



THE DELTA DUKES

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JULY 2011

DELTA COMPANY,
3-10 TF PHOENIX

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The Aircraft of Task Force Phoenix



Commander's Comments

The heat has been upon us here at Bagram during the month of June. I would imagine the temps back in the North Country have reached a sweltering 75 degrees! The Soldiers had the opportunity to take a break from the mission recently during our TF Organizational Day. I wanted to give kudos to SPC Wood and the rest of the Soldiers that assisted for the involvement in the setup. Good job and way to be a part of the team! The Soldiers also had a great time pummeling each other in the pugilist/sumo bouncy pit and engage in some awesome karaoke. Of course, SPC Anderson belted out some serious tunes and, believe it or not, he didn't miss any verses this time! I also wanted to thank SGT Sabanal for his level of skill in throwing a softball while I was in the dunk tank. I'm not saying he's a bad athlete but he most likely does not have a future in the big leagues!

We welcomed CPT Mike Pinter and said farewell to 1LT Wilhelm while I was on leave. CPT Pinter has been doing a great job so far and his contribution to our mission is noticed every day. 1LT Sarah Brisson will shortly be leaving the Component Repair Platoon (aka Shops). She will certainly be missed as she has worked very hard to take care of her Soldiers and execute the D Co mission. Take care, Sarah, and best of luck with the "Warlords". As with most any leadership change, saying goodbye also means saying hello. That being the case, I'd like to welcome 1LT Kristen Yampaglia to the company! 1LT Yampaglia has worked hard and developed a reputation for being a hard working officer that takes care of her Soldiers. I'm sure she'll do just as well as 1LT Brisson, both of whom will make CPT shortly.

We're all looking forward to getting home soon. The majority of our personnel have been or are currently on RnR and we're already planning the way home. I want to thank all of you, again, for your support for us while we're here. Hang in there, we're in the home stretch!

- CPT Michael Flint "Duke 06"



First Sergeant's Update

Hello everyone,

Since 1SG Snyder is currently enjoying a well deserved R&R leave, I have been given the daunting task of writing the newsletter this month.

D Company continues to evolve and adapt to every challenge that we are handed. The Soldiers have welcomed the Reservists from 7-158th with open arms. The Soldiers are learning from each other by sharing experiences and by continually working side-by-side to accomplish the mission. It is my hope that we instill them with the know-how and lessons learned to create a smooth transition from the 10th Mountain to the 82nd later this year.

Task Force Phoenix had their almost home organizational day activities on the 19th of June. From what I experienced, most of the D Co Soldiers thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to get a break from the rigors of 24 hour operations. The Soldiers participated in the various events, which included horseshoes, a bench press competition, and karaoke. The Soldiers took advantage of the opportunity to ensure that the Commander's time in the dunk tank was spent getting wet. Another attraction that was very popular was the sumo suits. It was truly amazing to see how much fun our Soldiers had while taking turns suiting up and battling it out to the applause of everyone around. Truly, it was one of the best days of the deployment.

Currently, everyone is gearing up for change of command inventories. The platoons are in high gear preparing to lay out all of their equipment while continually maintaining the Task Force's aircraft. I am hoping that everything will go smoothly.

I am looking forward to July, which is shaping up to a very interesting transition time for the D Company Soldiers and NCOs.

Until next time, enjoy counting down the days with us until we all get back home to you.

SFC James Kyne



Maintenance Platoon

This letter comes from an old desk, but new occupant. As Delta Company and the maintenance platoon say good-bye to an already "molded" platoon leader, SFC Conrad must begin the process of kneading another inexperienced one. As he shapes his new junior leader with his hammer of pain and anvil of duty, the rest of the platoon spends time working on their collar-up and wrist-down tans and dreaming of trips to the lake. Several positive occurrences populated the month of June, quickening the time and shortening the journey.

We welcome back to the platoon SPC Ryan Martinez after an extended stay in the rear. We also welcome PVT Cassandra Davis who is new to the company and platoon. Their efforts add capability to an already overworked company and ease the workload for the rest of us. Ex-SPC William Fisher joined the NCO corps with his well deserved promotion to Sergeant (SGT). Additionally, three people celebrated birthdays during this month, SSG Willunda Walker, SGT William Fisher, PFC Evan Toews.

Furthermore, SPC David Owen received an Army Accommodation Medal (AAM) for his diligence and excellent maintenance practices. SPC William Wood earned a coin of excellence from the Division Commander, MG Daniel Allyn. With a Certificate of Achievement, the Republic of Korea Army recognized SPC Charles Kim for above-and-beyond maintenance support. His efforts strengthen the relationship between the US Army and its coalition allies.

Everyone enjoyed participation in the Half-Way There Battalion Organizational Day, which, ironically was celebrated two-thirds of the way there. The events of the Org Day that increased morale, decreased stress, and built more cohesive teams were a dunk tank, sumo wrestling, karaoke, cards, and a bench press competition. Maintenance's very own meat heads, SSG Weir, SGT Fisher, and SPC Goldsberry won the lifting event by performing more repetitions than any of them can even count to. I received my baptism into the platoon by being "gently carried" into the dunk tank by the maintenance section, though I must add it took them all to do it. Our platoon sergeant's own remorse over the event caused him to throw himself in first in an attempt to make his new platoon leader feel better.

Lastly, I must say I am proud to be joining the team and my wife, Samantha and I look forward to serving and serving with each and every one of y'all.

CPT PINTER

Maintenance OIC



HQ Platoon

The mood in HQ Platoon has been positive as we close in on another month to returning to Fort Drum. The Soldiers are ready to re-unite with their families; people can see the light at the end of the tunnel. Our new counterparts from the Reserves have fully integrated into the platoon and are extremely motivated to be part of our team. Last week the TF held "The Almost There Party" the Soldiers had a lot of fun dunking the Command in the dunk booth and singing karaoke, which was sponsored by the OC shop's own SSG Bowman. In the sumo wrestling match SPC Chambers and SPC Briolat squared off and went four rounds until the match was called a draw. I want to say thank you to all the family members for supporting their Soldiers and for understanding the stresses of deployment.

SSG Andrew Beckler
UH-60 OC Shop
(HQ PSG)



Shops Platoon

Hello again from Afghanistan,

Shops Platoon continues to push forward and provide excellent maintenance support for the Task Force. We are beginning to see the light at the end of the tunnel, but remain steadfast to completing the mission.

Our family grew even larger this month with the addition of three soldiers from the Kansas Army Reserve. We welcomed SSG Mark Dyer, SGT Casey Widow, and SPC Joseph Deptula to the ranks of the Avionics Shop.

Continually, our NCO ranks are growing. SGT Dick was promoted as of the 1st of June. Due to his R&R leave beginning at the end of May, he was promoted a couple of days ahead of time. This was a well deserved promotion for a patient leader.

The Task Force conducted an organizational day, complete with competitions, sumo suits, karaoke, and the infamous dunk tank. The Soldiers of Shops platoon decided to own the sumo suits, as numerous Soldiers jumped at the opportunity to battle it out amongst themselves. The night, however, was not complete without the impromptu additions to the dunk tank. SFC Kyne, 1LT Brisson, SSG Plummer, and various Soldiers found themselves hoisted into the ice cold water.

Currently, 1LT Brisson is conducting her inventories to clear her hand receipt to move onto her next assignment, platoon leader for C Co 2-10. She will be missed, but I believe that she will do great things in the flight company. She will also be promoted to CPT on the 1st of July.

Until next month, the Soldiers of Shops Platoon will continue to count down our time here and anxiously anticipate our return home.



SSG Johnny Holley
Shops Platoon Sergeant

AWARDS



SPC DAVID OWEN
ARMY
MEDAL FOR HIS
PERFORMANCE
HE WAS



RECEIVED THE
ACHIEVMENT
OUTSTANDING
ON THE PHASE
WORKING ON.



JULY 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7 SPC ASHWORTH'S B-DAY	8	9
10	11	12 SSG PHOMMAVONG B-DAY SSG BOWMAN'S B-DAY	13	14	15	16 SPC KING'S B-DAY
17 SFC MENTRY'S B-DAY	18	19	20	21	22	23
24 SPC SHOEMAKER'S B-DAY	25	26	27 SFC CONRAD'S B-DAY	28	29 SPC KLEGER'S B-DAY	30 SPC SCHLEIMER'S B-DAY
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Pictures



Pictures

