



Deuce Four



Volume 2 Issue 5 1st Battalion 24th Infantry Fort Wainwright, Alaska May 2009

Notes From the Commander

Dear Family and Friends of the Legion,

The past month of April has been one of change. CPT Jeremiah Hurley has departed as the Charlie Company Commander. He and his wife, Dawn, will be missed, but at the same time we are starting another great chapter under the leadership of CPT Dale Terrill as the new commander of Centurion Company. Dale and Melanie are welcome additions to the Centurion team. CPT Justino Lopez, the Battalion Fire Support Officer, has departed the Legion to assume battery command in 2-8 FA. Captain Michael Dolan has joined us as his replacement and we look forward to continued success in the Effects Cell under his leadership. Finally, 1SG Donald Hansen has departed for Brigade Staff. The new 1SG for Attack Company is 1SG Sanford Long, formerly of D/52IN. Farewell and best wishes to all those departing Deuce Four, and we extend a warm welcome to the new members of the Battalion leadership and their families.

With over one-half of this deployment complete, the rumors have begun to surface both here and at home. I want to assure everyone that the rumor about the Legion extending in theater is not true, and we are still on our original schedule to redeploy. In addition to this, block leave is currently being slated for the last two weeks of October through the first week or so of November. There is no definite timeline yet, but this should allow you to gauge when your family can spend quality time with your Soldier. The E CO (Rear Detachment) leadership and Battalion FRG will make sure that you are aware of the exact block leave times when they are officially released.

Thank you for your continued support and prayers.

STRENGTH AND HONOR!

LTC Brian Reed
LTC, IN



A Thought from the Chaplain

I am writing this as I am finishing up my R & R leave. I have no idea what is going on in the battalion now or what has gone on in the past couple of weeks. If you are wondering why I have not commented on any major event in Iraq, it is because I have been focusing on my family. The past couple of weeks has seen me change bicycle tires and batteries, glue broken toys and furniture, and of course do some vehicle maintenance. I was even able to celebrate a couple of birthdays.

I was also welcomed heartily by those I know in the community. It was great to return to chapel and see some friends there. I also went to a local church and was equally well received. It is good to be a part of a community, the sense of belonging was comforting especially when I was still a bit shaky after my return. Predictably, there were issues that came up when I returned home. I, like other Soldiers, had some problems returning to normal life. Most Soldiers have trouble with the chaos of many kids and dark places where they can't see what is going on and only recognize the chaos there. I was reminded of this truth during a 4-year old's birthday at Glow Putt Mini Golf. Ah yes, a bunch of wild young children hyped by cake and ice cream surrounded by a glow in the dark mini putt course. Just a reminder to us all there will be some adjustments needed when the final redeployment occurs.

I relished the army spirit that has developed in my family. My boys want to ride their bikes everywhere. They both bike with enthusiasm as does my wife, Ivey. We wanted to fish, but the river was too high so we went to a pond, but there was ice so we broke it and fished anyway. We caught nothing but a good

time. It was great to see my family at their best. It is good to be reminded how God has supplied the needs of our families when we are separated by deployment. My family, like others, has not always had things go their way, but they have come through as more than conquerors so far.

Tomorrow, I begin my journey back to Iraq. The next milestones on the calendar are the birthdays of both myself and followed quickly by that of my eldest son. The next milestone following that is our redeployment. The day of our redeployment will arrive fairly quickly, if the time of the deployment passing up to now is any indicator. As I look around I see the snow is gone and spring has arrived here at Ft. Wainwright. Summer here means change and that will help all in Alaska see the end of deployment come quickly. I know we all look forward to our reuniting after this deployment. I encourage you to remain strong and hopeful over the summer and we will see you soon.

Take Care and God Bless,
Brian Palmer
Legion Chaplain



HHC

ARCTIC LEGION



HIGHLIGHTS OF APRIL



SPC Sexton and SGT Cash ensure force protection is established before the operation begins.

HHC conducted two Joint Medical Outreach Operations where we, along with the Iraqi Army and Doctors from the clinic in Udaim (our largest town) traveled to outlying villages to dispense critically needed medical assistance and supplies. The first operation was conducted by the warriors of Onager Platoon, the Battalion Mortars. They ensured the



site was secure, then allowed for dozens of people, mostly women and children to be evaluated and treated by the doctors. The second operation conducted by 4th Platoon A Co (Attached) saw about two hundred

Hammer the Dog

CPT Scott Eberlein

About six months ago a little puppy came to our platoon. He was not but three weeks old. He was hungry, tired and terribly alone. One of my soldiers, SPC Sexton, befriended the little guy. He was an immediate hit around the guys. Our platoon adopted him and we called him Hammer which is an homage to our company name. The standard operating procedure (SOP) is that the dog had to go. That would have been a terrible hardship on many in the platoon and in the company, and it would have meant that Hammer would have to be destroyed because of the high probability of rabies being transmitted to soldiers. Rabies is a huge problem here. Most dogs live a horrible life in Iraq because it is assumed that they all are potential carriers of rabies. Many people die here, especially children, from this disease. My platoon and I said that we needed to give this little guy a chance. He needed to get shots in order to keep him, but the vets in Balad would not treat him unless he was a Force Protection Dog. Many dogs live on the JCOPs and are proven to be very useful in protecting soldiers. They bark when intruders are present and some even react to indirect fire before it hits the ground. They are an early warning system, if you will, plus they lift the morale of the soldiers. I wrote up the memorandum and approached the Battalion Commander, LTC Reed. His signature was required to order Hammer to be a Force Protection Dog. After much trepidation, because Hammer's life hung in the balance, LTC Reed signed it without a thought. LTC Reed was the first champion of Hammer. That day back in November 2008 Hammer became a soldier just like us. We took him to the vets in Balad where he was Micro chipped, neutered and vaccinated. Hammer could stay with us. We took him with us on overnight missions and he brought us much joy. SSG Smith took over as the primary caregiver because he had constructed an enclosed area near his living quarters. Unfortunately, in December Hammer sustained a life changing injury when he fell off a bunk bed. Hammer had broken his right front leg. We took him to the vet in Balad. The vets did what they thought was best for Hammer when they decided to re-break his leg in hopes that it would heal properly. When the cast came off, we knew that something was terribly wrong. Hammer's paw flopped to the side and he was basically walking on his ankle. When he would walk for long periods of time he would whimper. He was still a hardy puppy but was in pain when he walked. We took him back to Balad and the vets said that would not treat the leg anymore than they already had. We all accepted that this would be his life.

It was sad because we felt he would be so much better off if something was done to ease his discomfort. To make a long story short but interesting, I go to church every Sunday when I can here at Warhorse. Back in Feb 2009, the chapel band picked up a harmonica player. It was great to have that added to the mix and I sought him out to tell him so. We spoke to each other and developed a friendship. I really had no idea why he was at Warhorse. We have a lot of civilians here and he was just another guy not walking around in ACU's. I was at dinner one night and was talking about Hammer with another guy outside of my unit that I had met. He told me about a vet on Warhorse that works with the state department who would love to see Hammer. Three Sundays ago, I was in church and the harmonica player came up to me with a gift. He gave me a harmonica. Just as he gave this to me, my friend from dinner came up and gave us another gift. He said this man was the vet he had been telling me about. It turned out that he was a retired vet



now working to help the Iraqi's. I asked him if he would see Hammer. He said "You mean the three legged dog?" He had heard about him through the KBR guys that work around where Hammer lives. That Sunday I introduced Hammer to Doc Jacobs, the harmonica player. He saw that the dog was very healthy except for his leg. He determined that Hammer had nerve damage as well as bones that had not grown at the same rate. He also determined that Hammer's best course of action was amputation. We all agreed, but wondered where the heck we were going to operate on a dog. Doc Jacobs coordinated with the Combat Army Surgical Hospital on Warhorse. He also had gotten all of the medical supplies donated. Last Saturday we operated on Hammer and removed his leg and I was able to assist in the procedure. We had an Army surgeon assist as well as three nurses. They gave him as much care and attention using their

“Hammer the Dog” Continued from page 5

critical skills as they would have to a wounded soldier. I thank God that the operating room could be used in this manner because it meant that soldiers were not hurt and in need of their skills. There were about 12 people in the room for the surgery. All were extremely focused and ran to get whatever Doc Jacobs needed. He left Hammer a nub just below his knee and stitched him up expertly. He wrapped him up and we took the doped up pup back to bed at SSG Smith's. 6 hours later he was back to his normal self, but even more so. I knew instantly that we had done the right thing. He just seemed happier...and then the meds wore off. I can't imagine the throbbing he must be going through, but he doesn't whimper anymore when he walks. You can tell that he has some healing to do, but I drive him around the FOB in my truck when I have to make my errands. People love to see him and he loves to be seen.

Clearing Operations Continue

As you know, Hammer Company has a large area to cover. We continue to clear areas with the Iraqi Army to constantly deny the enemy places to hide munitions or themselves. Though we have conducted numerous clearing operations, the vigilance and determination of our warriors never falter. Each day they make me proud.



Humanitarian Aid Operations

The Soldiers of HHC strive to improve the quality of life for the people in Area of Operation (AO) Hammer. Both platoons continue to conduct what are known as Humanitarian Aid Operations. These operations distribute either educational supplies, as we did in April, or food supplies. These are your basics: water, rice, flour, oil and sugar. The people are always thankful for the assistance and our Soldiers strive to ensure the resources go to those families most in need. More often than not we conduct these operations with the assistance of the Iraqi Army. These operations continue to display our determination to improve the quality of life for those in our AO.

HHC Points of Contact

Company Commander:	CPT Mackey	matthew.mackey@us.army.mil
Company First Sergeant:	1SG Brooks	edwin.terrell.brooks@us.army.mil
FRG Leader:	Sarah Mackey	strwbryp@yahoo.com

Alpha Company ATTACK!

Family and Friends of Attack Company,

Another month down, and the light at the end of the tunnel is getting steadily brighter. This past month has been one of significant change for Attack Company. We bid farewell to the Hansen family, as 1SG Don Hansen moves on to positions of greater responsibility at Brigade Headquarters, and though they are no longer officially part of Attack Company, they will always be part of the Attack Family and their dedication and contributions to the men and families of the Company will not soon be forgotten.

However, as say goodbye to the Hansen family, we say hello to the Longs. 1SG Sanford Long joins Attack Company from D Troop, 52nd MICO, along with his wife Cynthia (both originally from North Carolina), and his three sons C.J. (15), Matthew (14), and Nicholas (9). We welcome them to the Company and look forward to continued success of the Company with their help.



1SG Long addresses the men of Attack Company for the first time after the Change of Responsibility ceremony conducted at JCOP Blackfoot.



This month we also began making some significant improvements to JCOP Blackfoot, the Combat Outpost where the majority of Alpha Company's soldiers have made their home in Iraq. We are currently expanding our walls in the JCOP to make room for the construction of a new set of living quarters as well as a new MWR building where the soldiers can relax outside of the confines of



Soldiers from 3rd Platoon cheese it up for the camera during a recent Humanitarian Aid mission in the village of Qwaylis. Such missions deliver basic food items to the families hardest hit by the insurgent activity in the area.

their barracks. Soon we will be receiving new showers and latrines and a Combat Kitchen, so that we do not have to send patrols back to the FOB twice a day to pick up our morning and evening meals.

This month we also realigned the

Company’s boundaries. This change was done for several reasons. First, when we occupied our Company sector, taking it over from the previous unit, we were unfamiliar with the area so we basically covered down on the boundaries established by the outgoing Company. Having been in the area for several months, now, we have identified some issues with our existing boundaries based on the jurisdictional and political boundaries of the Iraqi Security Forces and the local government. By adjusting our Platoon sectors so that they are more closely aligned with the Iraqi boundaries, it assists the Platoons in partnering more closely with their Iraqi counterparts. It also helps the platoon focus on one region’s specific problems rather than the problems of several separate regions. The other benefit of this realignment is that it will help combat complacency among the soldiers. Patrolling the same towns and villages can’t help but get old after seven months, so shifting the platoons to areas that they are less familiar with will naturally increase their level of alertness and introduce them to a whole new set of local personalities.

As always, the men of Attack Company make me proud to be their Commander every day. The level of proficiency and professionalism that they demonstrate on every mission not only



Soldiers from 1st Platoon pull security and engage local citizens while the Battalion Commander and Company Commander discuss security matters with local sheikhs inside.

reflects great credit upon them, but it serves as an example to the ever-improving Iraqi Security Forces for what it means to serve with pride and dedication. The soldiers of this Company truly serve as American ambassadors when they are on patrol, treating the local populace with more dignity and respect than even the local forces do. I have never had the honor of serving with a finer group of soldiers.

Very Respectfully,
 CPT M. Scott Jones
 Attack 6

A CO Points of Contact

Company Commander:	CPT Jones	matthew.s.jones@us.army.mil
Company First Sergeant:	1SG Long	sanford.e.long@us.army.mil
FRG Leader:		ACo124FRG@yahoo.com

Bravo Company Barbarians

Barbarian Friends and Family,

One more month has passed and winter is definitely gone here in Diyala Province. It is still relatively cool at night, but has topped 100 degrees during the day. We have trouble from time to time with air conditioning units, but there is a mobile repair team that battalion has contracted and we received a shipment of new units to keep things going. We are also about to receive a new shower and a new latrine trailer within the next few days that will double our capacity as we begin to need it the most. While living on a combat outpost is definitely austere compared to the garrison lifestyle, it is definitely manageable.

The biggest news over here operationally, and I'm sure you have seen it on the news, is that the transition of our Sons of Iraq is nearing completion and the Provincial Council has been selected. While things are never as smooth as we plan, these are both key events in the fight over here and your husbands and sons played a very important role in their success. Without getting too detailed, March and April were both months where the platoons were out constantly engaging local tribal and government leaders to gauge their perceptions of the transfer and the elections and to help them greet the changes as opposed to fight them. We are definitely at a tipping point here, where Sunni government has been elected but Shia leaders still hold some sway. In most cases, this manifests itself in political controversy and dysfunction, but in some it can lead to violence as a means of forcing or hindering change. The embedded Provincial Reconstruction Team member that we had working with us was wounded in such an attack this month while working in Baqubah out of our sector. He says that he is a dedicated man and part of the reason why we are winning in Iraq. Keep your thoughts with him as he recovers.

We are nearing completion on our newest

structure at the outpost. SSG O'Crowley and SSG Shake along with PVT Walker and the guys have done a fantastic job building this thing. Even the casual observer can tell that it is better built than the two the engineers framed up nearby. This will add nearly 1,600 square feet of additional living space for the soldiers to spread out a little more as the temperatures rise.

The company is also scheduling more operations using helicopters in order to reach parts of our area that are difficult to drive to in Strykers. The first such operation was conducted by 1st platoon and they flew to an island that is being farmed in the middle of the Tigris River. It was strange to see that such a place existed in Iraq, having spent so much time in the desert and urban areas. This island was covered in apple and pomegranate orchards and even had a small grape vineyard. The men who farm it travel there in small motor boats and catch fish along the way. It was definitely surprising for them when a rifle platoon landed on their island with four helicopters. Another benefit of this type of operation is that it gives the men something different to do. After riding around in the back of a Stryker for seven months, it is very easy to become complacent. Adding operations requiring air assets changes everything from planning to the duties each individual is expected to perform, to keeping everyone focused and fresh on the bigger picture.

Take care; write your soldier, and we'll see you soon.

-Barbarian 6

B CO Points of Contact

Company Commander:	CPT Harmon	jeffrey.harmon1@us.army.mil
Company First Sergeant:	1SG Black	william.black1@us.army.mil
FRG Leader:	Kristin Harmon	theharmons02@hotmail.com

Charlie Company Centurions

Dear Centurion Families,

I am very proud to be writing my first entry into the battalion newsletter. As CPT Hurley informed you in last month's letter, I am Captain Dale Terrill and I took over as commander of the Centurions on April 15th. It is GREAT to be off of the semi-metropolis of FOB Warhorse and living on COP Zaganiyah! My wife, Melanie, and I are originally from Texas and have lived in Alaska since September 2006. She has taken over as the company FRG leader from Dawn Hurley. I speak for both of us when I say we are honored to be in Centurion Company and look forward to interacting with everyone in the future.

There have not been any drastic changes during the last month in our area of operations. Though the temperature is still bearable, ranging from the mid 80's to low 90's during the day, it is warm enough to remind us of what is to come as summer approaches. We are still working towards improving the lives of the Iraqi people and capturing those who wish us ill. Of note, this month was 3rd Platoon's finding of a cache of ammunition containing plastic explosives and an RKG-3, which is a hand grenade that the enemies throw at vehicles as they pass by. SGT Woolwine spotted the grenade and other items that were lying nearby. This robbed the enemy of a valuable weapon, and finds like 3rd Platoon discovered, make us all safer.

As time draws closer for the battalion to return to Alaska, many of you are no doubt beginning to plan your post-deployment vacations and trips. According to the most recent information, the best tentative dates I can give are that we should be arriving back in Alaska between the last half of September and the first

part of October. The tentative leave window is 18 October – 7 November. The battalion ball and change of command will be 13 November and 8 December, respectively. The battalion will have half day schedules for much of the time between our return and block leave. I hope this helps you make your family plans, however, as with most things in the Army, these dates are subject to change. But, as of right now, this is the best information I have.

In closing, I'd like to thank you for the support you give each and every Soldier in this company. Whether you are a father, mother, son, daughter, wife, fiancé, or girlfriend, I want to express to you how much your support means to your Soldier, and inadvertently, to me. Though there are a host of discomforts here in Iraq, it is little compared to the daily worries and challenges you have while your Soldier is deployed. Just know that they are the best trained, most disciplined Soldiers in the world, and they are in the hands of leaders that care for their well being and are doing everything possible to bring everyone home safe.

-CENTURION 6
 CPT Dale Terrill
 C CO, 1-24 Infantry
 Commander

C CO Points of Contact

Company Commander:	CPT Terrill	cdale.terrill@us.army.mil
Company First Sergeant:	1SG Dang	ramon.dang@us.army.mil
FRG Leader:	Melanie Terrill	melanie.terrill@us.army.mil

Deuce Four Volunteers - April 2008 through March 2009

Alana Burrows	Dorothy "Liz" Sosene	Kim Woodward	Rose Black
Alisha Ward	Dusty Ferguson	Kirsten Reed	Ruth Lopez
Amanda Keogh	Elizabeth Norton	Kristen Dunlap	Samantha Messler
Amanda Millward	Erika Gronenthal	Kristi Fatuesi	Samantha Freeman
Amanda Weisbrich	Evelyn Sparks	Kristin Harmon	Sarah Mackey
Amelia DeGroot	Felisha Hurst	Krystal Hattaway	Sharla Manner
Amy Nunag	Genevieve Barbour	Kyndra Hanlon	Sharyn Moore
Angela Adams	Heather Gellman	Lana Welch	Sherilin Andersen
Angela Smith	Heather Pitsenbarger	Lena Kridlo-Beezub	Stephanie Evits
Angela Worthington	Ivey Palmer	Lori Smith	Stephanie Knight
Angelina Schramm	Jeanette Mitchell	Maggie Hurst	Stephanie Shirley
Ashley Frenette	Jeannette Avila	Marsha Savely	SueAnn Larzalere
Ashley Shepard	Jennifer McLeod	Mary Cheney	Tawny DeBolt
Brandy Burris	Jennifer Simmons	Melanie Terrill	Tereion Crawford
Bristy Mason	Jenny Johnson	Melissa Carney	Teresa Jones
Brittany Cox	Jessica Hoholik	Melissa Jones	Tracy DeLaCruz
Camila Loreda	Jessica Nixon	Melody Hansen	Trisha Kaer
Chandra Erickson	Jessica Vesper	Michelle Whittier	Vanessa Sturges
Charity Gouldner	Julie Green	Misti Hack	
Charlise Walker	Karen Lewis	Nakita Strasser	
Chelsea Kessler	Karen Martin	Raya Shibilski	
Christina Bost	Kayla Holt	Rebecca Dang	
Christina Martinez	Kelli Yeomans	Renee Mitchell	
Dawn Hurly	Kim Bone	Renner Eberlein	

*Thank you for
Volunteering 4,138 hours!
That equates to a savings of
\$77,215.08 to the Army
in Volunteer Service.*



The ***Walk to Iraq and Back*** program is still going strong, and 1-24 Infantry continues to represent themselves well among the other units involved. The following individuals have contributed:

Adahmarie Chum, Andrea Ryker, Ashley Frenette, Dawn Hurley, Dee VanAcker, Jeanette Mitchell, Joy Martin, Julie Green, Karen Lewis, Kirsten Reed, Lindsey Parish, Lisa VanAcker, Maren Best, Maria Bretches, Mary Cheney, Melanie Terrill, Melinda Quick, Michelle Porreca, Michelle Whittier, Misty Hack, Natalea Andersen, Peri Lund, Rebecca Woolwine, Sherilin Andersen, Steven VanAcker, Tanya Dalton, Tawny DeBolt and Trisha Kaer

Congratulations to all of the participants! If you are interested in getting involved, contact ACS at 353-4458 for more information. Walking together, we have made multiple trips to Iraq and Back, not to mention the great health benefits of getting and remaining active.

COMMUNITY ACTION COUNCIL MEETING – 6 MAY 09

- **Director of Emergency Services, Mr. Maurice Fischer, 353-6548**
 - Summer construction will bring traffic revisions in some housing areas. Please show caution.
 - Trainor Gate will be closed for upgrades. Date: to be determined.
- **Director, Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation, Randy Blanchard, 353-7611**
 - Drag Races are back on the airfield! 1000 - 2100 between Hangers 2 and 3. 16-17 May, 20-21 June, 18-19 July. More information to follow.
 - Golf Course Opens, weather permitting, 18 May. 353-6223
- **Army Community Service, Denise Mitchell, 353-4243**
 - FRG Symposium: 10-12 June at Northern Lights Education Center. Open to FRG volunteers and leaders. If you want to get involved in the FRG or want to know more about what is being offered, contact ACS.
 - Redeployment classes will be held 2 June 2009 through June 2010. Contact ACS for schedule.
- **Garrison Chaplain's Office, CH Vanderjagt, 353-9825**
 - Don't forget there are open seats every Sunday at the Chapel!
- **Safety, Jerry Russell, 353-6473**
 - Safety Awareness Week 18-22 May. Lots of safety classes/displays including: Motorcycle/Boating/ATV, Firearms, 3D DUI Movie, Backpacking, Child Safety Seat inspection, Children's Safety display, Bicycle Rodeo, Outdoor Safety and Rock Wall. For specific dates and times, contact Safety office.
- **School Liaison Office, Staci Biggs, 353-9879**
 - K-6th Grade Vaccinations for 2009-2010 school year. Children need a 2nd Chicken Pox vaccine before school starts in the fall.
 - Saturday A La Mode will include registration for those children who completed 6th grade this year. 16 May, 1-4 pm at Youth Center.
 - Graduation information: www.northstar.k12.ak.us.
- **ASYMCA, Chris Mott, 353-5962**
 - Camp Purple registration is closed. If you would like to volunteer as a counselor or helper during this camp, contact the office for more information.
- 2009 ASYMCA Alaska USA Charity Golf Tournament preparations are underway.
- **AAFES, Larry Ronke, 356-1357 ext 300**
 - 18 May Starbucks will open.
 - Barber Shop prices are calculated by taking an annual survey of 5 shops in Fairbanks and comparing the prices with the previous year. The shop on post is \$4.25 cheaper than the average price in town.
- **DeCA, Loriann McDonald, 353-6770**
 - Case Lot Sale 29-31 May. Friday 0900-1900, Saturday and Sunday 1000-1900.
- **Bassett Army Community Hospital, COL Stephens**
 - H1M1 is being carefully monitored, but is being treated as more of a "seasonal flu". Be sure to take the appropriate steps to remain healthy. IE: wash your hands, cover your mouth when you sneeze, stay home if you are sick, etc.

Army Community Service Reunion/Reintegration Workshops

Topics include:

- Kids and Reunion
- Homecoming Basics
- Adults Working Together in Families
- Post Deployment BATTLEMIND for Spouses
 - Hot Monogamy
 - Internet Safety
 - 10 Great Dates
- Return/Reunion workshop for Marriages
- Anger Management from Combat to Home
 - Making Marriages Work after Combat
- 7 Habits of Highly Effective Military Families
 - His, Hers and Theirs Step Parenting

Classes are offered every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 1:00-2:30 pm and 6:30-8:00 pm. Occasionally, special classes/workshops with out of town guest speakers will be available.

Contact Army Community Service at 353-4331 to RSVP or for information and specific class dates and times.

At this time, childcare is **not** provided. Check with CYSS to see if respite care is available.



The Purple Heart Medal is a 1 3/8 inch wide Purple heart bordered with Gold. Within the Purple heart is a profile of General George Washington. Above the heart and between sprays of Green leaves is a replica of the Washington Coat of Arms (a White shield with two Red bars and three Red stars at the top). A raised Bronze heart with "FOR MILITARY MERIT" engraved below the coat of arms and leaves is on the reverse side.



SGT Andrew Brady, with his wife, Amy and daughter, Savannah
 SGT Brady was awarded the Purple Heart Medal for wounds obtained in combat on 14 December 2008 when an enemy sniper shot him in the arm while on Combat Patrol. He was an Alpha Team Leader for Charlie Company.

http://usmilitary.about.com/od/armymedals/ss/ph_5.htm

Deuce Four welcomes the following babies into our Legionaire Family:




*A son,
 Raize Watkins
 Born to
 SPC Steven and
 Jennifer Watkins
 December 3, 2008
 6 pounds
 19 inches*



*A daughter,
 Destinee Aileen
 Born to
 SPC Gerard and
 Jessica Hoholik
 April 23, 2009
 7 lbs 14 oz
 20 inches*

If you are the proud parent of a new baby that was born after our soldiers deployed in September, please send a photo along with the following information (Baby's name, Parent's Name and Rank, Birth date, weight and length) to: sherilin.m.andersen@us.army.mil. We will be sure to include them in a future newsletter.







Echo Company — Rear Detachment

Summer is Here

Summer is finally here. Both days of Spring have come and gone, and long sunny days are here to stay (just ignore the rain). In Alaska, May is a very exciting time of year. Warmer temperatures and more mosquitoes abound. Just remember that even in summer, temperatures can still dip below freezing, and the possibility of snow has not gone just yet.

This month, a premium has been placed on safety by the garrison commander. Safety Awareness Week is scheduled for May 18-22 and will cover a wide variety of topics. There will be a lot of great classes offered during the week covering anything from motorcycle and boat safety to firearms and hiking safety. The big event of the week will be a family safety day at the PX on May 21st starting at 1300. There will be firefighter and EMT displays, bouncy huts, a bicycle rodeo, ADF&G laser shooting trailer, and McGruff, the Crime Dog among other things. To find out more about the Safety Awareness Week, log onto www.wainwright.army.mil and find the Safety Awareness Week link at the bottom of the page. Unrelated to safety week, but still involving safety, while driving around town, be watchful for people on the roads. The warmer weather allows more people to be able to walk, run, and bike around town. Just because there are sidewalks, doesn't mean people will necessarily use them. Also, now that the ice has melted in the lakes and rivers, swimming is not advised. Most waterways in the interior are fed by snow and glacier melt which makes them very cold for the entire year.

For future awareness, Army Community Service has begun the process of planning for reunion and reintegration. Classes have been planned for the month of June and are scheduled to continue until June 2010. The first class will be June 2nd. Classes

will be offered every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday at 1300 and 1830. More information will be sent out as it becomes available. Please see page 11 for a list of classes currently on the schedule.

Rear Detachment's numbers are dwindling as we speak. As of this writing, we no longer have Battalion S1 personnel in Rear Detachment. Any S1 assistance will be provided by Brigade S1. If you can't find it, feel free to stop by Battalion Headquarters, and we will point you in the right direction.

Sincerely and Respectfully,
 CPT Joshua P. Bost
 E Co., 1-24 IN
 Commander

- Numbers of Importance:
- Military Family Life Consultants – 388-2552
 - Army Community Services - 353-7298 or 347-4636 after hours
 - Social Work Services – 361-6284
 - Community Mental Health – 361-6059
 - Alcohol/Substance Abuse - 361-9872
 - Family Advocacy – 353-7315
 - Financial Readiness – 353-4369
 - Army Emergency Relief – 353-7453
 - American Red Cross – 353-7234 or 1-877-272-7337 after hours
 - Brigade Family Help Desk – 353-4180

Deployment Mailing Address

SOLDIER'S RANK AND NAME
 COMPANY, 1-24 IN
 FOB WARHORSE
 APO AE 09336

You may give out this address to your family and friends. Please check www.usps.com for guidelines on what can and cannot be mailed. A customs form will be required for all packages. Please allow a minimum of 2 weeks for delivery.

E CO Points of Contact

Company Commander:	CPT Bost	353-2453	joshua.bost@us.army.mil
Company First Sergeant:	SFC Reich	353-2494	eric.reich@us.army.mil
Family Readiness Support Asst:	Sherilin Andersen	353-2424	sherilin.m.andersen@us.army.mil