

THE 1ST INFANTRY DIVISION POST

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FORT RILEY, KANSAS

'Dagger' Brigade takes charge in Republic of Korea



Staff Sgt. Simon McTizic | 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team Public Affairs

ABOVE: The 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, "Dagger" 1st Infantry Division and the 3rd Armored Brigade Combat Team, "Greywolf" 1st Cavalry Division conduct a transfer of authority ceremony at Camp Humphreys, Republic of Korea, March 4. The ceremony marked the official assumption of the rotational mission in the Republic of Korea for the Dagger Brigade from Fort Riley, Kansas, and the completion of mission for the Greywolf Brigade as they return home to Fort Hood, Texas. **RIGHT:** Col. Thomas Murtha, commander, 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, and Command Sgt. Maj. Stephen LaRocque uncase the 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division unit colors during the transfer of authority ceremony, Camp Humphreys, Republic of Korea, March 4.



By Maj. Bryce Gatrell
2ND ABCT PUBLIC AFFAIRS

CAMP HUMPHREYS, Republic of Korea — The 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, "Dagger" 1st Infantry Division and the 3rd Armored Brigade Combat Team, "Greywolf" 1st Cavalry Division conducted a transfer of authority ceremony March 4.

The ceremony marked the official assumption of the rotational mission in the Republic of Korea for the Dagger Brigade from Fort Riley, and the completion of mission for the Greywolf Brigade as they return home to Fort Hood, Texas.

"We are honored to lead the most lethal armored brigade combat team in our Army,"

said Col. Thomas Murtha, commander of the 2nd ABCT, 1st Inf. Div. "We are proud to join the incredible 2nd Infantry Division team."

The 2nd ABCT, 1st Inf. Div. replaced the 3rd ABCT, 1st Cav. Div., as part of a regular rotation of forces to support the United States' commitment to Southeast Asia partners and allies.

Dagger Brigade's relief in place with Greywolf Brigade is a routine, heel-to-toe rotation of an ABCT to Korea. These rotational forces ensure Korea

maintains the capabilities of a combat-ready ABCT on the peninsula.

In preparation for their rotational deployment,

Dagger Soldiers underwent months of readiness exercises, which included

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'Dagger' Brigade Soldiers train on bridging equipment

Story and photos by
Staff Sgt. Simon McTizic
2ND ABCT PUBLIC AFFAIRS

CAMP HOVEY, REPUBLIC OF KOREA — Soldiers from the 82nd Brigade Engineer Battalion, 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, trained on the M60 Armored Vehicle-Launched Bridge system Feb. 28.

"Being a 12 Bravo, a combat engineer, is fun," said Spc. John Koutsoyanopoulos, combat engineer from the 82nd BEB, 2nd ABCT, 1st Inf. Div. "You get to do a whole lot of different things — like shooting, blowing things up, breaching and learning about all types of vehicles such as the M60 [Armored Vehicle Launched Bridge]."

The M60 AVLB is based on the M60 Patton main battle tank hull and is used for the launching and retrieval of a 60-foot, scissor-type bridge. The bridge weighs 15 of the vehicle's 70 tons and can support all vehicles fielded by the U.S. Army.

The crew operates five hydraulic valves in front of the driver's seat to lay out different portions of the bridge simultaneously. Turning the valves to extend the bridge was a new experience for a few of the Soldiers, including Sgt. Angel Sarmiento, combat engineer, also with the 82nd BEB, 2nd ABCT, 1st Inf. Div.

"I came from a light infantry unit, airborne, and this is all new to me,"



Spc. John Koutsoyanopoulos, a Combat Engineer from the 82nd Brigade Engineer Battalion, 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division trains Soldiers on the operation of the M60 Armored Vehicle-Launched Bridge system Feb. 28. The M60 AVLB is based on the M60 Patton main battle tank hull and is used for the launching and retrieval of a 60-foot, scissor-type bridge.

Sarmiento said. "This training was actually really helpful for me because I learned what the equipment is, what it can do and how it can be implemented. I'll probably be a squad leader in my platoon and I have to know the capabilities of my vehicles to be able to implement them in the battlefield."

Practicing the deployment and utilization of this type of bridge is an essen-

tial part of the readiness mission of the 82nd BEB and the "Dagger" brigade.

"This vehicle is vital to the mission," Koutsoyanopoulos said. "If we needed to cross a large area and tanks weren't able to drive over it — such as a large crater, deep ditches or water crossing — this bridge would be extremely important to get all those vehicles either out of the breach or into it."

Training team teaches new fitness evaluators



Sgt. 1st Class Richard Aguilar, Co. C, 2nd General Support Aviation Battalion, 1st Aviation Regiment, 1st Combat Aviation Brigade, 1st Infantry Division, takes off during the Sprint-Drag-Carry event of the Army Combat Fitness Test March 5 at Long Fitness Center's field.

By Ann Olamiju
1ST INF. DIV. PAO

A Mobile Training Team from the U.S. Army Physical Fitness School came to Long Gym March 3 to 5, to train Soldiers on how to fill the roles of noncommissioned officers in charge and officers in charge for the new Army Combat Fitness Test and how to administer the test.

U.S. Army Physical Fitness School Instructor, Capt. Amyr Palmer was one of several who administered the training. She said Soldiers are open and ready for the change and training.

"What we focus on in the training is making sure Soldiers understand the events,

understand the grading and what their responsibilities are as NCOICs and OICs," Palmer said.

"The thing we like to focus on really is grading standards, things that as a Soldier individually you would want someone to grade you properly and grade you to standard, and we enforce those things as they go through the course."

During the three-day course, Soldiers learned how to administer the six-event ACFIT within the designated 90-minutes and focused on grading to standard. They then took the test to get a better understanding and feel for it. Sgt. 1st Class Richard

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Military tenants' bill of rights signed

By Joshua Ford
ARMY NEWS SERVICE

One year after the Army's Inspector General was directed to inspect privatized Army housing under the Residential Communities Initiative, Secretary of Defense Dr. Mark T. Esper, Secretary of the Army Ryan D. McCarthy, Acting Secretary of

the Navy Thomas B. Modly and Secretary of the Air Force Barbara M. Barrett signed the Military Housing Privatization Initiative Tenant Bill of Rights Feb. 25.

The Bill of Rights commits the Department of Defense to ensuring tenants receive quality housing and fair treatment from the Military Housing Privatization Initiative

project owners who operate and maintain privatized housing.

"People are the Army's number one priority," said Lt. Gen. Douglas Gabram, commanding general, U.S. Army Installation Management Command. "As Army leaders, we have an enduring obligation to take care of our people. The health, safety

and welfare of our Soldiers, civilians and families is our primary responsibility."

The newly signed Tenant Bill of Rights contains 18 items, with 15 of those available to military residents by May 1.

Since military spouses raised concerns testifying

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VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED FOR THE COMBINED EASTER EGG HUNT APRIL 4. ANYONE INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING CAN CONTACT JANE BROOKSHIRE AT ARMY COMMUNITY SERVICE AT 785-239-9974.

THE MAIN POST LIBRARY NEEDS A VOLUNTEER TO BE THE EASTER BUNNY FROM 1 TO 3 P.M. APRIL 11. IF ANYONE IS INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING, CONTACT REBECCA AT THE LIBRARY AT 785-239-9582.

For more information about volunteering on Fort Riley, contact Jane Brookshire volunteer coordinator with Army Community Service at 785-239-9974.

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CELEBRATING WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH AT THE EXCHANGE

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SPC. SHELL EXPLORES FOUR OF THE EIGHT WONDERS OF KANSAS

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