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TASK FORCE PHOENIX V



BG Douglas A. Pritt

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Knowledge, Skill, Motivation and Positive Expectation

In this newsletter I want to talk about 2 of the 5 Pillars of Success, Creativity and Service.

Creativity is an essential element to any successful operation and our deployment to Afghanistan will be no exception. We will be operating in the 4th poorest country in the world and one of the most hostile environments on the face of the earth. We will all be faced with a myriad of challenges, problems and opportunities while we train the ANA. To take advantage of these opportunities we must put our creative skills to use.

Creativity is our ability to generate ideas, alternatives or possibilities that may be useful in exploiting these opportunities. Everyone is creative.

Some people are more creative than others but all of us can improve our creative skills with practice. Key to this is our skill at viewing things from a different perspective. Creativity is enhanced by flexibility of mind, tolerance for ambiguity and the enjoyment of the unknown. Our training for this deployment is aligned to enhance the very skills we need to excel in Afghanistan.

Service encompasses many things and happens at many levels. Every member of the Task Force must practice Selfless Service to each other, our unit, our service, your country, our Coalition Partners, the ANA and Afghanistan for us to be successful in performing our mission. We must put the needs of others before our personal needs to ensure success. In serving, you are doing your duty loyally without thought of recognition or gain. The basic building block of selfless service is the commitment of each team member to go a little further, endure a little longer, and look a little closer to see how he or she can add to the effort.

Our mission in Afghanistan continues to evolve on a daily basis. I am convinced now more than ever our ability to develop creative solutions to complex issues will be critical to our success.

Your service to our country is without question and you have repeatedly demonstrated your selfless service to your fellow troopers while here at Cp Shelby. Now we need to expand our commitment of service to our Coalition Partners the ANA and the citizens of Afghanistan.

I know you will excel in both these areas and set a new standard for excellence for CJTF Phoenix performance.

You continue to demonstrate your Creativity on a daily basis and your Service to our Country is without question.

Thank you for your contributions.



5 Pillars of Success

Make a Difference

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Operation Backpack: Promise Made, Promise

*Contributed by embedded
journalist Scott Kesterson*

New Orleans, LA—Seven months ago, the Oregon Army National Guard was mobilized to support recovery efforts following Hurricane Katrina and Hurricane Rita. Under the direction of General Pritt, those soldiers remained in and around New Orleans for 21 days, involving themselves in all aspects of support, from search and rescue, delivery of food and water, to policing and security. The Oregon National Guard's mission was part of one of the largest domestic National Guard disaster relief efforts in the country's history, and demonstrated the depth of mission capability that defines the National Guard.

On Friday, 21 March 2006, the members of the Oregon Army National Guard, again under direction of General Pritt, Commander of Joint Task Force Phoenix V, executed what was termed, Operation Backpack, bringing much needed school supplies to the schools in New Orleans. Public Affairs Officer, Major Strong, explains, "While we were here seven months ago as part of the relief effort for Hurricane Katrina and Rita, we reached out to the community back in Oregon, specifically the Oregon Department of Education, to help facilitate donations of backpacks full of supplies for school children,

supplies for teachers, and books and clothing, that we were able to bring with us on this deployment, and which we were able to bring to New Orleans to distribute to the schools and school children. Operation Backpack involved the transport and distribution of over 3,200 backpacks, school supplies for teachers sufficient to carry them through the end of the year, as well as clothing for school



Students of New Orleans share their joy with soldiers

children and teens, donated by the residents of Oregon. In all, the donations totaled 38 pallets and required the use of six heavy transport vehicles, five support vehicles and over 20 service members all from the 41st's LTF Battalion to transport and distribute. The mission was a total success. "The amount of hope and smile and joy that we distributed to these children today is far more impactful than the books and backpacks that we gave them." Strong added. One only needed to look at the faces of those receiving the gifts to appreciate the depth of the his words.

Soldier profile: HHC 41st BCT's CPT J.E. "Blues" Buckholz

CPT J.E. Blues Buckholz was born and raised in Scotts Mills, Oregon. He joined the Oregon Army National Guard after serving five years in the Regular Army.

He has been married to his wife, Ania, for 1 year and they have two children; an eight year old girl, Alexis and a six year old boy, Brody. His interests include outdoor sports, especially football, and most important, spending time with his family. CPT Buckholz has recently completed his Masters Degree in Teaching and loves coaching football and baseball. He has aspirations of coaching fulltime at the university level.

"Deployments can be difficult for families when it comes to birthdays and anniversaries but through love and commitment we all can make it through," said Buckholz.

"Being away and missing Brody's 6th birthday was hard", Buckholz continued. "But I want him to know that even though I am far away he is still my Brody Ballgame."

"I love you boy!"





Command Sergeant Major's Counsel

Salaam,

There are many things that make our Military great: The Army Values, Pride and Professionalism, Camaraderie, Love of Country, and the shared ideals of Freedom and Liberty.

There are also many structures, policies, and systems in place in the Armed Forces that have been developed and time tested over the history of the military. For example: the uniform code of military justice, the wear and appearance of the military uniform, the discipline and military courtesies that we are all taught in our basic courses. All of these and many others have been developed over time, and adjustments made, to keep them current with the world situation. Bottom line is that we have developed the finest Armed Forces the world has ever seen and it didn't just happen overnight.

Our services have a long, rich, and proud history, built on many years of development and service by every member who preceded us. We owe it to our predecessors to carry on these traditions and systems and to leave a better force for those that follow us. So what does that have to do with our current mission you might ask yourself? Here is the mission statement for Task Force Phoenix V.



Another satisfied customer

This young fourth grade student of Mary Bethune Accelerated School was all smiles as she left with a new backpack for herself and her sister.

When she reluctantly asked for one of the school supply filled packs for her sister who was absent that afternoon, her hesitation turned to smiles as she thanked every member of the distribution team.

The Soldier's Creed

I am an American Soldier.
I am a Warrior and a member of a team. I serve the people of the United States and live the Army Values.

I will always place the mission first.
I will never accept defeat.
I will never quit.
I will never leave a fallen comrade.

I am disciplined, physically and mentally tough, trained and proficient in my warrior tasks and drills. I always maintain my arms, my equipment and myself.
I am an expert and I am a professional.
I stand ready to deploy, engage, and destroy the enemies of the United States of America in close combat.
I am a guardian of freedom and the American way of life.
I am an American Soldier.

ON THE IMPORTANCE OF MODELING

Everything we say and do will be taken in by the Afghanistan National Army. We must be aware of this and never compromise our ideals or standards. The ANA is a new force and is finding its own way. We are there as facilitators and models. The way that we conduct business must be above reproach. The way we dress, treat our subordinates and superiors, and utilize our systems will be watched closely by the ANA. We can never lose sight of that. We must push ourselves to model the proper behavior at all times. We are a conventional army coaching, teaching, and mentoring another fledgling conventional army. The way to success in our mission is to bring the ANA along far enough that they can perform independently and have the basics mastered. I am asking each and every one of you to be diligent in your actions and appearance and to **MODEL** what right looks like. If we do this we can't help but accomplish the mission.

Phoenix Nine - CSM Brunk Conley

THE NCO CREED

No one is more professional than I. I am a Noncommissioned Officer, a leader of soldiers. As a Noncommissioned Officer, I realize that I am a member of a time honored corps, which is known as "The Backbone of the Army". I am proud of the Corps of Noncommissioned Officers and will at all times conduct myself so as to bring credit upon the Corps, the Military Service and my country regardless of the situation in which I find myself. I will not use my grade or position to attain pleasure, profit, or personal safety.

Competence is my watchword. My two basic responsibilities will always be uppermost in my mind -- accomplishment of my mission and the welfare of my soldiers. I will strive to remain tactically and technically proficient. I am aware of my role as a Noncommissioned Officer. I will fulfill my responsibilities inherent in that role. All soldiers are entitled to outstanding leadership; I will provide that leadership. I know my soldiers and I will always place their needs above my own. I will communicate consistently with my soldiers and never leave them uninformed. I will be fair and impartial when recommending both rewards and punishment.

Officers of my unit will have maximum time to accomplish their duties; they will not have to accomplish mine. I will earn their respect and confidence as well as that of my soldiers. I will be loyal to those with whom I serve; seniors, peers, and subordinates alike. I will exercise initiative by taking appropriate action in the absence of orders. I will not compromise my integrity, nor my moral courage. I will not forget, nor will I allow my comrades to forget that we are professionals, Noncommissioned Officers, leaders!



CJTF Phoenix V wishes a big HAPPY BIRTHDAY to the TF members born in April.



CW2 ALBIN
PFC LOCKHART
SFC MARCOTTE
PFC MEYER
SGM DECK
SSG DEEN
COL ENYEART
MAJ HANSON
SGT HUNT
PV2 JONES
SPC ROBERTS
SFC SNYDER
SSG TORRES
SFC WEST
SPC BARKER
SGT BOTWINICK
SPC BROWN
SFC GILLEY
MSG KONECHNE

SGT KOCH
SPC LOUISIANA
CPT MARTEEN
SSG MITCHELL
SGT OSGOOD
SPC DODSON
MAJ FARLEY
PV2 HENSLEY
1SG JAMES
SPC JONES
SPC SCHMIDT
SSG STALEY
SGT VANLANEN
SPC WHENRY
CSM BARRETT
LTC BRANN
SPC BRUNER
SPC COLLETT

LTC KOHN
SSG LOVE
SFC MARTIN
SGT MOKISANG
SPC PHILLIPS
SPC DOMINIC
PV2 GABBARD
SFC HESKETH
SFC JEFFERS
SPC PHILPOT
PFC SCRAPER
SPC STAMAND
PFC VOGEL
PFC WILCOX
SPC BATES
SPC BRANNON
MAJ CARY
SPC CONFORTI

SSG KUNTZ
1LT LYNCH
SGT MCMILLIN
PFC MYRON
SGT DAVIS
SPC DOWNS
SFC GALBRAITH
PFC HORNING
SGT JOHNSON
1LT QUIJANO
SGT SMITH
SPC STAUB
SGT WADE
SFC WILLSON
PV2 BAUGHMAN
SPC BRYSON
SPC CHADIC
MAJ DANIELSON

SFC LAMB
PFC MADRID
CPT MEIS
PFC NELSON
MAJ DAY
SFC DUDEK
SSG GALLARDO
SPC HOWARD
SPC HULCE
2LT RALPH
CPT SMITH
PV1 STONE
SPC CURRY
SGT WUNDER
SSG BLAKNEY
PFC BUKOWSKI
SGT CHRISTINE
CPT LIBEL

SPC LEHMAN
SPC MANNEN
SGT MERRIMON
SPC OBRYAN
2LT KIRKPATRICK
SPC ELLIS
CPT TAGWERKER
SGT HENDERSON
SPC HALLENBECK
LTC RATHBURN
SGT SINGLETERRY
MSG STUVA
MAJ WARRINGTON
1SG ANDERSON
SGT BOLSINGER
CSM BREITSPRECKER
SPC CLARK
SSG DARMODYLATHAM



A special **“Welcome to the World”** goes out to Tyler Matthew Watson and **“Congratulations”** to the proud parents, Eric and Dawn Watson.

CARING FOR YOUR ACUs



- ACU worn with the black Beret and pin on skill badges
- Velcro backed rank insignia
- Tilted chest pockets with Velcro closure, optimized for use with the front opening OTV
- 3 slot pen pocket for easy access, optimized for use with the OTV
- Velcro sleeve cuff closure which provides positive closure for all sizes
- Forward tilted cargo pocket for easy access whether sitting, kneeling, or standing – incorporated elastic drawstring for positive closure during movement
- Combat Boot hot weather, or Combat Boot temperate weather

Wash in cold water and mild detergent containing no optical brighteners or bleach. Tumble dry at low heat (NOT TO EXCEED 130 DEGREES FARENHEIT). Remove immediately from the dryer and fold flat or place on a rustproof hanger to ensure heat from the dryer does not set wrinkles. To drip dry, remove from the washer and place on a rustproof hanger. **DO NOT WRING OR TWIST.**

Detergents that DO NOT have optical brighteners

Bold Powder, Cheer Liquid/Powder (all versions), All Powder (all versions), Surf Powder (all versions, Woolite (all versions).

Additionally, turning the uniforms inside out while laundering prevents the Velcro from attaching to other items and prolongs the usefulness of the Velcro.