERY REGIMENT BN AND BATTERY REPORTS



LTC TOOKE'S COMMANDERS CORNER:

On behalf of all the Soldiers in 1st Battalion, 10th Field Artillery, I want to thank the members of the 10th Field Artillery Association for your service and all you've done to lay the ground work for what we know as our Army and Artillery today. As the new command team in 1-10 FA, CSM Aaron and I are extremely proud to serve amongst some of the very best artillery Soldiers in the Army. We hope you enjoy the update as provided by the new command teams amongst our battery and company commanders and look forward keeping you informed as we write the next chapter in 1st Battalion, 10th Field Artillery's history. In the mean time, I share with you my command philosophy and CSM Aaron shares our Rock's Support Creed for your review. Keep your powder dry and if I'm so fortunate, maybe I'll see you on "Fiddler's Green".

Philosophy: Combat readiness is our priority, and everything we do as an organization links to our ability to deploy, fight, and win again on the battlefield. Our training, maintenance, discipline, and family programs set conditions to improve/sustain our readiness.

-Training. In the current environments, sections/platoons win the fight. We focus on the basics (PT, marksmanship, first aid, and small unit battle drills/proficiency). We plan, resource, rehearse, execute, and assess training IAW the "8 Step Training Model". Dedicate adequate time to certify trainers and allow them time to prepare the training. We must continue to train the next "Gunner" to step up in the absence of key personnel. Risk management is integral to all training and checked by the next higher leader.

-Maintaining. In order to equip Soldiers we must have and maintain our equipment. We requisition shortages and find ways to mitigate their impact. We maintain equipment IAW appropriate manuals, programs, and SOPs. This does not stop in the motor pool or with our equipment. It includes all equipment across our formation and especially our Soldiers and families. We put forth the same effort to maintain and care for our Soldiers, their families, and ourselves as we do our equipment and hold first line leaders accountable in this endeavor.

-Discipline. Self-discipline is the cornerstone of our battalion. There's no shortage of "good" units in the force, but disciplined units rise above and become great. We know and live by our Army Values, the Warrior Ethos, and our "**Rock's Support Creed**". Safety is a state of mind and not something we do only to prepare for long weekends. Leaders engage Soldiers daily and take a personal interest in their livelihood and well being

along with their families.

It is a privilege and honor to stand among you as a **"Rock's Support"** Soldier. I look forward to our tenure together as we continue the great traditions and build on the superior reputation of this great unit.

LTC Shaun E. Tooke

Rock 6

ROCK'S SUPPORT!

CSM AARON'S "ROCK 7" CORNER:

Hello everyone, what a great month in the Rock's Support Battalion. This past month, our training focus was on wheeled gunnery as well as Artillery tables. We have supported our infantry units and it has been a great effort by our leaders and Soldiers providing these timely and accurate fires. Here in the Rock's Support Battalion our Soldiers and leaders do a great job preparing and executing our training missions, However, as a team, we are having some problems. Over the past month some of our family members were found in possession of illegal drugs this is a great concern to our chain of command. If a family member is in need of assistance, they should know our chain of command is here to assist them in getting help! There are many agencies on the installation that can assist them in their time of need. Having illegal drugs is in violation of State, federal and local laws to include post policies. In some cases family members could be banned from the installation and removed from quarters. Our chain of command is here to assist them, we see our family member as a precious resource. Let us help!

Rock 7, CSM Aaron

HQB "HEADHUNTER 6" CORNER:

The last month has been a very busy one for Headhunter Battery. The Q-36 and Q-37 have been in the field again tracking rounds for Automatic as they fire for the maneuver battalions during their gunnery exercises. Metro spent some quality time in the field for those same exercises ensuring Automatic had the right meteorological data to keep their rounds hitting the targets.

The CSD (Command Security Detachment) participated in close quarters marksmanship training given by instructors from the Ranger Training Brigade. They were trained on reflexive fire--learning to fire quickly on short-range targets--and room clearance. This week they participated in wheeled gunnery, going through a course in up-armored Humvees (Hollywood speak for HMMWV ((High Mobility Motorized Wheeled Vehicle))) and engaging targets with crew-served weapons.

Survey assisted the mortar infantry leader's course on Main Post by re-surveying in their declination station, which is essential for them to be able

to accurately fire their mortars.

The medics, in addition to running the TMC and sending medics out to every major training event, also ran a combat lifesaver course. The purpose of this was to teach soldiers who are not medics how to stabilize a wounded person and get them to treatment. This was three days of classroom training followed by a situational training exercise at Artillery Field where they simulated a convoy being attacked and the Soldiers going through the course treating simulated casualties.

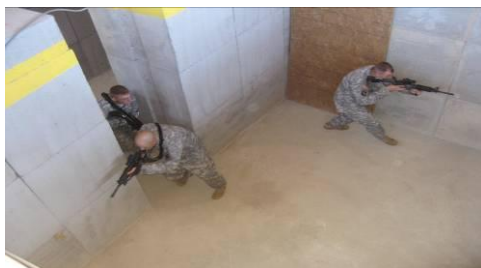
Two Soldiers were promoted this past month. Congratulations to SGT Rice and SPC Calhoun.

We are going to have an FRG fundraiser on 20 April outside the motor pool. We will be selling tacos, soft drinks, and baked goods. Mrs. Cunningham and Mrs. Hayes have already been talking with our FRSA, Ms. Christen, on how they can use the proceeds. We welcome all ideas; right now the intent is to use it towards some kind of event for the FRG where all interested spouses will be able to attend.

We are also looking for a time to schedule a financial management class. This class will be available to both Soldiers and their spouses. The main focus will be to give advice on how to have their financial situation prepared for the deployment.

Coming up in the next month will be yet more field time for the radars, CSD participating in urban warfare training, a physical fitness test, and more road marches to gear up for the next Fit to Fight iteration.

Headhunter 6



SPC Schaffner, SPC Bentley, PFC Davis of CSD training on room clearance.



Sgt Mclusky, SPC Schaffner, SPC Bentley, & PFC Davis training on clearing a room.



It has been quite a journey for the Soldiers of Automatic Steel over the last 180 days, and we'll continue to prepare for additional journeys as we progress through the next 180 days. Upon arrival from Operation Iraqi Freedom V (OIF V), the battery re-organized into a traditional firing battery after having operated throughout the previous 15 months as a motorized rifle company. We also began a process called "reset" where several items used by the battery during OIF V were submitted for testing and adjustments. In several cases, items were "coded out" after grueling and demanding daily use in Iraq during the 15 month tour.

There were many smiles to go around when the battery finally signed for their M109A6 Paladin howitzers. Soldiers were excited to get back to their base and begin to execute what they had trained to do: fire lethal artillery rounds. The battery went through a series of artillery tables to re-familiarize themselves with their equipment and test their artillery skills and knowledge. After we completed a strong regimen based on individual Soldier skills, we then progressed towards testing as a section. These particular Artillery Tables, namely Table VII and Table VIII, tested the ability of the artillery sections to safely conduct crew drills and deliver artillery rounds within a specified amount of time. During Table VII, the sections "certified" using notional rounds while firing "live" rounds during the Table VIII qualification. By the first week of February, all of the sections within the battery were qualified to fire "steel rain" down on the enemy.

The next certification and qualification event for the battery would test the ability of the sections to operate as a cohesive and effective platoon. These Artillery Tables, named X - XII, were much more in depth and also tested the platoon leadership. Battle drills such as react to indirect fire, react to direct fire, react to IED, secure enemy combatants, and react to perimeter attack were all tested. In addition to these events, the battery also had to provide supporting fires as a platoon. Overall, both platoons within the battery showcased their ability to "shoot, move, and communicate" as they ably performed their tasks. Towards the end of February, both platoons were qualified up to Artillery Table XII.

Throughout the months of March, April, and May, the battery will be providing outstanding fire support to our brother maneuver units as they conduct their infantry and tank tables. Although we will spend a majority of these months in the field, the battery will be able to refine its skills and abilities, all the while becoming a more cohesive fighting unit. At the end of May, we'll begin preparing our vehicles for the Mojave Desert and the National Training Center. The trip to NTC will allow us to train further and also validate several of the tactics, techniques, and procedures we have established in our battery and battalion standard operating procedures (SOP).

Soon after we complete our NTC rotation, we will mostly likely participate in an operational deployment. However, before this time comes, the battery will be a well-trained and well-oiled unit prepared for the challenges of a combat environment.

Automatic Steel!!!

Congrats to the following Automatic Steel Soldiers who were recently promoted:

- SPC George Oehl to Sergeant
- PV2 Johnny Baca to Private First Class
- PV2 Tim Freeman to Private First Class
- PV2 John Martin to Private First Class
- PV2 David Ristow to Private First Class
- PVT Don Biesterfeld to PV2
- PVT Robert Baldwin to PV2

Automatic 6



BRAVO BATTERY REPORT: CPT SMITH "RAGING BULL 6"



The Raging Bulls have continued to take on challenging Motorized Rifle Company (MRC) training throughout March. We have now completed long days and nights of training at the Squad Live Fire Exercise, Close Quarters Marksmanship, and Wheeled Gunnery training. In the month of April, we'll head off to urban training at the Selby Hill MOUT site before taking several weeks to complete services, ensuring the vehicles, weapons, and personnel of Bravo Battery are properly maintained and prepared to execute future missions. Training is a part of being a Soldier, and although it is difficult for us to be away from our families, it is necessary to complete any mission placed before us

Although we are tirelessly training in the field, we will still ensure that the families are kept informed through the FRG.

The FRG meetings have continued to be well attended. The next meeting will be in the last week of April, with the specific time and place to be determined. We encourage all Bravo Battery families to get involved and become better informed.

Raging Bull 6

Note to 10th FA Veterans: *The Army is constantly adapting and reorganizing to maximize the effectiveness of its units. As part of this restructuring of the MTOE, what we knew as Service BTRY has been replaced with a Maintenance Company. G CO. 203rd Maintenance Company is attached to the 10th FA for maintenance.*

G CO, 203RD MAINTENANCE COMPANY - CPT STEVE AUSTIN "SPARTAN 6"

Golf Company has been very busy and engaged with training, schools, and Reset/Regen the last six months. Further, the company changed its name from the Red Dawgs to Spartans, symbolizing a "new start" and an improved way of conducting business. Headquarters Platoon has been working diligently implementing new control measures to track personnel, missions, and commodities. Distribution Platoon has been extremely busy participating in training events ranging from Wheeled Gunnery to HET training and CCTT. Not to mention providing continuous seamless "top notch" support to the best Field Artillery Battalion in the Army. Maintenance Platoon is the hardest working platoon in the company because they keep the trucks on the road. Maintenance has been conducting scheduled, unscheduled services, and recovery missions while boasting a 96% Operation Readiness Rate.

Presently we are ramping up for our NTC Rotation at Fort Irwin, CA in July 2009. It is here where the company will confirm its SOPs, systems and trackers, and training at Fort Benning. We are looking forward to putting our skills to the test and validating the company as a team: ready to fight and support during OIF VII. The company's motivation and pride is higher than ever, and it is evident in every Soldier, every day, every time I engage them, whether it is in the motor pool, the company headquarters, or just in passing. We are currently at 106 days without an alcohol or drug related incident, which speaks volumes for every Soldier, NCO, and Officer in the company. This is especially rewarding because it displays the new chain of command's vision and the Soldiers trusting and believing in the NCOs and Officers.

The Spartans have unlimited potential for the future. 1SG Clark and I (CPT Austin) will take the Spartans to OIF VII and most likely bring them back--all of them! We are ready to take on any mission given to us; we are a resilient unit that aims to provide "top-notch" support to the best Field Artillery Battalion in the Army.

The company has come a long way in the standards, discipline, and training arenas. Lastly, the Soldiers' hard work and dedication are the reason for the unit's continued improvement. We look forward to the challenges ahead and welcome all taskings.

"THIS IS GOLF COMPANY"

Spartan 6

BN CHAPLAIN - ROCK SHEPHERD ON THE HOMEFRONT

Spring is upon us and with it the ultimate example of new life. Easter is a great opportunity to realize, appreciate and give thanks for the many blessings and opportunities presented to us both in life and after life. The simple essence of Easter is that Jesus Christ died and was resurrected. The greatness of Easter is that God in the flesh offered His perfect and blameless life voluntarily to willingly take the blame for all we have done wrong so that we can have a personal relationship with our Creator. Not only did He offer His life, but He conquered death once and for all.

Without getting "preachy" (which is really hard with this subject), how can we apply this to all our lives today? Just as every Spring nature comes back to life vivaciously, every day is a new day with new opportunities. The challenge is to see these opportunities for what they are. They are a chance to make a different and better decision than last time. If yesterday you didn't find the strength to overcome a temptation, guess what ... today is a new day. Better yet, if yesterday you made a bad choice, today is a new day. Today you have the opportunity to make a different decision, a better decision. Today is a chance to make your life better than it was yesterday.

I have found that the vast majority of religions in the world offer help and inspiration on how to live a better life. So if your outlook is different than mine, I encourage you to find the parallel/similarity within your religion for what I am trying to express. The new day, the new opportunity, the chance to make a different decision comes through one thing in my background. That one thing is grace, through which we are offered forgiveness.

For those who are not religious at all, I was presented with a great example a couple days ago. For those of you who know me, you know that I am not a PT stud. I get the job done but I struggle to do it well. I was given some inspiring words that I can not find an area of life in which they do not apply. I was expressing my struggle with endurance. The guidance that I was given was this, "The key is simple. Always give your best." If you didn't give your all yesterday and you are unhappy with the results, then today ... give your best and see if you don't like these results better.

I challenge you to look to the cross and see it for what it is. Not only is it a means of death, it is also a path to a new and better life. If your tradition has a different image I encourage you to seek after it. "Always give your best."



Chaplain Griffis



10th FIELD ARTILLERY REGIMENT ILLUMINATION ROUNDS

BATTALION'S HEROES

1-10 FA Salutes the Following Soldiers for a job well done:

TOP GUN:	SSG Waiters	from	Bravo Battery
SOLDIER OF THE MONTH (MAR)	SPC Micolleti	from	HHB Battery
NCO OF THE MONTH (MAR)	SGT Schrock	from	Bravo Battery
SOLDIER OF THE QUARTER (JAN)	SPC (P) Rice	from	Bravo Battery
NCO OF THE QUARTER (MAR)	SGT Tripp	from	Bravo Battery



10th FIELD ARTILLERY REGIMENT SHORT ROUNDS OF HISTORY

This issue contains two great articles of history from the deployment of the 10th to Korea during the Korean War and to today with the 10 into IRAQ in 2003

1950 – The Deployment of the 10th FA to Korea

In June, 1950, the 10th Field Artillery Battalion, part of the 7th Infantry Regimental Combat Team of the Third Infantry Division was stationed in Ft. Devens, Massachusetts. We had returned from several weeks of amphibious training and maneuvers to be greeted by our new BN Commander with news that what the outfit needed was a little "little field training." So, it was off to Camp Edwards for a couple of weeks.

The Battalion was operating under what was called a "Reduction Table" which meant we had only four 105mm Howitzer sections and no FO parties per battery, along with proportional cuts in people and equipment such as cooks and mechanics.

By mid-June, we were well into summer training commitments with one battery at West Point and another at (then) Pine Camp. Immediately after the war started, we were hit with MOS levies. I don't remember the numbers, but they were significant. Then we were required to deploy a full-strength battery directly to Korea, along with an associated Infantry battalion. These units were used to fill out the 1ST Cavalry Division. Sadly, there were numerous casualties among our people. All of this left us with 25 men per battery and six howitzers in the battalion. It seemed impossible that

we could deploy without with out substantial reinforcement and re-equipment, but on the second week of August, the unit, such as it was, was ordered to Japan, and we left Fort Devens on August 25th.

In Japan, the battalion moved to the Mori Training Area on the island of Kyushu (not the end of the world, although it was clearly visible from there) for training and refuill of personnel and equipment. The first replacements were individual reservists and we got a lot of good, experienced people form that, since WWII was only five years in the past. We also got some barley trained basic trainees and several hundred Koreans who were literally kidnapped from the streets of Pusan; half of them arrived deathly ill from eating the water purification tablets in the old "C" rations they were given. Since we had few interpreters, and many Koreans last names are the same or similar, the ROK's were given numbers. Many of them stayed with the battalion for a long time and became valued members.

While at Mori, we encountered a new enemy in many ways more dangerous and unpredictable than the North Koreans – General Shugg, the 3rd Divarty Commander. His training ideas were different, to say the least. If a radio failed, he tried to punish the Battalion communications Officer under AW104. Of course, the "culprits" refused, and of course the Division Judge Advocate threw out the ensuing charges. This festered with the general until he found some excuse, often months later, to exact his revenge.

Meanwhile, the rest of the Division was also filling up with a non divisional 155 BN, an SP 1005 BN, a non-divisional tank BN, the 65th Infantry from Puerto Rico, and literally thousands of ROK. The story that went around the Division that when our CG, General Soule went to report to GEN McArthur, he was asked, "Who sent you, the communists?"

All this planning was underway for an amphibious assault at Wonson on the East Coast of Korea.

Part two to be continued in the next edition of the "THE ROCK" with the invasion of Korea by the 10th Field Artillery

NOW FROM KOREA TO OIF

OIF the Invasion

Article by:

2LT Greg A. Fuller

1-10 Medical Officer

Unit Historian

A great mission was upon 3ID and 1-10 Field Artillery. The mission was an attack through the Karbala Gap and across the Euphrates River, on April 1-3,

2003, continuing the offensive toward Baghdad. The division's plan called for the 3d Brigade to fix forces in Karbala while 1st and 2d Brigades attacked through the gap and seized a bridgehead along the Euphrates River.

1-41 FA, moving with the 1st Brigade, crossed the Euphrates with the lead task force; simultaneously, 1-39 FA closed on its position to support seizing the bridgehead line--a four-lane bridge known as Objective Peach. 1-10 FA, then reinforcing the 1st Brigade, moved to an alternative crossing site 15 kilometers south of Objective Peach in Mussayib, called Objective Hannah, and supported the brigade's attack on this secondary objective. Almost immediately intense fire fights with enemy dismounts broke out in artillery perimeters across the front, but by the morning of 3 April, the Rock of the Marne Division had added the Euphrates River to its famous combat history.

The tempo never slowed as the 3d Infantry Division established a bridgehead line with 1st Brigade and secured the eastern shore of the Euphrates River. After the 2d Brigade secured the objective, 1-10 FA, then reinforcing 1-9 FA, crossed the Euphrates. Radar acquisitions came fast and furiously as the Division Artillery (DIVARTY) processed them. By the morning of 5 April, 3rd ID units had completely isolated Baghdad from the south and west. The division's speed and lethal firepower caught the Republican Guard forces by surprise—3rd Division Soldiers knew they were on the verge of victory. The 3rd Infantry Division successfully controlled south and west Baghdad.

On 6 April, the 3d Brigade received orders to attack and isolate Baghdad from the north. 1-10 FA rejoined the 3d Brigade and moved north then east around Baghdad to seize the key intersections of Highway 1 and Canal Road, known as Objective Titans. The battalion fought through small-town "sniper alleys" and heavily populated areas north of Baghdad as it moved toward its objective. In its longest day of battle, 1-10 FA fired 31 missions in support of 3d Brigade's attack. Eventually, 3d Brigade completed the encirclement and isolated Baghdad.

Saddam's statue fell on 8 April, signaling the unofficial collapse of his regime. US forces continued to fight pockets of resistance and seize palace compounds as Iraqi citizens cheered on 1-10 FA and the rest of the 3rd Division.

Soon the DIVARTY headquarters received word it would become the Force Protection Headquarters for Baghdad International Airport. The 3rd Infantry Division had won the war and was quickly transitioning to Stability and Support Operations (SASO).

The 3rd Infantry Division Artillerymen performed admirably during Operation Iraqi Freedom. As a testimony to FA units everywhere, the 3rd Infantry Division Artillery units brought to fruition years of training, technological

improvements and Soldier professionalism on the banks of the Euphrates River. Soldiers and leaders at every level executed artillery tasks, contributing immensely to the 3rd Infantry Division's success and earning a place in military history.

Altogether, the 3d Infantry Division Artillery cannon and rocket battalions with the 214th FA Brigade destroyed 526 enemy tanks, trucks and artillery pieces; 67 buildings, and many enemy Observation Posts (Ops) and bunkers, and 2,754 enemy soldiers without losing a single Soldier or piece of equipment to enemy indirect fire--truly a one-sided artillery fight, and truly a victory for the Coalition Forces.

10th FIELD ARTILLERY REGIMENT TAPS AND REMEMBERANCE



THE FOLLOWING PAST VETERAN ROCK SOLDIERS HASVE PASSED AWAY SINCE OUR LAST NEWSLETTER,

BOBBIE BRASHEAR, (COL) RET	HHB – RADAR	KOREA	TULSA, OK
CHARLES G. CARTER, SGT		WWII	SONOMA, CA.
AL DUMBEK, SSG	BRAVO BTRY	KOREA	LYNDAN, WA.
JACK LENNOX, SSG	ALPHA BTRY	KOREA	WEBSTER, NY
ROBERT C. MCCALISTER, LTG (RET)	A-BTRY CMDR	KOREA	MELBORNE, FL
HENRY J. ROMO	HHB	WWII	REDLANDS, CA.
PETER ROSE, CPT	C-BTRY CMDR	KOREA	BRAINTREE, MA
JERRY SAPIRO			SF, CA.

Headhunter Remembered

MAJ Andrew D. Staples
Former HHB/1-10th FA Commander



It's hard to believe that it has been nearly a year since my battery returned from its 15 month tour in Iraq. As the battery commander of Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, "Headhunters", 1st Battalion, 10th Field Artillery, "Rock's Support", I was privileged to have been given the honor to lead over 130 men and women into combat. For all the successes that the

battery enjoyed in Southern Iraq and Baghdad, and There were many, I am always reminded of the great loss suffered on 8 April 2008, when an IED took the life of SSG Jeffery L. Hartley. The sting of battle was felt that day, the battery was wounded, blood was spilt and for some, including myself, time just stood still. It was a moment that First Sergeant Dale and I had seen many times over in previous units but never as part of the command team and never concerning a Soldier in whom we had so much personal and professional interest. For those who knew Jeff, let me remind you; for those who didn't know Jeff, let me educate you on just how high a price we pay for success in combat.

I could spend hours telling you how wonderful this young man was; his friends could spend days and weeks; his family, years. Despite this, no words on paper will ever fully capture the affection I had for this young leader, this wonderful man. I will try to paint a picture befitting him.

Jeff was already an accomplished Non-Commissioned Officer when I met him as the brand- new battery commander in mid-2006. He was young, confident, capable, and hungry. He possessed all of the attributes a commander wants in an NCO. Despite his youthful age, he was much more mature than some of my most senior NCOs and with experience, he would surely surpass all of them. I wasn't the only commander to see this; the battalion commander hand-picked Jeff to lead his security detachment. This was quite the honor as well as a great responsibility for a man who was just turning 25, as he was given a platoon to lead and the Battalion's Commanding Officer to safeguard. Jeff took on this daunting task, calling on his past experiences in combat, putting his men through the paces, ensuring they were up to the rigors of combat in Iraq. He led his platoon on more missions than any other unit within the battalion, logging more miles in hostile territory, at all hours, during some of the worst conditions, and at moment's notice, ensuring that the Battalion Commander was secure at all times.

Aside from his tactical prowess, Jeff was best known for being a leader who would give you the shirt off his back if you needed it. He loved soldiering and loved taking care of his soldiers. He genuinely was a friend to all. His smile would light up a room and his humor would keep you in stitches. There were moments, when even the battery commander needed a pick-me-up and Jeff's positive outlook on life did the trick! You couldn't help but love this man. The loyalty and respect that his men had for him was amazing. The way the platoon bonded and the way it maintained its composure following his death made it very clear that his affect on them was permanent as they reflected upon his uncompromising sense of duty and mission.



SSG Hartley's Family, Squad, 1SG Dale, and CSM Benedict at Warriors Walk Dedication, Ft. Stewart, May 2007



10th FIELD ARTILLERY REGIMENT ACTIVITIES AND MISC

OLD HEAD HUNTER IS PROMOTED



MAJOR Andrew D. Staples, old Headhunter 6 was promoted in Great Britain by the Royal Artillery Brigadier General.

SAFETY SAVES

Article By:
CW2 Michael Giroux
1-10 FA Safety Officer

A new Motorcycle Policy took effect March 3, 2009. This policy mandates that all motorcycle riders must have written permission from a lieutenant colonel (O5) or higher in order to operate a motorcycle **ON/OFF** post. All commanders will maintain a folder on each rider. This folder contains a 4856 outlining both TRADOC and USAIC policy, valid insurance, valid registration, "FT Benning" motorcycle safety course (MSF), valid license with the motorcycle endorsement, TRADOC motorcycle agreement, motorcycle safety inspection check sheet, O5 memorandum that approves Soldier to ride on post, and a National Crime information Center (NCIC) waiver. You will need to attend the motorcycle safety course within 30 days of PCS. When a rider upgrades his motorcycle by 400cc he will be required to return to the MSF course. Riders will be required to register their motorcycle annually.

Commanders are encouraged to establish a mentorship program. This program should have incentives for accident-free riders. These incentives programs will be published in the Battalion Standard Operating Procedures. Riders have until June 15, 2009 to adhere to this policy. After June 15, 2009 riders will lose the ability to ride their motorcycles in accordance with the Commanding General's Motorcycle Safety Policy Letter dated March 03, 2009.

Marne Riders Motorcycle Club is looking to start a Ft. Benning Chapter

Contributed by Marne Rider Dennis Noes, Jacksonville, FL.

<http://www.marneriders.com>

The Marne Riders Motorcycle Club was formed to bring motorcycle enthusiasts that are past and present veterans of the 3ID and attached units together for monthly club meetings, rides, and to support the Society of the 3rd Infantry, the 3rd Infantry Division Soldiers and families, and other events that foster the purpose of the status of being an honorable veteran of the Armed Forces of the US.

The Marne Riders is open to all brands and types of motorcycles from touring bikes, to cruisers, to sport bikes. The Marne Riders will host and participate in local and regional organized rides like Rolling Thunder in Washington DC, participate in Memorial Day and Veteran Day parades, host fund raisers rides in support of the 3ID soldiers, family programs (I.E., AER, USO, etc). Marne Riders also participate in Society activities, and Veteran programs, attend organized bike sport events, have group rides to regional bike rallies, events,

and more.

Marne Riders members from around the country with the MR Patch on their vests will be attending, promoting the Club, and the Society throughout the year.

If you are interested in a Ft. Benning chapter, please contact either myself or Chris Byler of the Ft. Stewart chapter. We also have a Chapter forming in Ft. Carson.



The Marne Riders patch on the back of Dennis' vest .

Dennis Noes @ dennis.noes@us.army.mil or director@marneriders.com
or Chris Byler @ chris.byler@us.army.mil

✂ **10th FIELD ARTILLERY REGIMENT MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

The 10th Field Artillery regiment is looking to grow in membership and we would like to have you, your friends, or supporters of the 10th FA Regiment join the 10th Field Artillery Regiment Association or better yet both the 10th and the Society of the third Infantry Division. What better way to maintain friends and keep up on the news of the The Rock Support as your military career progresses, or if you decide to get out, to stay in touch with the happenings of the 10th Field Artillery Regiment as a member. Take a few moments and fill out the attached membership application.

Introduction to the 10th Field Artillery Regiment Association Society of the 3rd Infantry Division, U.S. Army



“The Rock’s Support”

“Rock of the Marne”
“The Rock’s Support”

✂ The objectives of the 10th Field Artillery Regiment Association

The 10th Field Artillery Regiment Association was established under the provisions of Army Regulation 210-1 to promote morale and high spirit de corps among members of the regiment, provide opportunities, and facilities uniting past and present members of the regiment in a program dedicated to the preservation of traditions and history of the 10th Field Artillery Regiment.

✂ Officers of the 10th Field Artillery Regiment Association

President: LTC Mark S. Sullivan **Ph:** 706-9685-4101, **Email:** mark.sullivan@us.army.mil

Vice President: Thomas L. Dale Jr. **Ph:** 706-577-2752 **Email:** Thomas.dale@us.army.mil

Secretary/ Editor: Dennis Noes, **Ph:** 904-872-6372, **Email:** dennis.noes@us.army.mil

Mbrship/Treasurer: Christopher Vegas **Ph:** 706-367-1316 **Email:**
christopher.vegas@yahoo.com

Active Duty Liaison: 1SG Gerry German, HHB 1-10FA Email: gerry.german@us.army.mil

✂ 1-10FA BN Command, 3rd Brigade, 3rd Infantry Division, Ft. Benning, Georgia

BN Commander: LTC Shaun Tooke

BN CSM: CSM James Benedict

BN XO: MAJ Jeremy Moore

BN S-3: Glen Mosher

HHB “Head Hunters” - CPT Sean Penley, 1SG Gerry German

A Btry “Automatic Steel” - CPT Mike Smith, 1SG Chris Bates

B Btry “Raging Bulls” - CPT Charles Cannon, 1SG Maurice Gibbs

G 203 Co “Spartans” - CPT Steve Austin, 1SG Elbert Clark

✂ 10th Field Artillery Regiment Association Membership Eligibility:

Regular Membership is limited to any active duty soldier or veteran, who has served honorably in 10th Field Artillery Battalion/Regiment units since its original inception into the Regular Army on 1 July 1916.

Associate Membership is open to other armed forces veterans, spouses, parents, children, or siblings of any person eligible for regular membership and others with a personal interest in, or affinity for, the 10FA and the Society of the 3ID.

✂ 10th Field Artillery Regiment Association Annual Membership Dues:

Regular **Associate Membership:** \$10.00 payable on or before 1 July of each year.

Premier Membership: \$25.00. For those applicants who are not 3ID Society members, but wish to join both organizations. \$15.00 of the Premier Membership will be forwarded to the

Society of the Third Infantry Division for your Society Membership Webpage: www.3rdiv.org

Click on **10th Membership** link below to access and print copy of the 10thFA Reg. Assn Application Form
<http://www.warfoto.com/10FARA.htm>