

# GUNFIGHTER GAZETTE



31 MAY 2008

Volume 2, Issue 1

AS WE CELEBRATE MEMORIAL DAY WE REMEMBER  
OUR  
FALLEN GUNFIGHTERS

PFC JESSE M. HALLING  
7 JUNE 2003



PFC RON J. JOSHUA JR.  
17 JULY 2007



PFC AARON M. HUDSON  
16 APRIL 2005



SPC KAMISHA J. BLOCK  
16 AUGUST 2007



PFC BRANDON K. BOBB  
17 JULY 2007



So often we forget the sacrifices made by our fallen heroes. But as we take aim at our last year here in Iraq, we remember our fallen Soldiers from not just Operation Iraqi Freedom 07-09 but our unit's previous deployments: Operation Iraqi Freedom I and 04-06. The Soldiers that have fought so bravely and given their lives in the name of liberty will not be forgotten. We salute our fallen Gunfighters, they are NOT forgotten.



# GUNFIGHTER 6 SENDS

CPT RUDY A. SANDOVAL



Well, the month has certainly flown by, and the days are going by quickly as I spend time with family and friends during mid-tour leave. First, I have to congratulate my sister for graduating from Columbia Law School...way to go sis! Second, I want to share my experience with all of you on the day of her graduation, not for the occasion itself, but for what happened that day of graduation.

On the day of the graduation, I wore my Class A uniform since I had packed all my suits in storage. I walked with my family through the streets of New York City to get to the university. During that walk and the graduation itself, I was simply amazed at the outpour of support from the parents and even students that walked up to me simply to shake

my hand and tell me "Thanks!" I had one older gentlemen who came up to me, stared me up and down, looking at my uniform almost making me feel as though I was going through an inspection and then looked me straight in the eye, his eyes swelling with tears about to burst, and telling me "thank you son, for everything you do. I know what you and your Soldiers are experiencing." He was a Vietnam veteran whose son was graduating from the law school. And there were others who did the same thing but through it all it just made me think to myself what an outstanding job our Soldiers are doing.

Day in and day out we ask so much from them and through it all, there is no complaining and no arguments, but simply accomplishing the mission at hand. And so the day went, the entire day of shaking hands and hugging

anonymous people who simply wanted to say thanks. It brought back a sense of reality and really allowed me to get a pulse of the American point of view, and the enduring support everyone has for the troops while we're deployed.

To the Gunfighter Family and Friends, I truly can't thank you enough for what you do for us and the support you give us to endure the deployment. Without this support and the support of others, the deployment would absolutely seem never-ending and difficult to bear. I simply want to tell you "Thank You!" because behind every Soldier there is (are) a family member(s) that allows us to concentrate on our jobs abroad.

-Gunfighter 6

# GUNFIGHTER 7 SENDS

1SG BRIAN A. FLOM



Greetings to everyone back home from sunny Baghdad, Iraq. Hard to believe that another month is down already. By the time most of you read this, it will be the first part of June and we will have the distinct pleasure of saying "we will be headed home next month" Time sure seems to be flying and we are getting more and more anxious to leave the great sandbox. But we are not there yet. This time period is what I would consider to be the most critical time period of the deployment. This is the time period that we begin to get comfortable and lose focus on the task at hand, which is completing the mission successfully and safely. With that being said, I ask everyone during this critical time, to remain focused and all get through these last few weeks together. I ask this of my Soldiers and the families alike. With each others support, time will fly and we will soon reunite with open arms.



**ABOVE...**From left—SSG Teklinski, 1SG Flom, and SGT Thompson. SSG Teklinski's squad escorted First Sergeant Flom through the Gunfighter area of operation to check on the 401st Soldiers on station.

Despite the lengthy deployment and the hot summer days, the Gunfighters manage to keep their spirits and morale high, taking it one day at a time. The month of May was no exception for the Gunfighters to continue doing great things. From opening new Iraqi Police Stations to the recruiting of hundreds of potential police recruits, the outstanding execution of the unit's mission by the Soldiers always seem to impress me. I want to take a moment to recognize our Motor Sergeant, SSG Tompkins. As a result of his hard work and tireless efforts in keeping our vehicles running, he was selected by the 18<sup>th</sup> Airborne Corps Commanding General to receive a battlefield promotion and was recently promoted from SGT to SSG. Congratulations to him and the rest of the maintenance section whose hard work made this all possible.

I hope that everyone had an enjoyable Memorial Day weekend and cherished the time with their friends and families.

SEE 1SG...Page 9



MSG JEREMY KEENE

# OPERATIONS

Well it is time for the count down. Man we have been waiting so long to actually say this. Even though the Gunfighter Operations are ready to get home to our loved ones we are still preparing to give the 463rd a great handover. MSG Keene is steadily thinking of what the 463rd will need to succeed in taking over our mission. Our Gunfighter elements are still working hard on getting all of our IP's stations functioning on their own so that the 463rd will fall in on well trained IP's. I am continuously getting the intelligence information for our Squads so that they know what is going on outside the wire on a daily basis. On the Home Front, my wife Natalia has been going to College and getting A's on all her tests while working a full time job. I am so proud of you Honey. Our wives are the real troopers and we could not do this without their support. We can't wait to see all the families in a couple of months when we get back to Fort Hood, Thanks to all for your support you have given the Gunfighters during this long deployment. This is Gunfighter 2 out.

## MOC 3 ELEMENTS:



Introducing MOC<sub>3</sub>:  
 Mobile  
 Operations  
 Command

### GUNFIGHTER GAZETTE

401st Military Police Com-  
 pany, Fort Hood, Texas  
 76544

The Gunfighter Gazette is a Soldier produced newsletter designed for and distributed to the families, friends and Soldiers associated with the 401st Military Police Company while deployed to Operation Iraqi Freedom 07-09. The opinions in this newsletter are not those of the United States Army, the United States Department of Defense or the United States of America. The opinions expressed in this newsletter are those solely of the Soldiers of the 401st Military Police Company. If you have questions or comments about this newsletter you may contact: SPC David S. Womack, 401s MP CO. david.s.womack@us.army.mil

This is a monthly publication distributed to the families care of the Family Readiness Group. You may contact the Family Readiness Group: (254) 287 - 2431 Bldg 16003, Fort Hood, Texas 76544

The Soldiers of the 401st Military Police Company sincerely thank you for your support! To mail a letter or package to your deployed Soldier please use the provided address:

PVT Lastname, Firstname MI  
 716th MP BN  
 401 MP CO  
 APO AE 09342

401st Military Police Company  
 716th Military Police Battalion  
 18th Military Police Brigade

ALWAYS FIRST!



# 1ST PLATOON

## THE GHOST TIMES

PLATOON LEADER: 1LT LYNCH

PLATOON SERGEANT: SFC SMITH



To all the Ghost Families, we are almost there! The Soldiers and NCOs' have been working overtime this month in preparation of the incoming unit. Also this month, SGT Adams re-enlisted for MPI. I would have to say that it was the best re-enlistment ever, thanks to SSG Stanifer and SGT Thompson, we had a huge BBQ for the hole platoon following the re-enlistment. SPC Scott-Lee was awarded a AAM for winning the Brigade Soldier of the Quarter, SGT Nichol received a COA for the NCO of the quarter for the company, and SGT Mancino received a COA for winning NCO of the month for April for the company. Your loved ones are doing great things even as the deployment is coming to an end. It is a great testament to the dedication and commitment that they have. I am truly grateful to lead and serve with them. Only one or two of these left! God Bless. Ghost 6 out!



**RIGHT...**PFC Graves gathers the finger prints of an IP candidate and puts them into the HIIDE system.



**LEFT...**Soldiers take a few minutes to just hang out.

**RIGHT...**PFC Steffey working with an IP at the armsroom at his station.



**LEFT...**Soldiers hand out candy to kids near their IP station.

**RIGHT...**SPC Gravelle seen changing a tire on his HMMWV.







# 2ND PLATOON

THE PUNISHER CORNER

PLATOON LEADER: ILT MARTINEZ

Hello Again Punisher Family,

The countdown is on. Just two more newsletters and we will be home. The weather has been hot, getting up to 108 and cooling down at night. The platoon is doing well and has been keeping focused on the mission. Through their hard work we have tripled the amount of patrolling of the Iraqi Police in our area. The Iraqi population seems to be happy with the increased security presents. We had a new addition to the Punishers, PVT Hopwood, coming late in the game from Fort Hood. We welcome him and his family in North Carolina. Thank you again for all the support. I hope you enjoy the pictures

Punisher 6 Out!



**LEFT**...SFC Senior is seen outside of a police station checking on Soldiers.



**LEFT**...SGT Parker and SPC Nutter are seen waiting for their nightly briefing.



**FAR LEFT**...SPC DeTinne is seen talking to local Iraqi children on his way to the roof security.



**LEFT**...CPL Cantwell is seen pulling security at a checkpoint check on a joint patrol.



**LEFT**...SGT Bell checks PFC Key during PCI (Pre-Combat Inspection).

“If all men were just there would be no need for Punishers.”



# 3RD PLATOON

## A HOOLIGAN REPORT

PLATOON LEADER: 1LT WALTER

The month of May comes to end here in Baghdad, with the days getting longer and hotter, with only 60 some days left in country. You can ask almost any Hooligan and they are able to tell you how many days we have remaining in country, they can sense the end is near. Yet the mission is still not complete for any of these Soldiers.

1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Squads are rolling out to their respective stations almost on a daily basis to conduct their training with their Iraqi Police counterparts. Even though the days are winding down, spirits are high amongst the Soldiers in 3<sup>rd</sup> Platoon. SFC Decker is online most mornings prior to rolling out on mission talking to his Soldiers and ensuring that they are not getting in a rut. "Even though the Soldiers have been doing this for over a year now, I need to ensure that their minds are still in the game" stated SFC Decker conducting checks of vehicles one morning. 3<sup>rd</sup> Squad, led by SSG Watts is an out-lying squad for the platoon. Their current mission at Jamia Police Station has them living at the JSS with 3<sup>rd</sup> ID. Even though they are living at a coalition outpost, they still have a good life. The Soldiers have the same if not more luxuries out there and cannot complain. Several Soldiers have stated "they are willing to spend the remainder of the deployment at the JSS."

As the time here for this tour in Iraq comes to a close, all of the Soldiers of 3<sup>rd</sup> Platoon, would like to thank their family and friends who have provided the constant support during the last 12 months, WE WILL SEE YOU ALL VERY SOON!



SGT Wornack with an IP.



SPC Turner walking to his post at the IP Station .



CPL Pagan and SPC Ruscio are ready for anything that comes their way.



PFC Hare takes a break during training.





# HQ PLATOON

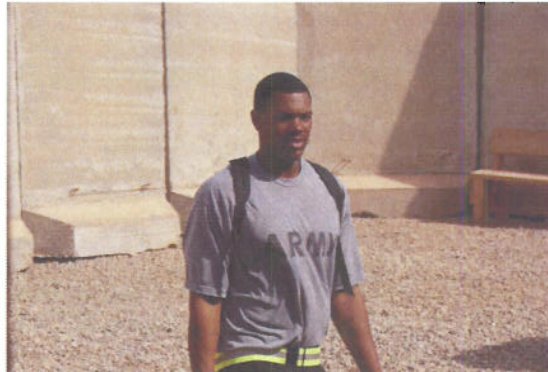
## A WORKHORSE REPORT

EXECUTIVE OFFICER: 1LT WILLIAM-  
SON

### “From the Horse”

Hello again it's that time again to tell you how you supporters are doing. Well its no secret that the Military Police Soldiers don't do anything without the support Soldiers. This is gets proven time and time again. The vehicles that the MP Soldiers take out on missions are fixed and maintained by the 401<sup>st</sup> PLL and Maintenance section and they have done a superior job thus far and are constantly busy. All the new equipment and supplies are ordered by the supply section ordering over \$400,000 of items needed to sustain the company out on mission. The communications section have been busy the entire time they have been here, always out on line and out on mission the fixing communications so Operations “GUNFIGHTER MIKE” and the squads can talk to each other. The PAC section has processed all the Soldiers administrative actions so the MP's can concentrate on the task at hand. SPC Phangsang the unit armor is always ensuring that all weapon systems are always at 100% mission ready and thus far has done an impeccable job at this. Operations have battle tracked the nine Police Transition Teams all over Western Baghdad and a commander who won't stay still. And finally the DFAC section who gets class I every Friday so the Soldiers out on mission have water and food out on mission, they also do various details to help out the company.

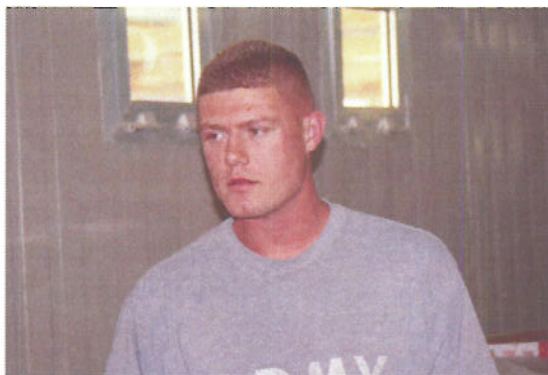
To the support Soldier's families I thank you for all of your support for the past year and we will see you soon.



**SGT Winston,**  
the 401st NCO of  
the Month.



**SGT Cruz** taking  
a moment be-  
tween missions  
and commo-  
checks.



**SPC Allen** relax-  
ing after a hot  
day in the motor-  
pool.



**SPC Phangsang**  
takes a minute  
to hide from the  
sun.



# — THE SOLDIERS CORNER —

## 365 days by the numbers:

DAYS DEPLOYED: 383 or 1 year 17 days

DAYS IN IRAQ: 363 days

HOTTEST DAY: HIGH: 123.7    LOW: 84.2

COLDEST DAY: HIGH: 37.3    LOW: 29.6

MEALS EATEN: 178,095 (3 per day)

MAINTENANCE DAYS PER SQUAD: 48

COMBAT ACTION BADGES AWARDED: 45

ARMY ACHIEVEMENT MEDALS AWARDED: 8

ARMY COMMENDATION MEDALS AWARDED: 4

BRONZE STAR MEDALS AWARDED: 5

“V” (VALOR) DEVICES AWARDED: 2

## A YEAR AGO IN KUWAIT



**THE 401st SAYS GOOD-BYE TO FAMILY AND FRIENDS AT THE GYM. MAY 14, 2007**

*Photo: D.Draut*



**Above...**Camp Buehring - the 401st arrives at its temporary home (May 19th). **Below...**Training in the Kuwaiti desert preparing for the push north (May 24th).

**RIGHT..** Sandstorm strikes hard at Buehring—delaying the 401st's movement north. (June 1st)



**RIGHT..** More training, this time its HEAT training preparing Soldiers for possible vehicle roll-overs.





MAY 2008

## CONGRATULATIONS GUNFIGHTERS

### MAY PROMOTIONS:

#### TO STAFF SERGEANT:

SGT Tompkins\*

#### TO SERGEANT:

SPC LUCANIA

#### TO SPECIALIST:

PFC CASTILLO^

PFC BASS^

PFC GHOLSON

\*Battlefield Promotion\*

^Promotion with waiver^

### MAY AWARDS:

#### Good Conduct Medal:

SGT LOWE

SPC OVERTON

SPC WOMACK

### HERO OF THE MONTH:

### SUSTAINER OF THE MONTH:

SGT Cruz

SGT Heather Bass (Rear)

### SOLDIER of THE MONTH:

SPC David Womack

### NCO of THE MONTH:

### *ISG...Continued from Page 2*

We are afforded this opportunity as a result of the countless Soldiers that have made the ultimate sacrifice in defense of our nation. Please keep those near and dear to our hearts, as well as their families, in your thoughts and prayers. Without their sacrifices, we would not be the great nation that we are and enjoying the freedoms that make us Americans.

To all of those fallen Soldiers, and their families, there are no words that can properly express my gratitude for your sacrifices. This month's thank you belongs to you.....  
Respectfully,

ISG Brian A. Flom

Gunfighter 7



**ABOVE...** SGT Ament, SPC Doster, and SPC Anton raise the flag on Memorial Day in remembrance of the fallen Soldiers of the 401st. Seen in the background is the 401st company headquarters.





L - RD Soldiers with some help at the Texas Proud Custom Cycles Fundraising event. SPC Harris (HHD), PV2 Ferebee, PV2 Harris, SGT Bass and SGT Schultz.



R - SGT Schultz pauses for a picture with her son Travis at the fundraising event.

**FRG Fund**

**"Dollars and Cents"**

- Beginning - \$1698.53
- Expenses - \$0
- Income—\$110.76
- Current - \$1809.29
- Budget Items - None scheduled

Cathy Keene

Treasurer

**JUNE 2008**

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14 US Army Birthday
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28 FRG Meeting
29	30					

**401st Military Police Company**

BLDG 16003  
Battalion Ave and Hood Rd.  
Fort Hood, TX 76544

**Editor:**

Silvia DeTinne  
Phone: 254-371-0680  
E-mail: silviake79@yahoo.com

MSG John M. Arceneaux  
Rear Detachment Commander  
Office Phone: 254-287-0255  
Cell Phone: 254-449-3732  
E-mail:  
john.arceneaux@us.army.mil



**"Always First"**  
Supporting the

Register Now at  
[www.armyfrg.org](http://www.armyfrg.org)

**June 14 - US Army Birthday; 233 years Army Strong...; Flag Day**

**June 28 - FRG Meeting - 1:00 pm**

**Olveta Culp-Hobby Soldier Family Readiness Center**

**BLDG 18000 adjacent the Copeland Center**

**Battalion Avenue**

**This will be the last meeting before the Soldiers return. We have lots of work to finish and July will be busy as we get ready, prepare the Single Soldier rooms and decorate.**