



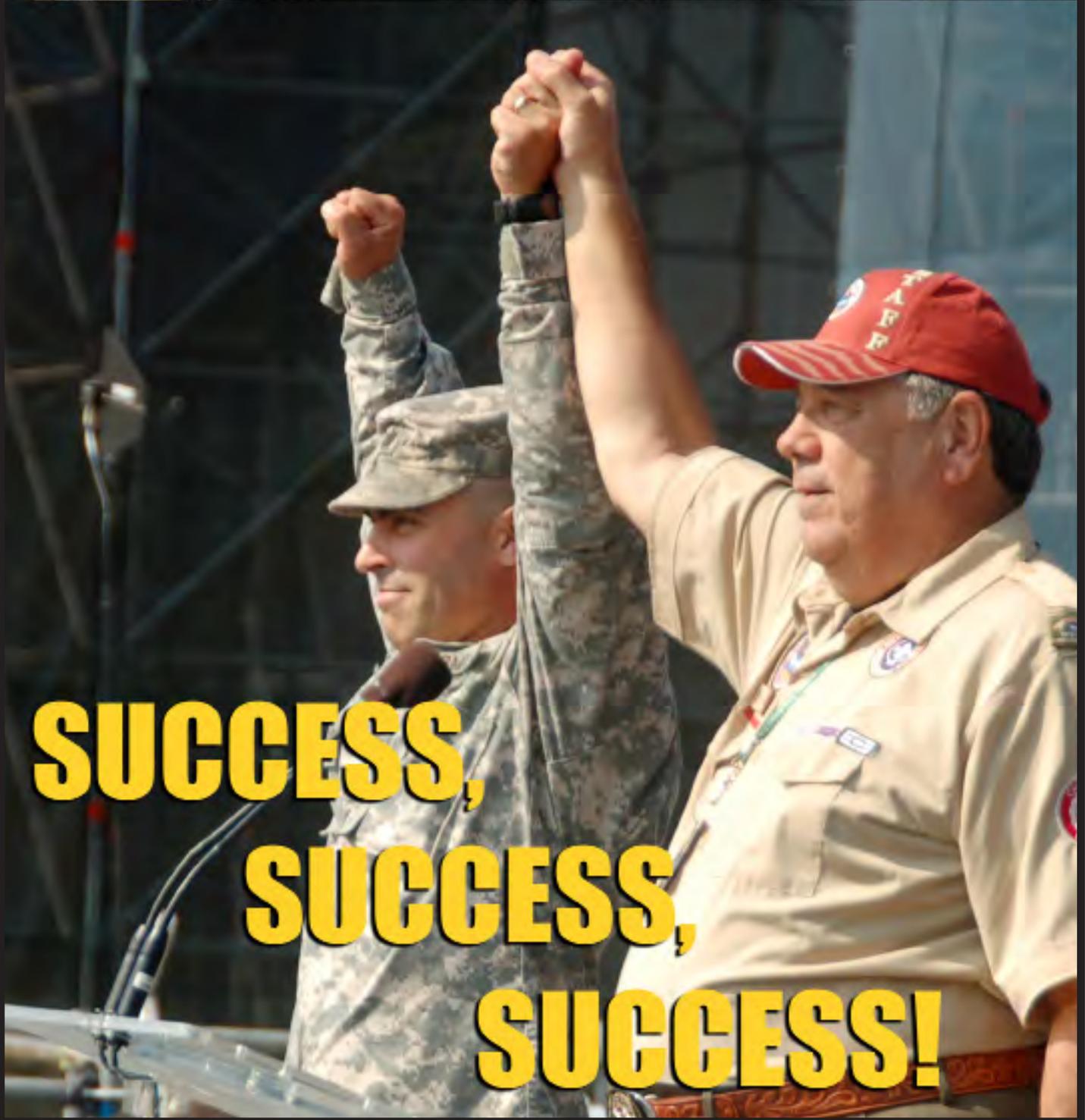
Fort A.P. Hill

Down Range

Vol.45, No.4

"The Best Training and Support -- Anywhere!"

August 13, 2010



**SUCCESS,
SUCCESS,
SUCCESS!**

Community Outreach: Keeping the Promise Together

By Lt. Gen. Rick Lynch
Commanding General
Installation Management Command

Our Soldiers have been steadfast in their service to the nation during the past nine years of conflict. Their Families have been just as constant in their own dedicated service, providing the strength and support that enables Soldiers to do their jobs.

Our Soldiers and Families persevere in their service to the nation in the face of repeated deployments and even greater challenges.

It is heartening to know that we are not in this alone — our fellow citizens want to understand what

we are experiencing and share a deep desire to support us where they can. Sometimes they simply do not know where to begin or how to make the connection to channel their appreciation and support into action. That is why reaching out to the communities around us is so vitally important.

The Army has a long history of supportive relationships with surrounding communities. San Antonio, Texas, claims the title of Military City, USA, but many more communities could lay equal claim, their ties with the installations in their areas being as long-standing and deep-rooted.

Over the years the Army has also developed strong relationships with local, state and national organizations that provide a wide range of support for Soldiers and Families, including programs focused on health care, education, child development, employment, financial aid, and morale and recreation.

Now those relationships are more critical than ever. The Army cannot always offer the most comprehensive assistance for the number and kinds of challenges that our Soldiers and Families face. This is especially true for National Guard, active Reserve and Active Component Soldiers

and Families who live far from installations. The great need for support and the great demand on our resources require us to reach out to those who can help us keep our promise to Soldiers and Families. A volunteer, a local service provider or a state or national organization may be able to offer expertise, material assistance, support services, or even just human contact that fills a critical need, especially for the Soldier or Family member who is not near an installation.

The support that communities and organizations give to Soldiers and Families has become so important that the Army Community Covenant was launched in April 2008 to formalize and facilitate the relationships.

To date, communities in 49 states, three territories and the District of Columbia have conducted more than 500 covenant signing ceremonies, pledging to find ways to enhance the quality of life for Soldiers and Families.

These ceremonies publicly recognize and celebrate the communities' commitments, but they are not an end in themselves. They are an important step in taking action to link support to specific Soldier and Family needs. The crucial first step is building relationships.

Effective community outreach is broader than a covenant. It begins with building strong, real relationships.

Americans are inspired to offer their support when they learn more about military life and gain a deeper understanding of the personal challenges that Soldiers and Families experience. It is crucial that Army leaders make every effort to get to know local leaders, to attend town halls, Chamber of Commerce meetings and other events, and to invite local leaders and community members to attend events on post. Army leaders must be prepared to answer when local leaders ask, "How can we help?" Americans are generous and compassionate — if you let them know how they can help, they will.

I know from firsthand experience what

the power of community support can do for Soldiers and their Families. One recent example is when I was the III Corps and Fort Hood Commander and worked to establish a Resiliency Campus, which gathers in one area a number of programs to support Soldiers' and Families' mental, spiritual and physical well-being. As Senior Commander I was able to dedicate the space on post and ensure that infra-

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Garrison Commander

Lt. Col. John W. Haefner

Garrison Command Sergeant Major

Command Sgt. Maj. Mark V. Brandenburg

Public Affairs Officer

Jennifer Erickson

Editor / Photojournalist

David San Miguel

2009

Department of Defense
 Thomas Jefferson Award

2009, 2004

Department of the Army
 Maj. Gen. Keith L. Ware Award

2009

U.S. Army Installation Management Command
 Maj. Gen. Keith L. Ware Award

2008

U.S. Army Installation Management
 Command - Northeast Region
 Liberty Bell Award

The Down Range - Fort A.P. Hill newsletter is an award-winning bi-monthly publication authorized and produced by the PAO editorial staff in accordance with AR 360-1 to inform and entertain the installation community on people, policies, operations, technical developments, trends and ideas of and about the Department of Defense, the Department of the Army and Fort A.P. Hill.

The views and opinions expressed in this publication are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the U.S. Army or this command.

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iWatch program promotes community awareness, security

By IMCOM, Public Affairs

SAN ANTONIO, Texas -- The Army is promoting a campaign encouraging and training communities to become extensions of the service's overall force protection plan.

iWatch aims to heighten public sensitivity to indicators of possible terrorist activity, while encouraging people to report suspicious behavior to military or civilian law-enforcement agencies. In addition, it creates a partnership between on- and off-post organizations.

"Such information or cooperation may reveal a piece of the puzzle that thwarts a terrorist plot," said Brian Crowley, of the Installation Management Command Antiterrorism Branch.

Several installations, especially those overseas - where the threat remains high - have already launched iWatch efforts.

Garrison installations in Germany, began shaping a program almost four months ago that has "everyone play[ing] a key role," said Melvin Jones, director of emergency services there.

"Law enforcement and security assets can't be everywhere at all times," he added. Consequently, iWatch empowers Soldiers, family members, civilian employees and retirees with protecting places where they live, work and play.

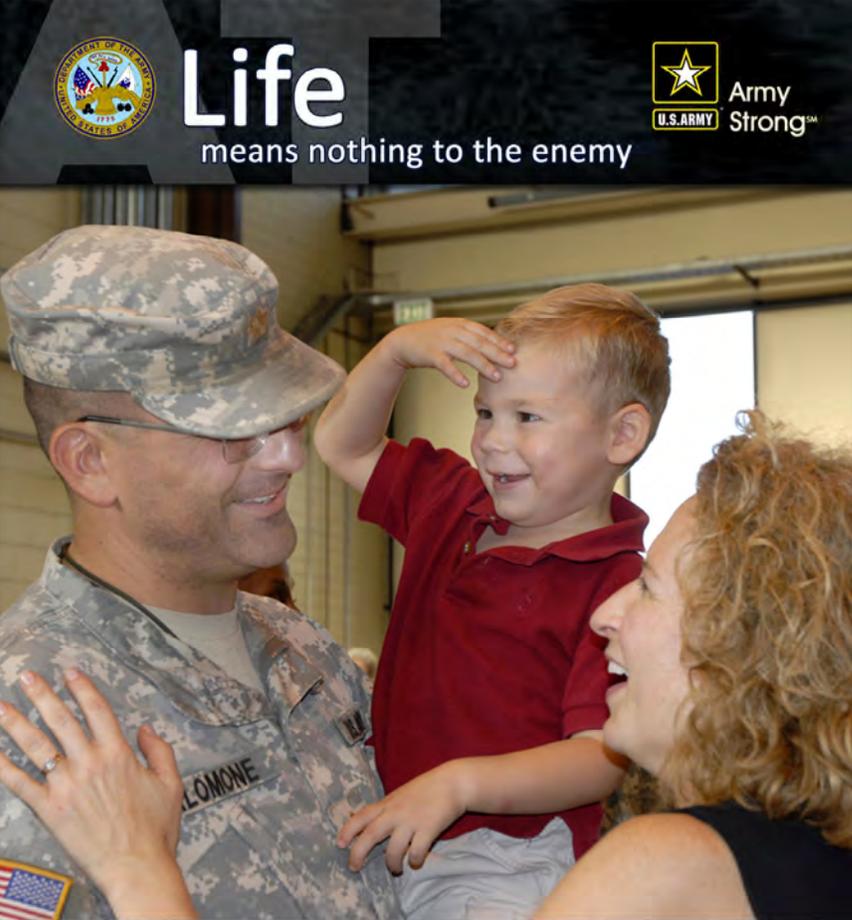
iWatch, however, isn't a neighborhood program with volunteers roaming the streets armed with flashlights and radios.

Instead, it raises community awareness of what to look for and who to call when folks notice something out of place.

Some activities and/or behaviors everyone should report, include: strangers inquiring about security or building security procedures; abandoned packages; vehicles left unattended in no parking zones; and, any unusual chemical smells or fumes.

Indeed, iWatch works by allowing an individual to report any unusual or suspicious behavior.

"Eighty to 90 percent of the program is raising awareness," said Stanley E. Andruszkiewicz, deputy director of emergency services at USAG Bamberg, Germany.



Life
means nothing to the enemy

U.S. ARMY Army Strong™

Protect Your Family. Report Suspicious Activity.

The Army community is a target for terrorism. Specific targets have included Army installations and facilities. Restaurants, retail stores, schools, and playgrounds are also at risk. We don't know where or when terrorists might strike. Therefore we must *make vigilance our focus*. Make it your focus. Be aware of your surroundings both on and off post and report suspicious activity whenever you see it. Do that and you help make the Army community a *formidable obstacle* to terrorism.

Always Ready, Always Alert
Because someone is depending on you




Through iWatch, officials hope to direct the attention of community members accustomed to being wary of threats only from outside the gate, "totally focused on the external and not the internal," said Andruszkiewicz.

That outlook changed last year, when a Fort Hood Soldier opened fire on a crowd.

Andruszkiewicz used the metaphor of a clam to describe the focus of installation

security prior to that shooting - a hard impenetrable shell with a soft interior.

Because of the post shootings, he said, the military became aware of its vulnerabilities on the inside.

Accordingly, "Everyone plays a key role in force protection," said Mike Britton, of IMCOM's Antiterrorism Branch. "Even a minute detail being reported can stop an incident from happening."

OUTREACH

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structure improvements were made, but it was the embrace of the community outside the gate, their contributions of materials, services and expertise, that made the campus a reality.

We have several valuable resources to help Soldiers and Families locate and access programs and services available to them. Army One Source, at www.myarmyonesource.com, is a single portal for information on a wide range of services, including housing, healthcare, employment, education, childcare and Family services. AOS includes information on how to contact the nearest Army community support coordinator. Community support coordinators work to make connections between local resources and Soldiers and Families, especially for those who live far from an installation.

The Army Community Covenant website, at www.army.mil/community, has information on more than 600 national, state and local programs that offer education, employment, family, financial, survivor, wounded warrior and other kinds of support. The website regularly adds information on new programs as we continue to build relationships with local, state and national organizations. The site also has ideas and resources for Army leaders to reach out to the communities around them, and for community members and organizations who want to offer support.

All of these resources—the Army Community Covenant resources, the community support coordinators, the advice and ideas of fellow leaders posted on www.garrisoncommand.com, and the ex-

pertise of professionals on installations—help Army leaders build and strengthen relationships with communities and find innovative ways to take care of Soldiers and Families.

We have become more effective at our community outreach efforts in recent years, but our efforts meet with such success because our communities are eager to meet us halfway. They readily and generously express their gratitude and support for our Soldiers and Families. Our challenge is to meet them all the way, to clearly communicate our needs and facilitate their support for us. The support and contributions from our communities will enable us to keep our promise to provide Soldiers and Families a quality of life commensurate with their service.

Army opens resilience evaluation to DA civilians

By C. Todd Lopez

Army News Service

WASHINGTON -- The Army has extended its concern about the mental fitness of Soldiers and their families to the civilians that serve stateside, abroad and in combat zones.

Department of the Army civilians are encouraged now to have their psychological resilience evaluated by the civilian version of the "Global Assessment Tool," which is part of the Army's "Comprehensive Soldier Fitness" program.

Three versions of the GAT are available now, through Army Knowledge Online.

One version for Soldiers, one for their families, and now one for civilians. All three measure the same things, though with different questions, said Capt. Paul B. Lester, a research psychologist with the Comprehensive Soldier Fitness Office.

"The factors are pretty much the same -- we're looking at social, emotional, spiritual and family fitness," Lester said. "A lot of the same things that are important to resilience to Soldiers are absolutely as important to civilians."

The military version of the online evaluation is mandatory for Soldiers -- so far more than 700,000 Soldiers have completed it.

Army civilians, however, are not required to take the GAT -- though

"The skills we are providing are life skills ... how to deal with everyday stressors in family, at work, and in your personal and professional life."

they are encouraged to do so, Lester said. Civilians can expect to spend about 15 minutes completing the online survey, and afterward they are given feedback about how they did.

"It's a self-awareness tool to help them get an idea of where they are strong, and also where they can improve," Lester said. "It gives you an idea of where you are on the resilience continuum."

After that, he said, GAT participants will have access to "comprehensive resilience modules," the same ones that Soldiers are doing, to help them improve their mental toughness.

"The skills we are providing are life skills," Lester said. "It's not only how to respond to and be resilient in the face of extreme adversity, as in combat setting, but how to deal with everyday stressors in family, at work, and in your personal and professional life."

There are some DA civilians who are deployed now to combat zones like Iraq or Afghanistan, Lester said. And while those civilians are not supposed to actually be participating in combat -- that's the job of Soldiers -- life in the combat zone is stressful. So assessing mental fitness and working to improve it is critical for both Soldiers and civilians.

"Psychological resilience in a deployment situation is absolutely critical," he said. "The work there is hard, the hours long, and the separation from family and friends is challenging."

Even Army civilians at work stateside or at Army installations overseas can benefit from participating, Lester said.

"We train people, at an individual level, how to be a better team member," he said. "At the leader level, how being a better team member impacts the overall team. It's not only individual performance but the additive effect of better individual performance leading to better team performance."

Lester added that the results of the GAT are confidential, and that supervisors "will never see" the results of an employee's participation in the assessment.

Soldiers, Army civilians and family members can participate in the program by visiting the Comprehensive Soldier Fitness website at <http://www.army.mil/CSF/>.

Task Force concludes National Scout Jamboree

The Joint Task Force - National Scout Jamboree has stood down and Fort A.P. Hill staff are now charged with restoring more than 12,000 acres of land to conditions predating the 2010 National Scout Jamboree.

Supporting the jamboree and the Boy Scout of America's 100th anniversary celebration, the task force was comprised of 2,000 active-duty, Reserve and National Guard servicemembers working with Boy Scouts of America staff and local emergency responders.

The jamboree gave the Northern Command Task Force an opportunity to practice its mission, highlighting crisis response and coordination with local, state and federal partners, said Navy Adm. James Winnefield Jr., NORTHCOM commander.

"This event is a wonderful slice of America, where we have 50,000 future leaders together to share outdoor experiences and build character," he said. "It's a privilege to

be able to support them."

For one Scout the festivities were bested by a reunion.

Navy Lt. Cmdr. James Pickens chose to spend his time off as deputy chief of civilian military plans with U.S. Forces-Iraq in Baghdad by volunteering to be a NSJ safety observer to spend time with his son.

"My family is used to me going out to sea and being gone several months," he said. "But after not seeing them for five months it was just like a homecoming."

The commander's son, Travis, said this was one of the biggest moments a father and son could share.

"The feeling of only being able to see him on a webcam and then really seeing him is just unbelievable," Travis said. "Some people would go somewhere else to have a relaxing moment, but he came out to be with the Scouts."

The jamboree featured appearances by

NASCAR drivers Dale Earnhardt Jr. and Jeff Gordon who joined individual scout teams to compete against each other in a first aid training competition.

"It's awesome to be a part of this and an honor to be here," Gordon said. "To get to see what you have been doing here the last few days, and the excitement you guys have, it's incredible."

When the Scouts weren't being entertained by extreme sports athletes and World Wrestling Entertainment superstars, they were able to watch different military exercises such as those by the Air Force Academy "Wings of Blue" parachute team.

Air Force Lt. Col. Scott Drinkard and his team performed dozens of jumps out of National Guard helicopters from between 4,500 and 9,000 feet.

See TASK FORCE, page 10

'Celebrate Scouting' stamp unveiled at Fort A.P. Hill

By Danny Spatchek
Army News Service

Fort A.P. Hill Commander, Lt. Col. John Haefner encouraged a crowd of hundreds to write letters to Soldiers and Veterans at the official release ceremony of the "Celebrate Scouting" stamp held here, July 27.

The ceremony, which kicked off the second day of the 2010 National Scout Jamboree, marked the initial release of the stamp commissioned by the U. S. Postal Service in celebration of the Boy Scouts of America's 100th anniversary.

The stamp, designed by illustrator Craig Frazier, depicts a scout surveying the land from a mountaintop within the silhouette of a scout peering through binoculars.

Haefner said holding the ceremony at Fort A.P. Hill was especially symbolic given the long history of letters in the military.

"Remember what it is like to open a letter, especially to all you Veterans," he said. "Letters are just like... the home. The home is always bigger on the inside than it is on the outside."

Haefner added that, as a Soldier, it's



exciting to receive a letter during war — especially one that smells of perfume.

The BSA and the postal service have posted tips for sending letters to Soldiers on their websites.

The tips range from ideas on what scouts can include in a letter, such as a funny story or troop photo, to steps they can take to ensure the letters make it through heightened security measures at the Soldiers' deployed locations.

Joining Haefner in dedicating the stamp were 15-year-old Eagle Scout Jeremy Diedny, who earned the stamp-collecting merit badge and admitted being hooked on stamp collecting, and Chief Scout Executive of the Boy Scouts Robert Mazzuca.

Mazzuca spoke about the significance of the BSA's history, and recognized the military's support throughout those 100 years.

"Let's keep those in mind who are serving in our armed forces through the simple act of sending a letter to wherever they are in the world protecting our freedom," Mazzuca said. "Their sacrifices allow us to come together and enjoy this great Jamboree today."

David Failor, USPS executive director of stamp services, said more than 200 people purchased the new stamp at the Jamboree Post Office on the first day of issue.



Soldiers of the 55th Signal Company (Combat Camera) hit the drop zone.

Photo by Pfc. Brian Kohl

AIRBORNE!

Combat Camera teams train for real-world mission

By Lt. Col. Kjäll Gopaul
LeMay Center Joint & Air Staff Liaison Office

It was hot - brutally hot - and the Marshalling Area Control Officer for the paradrop was starting his pre-jump mantra.

"I am Sgt. 1st Class Rodrick Jackson, and I will now provide your MACO brief"

The blistering 102 degree heat was oppressive and made it hard to focus on anything for very long.

"Drop altitude will be 1,500 feet AGL six drops per pass ..."

The combined weight of the combat gear with the main and reserve parachutes made it increasingly difficult to stand.

"Direction of flight is northwest ... first jumper -- we want you to make it to the 'X' on the drop zone."

"Any questions? Line up in chalk order!"

As the temperature rose to record highs, 34 Soldiers soared closer to the blazing sun on wings of silk to reach new heights of their own.

In the airborne exercise that played out like a textbook success story, the 55th Signal Company (Combat Camera) from Fort Meade, Md., led a team of Reserve and National Guard units in the groundbreaking helicopter paradrop onto the sun-scorched Bowling Green Drop Zone.

The airborne operation had been weeks in the making, and was flawlessly executed in just a matter of hours by the air-ground cooperative.

With each pass over the drop zone, a short staccato of six streamers burst outward from the UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter, blossoming into parachutes and falling gracefully onto the rolling greenway below.

Captain Rock Stevens, executive officer, 55th Sig. Co., remarked on the significance of the training.

"Today's exercise was a historic moment for the 55th, since it was the first Combat Camera-led airborne operation," he said. This demonstrated that our unit can lead rotary and fixed wing air operations.

"In combat, we support all combat arms -- providing commanders with a battlefield perspective of the front line," Stevens added. "While we're sometimes considered an afterthought, now we've shown that we can be part of the main effort -- defeating enemy propaganda and running air operations."

"There are actually a lot of small units in the area that have an airborne mission and need this

training," added Lt. Col. John Harris, commander, 114th Signal Battalion. "But since no one unit is large enough, it takes our informal 'Mid-Atlantic Airborne Coalition' to get organized and pull something like this off. And by working together, we all maintain proficiency on our airborne mission essential tasks."

"Our combat camera teams support the Rangers, the 82nd Airborne Division, and special operations units; and as more of our missions involve integrating with these types of forces, training like today's jump ensures that we can support them," the colonel said.

Specialist Christopher Baker, combat photographer, 55th Sig. Co., said this jump did much to enhance his credibility with other units.

"Sometimes they don't think we do a lot because we carry a camera," he said. "But, if you have jump wings or an Air Assault badge, they look at you like you have more to offer to the mission."

Major Tyler Shelbert, company commander, described the unit's high operational tempo.

"About a third of the company is deployed at any time," he said. "In fact, we just had 22 Soldiers return from Iraq, and another 20 are getting ready to go Afghanistan right now. Increasingly, more of our Soldiers are being embedded with front line units."

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AIRBORNE

One of the unit's high-demand paratroopers, Spc. Derrick Tolliver, an all-wheel mechanic, compared his experiences jumping out of a Black Hawk versus jumping from a C-130 cargo plane.

"On a C-130, you sit on a bench seat inside a cramped, closed aircraft, push your way to the door to jump out, and then get snapped around by the shock of the opening parachute," he said. "With a Black Hawk, you sit in the open doorway the whole time, with your legs just flying in the breeze and simply push yourself off the edge. You don't have that initial shock; instead, it's a very smooth opening."

Providing that new perspective was an aircrew from Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2nd Battalion, 224th Aviation Regiment, of the Virginia Army National Guard's Army Aviation Support Facility at Sandston.

Major W. Keith Nunnally, the battalion operations officer and one of the mission's pilots, remarked on how smoothly the exercise was executed.

"It was a typical summer day with a low breeze -- a little hot perhaps -- and the drops happened effortlessly," the major added. "Since tactical jumps are normally conducted by the Air Force, you'll find that this is not a typical task for most Army aviation units. That said, paratroops are part of our Commander's Task List for selected members of our unit to maintain

proficiency, and this exercise provided a good training opportunity for us."

In addition, several Soldiers who have been identified to go to Air Assault School training received slingload instruction on the drop zone.

Sergeant Jason Bushong, multi-media team leader, thought the hands-on preparation will prove beneficial.

"This was our second prep class today," he said. Last month, we learned about aircraft capabilities, mission planning, and rigged a HMMWV slingload. This time we practiced hand-and-arm signals, set up

a tactical landing zone and rehearsed how the ground crew and aircrew work together to accomplish the slingload.

"You can read the manual, but that can be pretty dry," Bushong commented. "Getting hands-on training is beneficial since it fills in some of the gaps you hadn't thought of."

Shelbert summed exercise's success with one word, "Flexibility."

"We had a solid plan and were able to adjust to some minor, last-minute changes, he said. "To coordinate with five diverse organizations and pull all of this together is quite an experience."



Photo By Cpl. Benjamin Boren

Combat camera crews board a Blackhawk ready to hone their parachuting skills.



Photo by Brian Kobl

The combat camera crew patiently waits to practice jumping from a Blackhawk helicopter.

2010

National Scout Jamboree BSA celebrates 100 years



Photo by David San Miguel

Bowling Green residents were treated to an outdoor concert by the Boy Scouts of America Band.



Photo by Jennifer Erickson

The U.S. Army Golden Knights demonstrate their parachuting skills at the National Scout Jamboree.



Photo by Jennifer Erickson

A highlight of the National Scout Jamboree was a visit from Miss America, Caressa Cameron.



Photo by Jennifer Erickson

Sergeant Slaughter of the World Wrestling Federation stirred up the Scouts during the National Scout Jamboree's last arena show.



Secretary of Defense Robert M. Gates delivers an inspirational speech to thousands of motivated Scouts. *Photo by Jennifer Erickson*



Photo by David San Miguel

One of many static displays at the NSJ included the hot air balloons.



Fort A.P. Hill employees were treated to a Blackhawk helicopter ride. *Photo by David San Miguel*



Photo by David San Miguel

Scout leaders pass out state flags in preparation of the Military Appreciation Ceremony.

TASK FORCE

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Some parachutists used smoke streamers to make their jumps even more elaborate.

“The military and the Boy Scouts share a lot of the same values,” Drinkard said. “This is a great place for us to meet a great group of patriotic young men and women and show them what the military is all about.”

The Boy Scouts were also able to take scuba-diving lessons from Sailors, learn wilderness survival techniques from Air Force cadets and participate in rock climbing activities with an officer from the XVIII Airborne Corps.

The jamboree was more than once-in-

a-lifetime activities, it was about preparing Scouts for leadership in the future, officials said. Thirty-one Eagle Scouts were presented four-year Army Reserve Officer Training Corps scholarships by Maj. Gen. Arthur Bartell, commander of the U.S. Army Cadet Command.

“Scouting has been an important part of my personal life,” Bartell said. “This jamboree is a significant milestone for scouting, and I wanted to be a part of that and talk to some remarkable young men.”

Secretary of Defense Robert M. Gates, an Eagle Scout involved in scouting for more

than 50 years, was also on hand to describe his experiences and to explain how crucial scouting is to leadership development.

“As I look out at all of you I see a new generation of worthy leaders,” Gates said. “With leaders such as you, America will continue to be the beacon of hope and decency and justice for the rest of the world.”

Editor’s Note: *This article features contributions from Airman 1st Class Joe McFadden, Airman 1st Class Jason Brown, Sgt. Darron Salzer and Lisa Daniel.*



After a relatively safe jamboree, the Scouts begin their exodus from Fort A.P. Hill.

Photo by David San Miguel