WARRIOR TIMES

Issue #1 - 10 May 2011

Warrior Exercise 91 11-01 Fort Hunter Liggett, Calif.

In-processing at the RSOI Station is More Than Just a Check Mark By Your Name

by Sgt. 1st Class Richard Hernigle, 91st Training Division

As Soldiers arrive here for Warrior 91 11-01, their first stop is Forward Operating Base (FOB) Schoonover to in-process through the Reception Staging Onward-movement and Integration (RSOI) station, a "theater gateway" of sorts.

The RSOI station is comprised of several units (the 300th Special Troops Battalion, the 825th Adjutant General, the 380th Transportation Company and the 289th Theater Support) working together to quickly get Soldiers off the bus, briefed, and accurately input their information into the computer database.

A FOB within a FOB, the RSOI station has all of the basic life support services that every FOB is expected to have. As in theater, the intent is that Soldiers may have to stay there from several hours to several days waiting for the FOB they will be stationed at to open or have space for them.

While newly arrived Soldiers receive a series of briefings, RSOI personnel take their Common Access Cards (CAC) and run them through a card reader to check the Soldier's information is in their database. When a Soldier's information is not already in the system a new profile has to be built, which increases the time it takes to process Soldiers through.

The database used at the RSOI station on Schoonover is the same as the Army's Tactical Personnel System (TPS) database but it is not connected online to the TPS. The RSOI station's database was built with information supplied from the Army, from the 91st Training Division (Operations) and from arriving Soldiers' units.

As new arrivals are briefed, the information about them and their unit travels via the network to logisticians. This data is used to ensure there are enough meals, bullets, bunks, fuel, vehicles, laundry services, and equipment available to take care of everyone on Schoonover and the other FOBs. After the briefings and any wait time, Soldiers are shipped to their assigned FOB and must sign into that FOB's Mayor's Office.

"It isn't just about knowing you are here, but exactly where you are," said 1st Lt. Dale L. Reamy, the RSOI's acting officer-in-charge. "This part is important of course for accountability but also if a Red Cross message comes for you."

As is intended for all of the units at this exercise, the Soldiers operating the Reception Staging Onward-movement and Integration station are training by doing what they might be assigned to do in a combat zone.

"So far it has been realistic and a great opportunity to train," said Reamy.

Above: Soldiers with the 333rd Engineer Company file in for their RSOI briefing shortly after their arrival on May 7. They traveled from Redding, Pa. to participate in Warrior 91 11-01.

Left: A group of Soldiers stand ready, waiting to enter as another group exits a briefing tent. Wasting little time the RSOI team made sure to get Soldiers through the process with as little delay as possible.

Photos by Staff Sgt. Jason Hudson, 91st Training Division

From the Commanding General

Welcome to the home of the 91st Training Division (Operations) and Fort Hunter Liggett. This exercise is designed to address the collective task training needs of your units. Our mission is as follows:

91st Training Division (Operations) conducts Warrior Exercises, Combat Support Training Exercise (CSTX) Rotations, and other requirements for division headquarters, subordinate down trace units and staffs on collective tasks so they are trained and prepared for deployment. As directed, provide training to joint, combined, and active forces.

The exercises are tailored to your units' Mission Essential Task Lists that were supplied by your Commanders' unit readiness assessments. Next, we take those identified tasks and build scenarios for your exercises. The end result is that your units receive the necessary training and evaluation of those specific collective tasks.

Finally at the conclusion of the exercise the unit will receive assessments that will form the basis of your training plan for the upcoming year. This is your time to take advantage of all the resources that you need to become proficient on your collective tasks. Please use this valuable training time to train to standard. Our unit is here to support your needs.

Train hard and train safe.

James T. Cook
BG, USAR
CG, Wild West Division

Made of the Right Stuff

by Lt. Col. Marvin Santos, 91st Training Division Chaplain

The little brown cork fell in the path of a whale, who lashed it down with his angry tail. But in spite of its blows, it quickly arose and floated serenely before his nose.

Said the cork to the bully whale: "You may flap and sputter and frown but you will never, never keep me down. For I'm made of the stuff that is buoyant enough to float, so instead of going down, I go up.

As we start this Warrior Exercise at the National Training Center for Army Reserve, Ft. Hunter Liggett, let's remember that we too are made of the right stuff. So when things don't go as planned; if your gear didn't arrive as scheduled, if you feel that your efforts at all the "pre-planning conferences" were ignored or misunderstood, if your hot meals turned into MRE's, if you feel that your perfect world has just gone to "HADES" just remember that as a Soldier in the Army Reserves, "you're made of the right stuff". There's no gain without pain, no rainbow without a storm, no success without hard work. It's in adversity when we know if we're made of the right stuff.

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SAFETIES ON THE PROWL!

by Charles Quinones, Exercise Safety Officer

The Commanding General is dedicated to having a challenging, effective, and safe exercise! The 91st Division has an outstanding Exercise Safety Office. The Safety Office is comprised of the Exercise Safety Officer (ESO), Augmentation Safety Officers (ASOs) and Safety Support.

The ESO is responsible for all risk management functions throughout the exercise. Some of these duties include management of the safety staff, industrial hygiene mitigation, tactical safety implementation & education, OSHA compliance, accident investigation, and external agency coordination.

The Safety Office coordinates activities with Preventive Medicine, Veterinary Medicine, Corps of Engineers, Installation Emergency Services, Installation Functional Services, Local Emergency Services, Local Hospitals, other DOD Services, and DOD contractors that provide support during the exercise.

At the beginning of the exercise the Safety Office will hold an Exercise ADSO Workshop. Any ADSO is invited to attend. The date and time will be issued during in-processing at the ISB or shortly thereafter.

The Workshop will allow the Safety Office to issue guidance to Mayor Cell, Support Cell, and Player Unit ADSOs on how to execute their duties during the exercise. This information is important here and during any real world deployment.

Photo courtesy of Exercise Safety Office

The Safety Office also hosts a Mayor Cell Safety meeting once a week during the exercise. This meeting is geared for the FOB-Mayor Cell's and Exercise Control Cell ADSOs. Each Mayor Cell should have a primary and alternate ADSO. These ADSOs will be expected to dedicate 1-2 hours per day on safety related activities. It is EXTREMELY important that these ADSOs attend these meetings because a lot of good information is distributed.

Finally, Commanders at every level will benefit from well trained ADSOs. Not only will they gain valuable tactical-safety experience, but they will learn how to implement reasonable safety measures to increase combat effectiveness.

What they did (part one of three)

by Staff Sgt. Bob Van Tuinen, 91st Training Division

Every section and Soldier of the 91st Division do a lot of work to prepare for the Warrior training exercise.

In this first of three installments select sections and individuals will be highlighted to share what the did to contribute to a succesful exercise.

The 91st Division G1:

Responsible for coordinating with the Army, Air Force Exchange Service (AAFES) and AAFES' two Mobile Field Exchange (MFE) teams; the Fort Hunter Liggett post mailroom and the Forward Operating Base (FOB) mayor cells to provide daily mail service during the exercise; and four Veterans Affairs (VA) mobile units that will be staffed with personnel who will be available for counseling and to provide information about VA benefits and entitlements.

Photo by Staff Sgt. Bob Van Tuinen, 91st Training Division

Soldiers of the 91st Division G1. Sgt. 1st Class Kathryn G. Balvage, Sgt. Thomas E. Wilson, Master Sgt. David A. Balvage, and (not pictured) Sgt. Julie D. Reaves.

Environmental Awareness

Information and Photos courtesy of Fort Hunter Liggett Training & The Environment Leaders's Handbook

Fort Hunter Liggett (FHL) encompasses approximately 161,900 acres and is bordered to the north and west by the Los Padres National Forest. Everyone training at or visiting FHL is responsible for ensuring that all federal, state and local environmental laws and regulations are followed to minimize or eliminate environmental disturbances and to preserve the integrity of the installation for future generations of Soldiers to train.

WILDLIFE/HISTORIC PRESERVATION

• Endangered species, their habitat and archeological resources are protected by federal and state law.

• Do not feed or harass wildlife.

• Any federally or state-protected animal (e.g. San Joaquin kit fox, bald eagle, tule elk, etc.) found dead or injured will immediately be reported to the FHL range Officer.

• Stay away from archeological and historical sites and report newly-discovered sites to Range Control.

VEHICLE MOVEMENT

• Stay on established roads and trails except during authorized training maneuvers.

• Cross rivers and streams only at bridges and designated fords. Do not drive off-road within 20 meters of streambeds or in low, wet marshy areas.

• Do not travel through sensitive natural and cultural resource areas marked with yellow signs or orange traffic cones.

SENSITIVE RESOURCES

Fort Hunter Liggett is home to many sensitive resources that include plants, animals and cultural resources.

Purple amole. This member of the Lily family is federally listed as threatened, and is listed as endangered in California. It is a small perennial plant that flowers between May and June. It has narrow, wavy leaves, which are grouped at the base of a tall, slender stalk (9 – 16 in. tall). The flowers are dark blue to deep purple with bright yellow anthers. Purple amole was first documented near Jolon in 1893. This plant is found in gently sloping areas of open grassland, oak savanna and oak woodland in training areas 10, 13, 22, 24, 25, 27 the ASP and the Cantonment.

Santa Lucia mint. A small (6 – 9 in. tall), annual plant, which flowers from May to July and is listed by the state of California as Endangered. It has spoon-shaped, hairy leaves and small, lavender flowers. The entire plant smells like mint and is found along moist stream banks and pools, usually in dense patches in training areas 17, 18, 19, and 23.

The **San Joaquin kit fox** is an endangered species under federal law and is a threatened species under California law. It is easily recognized by its large ears and small size (3-6 lbs). It is approximately 12 inches at the shoulder, and is a pale buff color with a black-tipped tail. Kit foxes inhabit open grasslands and oak woodlands in flat to gently rolling hills, and prey upon small mammals (mainly the California ground squirrel). Kit foxes den in burrows similar to those used by ground squirrels, but they have also been known to den in structures such as culverts, abandoned pipelines and well casings. Similar animals include gray foxes, red foxes, and young coyotes.

Arroyo toad. This is a federally endangered species that is found in and along the banks of the San Antonio River. Adult toads are 2-3 in. long, and are pale and warty, with a pale patch behind their eye. They lack the white stripe along their backs that is present on other toads. These small toads burrow into the sandy soils along riverbanks during a portion of the year. A similar toad is the common western toad.

California condor. This is a federally and state listed endangered raptor that feeds primarily on carrion. An adult bird can weigh upto 22 lbs. and have a 9½-foot wingspan. These birds have a dark body with black (juvenile) or bright red head (adult). Roosts and nests are located in tall trees and on cliffs, usually in remote areas. Similar birds include turkey vultures.

The **Bald Eagle** is the United States National bird, and is protected by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act. The adult bird has a dark body with a white head and tail, weighs 8 – 14 lbs., and can have up

to a 7-foot wingspan. Juvenile birds do not have a distinct-white head or tail. These birds typically hunt near streams and ponds; and they eat fish, waterfowl, small mammals, and carrion. Bald eagles build large stick nests in trees or on cliffs overlooking water bodies orremote areas.

Vernal pool fairy shrimp are found in puddles classified as a "vernal pool" (a low-lying wet area that stays puddled for several weeks), and are an endangered species under federal law and California law. They are approximately 1/8-3/4 in. long, translucent, and swim upside down. Eggs remain on the dry pool bottom through summer, hatching during the winter rain season. Such pools are typically located in open areas of flat terrain to rolling hills.

HAZARDOUS PLANTS AND ANIMALS

There are several potentially dangerous plant and animal species on Fort Hunter Liggett that training units could come in contact with. Although the potential danger (injury or death) from contact with one of these species exists, this potential is quite low when compared to many other natural hazards. Generally, the animal species are quiet and elusive and the chances of troops or visitors observing them are low. Should you observe an animal listed, it is important to eliminate or minimize contact with the animal to prevent a threatening situation to both yourself and the animal. Individuals bitten by one of these animals should seek medical attention as soon as possible.

PLANTS

Poison Oak. Usually an erect shrub, there is also a climbing variety. Oak-shaped toothed leaflets in groups of three. The leaf is a light shiny green to dark green to bright red depending on time of year. Merely contacting the leaves or twigs can cause an irritating rash and blisters. Smoke from burning poison oak can cause irritation, particularly serious if it gets in the eyes or is inhaled.

Stinging Nettle. Typically found along stream banks. The plant can grow to 6 feet tall. The bristles or "hairs" on the leaves and stems give off a substance that causes an intense burning sensation.

SPIDERS AND TICKS

Violin Spiders. A group of poisonous spiders (including the brown recluse) that are tan to yellowish brown with a "violin" or "fiddle" marking on their thorax. Bites from these spiders cause skin tissue death (necrosis) in the bite area. Often the bite goes unnoticed. Usually, within 30-60 minutes the person bitten will feel a burning sensation and within eight hours a pustule will develop. In rare cases, a systemic reaction can develop and is characterized by fever, nausea and vomiting. Children are most prone to systemic reactions.

Deer Tick. A small tick responsible for transmitting Lyme's disease bacteria to humans. Ticks can attach to any part of the human body but often attach to the more hidden and hairy areas such as the groin, armpits and scalp. Contact from ticks can occur when walking through grass and shrubs. Therefore, it's important to periodically check your body for ticks. Early stages of Lyme's disease include symptoms such as fatigue, fever and chills, headache, muscle and joint pain, swollen lymph nodes and a characteristic skin rash.

Black Widow. A poisonous spider that is glossy black and marked with a characteristic red hourglass on the underside of the abdomen. It's bite can cause muscle spasms and breathing difficulty and may be fatal.

ANIMALS

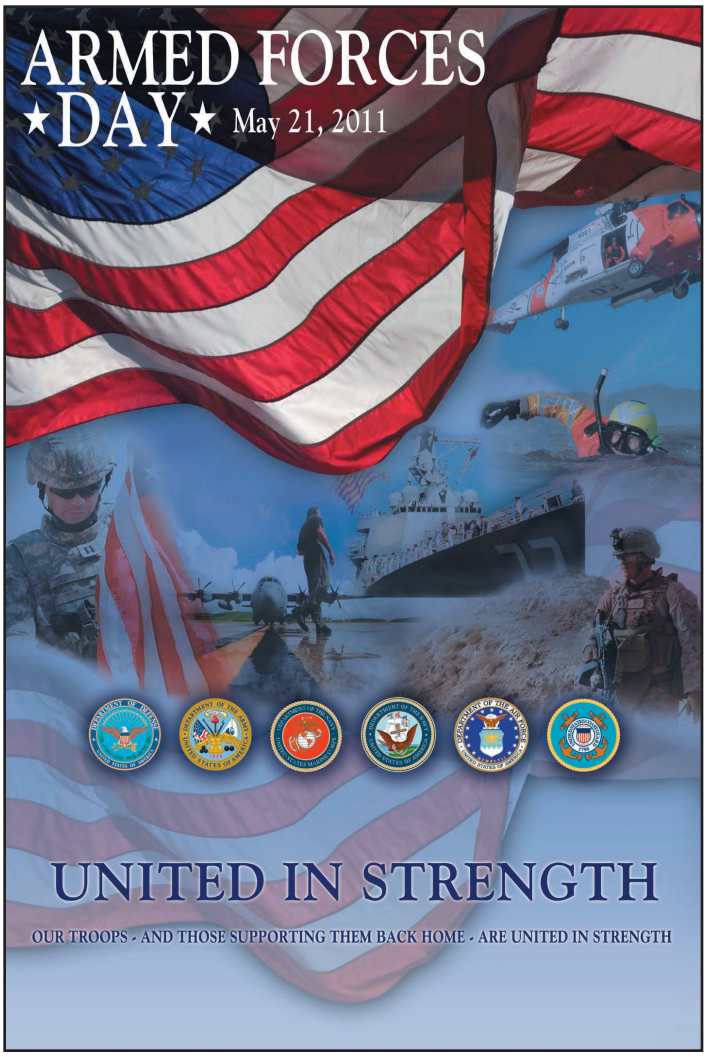
Rattlesnakes. The pacific rattlesnake is the only venomous snake found on Fort Hunter Liggett. Snakebites are rare, but caution should be exercised when traversing the training areas by foot or climbing in rocky areas. Rattlesnakes are typically active between May and October during the warmer periods of the year. Most rattlesnakes, when disturbed, normally try to withdraw to safety. If cornered or surprised, rattlesnakes will buzz their rattles as a warning. If bitten, immobilize and calm the victim and seek medical attention immediately.

Bats Several species occur on Fort Hunter Liggett. Never handle a wounded or sick bat, as they could be rabid.

Mountain Lions, Bobcats, Bears, Coyotes, Foxes, Badgers and other Carnivores. Several carnivore species occur on Fort Hunter Liggett. Avoid all contact with carnivores and keep trash contained and unburied to avoid attracting them.

Do not approach, run from or feed carnivores. When visiting Fort Hunter Liggett, keep children and pets close and secure and travel in groups to avoid contact with these predators.

Holiday Reminders



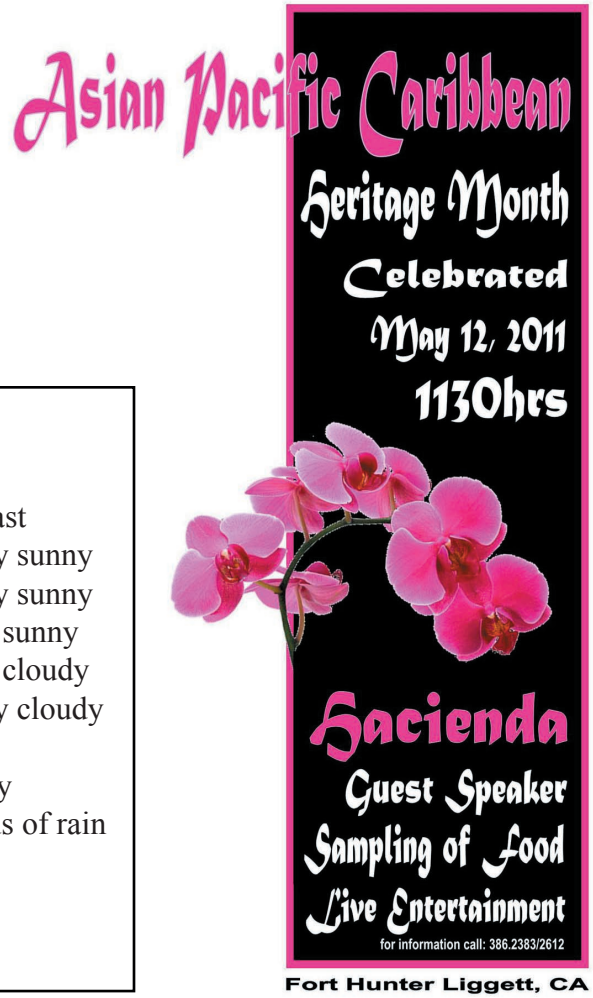
Armed Forces Day

"United in Strength"
Saturday, May 21, 2011

President Harry S. Truman led the effort to establish a single holiday for citizens to come together and thank our military members for their patriotic service in support of our country.

On August 31, 1949, Secretary of Defense Louis Johnson announced the creation of an Armed Forces Day to replace separate Army, Navy, Marine Corps and Air Force Days. The single-day celebration stemmed from the unification of the Armed Forces under one department -- the Department of Defense.

Find more information at: http://www.defense.gov/afd/



Weather Forecast

		High	Low	Precip(in)	Forecast
Tue	5/10/2011	68°	45°	0	Mostly sunny
Wed	5/11/2011	72°	46°	0	Mostly sunny
Thu	5/12/2011	73°	45°	0	Partly sunny
Fri	5/13/2011	74°	44°	0	Partly cloudy
Sat	5/14/2011	63°	42°	0	Mostly cloudy
Sun	5/15/2011	59°	39°	0.09	Rain
Mon	5/16/2011	62°	46°	0	Cloudy
Tue	5/17/2011	61°	51°	0.07	Periods of rain

***Weather forecast from http://www.accuweather.com