



TCM-ABCT/BFSB
Fort Benning, Georgia

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Inside this issue

2012 Maneuver Conference	2
BFSB Reference Library	2
504th Jumpmaster training.....	3
560th at Keris Strike.....	4
525th BFSB LRSC training	5
502nd MI in Spin Boldak	6
201st / 71st articles	7
Recent BFSB photos.....	8

BFSB Monthly

Director's Message

By COL Gary R. Nicolson
Director, TCM-ABCT and BFSB

BFSB Community,

Once again, Battlefield Surveillance Brigades ride to the sound of the “developmental guns.” Our community first came together 20-24 October 2008 and 16-20 March 2009 to conduct BFSB Computer Assisted Map Exercises (CAMEXes) I and II. These were decisive engagements defining the BFSB - in terms of its operational and organizational concept and its doctrine. With the standard clearly defined, leaders in BFSBs have continued to maintain this vital role in Reconnaissance Summits, Warfighter Symposiums and Lessons Learned – Post Deployment Assessments. The weekend of 22 September 2012 was no exception. Leaders, and recent leaders, from eight of the Army’s ten BFSBs assembled at Fort Leavenworth for the US Army Training and Doctrine Command (TRADOC) hosted Battlefield Surveillance Brigade Leaders Workgroup. Their mission was to review TRADOC’s first recommended TOE change and to validate BFSB gaps, assess proposed solutions, and couch their assessments in terms of risk mitigation. The two solution sets considered are the two force design updates (FDUs or recommended TOE changes) you have seen during recent BFSB WfF online symposiums: the BFSB FDU which focuses on the R&S squadron and realigns the BFSB support company, and the MI (Pursuit and Exploitation – P&E) battalion FDU which reorganizes the BFSB’s organic MI battalion. In addition to the BFSB community, representatives from FORSCOM, NGB and TRADOC were present and involved. The workgroup validated the force design improvements recommended by the Maneuver and Intelligence Centers of Excellence. The workgroup also acknowledged there is still work to do to address other key BFSB gaps. The Commanders of the Maneuver and Intelligence Centers of Excellence received the out-brief via VTC. The next step occurs 3-4 October, 2012 at Fort Bragg where Army Division and Corps Commanders will review the work of the BFSB Leader Workshop and perform a similar assessment. The TRADOC Commander will review the results from Fort Bragg and present recommendations to the Army Leadership on or about 25 October 2012. I will have an update for you next month.

Wrapping this up, I’d like to convey my gratitude for the team that came together at Fort Leavenworth and provided an assessment the Army would be challenged to garner in any other way. I also ask that you continue to keep in mind those BFSB Troopers from 71 BFSB, 201 BFSB, and 560 BFSB, and individual augmentees who are now deployed and accomplishing key missions for their supported commands.

Disclaimer

The BFSB Monthly is published by TCM ABCT & BFSB, Capabilities Development and Integration Directorate (CDID), Maneuver Center of Excellence (MCoE), Fort Benning, Georgia. The purpose of this newsletter is to share information provided by members of the BFSB Community of Interest. Contents of **The BFSB Monthly** are not necessarily official views of, or endorsed by, the U. S. Government, Department of Defense, Department of the Army, MCoE, the MCoE CDID or TCM-ABCT & BFSB.

BFSB Warfighter Forum & Monthly Newsletter Point of Contact

Mr. Derek Larson
Phone: 706.545.8825 (office)
770.557.4666 (cell)
E-mail: derek.larson@us.army.mil

Note: The BFSB Warfighter Forum is directed by the Assistant TCM-BFSB. POC information listed on page 3.

2012 Maneuver Conference

Upcoming Events

- 3 Oct: MIWff Symposium.** Topics of this symposium include "ISR Synchronization" and "Analytical Tradecraft". Scheduled from 0700 -0830 Arizona (1400Z-1530Z). Defense Connect Online (DCO) URL: <https://connect.dco.dod.mil/miwff>.
- 16 Oct (0900-1030 EDT): IWff Symposium.** This symposium will include remarks from LTG Allyn and CSM Vimoto and feature BCT organization/C2 proposals by MG Fuller (25th ID), Lessons Learned / Best Practices from OEF by COL Wawro (4/1 ID IBCT), IBCT High Risk Gap Analysis by COL House (TCM-IBCT), Infantry POI Changes from COL Rauhut (197th IN BDE) and Mission Command and the NIE/CIE by ARCIC. For more information, go to <https://iwff.army.mil> (CAC required for access).

BFSB POC roster

The BFSB Point of Contact Roster has been updated. Go to [this folder](#) to download a copy. At the bottom of the spreadsheet are tabs with rosters for: BFSBs, TCM-BFSB personnel, other BFSB-related POCs, and more.



The 2012 Maneuver Conference was held September 17-20 in Columbus, Georgia. Presentations and videos from the conference have been uploaded to [this folder](#) on the BFSB Warfighter Forum homepage on Army Knowledge Online. Videos of presentations can also be found on the [MCoE website](#) by clicking on the "coverage" tab.



State of the Armor Video

Please take a moment to view the "State of the Armor" presentation given by COL Paul Laughlin and CSM Miles Wilson from the Office of the Chief of Armor, which can be downloaded by clicking on the picture to the right.

The following key points are made during the presentation:

- (11:19) CSM Wilson talks about BFSB Force Design Update (FDU)
- (13:04) The need to "get the scouts out of HMMVs" is mentioned.

- (27:25) COL Laughlin provides information on a forum that will be established to discuss the scout platform with such questions as "what do you think of scouts and HMMVs?".
- (29:00) There will be a "Gainey Cup" during the next Reconnaissance Summit; a competition to test dismounted scout skills.

BFSB Reference Library

A "BFSB Reference Library" document has been created and posted to the BFSB WFF homepage on AKO. It will be updated monthly, with updates listed in the BFSB Monthly Newsletter, if applicable. If you have any comments/suggestions regarding this document, please contact derek.larson@us.army.mil. Also, If you have any unit specific SOPs you would like to share, please feel free to do so, as this will be a great benefit to the BFSB Community while doctrine is in development. Click on the document below to download a copy.

BFSB Reference Library

Battlefield Surveillance Brigade Warfighter Forum

 Reconnaissance and Security Organization FM 3-98 (DRAFT)*	 Battlefield Surveillance Brigade (BSB) FM 3-55.1	 Battlefield Surveillance Brigade Collection Task Publication TC 3-55.1	 Reconnaissance, Security and MI Discipline Collection (RSCM) is a DRAFT and not official BFSB Doctrine. Please direct any questions or comments regarding this document to Paul.House@us.army.mil , TCM-BFSB.
 Reconnaissance and Security Separation FM 3-20.36	 Reconnaissance and Security Squadron Collection Task Publication TC 3-20.36	 Reconnaissance and Security Troop FM 3-20.971	 Reconnaissance and Scout Platform FM 3-20.98
 ADP 2-0 (Intelligence)	 ADRP 2-0 (Intelligence)	 FM 2-0 (Intelligence)	 Military Intelligence Battalion (Intelligence) TC 2-22.304
 Network Operations FM 6-02.71	 BSC	 Brigade Support Battalion FM 6-90 (6-90.7)	 MFT SOP SOP* BFSB MFT SOP***
 Electronic Warfare in Operations FM 3-36	 Planning Requirements and Assessing Collection ATTP 2-01***	 Tactics, Techniques and Procedures for Intelligence Support to Site Evaluation ATTP 2-91.6***	 Document and Media Exploitation TC 2-91.6***

* FM 3-98 (DRAFT) will replace FM 17-85. Please direct any comments of the manual to Paul.House@us.army.mil and James.Wilson@us.army.mil.

** TC 3-55.1 (Reconnaissance, Security and MI Discipline Collection (RSCM)) is a DRAFT and not official BFSB Doctrine. Please direct any questions or comments regarding this document to Paul.House@us.army.mil, TCM-BFSB.

*** Some users may need additional privileges to access these "Distribution Restriction" publications.

**** SOP* BFSB MFT SOP added while ATTP 2-01.3, Multifunctional Teams, is being drafted at the USACE.

If you have any recommendations or comments regarding the BFSB Reference Library, please contact derek.larson@us.army.mil.

Manuals and documents in the BFSB Reference Library are linked to publications in the Army Publishing Directorate (APD) or the BFSB Warfighter Forum homepage on Army Knowledge Online (AKO).

This document is posted on the BFSB WFF homepage, and will be updated every month, with updates included in the BFSB Monthly Newsletter.



Soldiers from 2-38 CAV, 201st BFSB, certify to become Jumpmasters at Fort Hood, Texas.

Fort Hood Certifies Jumpmasters To Train Paratroopers

Story and photo by Sophia Stamas, KCENTV.com

Fort Hood makes another big jump when it comes to training for airborne operations, as it certifies 11 Jumpmasters to train paratroopers.

This after the post opened its first fully-certified air assault school in the summer.

Soldiers with the 2nd Squadron, 38th Cavalry Regiment parachuted from 15 hundred feet in the air on North Fort Hood this morning.

Some, like SFC Carlos Arriaza, dropped as many as three times, but first every strap was checked and checked again so they can safely focus on the mission at hand.

It's all about getting as many troops on the ground as possible, undetected.

"It allows you to move on the enemy and not be compromised," said Carlos.

That's what this squadron does.

They specialize in surveillance and reconnaissance.

Parachuting is one way they get where they need to be, so they can make contact with the enemy and tell U.S. commanders what the situation is on the battlefield.

"Because we have unique capabilities, we need to be prepared to insert either through air, ground or water, so if we don't train this skill set, then we can't provide that capability to the commanding general," Squadron Commander LTC John Cogbill said.

To get that skill set, a trainer had to be brought in from Fort Bragg.

Now after his instruction, that's not a problem anymore.

"The benefit of conducting this operation is we have now trained and certified leaders, so that we as a squadron can conduct independent airborne operations and continue to maintain our airborne proficiency," said LTC Cogbill.

The training is bringing soldiers, like Carlos, back down to earth after a decade of deployments. "We've got to stay current in airborne operations. You never know when we're going to need that in the combat zone," said Carlos.

Now that Fort Hood has its own certified jumpmasters, they'll be training paratroopers about once a month.

TCM-BFSB Points of Contact



TCM-ABCT & BFSB
7533 Holtz Street
Fort Benning, Georgia 31905

Director, TCM-ABCT & BFSB

COL Gary Nicoson
Phone: 706.545.2517
E-mail: gary-nicoson@us.army.mil

Assistant Director, TCM-BFSB:

LTC Anthony Lowry
Phone: 706.626.2444
E-mail: anthony.e.lowry.mil@mail.mil

XO, TCM-BFSB:

Mr. Pete Rose
Phone: 706.626.2443
E-mail: peter.rose@us.army.mil

Materiel Integrator:

MAJ Tony Thornton
Phone: 706.626.1120
E-mail:
tony.lapatrick.thornton@us.army.mil

Materiel Integrator:

Mr. Phil Cheatham
Phone: 706.545.4952
E-mail:
malcolm.p.cheatham.civ@mail.mil

Materiel & Organizational Integrator:

Mr. Mike Dunn
Phone: 706.626.2442
E-mail: michael.d.dunn.ctr@mail.mil

560th BFSB Shoulder Sleeve Insignia



Description: On a stylized Greek spearhead shaped embroidered item divided vertically through the center, light blue and black, displaying across the upper portion of the item a yellow striking lightning bolt issuing from the upper left to the right, overall in the center a silver gray dagger, the hilt dark gray, point up; all within a 1/8 inch (.32 cm) yellow border. The overall dimensions are 3 1/4 inches (8.26 cm) in height and 2 1/4 inches (5.72 cm) in width.

Symbolism: The Greek spearhead shaped insignia signifies the weaponry of the earliest elite warriors in history and highlights the importance of the Brigade's operations to the overall war fight as being at the "tip of the spear," alluding to the motto "TO THE POINT." Light blue represents the Infantry capability of the long range surveillance soldiers. Black denotes the unknown characteristics of the future battlefields. The striking lightning bolt illustrates the Brigade's mission of delivering heightened awareness and understanding to commanders, at all levels in the field. The dagger symbolizes the sharpness of the technical and tactical proficiency of all soldiers across the Brigade.

Background: The shoulder sleeve insignia was approved effective 1 September 2009. (TIOH Dwg. No. A-1-987).



Above: MG Dato Razal Bin Hj Ahmad, commander of the 3rd Division MAF delivers remarks at the opening ceremony of Operation Keris Strike as COL Tom Carden, Commander of the 560th BFSB observes.

560th Battlefield Surveillance Brigade participates in Operation Keris Strike

Story and Photos by 1LT William M. Carraway,
Public Affairs Office,
Georgia Department of Defense

CAMP ULU TIRAM, Malaysia, Sept. 18, 2012 – Operation Keris Strike, a bilateral command-post exercise, officially began today with an opening ceremony here at the Malaysian Army's Jungle Warfare School. Members of the 560th Battlefield Surveillance Brigade (BFSB) of the Georgia National Guard will provide instruction and mentorship over the course of the two-week exercise.

"This is an incredible, once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to be here in Malaysia, to help the Malay Armed Forces, and to represent the United States Armed Forces," said COL Tom Carden, Commander of the 560th BfSB.

MG Ahmad, welcomed U.S participants to Malaysia during the opening ceremony.

"This exercise will indicate a significant landmark in the ongoing military relations between our armies," said Ahmad. "The Malaysian Army is indeed honored to have forged this landmark relationship and lasting military ties with the United States Army."

Hosted by the Malaysian Armed Forces, Keris Strike 2012 is designed to not only strengthen the ties that exist between the United States and Malaysia, but to build the capacity of each nation to conduct joint operations. The joint exercise is now in its 16th year and combines the talents of the 9th Mission Support Command, Army Reserve, as well as National Guard units from Georgia, Alaska, and Washington. The Malaysian Army is represented by approximately 400 Soldiers of the 7th Brigade, 3rd Division, MAF.

560th BFSB Update: [click here for video.](#)





Above: Soldiers from the 3rd Long Range Surveillance Detachment, Company C, 1st Squadron, 38th Cavalry Regiment, 525th Battlefield Surveillance Brigade, participate in tactical beach assaults and waterborne insertion techniques Sept. 10 to 14, off the coast of Shackleford Island, N.C. The week-long training involved classroom lessons, water survivability, day and night nautical navigation, day and night tactical beach assaults and rigorous physical training.

Fort Bragg Soldiers train with U.S. Coast Guard

*Story and photo by SSG Thomas G. Collins,
27th Public Affairs Detachment*

FORT MACON, N.C. — Soldiers from 3rd Long Range Surveillance Detachment, Company C, 1st Squadron, 38th Cavalry, 525th Battlefield Surveillance Brigade, XVIII Airborne Corps, in conjunction with U.S. Coast Guardsmen from the Fort Macon Coast Guard Station, conducted open-water combat training Sept. 10 to 14 off the coast of Shackleford Island, N.C.

After a weeklong training event involving classroom training, water survivability, day and night nautical navigation, day and night tactical beach assaults and rigorous physical training the Fort Bragg-based Soldiers from 3rd LRSD honed their waterborne insertion capabilities.

“Water insertion is a critical technique for the detachment,” said 1st Lt. Remington Adams, detachment leader for the 3rd LRSD. “Being able to coordinate with the USCG for this type of training was excellent.”

“It was a phenomenal opportunity to aid and assist these Soldiers in their training,” said Senior Chief Boatswain’s Mate Thaddeus M. Bouchard, Officer in Charge of USCG-Fort Macon. “In this joint environment we get to see what other services are bringing to the table.”

The LRSD brought their gear, zodiacs and motivation to the table in order to expand its waterborne insertion capabilities.

“This was a big step in our off-post training platform and was a way to confirm our previous training,” said Adams. “We have conducted training on Mott Lake at Fort Bragg where the water was nice and predictable, but once we got out on the open ocean, it added a completely different dynamic.”

Using a Coast Guard cutter to perform extended length training made the training more realistic for the Soldiers.

[Read more...](#)

CATR Points of Contact

CATR Program Manager:

Mr. Rick Huber
813.826.7403 (office)
E-mail: huberr@socom.mil

MCoE CATR SME:

Mr. Keith Frawley
706.545.7388 (office)
931.801.8258 (mobile)
E-mail: keith.frawley@us.army.mil

MCoE CATR Materiel Integrator:

Mr. Robert Silva
706.545.2243 (office)
254.368.1005 (mobile)
E-mail: robert.c.silva.ctr@mail.mil

MCoE CATR Doctrine & Organizational Integrator

Mr. Wayne Cason
706.545.2906 (office)
502-718-6788 (mobile)
E-mail: wayne.cason@us.army.mil

MCoE CATR Training Integrator

Mr. Frank Johnson
706.545.7382 (office)
502.457.0958 (mobile)
E-mail:
frank.carter.johnson@us.army.mil

To receive CATR training, contact:

Mr. Danny Linville
813.826.7417 (office)
813.390.9951 (mobile)
E-mail:
danny.linville.ctr@socom.mil

MCoE Doctrine and Training Division, Reconnaissance Branch

Click on the link below to go to their site on Army Knowledge Online.



Other WfF Newsletters



SWfF Newsletter (21 Sep 12)



IWfF Newsletter (27 Sep 12)



AWfF Newsletter (26 Sep 12)



MIWfF Newsletter (21 Sep 12)

Southern Strike III takes swing at enemy forces, supplies

Story by SSG Brendan Mackie,
117th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

FORWARD OPERATING BASE SPIN BOLDAK, Afghanistan – Long after midnight with most residents here fast asleep, 3rd Zone Afghan Border Police and International Security Assistance Force members quietly launched their surprise air assault mission in conjunction with Operation Southern Strike III, an Afghan-led mission that took place in Spin Boldak and Takhteh Pol districts Sept. 1–9.

The air assault team of Afghan, Albanian, and U.S. forces focused on interdicting enemy supplies of improvised explosive device materials and preventing enemy forces from fleeing across the border, said the air assault commander.

“This was my first air assault mission and also the first dismounted mission as well,” said PFC Nick Schumacker, an infantryman with Alpha Company of the 5th Battalion, 20th Infantry Regiment. “It is quite the adrenaline rush when you’re getting off the helicopter.”

In fact, it was the Tomah, Wisconsin, native’s first helicopter ride ever.

“I was pretty excited, never been on a helicopter,” Schumacker said. “That was pretty fun, just locked and loaded, and then ran off the helicopter and pulled security.”

While Schumacker and others were busy securing the area and searching caves, soldiers with the 569th Engineer Company were creeping toward their predetermined positions, clearing IED threats to make the roads safe for subsequent ABP and ISAF convoys.

“We go out there, clear the routes, and we save lives,” said PFC Forrest Myers, an engineer and radio telephone operator from Hanford, California. “Although we do spend the long hours out there, at the end of the day you know each IED that you find could be one life saved. To me, it’s all worth it.”

During Southern Strike, the engineer company discovered eight improvised explosive devices along routes, while border police and soldiers with A Company, 5-20th Infantry found a cache of 650 pounds of homemade explosives in the form of 14 five-liter jugs. [Read more...](#)

SPC Chanel Starr, a cryptologic linguist with Alpha Company, 502nd Military Intelligence Battalion, talks with children during Operation Southern Strike III in the village of Jandad Kalay in the district of Spin Boldak, Kandahar province, Afghanistan, Sept. 9, 2012.



US-Japan drills at Yakima base give allies space they lack at home

Story by Adam Ashton,
The News Tribune

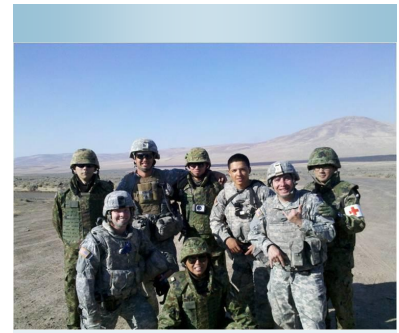
YAKIMA, Wash. — The 19th year of a U.S.-Japan military exercise in Central Washington peaked over the weekend with batteries of American cannons collaborating with hundreds of soldiers from their Pacific ally in one of their biggest joint drills yet.

It's called Operation Rising Thunder, and both nations stepped up their contributions this year. Each side sent about 500 service members to take part in the three-week exercise, said Army CPT Cynthia Holuta.

For the Americans, the extra troops reflect the Pentagon's reemphasis on the Pacific as well as a chance for soldiers to refresh combat skills they can't exercise at Joint Base Lewis-McChord.

The Japanese have long used the annual drills at the Yakima Training Center for exercises they can't do at home, but they had fewer forces to send last year because of the fallout from the tsunami that hit their shores in 2011.

Japan sent about 300 soldiers in 2011, down from about 350 in 2010, according to Army reports from those Rising Thunder exercises. [Read more...](#)



(above) 3-38 CAV, 201st Battlefield Surveillance Brigade, and 3rd RCT medics pause for a photo after their mass casualty (MASCAL) exercise. The 109th and 502nd Military Intelligence Battalions of the 201st BFSB are currently deployed to Afghanistan.

"What do you think of Scouts and HMMWVs? ...We need feedback." - COL Paul Laughlin, U.S. Army Armor School Commandant, at 2012 Maneuver Conference (video link on page 2).

CJTF-HOA members deliver 'care' to orphanage

Story by Staff Sgt. RJ Biermann,
341st Missile Wing Public Affairs (USAF)

CAMP LEMONNIER, Djibouti – Combined Joint Task Force - Horn of Africa soldiers, forward-deployed to Ethiopia, delivered care packages to a local orphanage, Sept. 2, 2012.

St. Augustine's, a 100-year-old, Catholic, all-girls orphanage in Dire Dawa, Ethiopia, has been the recipient of dozens of boxes of personal care items since February, when the 3rd Squadron, 124th Cavalry Regiment, Texas Army National Guard unit arrived to support the CJTF-HOA mission.

"Nine boxes of hygiene items went to the orphanage Sunday," said U.S. Army CPT Brett Anderson, 3-124th CAV chaplain.

The need for personal hygiene items has increased in recent months, according to Anderson.

"Ethiopia has had more rain than usual and even flooding in some areas," Anderson said.

"These supplies have become a lot more expensive to come by. The girls learn to live with very little; but having soap, shampoo and toothpaste certainly improves their quality of life."

Fortunately, there are many organizations willing to deliver.

"We had a group from the Highway 2 Heaven Biker Church in Gatesville, Texas, ask about how they could help people here," Anderson said. "We suggested the orphanage as we spend a lot of time there and knew they needed certain things."

Since then the church group has sent more than 20 boxes for the orphanage, as boxes continue to arrive from other sources.

"The Enduring Freedom Chapel receives boxes regularly – this being the first time we've received and delivered boxes from the chapel," Anderson said.

[Read more...](#)



(above) SGT Timothy Ryan, 3rd Squadron, 124th Cavalry Regiment, Texas Army National Guard, administration non-commissioned officer, and U.S. Army SFC Loren Ledlow, 3-124th CAV operations NCO, deliver several boxes of personal items for an orphanage in Dire Dawa, Ethiopia, Aug. 28, 2012. St. Augustine's, a Catholic, all-girls orphanage, has been the recipient of dozens of boxes of personal care items since February, when the 3-124th CAV arrived at Camp Lemonnier, Djibouti.

BFSB Warfighter Forum (WfF) Links

- [BFSB WfF Homepage](#) (Includes links to BFSB unit homepages)
- [BFSB Collaboration Site](#) (CAC required to register)
- [BFSB Warfighter Forum on Facebook](#).
- SIPR info: The BFSB Warfighter Forum on AKO-S can be found by going to <https://www.us.army.smil.mil/suite/page/21502>.

BFSB Warfighter Forum Collaboration Site is moving to milBook

In March 2013 (approximately), all Army Professional Forums will migrate from our current software to milSuite software. One significant note on the software transition is that memberships won't transfer. Everyone who is currently a member, and wishes to move, will have to go there and join. Another significant change on the new software is access will be CAC Card only. No more AKO username and PW logon. It is important that those of you who anticipate joining the new site go ahead and establish an account now. This is particularly important for current discussions and documents to be attributed to the original contributor when the content is transferred. Select the link below to download a guide on how to establish a milSuites account.

[How to register for milSuite.pdf](#)





Page 8 photos (top): Soldiers from the 3-108th CAV, 560th Battlefield Surveillance Brigade, Georgia Army National Guard, stand in formation in Camp Bondsteel, Kosovo. The 560th Battlefield Surveillance Brigade had Soldiers deployed to Afghanistan, Kosovo and Malaysia in September. (center): A 109th Military Intelligence Battalion, 201st Battlefield Surveillance Brigade, Soldier poses in front of a Soviet-era T-55 main battle tank. Both military intelligence battalions from the 201st Battlefield Surveillance Brigade are deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan. (bottom): 2-38 CAV, 504th Battlefield Surveillance Brigade, conducts Jumpmaster refresher training in Fort Hood, Texas.

Page 9 photos (top-left): The 201st Battlefield Surveillance Brigade Main Command Post (MCP) at Yakima Training Center makes it possible to conduct the brigade's operations from remote locations anywhere in the world. (top-right): Long-range Surveillance Company Soldiers from the 525th Battlefield Surveillance Brigade conduct Special Purpose Insertion & Extraction System (SPIES) Training at Fort Pickett, Virginia. (bottom-left): Soldiers with Combined Task Force Arrowhead, Spin Boldak Fire Department firefighters and other personnel join together to remember the events of 9/11 during a memorial service at Forward Operating Base Spin Boldak, Afghanistan, Sept. 11, 2012. (bottom-right): Long-range Surveillance Company Soldiers from the 525th Battlefield Surveillance Brigade participate in Motorcycle Training with the Asymmetric Warfare Group (AWG) at Fort Bliss, Texas.