



Fort A.P. Hill

Down Range

Vol.46, No.6

"The Best Training and Support -- Anywhere!"

May 9, 2011



BIN LADEN KILLED

**President Obama
thanks troops for
mission success**



Command seeks counselors to address needs

By Lt. Gen. Rick Lynch

Commanding General

Installation Management Command

In this unprecedented era of persistent conflict, the risk for substance abuse among our Soldiers and their Families has never been greater.

As I have often stated, the Army will not break because of our Soldiers, they are indeed the finest force in the world; however, the Army is at risk as a result of the stress the past ten years of conflict has placed on our Soldiers and their Families.

The stress on our Soldiers and Families is often manifested in new or growing social problems. Multiple, extended deployments with too little dwell time at home strains relationships with loved ones. Partners and children face difficulty adjusting to new family dynamics as their Soldiers depart for and return from deployments. Many Warriors have difficulty transitioning from the battlefield to the homefront and life post-deployment.

The unfortunate reality is that some Soldiers and Family members turn to alcohol and drugs to help them cope.

The Army implemented the Army Substance Abuse Program to enhance mission readiness through helping Soldiers cope with stress by means other than alcohol or other drugs. The program focuses on prevention, identification, intervention, and treatment of high-risk behaviors to enable Soldiers, their Families, and Civilians achieve and sustain balance – and resiliency – in their lives.

We've come a long way in helping our Soldiers become more resilient, both on the battlefield and on the homefront. Thanks to the efforts of our dedicated employees, we are continually improving, but we must do better.

The Army currently faces a critical shortage of counseling psychologists, social workers, licensed marriage and family therapists, and licensed professional counselors to help our heroes heal. In fact, garrisons and

installations are struggling to accommodate the thousands of Soldiers every month as they transition from the battlefield to post-deployment life at home.

As the stigma of seeking treatment has decreased, an increasing number of Soldiers and Family members are seeking help in making a successful transition. However, the number of qualified professionals entering the field has not grown to meet the need.

The Installation Management Command is seeking to expand the ASAP workforce so we can offer a wider variety of services, provide more intensive treatment over longer periods of time, and explore alternative prevention and treatment techniques. Now more

than ever the Army needs Civilians to step up and lend a hand to those who have sacrificed so much to defend our freedom. IMCOM is enlisting the aid of Civilians through several measures to address the needs of our active duty, Reserve, and Guard Soldiers, Retirees and their Family members.

As an incentive to join the Army ASAP team, we are joining hands with universities across the Nation to support post-graduate education by offering exciting new opportunities, such as the new Clinical Internship Program, tuition reimbursement, salary and supervision towards licensure, and hiring, relocation and retention bonuses.

In addition, the Army is expediting the hiring process to get qualified candidates on board faster. The Army also offers competitive benefits and advantages, including life and health insurance plans; 13 paid vacation days with the ability to increase to 26 per year; 10 paid holidays and retirement benefits including a 401(k)-type government matching program. But most importantly, an ASAP counselor will serve our country, help our heroes heal and build the strength of our Nation, our Soldiers and their Families.

If you or anyone you know is interested in making a difference, please go to <http://www.usajobs.gov/> or <http://www.armycivilianservice.com/> and apply for job series 0180 and 0185 or call toll free 1-877-

880-2184 for more information.

To learn about ASAP and IMCOM, please visit the Websites: <http://medcell.army.mil/>; <http://www.imcom.army.mil/hq/>; or, <http://www.facebook.com/home/InstallationManagementCommunity>.

Our promise is to ensure no Army Family has to face the challenges of dealing with substance abuse alone. I encourage you to join our team and Help a Hero Heal.



Garrison Commander

Lt. Col. John W. Haefner

Garrison Command Sergeant Major

Command Sgt. Maj. Miguel E. Reyna

Public Affairs Officer

Jennifer Erickson

Editor / Photojournalist

David San Miguel

2009

Department of Defense
Thomas Jefferson Award

2010, 2009, 2004

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

2010, 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.

Send submissions and correspondence to Public Affairs Office, Attn: Editor, Down Range - Fort A.P. Hill, 18436 4th St., Bldg. 112, Fort A.P. Hill, VA 22427-3114. Telephone: (804) 633-8120, DSN 578-8120.

U.S. kills bin Laden in intelligence-driven operation

By John D. Banusiewicz
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON -- An intelligence-driven U.S. operation in Pakistan killed al-Qaida leader Osama bin Laden May 1, President Barack Obama announced in a nationally televised address from the White House late that night.

"Today, at my direction, the United States launched a targeted operation against that compound in Abbottabad, Pakistan," Obama said. "A small team of Americans carried out the operation with extraordinary courage and capability.

"No Americans were harmed," he continued. "They took care to avoid civilian casualties. After a firefight, they killed Osama bin Laden and took custody of his body."

Obama noted that bin Laden had been al-Qaida's leader and symbol for more than 20 years and continued to plot attacks against the United States and its allies.

"The death of bin Laden marks the most significant achievement to date in our nation's effort to defeat al-Qaida, yet his death does not mark the end of our effort," the president added. "There is no doubt that al-Qaida will continue to pursue attacks against us. We must, and we will, remain vigilant at home and abroad."

President Obama revealed that shortly after taking office in January 2009, he ordered CIA Director Leon E. Panetta to make bin Laden's death or capture the top priority of the U.S. war against the al-Qaida terrorist organization.

"Then, last August, after years of painstaking work by our intelligence community, I was briefed on a possible lead to bin Laden. It was far from certain, and it took many months to run this thread to ground," he said.

The president said he met repeatedly with his national security team as information developed indicating bin Laden was at a compound in Pakistan, and that last week he determined enough information was available and authorized the operation.

The president emphasized that the war against al-Qaida is not a war against Islam.

"Bin Laden was not a Muslim leader," he said. "He was a mass murderer of Muslims. Indeed, al-Qaida has slaughtered scores of

Muslims in many countries, including our own. So his demise should be welcomed by all who believe in peace and human dignity."

"We give thanks to the countless intelligence and counterterrorism professionals who've worked ... to achieve this outcome."

-- President Barack Obama

Counterterrorism cooperation with Pakistan helped in finding bin Laden and the compound where he was hiding, the president said.

"Indeed, bin Laden had declared war against Pakistan as well, and ordered attacks against the Pakistani people."

"Tonight, I called [Pakistani] President [Asif Ali] Zardari, and my team has also spoken with their Pakistani counterparts," Obama said. "They agree that this is a good and historic day for both of our nations, and going forward, it is essential that Pakistan continue to join us in the fight against al-Qaida and its affiliates."

The president praised those who worked to find bin Laden and those who carried out the operation that killed him.

"Tonight, we give thanks to the countless intelligence and counterterrorism professionals who've worked tirelessly to achieve this outcome," he said. "The American people do not see their work, nor know their names. But tonight, they feel the satisfaction of their work and the result of their pursuit of justice.

"We give thanks for the men who carried out this operation," he continued, "for they exemplify the professionalism, patriotism, and unparalleled courage of those who serve our country. And they are part of a generation that has borne the heaviest share of the burden since that September day."

Former President George W. Bush released a statement after he received a call from Obama:

"Earlier this evening, President Obama called to inform me that American forces killed Osama bin Laden the leader of the



Photo courtesy of DOD screen grab

President Obama goes on air to report on the success of a covert operation to capture or kill the al-Qaida leader.

al Qaida network that attacked America on September 11, 2001. I congratulated him and the men and women of our military and intelligence communities who devoted their lives to this mission. They have our everlasting gratitude."

"This momentous achievement marks a victory for America, for people who seek peace around the world, and for all those who lost loved ones on September 11, 2001," Bush said. "The fight against terror goes on, but tonight America has sent an unmistakable message: No matter how long it takes, justice will be done."

Army streamlines installation access for Families of Fallen

By William Bradner

FMWRC Public Affairs

During a Survivor Outreach Services working group meeting last year, several participants expressed difficulty in gaining access to military installations to take part in SOS programs and support services.

Survivors, including parents of Fallen Soldiers, do not always have a Department of Defense identification card, and are frequently required to obtain a visitor or temporary vehicle pass to enter military installations.

Soon survivors will be able apply for a Survivor Decal — much like the standard installation access decal — for their vehicle, greatly improving their ability to access the programs designed to support them.

“My intent is to implement access control procedures making it easier for survivors to enter Army garrisons,” said Lt. Gen. Rick D. Lynch, commanding general, U.S. Army Installation Management Command and Assistant Chief of Staff for Installation Management.

“I want all security personnel manning our entrance gates to recognize these very

special Army Families and welcome them with special respect for their sacrifice and service,” he said.

IMCOM Protection Services Division, along with the Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation Command SOS and Marketing Offices, created the decal and application, usage and implementation guidance for Army garrisons.

According to Maj. Gen. Jones, Commanding General, FMWRC, this new initiative underscores the Army’s commitment to providing support services to the survivors of Fallen Soldiers for as long as they need or desire.

“Families of the Fallen deserve our respect, gratitude and the very best support, and services that we

can provide,” said Jones. The decal is only valid on Army garrisons.

Each garrison SOS Support Coordinator or equivalent Army Community Service staff member has the responsibility of working directly with survivors to assist them in the application process, which includes registering with the installation’s vehicle registration system.

“I want all security personnel manning our entrance gates to recognize these very special Army Families ... with special respect for their sacrifice and service.”

*-- Lt. Gen. Rick Lynch
U.S. Army Installation Management Command
Assistant Chief of Staff for Installation Management*

See SOS, page 9



Maj. Gen. Karl R. Horst

Horst selected for assignment to Central Command

Major General Karl R. Horst will become chief of staff of the U.S. Central Command at MacDill Air Force Base, Fla., the Army announced, April 5.

Horst is currently the commanding general of the U.S. Army Military District of Washington and Commander of the Joint Force Headquarters-National Capital Region.

In his new job, Horst will be the third-highest official in Central Command. The four-star command oversees U.S. military activity in 20 countries including Iraq, Pakistan and Afghanistan.



The Survivor Outreach Services decal will soon be available Army-wide.

Bin Laden's death may impact Afghanistan, Gates says

By Jim Garamone
American Forces Press Service

SEYMOUR-JOHNSON AIR FORCE BASE, N.C. – The killing of Osama bin Laden “could be a game changer” that affects the situation in Afghanistan, Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates said here today.

Still, it will take time before the situation clarifies, Gates told about 450 airmen at the 335th and 336th Fighter Squadrons.

“Bin Laden and [Taliban leader] Mullah Omar had a very close personal relationship, and there are others in the Taliban who have felt betrayed by al-Qaida -- [they feel] it was because of al-Qaida's attack on the United States that the Taliban got thrown out of Afghanistan,” the secretary said. “We'll have to see what that relationship looks like.”

Officials may know in six months or so how bin Laden's death has affected al-Qaida

operations in Afghanistan and elsewhere, Gates said.

The secretary described U.S. relations in the region as complex. Using Pakistan as an example, the secretary said he would have been astounded if someone had told him two years ago that Pakistan would have 140,000 troops on its western border with Afghanistan and was going to drive the Pakistani Taliban and al-Qaida from South Waziristan and the Swat Valley.

“I would have said that's not going to happen, but it has,” he said.

Pakistan has pulled troops from its border with India and has taken thousands of casualties in the fight against the terrorists. Pakistan also allows a huge percentage of the logistics sent to troops in Afghanistan to flow across their country, Gates said.

The United States and Pakistan are firm partners in the fight against terrorism, Gates said. However, he added, the Pakistanis may be concerned that United States' current

interest in the region may diminish with time.

“At the same time there is no question that they hedge their bets,” he said of Pakistan's leadership. “Their view is that we have abandoned them four times in the last 45 years, and they are still not sure we are going to stay in the region. They saw us leave after the Soviets were thrown out of Afghanistan in 1989 and they are not confident that we won't leave again when we have accomplished our mission in Afghanistan.”

Pakistan and the United States have to keep working on their relationship, Gates said. At the tactical level -- across the border with Afghanistan -- the relationship is good and getting better, he said. U.S. and Pakistani forces take turns being the “hammer and anvil” with the Taliban stuck in the middle.

“I would say it is a relationship we just have to keep working at,” he said.

DOD to drop Social Security numbers from ID cards

By Jim Garamone
American Forces Press Service

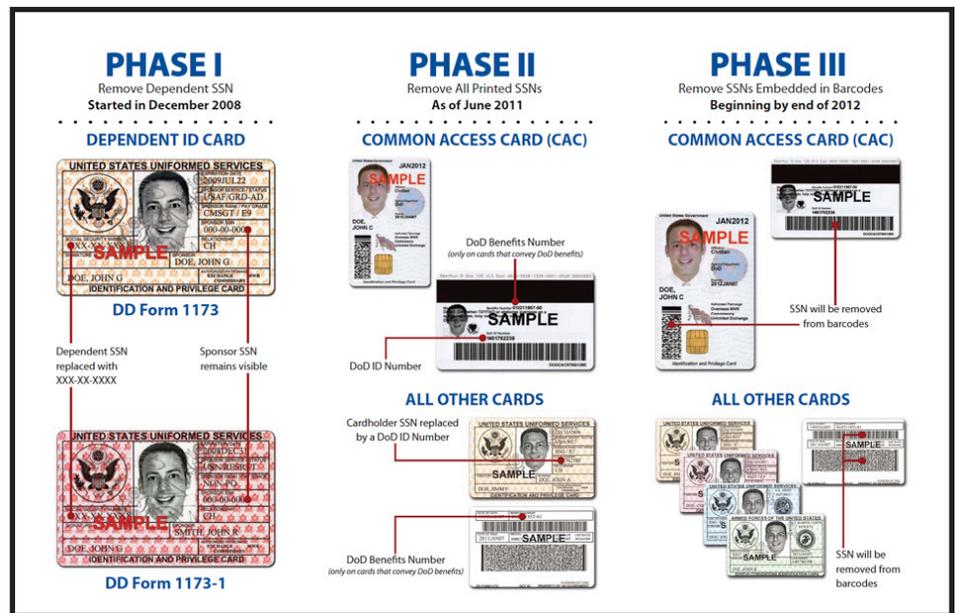
WASHINGTON – Beginning June 1, Social Security numbers on military identification cards will begin to disappear, said Air Force Maj. Monica M. Matoush, a Pentagon spokeswoman.

The effort is part of a larger plan to protect service members and other DOD identification card holders from identity theft, officials said.

Criminals use Social Security numbers to steal identities, allowing them to pillage resources, establish credit or to hijack credit cards, bank accounts or debit cards.

Currently, the Social Security number is printed on the back of common access cards, and on the front of cards issued to dependents and retirees.

Beginning in June, when current cards expire, they will be replaced with new cards having a DOD identification number replacing the Social Security number, officials said. The DOD identification number is a unique 10-digit number that is assigned to every person with a direct relationship with the department. The new number also will be the service member's Geneva Convention identification number.



An 11-digit DOD benefits number also will appear on the cards of those individuals eligible for DOD benefits. The first nine digits are common to a sponsor, the official said, and the last two digits will identify a specific person within the sponsor's family.

Social Security numbers embedded in the bar codes on the back of identification cards will remain there for the time being, and will be phased out beginning in 2012.

The department will replace identification cards as they expire.

“Because cards will be replaced upon expiration, it will be approximately four years until all cards are replaced with the DOD ID number,” Matoush said.

The identity protection program began in 2008, when DOD started removing Social Security numbers from family member identification cards.

Training center produces tough Guard Soldiers

By Alexandra Hemmerly-Brown

Army News Service

FORT BENNING, Ga. -- Soldiers not in shape may need to schedule some extra gym time before attending one of the National Guard's Warrior Training Center courses at Fort Benning, or they might not make the cut.

The Air Assault School's obstacle course alone, completed on the first day of training, trims about 50 prospective students' names from each class roster.

Given the name Warrior Training Center in 2004, it began as a pre-Ranger course, now called the Ranger Training Assessment Course, which has been taught on the installation since 1994. Over the years Pathfinder, Bradley Pre-Master Gunner, Vehicle Crew Evaluator, Combatives and Abrams Pre-Master Gunner courses have been added to WTC's repertoire, creating a unique National Guard operation.

WTC classes are tough for a reason -- in teaching about 5,500 troops each year, they are designed to provide the Guard with the most highly-trained Soldiers possible, said Tom Siter, deputy commander of the WTC.

"The key to this organization is what the Soldiers here do on a daily basis," Siter said. "We hand-select everyone."

As a unit that is run by the National Guard for the National Guard, nearly all of the 139 WTC personnel are Guard Soldiers on one-year orders. Leaders at WTC are able to screen and select only the best candidates applying for Active Duty Operational Support orders.

On average, Soldiers selected to work for WTC choose to extend their orders for about four to five years, Siter said, a term that benefits both the Soldiers and WTC.

He explained that with the influx of fresh experience and perspective from the field each year, WTC instructors have an edge.

"We probably have some of the best Soldiers in the National Guard teaching here," agreed Maj. Brian Deaton, commander of WTC's Alpha Company.

Siter stressed the difficult certification process instructors endure. He said WTC

observed how the active-duty Ranger school trained their instructors, mirrored their process, and added even more requirements.

"We took a lot of what right looked like and replicated that here," he said.

Instructors for WTC courses must attend training such as the Army Basic Instructor Course, Combat Lifesaver course, complete various Army Training and Doctrine Command requirements, and become fully certified as instructors before teaching classes.

A unique aspect of WTC's courses is that while many are required for National Guard Soldiers before attending active-duty schools like Army Ranger School, WTC also accepts military members from other services and international students, he said.

"All the services come through our school before going to ranger school," said Deaton, who's company runs the Ranger Training Assessment Course.

And if Guard Soldiers can't pass WTC's schools, they don't move on to the full-level courses. Active-duty Soldiers and servicemembers can go straight to Ranger

school if they choose, but Deaton said they will be more prepared if they try WTC's Ranger Training Assessment Course first.

Deaton said an interesting part of the job is working with international soldiers and watching them learn how America trains its Army.

"For many of them, we're their first taste of U.S. infantry tactics," he said.

Deaton explained working at WTC is quite different from a typical command due to frequent training cycles and special projects such as the annual National Guard Combatives Tournament.

He also said the noncommissioned officers who work under him are capable of running the company on their own. He simply keeps them pointed in the right direction.

"It's pretty much the best job that I could have," said Sgt. Robert Summers, an air assault instructor.

Summers, who is in his third year of instructing, said teaching air assault is a comprehensive experience.

"It's not just mental. It's not just physical. It's both," he said. "And I think that provides people with a sense of accomplishment when they go through a hard course."

Yet Summers said the hardest part of being an instructor is becoming a subject-matter expert in every aspect of the course.

"Anybody can learn this, but you have to be an expert to teach," he said.



Photo by Alexandra Hemmerly-Brown

Cpl. Roswell McLarin of Fort Benning's Warrior Training Center demonstrates the low crawl to prospective students.

EARTH DAY 2011

Installation staff hosts annual celebration to teach students first-hand about environmental stewardship

Whether it was holding a hissing cockroach or climbing into a UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter, more than 900 students, teachers from 10 local public and private schools found plenty of activities to participate in at Fort A.P. Hill's annual Earth Day celebration, May 14.

This year's event included 37 exhibitors from various public, private and non-profit entities; three tree-planting sites where students learned first-hand about the importance of riparian forest buffers and improving wildlife habitats; static tactical vehicle and land management displays; and, guided ecology walks to teach the students about habitat management and the conservation of biological diversity.

By the day's end, the participants reforested just over an acre with most of that area constituting a riparian forest buffer around the installation's Beaverdam Pond.



... the hissing cockroach.

Usually held on April 22 to coincide with the nation's annual Earth Day celebration, the event here was rescheduled a week earlier to facilitate student participation before the schools' "spring break".

The change-in-date strategy contributed

to the record number of participants and exhibitors to make the activity an "across the board" educational outreach success.

Throughout the day, students interacted directly with biologists, geologists, conservationists, scientists and environmental managers to learn about their particular areas of expertise.

Two of the most popular exhibitors were the casting competition hosted by the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries where the students learned basics techniques in casting; and, the Segways in which the students experienced alternative modes of transportation.

In addition, military tactical vehicles and land management equipment were displayed to showcase how the installation staff works alongside their biodiversity partners to conduct Warrior training yet conserve the area's natural resources.



Mark Books,
forester,
Environmental
Division, Forestry
Department,
Directorate of
Public Works
distributes
seedlings to youth
participants at
the installation's
annual Earth Day
celebration held,
May 14.

Photos by Jennifer Erickson

Post to celebrate 70th anniversary

By Jennifer Erickson
Public Affairs Officer

In commemoration of 70 years of service training Warriors for various military operations worldwide, Fort A.P. Hill will host its 70th Anniversary Celebration, June 11.

The day will commence with an Americana Military Parade in Bowling Green at 10 a.m. to honor all Veterans and those military members who serve in our nation's Armed Forces. Following the parade, Port Royal will host historical and art gallery tours from noon until 2 p.m.

The day's events will culminate at Fort A.P. Hill with the Military District of Washington's Twilight Tattoo at 7 p.m.

The parade will include the Caroline High School Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps and marching band; the American Legion Riders; the U.S. Army Explosive Ordnance Disposal Training Center; and, "Lt. Gen. Ambrose Powell Hill," portrayed by Patrick Falci who gained fame for his role in the movie, "Gettysburg." Parade grand marshals will include cadets from the Caroline High School JROTC; and, Vietnam and Korean War Veterans.

Bowling Green Mayor David W. Storke noted that the town has a history dating as far back as the Revolutionary and Civil Wars. In fact, he said, its town hall was once a USO building during World War II.

"I just think it's very appropriate given the history between the town and the installation," the mayor noted. "The parade is a nostalgic way of galvanizing that relationship."

Port Royal was first settled in 1652 and chartered in 1744. Celebrating its historic roots, the town will open its portrait gallery, have copies of the walking tour available from 12-2 p.m., and will open St. Peter's Church for guided tours.

Port Royal Mayor Nancy Long shared Storke's enthusiasm for the celebration.

"We are delighted that [Fort] A.P. Hill has made this a community-wide event and we are thrilled to be a part of it," she said.

Following the community activities, Fort A.P. Hill will open its main gate off of U.S. Route 301 at 2 p.m. to the public.

At the Beaverdam Picnic Area, military displays will showcase various tactical vehicles units use to train with at Fort A.P. Hill



U.S. Army photo

During World War II, Soldiers trained at Fort A.P. Hill before embarking overseas.

as well as a Civil War encampment featuring "Lt. Gen. A.P. Hill" and much more.

Beginning at 6:30 p.m., the U.S. Army Band, "Pershing's Own," will kick off the prelude music to the Twilight Tattoo pageant which starts at 7 p.m.

The Twilight Tattoo is an hour-long sunset military pageant that features Soldiers of the 3rd U.S. Infantry Regiment "The Old Guard," the Fife and Drum Corps; Soldier-musicians/vocalists from the U.S. Army Band, "Pershing's Own," the U.S. Army Chorus; and, the U.S. Army "Downrange."

With more than 100 "Old Guard" Soldiers wearing period uniforms, the show will provide a fast-paced journey through Army history from the Revolutionary War to its current involvement in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Just as crowds will watch the Army's history unfold, they will travel on a journey reminiscent of Fort A.P. Hill.

The installation traces its roots back to 1941 when it was initially established as a maneuver training area and later as a staging area for Maj. Gen. George Patton's task force during World War II. Since then, hundreds of units have trained here for such military operations as Desert Shield/Desert Storm, Bosnia, Kosovo, Afghanistan and Iraq.

In fiscal year 2010 alone, nearly 94,000 Warriors trained on Fort A.P. Hill -- its highest training throughput in 16 years.

"June 11th will mark a significant day in our 70-year history -- a day we can all come together as a proud American community united in patriotism and enthusiasm for this great nation," said Lt. Col. John W. Haefner, garrison commander.

"June 11th is about you -- the citizens we support and defend. It's our way of saying 'thank you' for all you do in support of the 100,000 Warriors who train here annually," the commander added. "Bring your family and bring your friends. There will truly be something for all to enjoy -- whether it's saluting our Veterans in a parade in Bowling Green, learning about those who came before us at the historic art gallery in Port Royal, or watching the Army's history unfold in the Twilight Tattoo -- you will not want to miss this event."

Though the event is free and open to the public, individuals, must produce a valid photo ID at the gate to gain entry.

Food and beverages will be available for purchase on site, but because of limited seating, visitors are encouraged to bring lawn chairs and blankets to the event.

Weapons of any sort, glass bottles, alcoholic beverages, fireworks or any other type of explosive/pop caps are prohibited.

For more information, contact the post Public Affairs Office at (804) 633-8324 or check out the anniversary updates at <http://www.fortaphill.wordpress.com>.

U.S. will defeat terrorists, Obama tells troops

By Terri Moon Cronk
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON – The skill and courage of countless American military and intelligence professionals are why Osama bin Laden can never threaten America again, President Barack Obama told a cheering group of 101st Airborne soldiers Friday at Fort Campbell, Ky.

Obama told them about meeting Thursday with survivors of 9/11 victims in New York and laying a wreath at ground zero where the World Trade Center towers once stood.

"I met with the first responders ... who lost so many of their own when they rushed into those burning towers," Obama said. He added that this nation "will never forget those we lost that dark September day."

Earlier, Obama and Vice President Joe Biden met with the 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment and the 5th Special Forces Group at Fort Campbell to thank them for their service.

They later met with the full assault force that carried out the operation and awarded them a Presidential Unit Citation, the highest honor that can be given to a unit in recognition of extraordinary service and achievement.

"It was a chance for me to say on behalf of all Americans and people around the world, 'job well done,'" Obama told the troops gathered inside an aircraft hangar.

Calling the special operations teams "the quiet professionals," Obama said they, like the rest of today's military members, chose to serve in a time of war.

"They trained for years," he said. "They're

battle-hardened. They practiced tirelessly for this mission.

"When I gave the order, they were ready," he said. "In recent days, the whole world has learned just how ready they were."

These Americans deserve credit for one of the greatest intelligence and military operations in the nation's history, Obama said, adding "[And] so does every person who wears America's uniform, the finest military the world has ever known."

"Because of your service, because of your sacrifices, we're making progress in Afghanistan," the president said. "We're making progress in our major goal ... [of] disrupting and dismantling -- and we are going to ultimately defeat -- al-Qaida. We have cut off their head and we will ultimately defeat them."

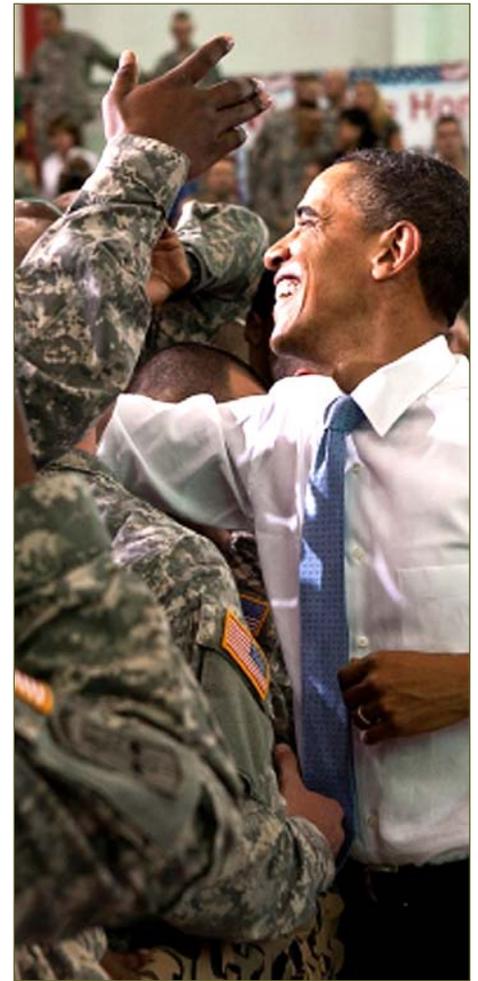
U.S. strategy is working, and there is no greater evidence of that, Obama said, "than justice finally being delivered to Osama bin Laden."

The fight against extremists is not over, but in its new phase, U.S. troops are transferring power to the Afghans, and will begin to return home this summer, he said.

"We'll build the long-term partnership with the Afghan people so that al-Qaida can never again threaten America from that country," Obama said.

"As your commander-in-chief, I am confident that we're going to succeed in this mission ... because, in you, I see the strength of America's military, and because in recent days we've all seen the resilience of the American spirit," he added.

"There's nothing we can't do together, 101st, when we remember who we are -- and that is the United States of America. When we



White House photo by Pete Souza

President Obama shakes hands with the troops during his Fort Campbell visit.

remember that no problem is too hard and no challenge is too great," the president said. "That is why," he added, "I'm so confident that, with your brave service, America's greatest days are still to come."

SOS

continued from page 4

Current DoD Physical Access Control policy requires everyone seeking entrance to an installation to stop at the gate and present government-issued, photo identification.

Acceptable forms of identification include a state-issued driver's license or state ID card. Survivors must still follow that policy, but once they have obtained a decal, they will no longer be required to apply for a visitor's pass each time they enter the installation.

Judy, a survivor who frequently visits a

media/game room dedicated to her son in the Fort Sam Houston Family Center, is very grateful that the decals will soon be available.

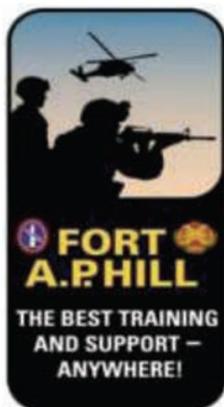
"I hate having to go through the 'survivor' and 'are you military?' explanations over and over..." she said. "I reply with 'My son was in the Army but...' It brings me to tears every time I have to have that conversation."

This is just one of the many ways the Army "will reassure survivors that they are forever members of the Army Family," Lynch said.

Survivor Outreach Services is an Army-wide program designed to provide dedicated and comprehensive support to survivors of deceased Soldiers.

It includes a comprehensive survivor services program designed specifically to meet the needs of our survivor population — with dedicated resources, and a commitment to providing first class service — for as long as the family desires.

For more information about the decals or SOS in general, visit the Website at www.MyArmyOneSource.com.



You could be the next...

2010 Employee of the Year

Be the one to nominate your co-worker as the next Fort A.P. Hill Employee of the Year!

Who is eligible? All Fort A.P. Hill Military and Civilian Employees

Who can nominate? Any Fort A.P. Hill Military and Civilian Employee

Do you know someone who has gone above and beyond the call of duty? Do you know an employee who has made a significant contribution to the initiatives included in the IMCOM Campaign Plan, community relations or other special events? Show your appreciation to that special employee and nominate him/her for one of the categories below:

Category 1— APF Employees GS-08 and below, NAF Employees NAF-03 and below

Category 2— APF Employees WS, WL, WG and NAF Employees NS, NL, NA

Category 3— APF Employees APF Employees GS-09— GS13, and NAF Employees NF-4 and 5

Packages must include: DA Form 1256 (Part 1 Only), Justification (no more than 3 (8 1/2 x 11) double spaced pages submitted by 12 May to DHR. Nominees and winners will be announced at the Town Hall Meeting on June 23rd.



Madelaine Perrotte-Clontz
Employee of the Year 2008
Bowling Green Christmas Parade

Need help with your nomination packet?
Call: Mary Arcand, 8326
Directorate of Human Resources