





Letters from the Commander

Greetings from the Commander,

Greetings Hooligan Families and Friends,

I'm currently enjoying a little Costa Rican hospitality. I hope this finds everyone in good spirits and that everyone had a wonderful 4th of July.

Born of Fire!

CPT Charles Thomas
Hooligan 6

Sincerely,

Captain Charles A. Thomas

S-1

By Staff Sgt. Daniel Gerhardt

BAGRAM AIRFIELD, Afghanistan -- Greetings from the S1!

By Sgt. Amanda Brown

To say our Soldiers in the S-1 shop have been busy is an understatement. Every single day SPC Zuluaga, SPC Gonzalez, SPC Kotelnicki and our newest member from the Army Reserves SPC Reid work fervently on their tasks. The hottest one right now is, of course, awards!! Just when they feel like they are making some progress in unburying their desk from the awards folders – more stacks of reviewed awards comes walking through the door. Our Soldiers, however endless their job feels at any given time, always have a smile on their face and a joke up their sleeve. It is no wonder why Soldiers from around Task Force Phoenix like to drop in just to say, “Hi.”

There was a welcome break on Father’s Day when Task Force Phoenix held the “Almost Home” organizational day June 19th. All of the Soldiers in the S-1 shop enjoyed the food and conversation time during the event. SPC Kotelnicki and SPC Zuluaga even got up to sing karaoke to, “Don’t Cha” by The Pussycat Dolls. By the next day, a video of them singing was up on YouTube and they were the rock stars of the battalion.

SPC Zuluaga and SPC Gonzalez were especially busy through the month of June. Both of them went to the promotion board June 27th. They went in there with the training, knowledge and experience necessary to walk away from the board of their leaders as promotable Soldiers. Congratulations SPC Zuluaga and SPC Gonzalez! You both deserved to pass the board!

SSG Gerhart is still on his much deserved leave, but back to S-1 very soon. CPT Moore, who recently returned from her leave, has taken back the reigns with little discrepancy. She now is the acting commander for Headquarters and Headquarters Company until CPT Thomas returns from his leave. If CPT Moore was not busy before she took over this position – which she was *always* running before – she is now moving faster than the speed of light!

Suffice it to say, S-1 is doing very well and continues to push forward into the final months of our deployment here on Bagram Airfield. We appreciate everything the Families back home do for us – even if it is simple gesture – like making us smile.



S-2

By Capt. Sean Fullan

BAGRAM AIRFIELD, Afghanistan -- June has come and gone, and it was an eventful month for all members of the TF Phoenix S2 shop. We've now entered into July, a month of celebrating our Independence as a nation, and of course the birthday of our very own SSG Dianne Smith. In June, we celebrated the birthdays of PV2 Ryan Ingham, SPC Ryan Brown, 1LT Justin Moore, and myself. PV2 Ingham, constantly the entertainer, provided everyone with the opportunity to wish him a happy birthday Army-style: A 5-course gourmet meal, followed by cake and ice-cream, complete with a mountain of presents. Of course, if you want to know what his real birthday party was like, you'll just have to ask him. He has also recently developed an affinity for basketball, and talks of becoming the next Larry Bird when he grows up. He also (along with SPC Brown), rocked the Journey classic "Faithfully" during the Task Force Org Day. SPC Ryan Brown, recently promoted, has been working on honing his leadership skills as he prepares for the next rank he can attain: the coveted Sergeant rank. Non-commissioned officers (NCOs), often referred to as the backbone of the Army, are the front-line leaders of Soldiers. NCOs are well-respected, and looked up to by junior enlisted soldiers, but are expected to earn that respect based on the leadership skills and initiative that SPC Brown is working on. He also recently taught several people in our staff section some of the math and skills behind the game of poker. SPC Sabrina Posey continues to improve as an intelligence analyst working outside her specialty, and also works towards attaining the rank of Sergeant. I continue to receive compliments on the excellence of her threat briefings to aircrews from both flight companies and higher headquarters. SSG Dianne Smith will be celebrating her birthday this month, and continues to run an astonishing amount. Here at BAF, there is a steady stream of 5k and 10k event sponsored runs, and I believe SSG Dianne Smith has participated in every one she was aware of. She claims it's for the t-shirts given to participants, but I think she just loves to run. Maybe it's a little bit of both. 1LT Justin Moore continues to work hard in his profession, earning the respect of many within the Task Force. He joined the military to make a difference, and I believe he is. In his spare time, he keeps in touch with his family and continues to train his voice in preparation for his next profession in the opera field. He also often runs in the myriad of 5k's here at BAF. I returned from RnR in early June, and am now the proud father of a one month old baby boy. Until next time, this is the TF Phoenix S2 signing off.





S-4

Written by SPC Jamie ST. Germaine

It's already July here in Afghanistan, which means we are 1 month closer to being with our loved ones back home. SFC Barfield goes on leave this month; we hope she has a wonderful time with her family. We would like to welcome our new OIC CPT Polk to our logistical family. This past month has been busy helping the companies with their reset plans and getting ready to go home.

On the 19th of June, we had a battalion organization day. The S4 provided the food and drinks and coordinated the logistical supplies. As you can tell from the picture, SPC Meeks had a lot of fun dancing with another soldier. It was a great way to boost morale within the battalion.



S-6

