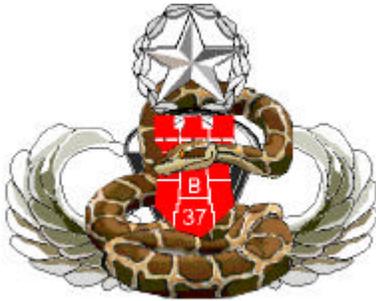


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# BUSHMASTERS BULLETIN



## Company B 37th En Bn (C)(A)

Camp Bondsteel, APO AE 09340

Commander  
CPT James De Lapp

First Sergeant  
1SG Richard Smith



### Commanders Corner

Over the last two weeks the Bushmasters have been as busy as ever. The company is fully engaged in several major projects, and continue to support TF 11th En BN and all Maneuver Units in MNB-E with vertical and horizontal construction effort. LE broke ground on the new Cernica Basecamp, and constructed a access road to the camp. They also trained members of the TMK (formerly the Kosovo Protection Corps) Engineers on the operation of Engineer Equipment for a future joint project. 1st Platoon has been placing concrete in the town of Pozoranje for a new sidewalk and bus stop to alleviate the heavy personnel traffic that currently walks in the road. They were featured on the cover of *Stars and Stripes* with this great project. 2nd Platoon had been making great improvements in the outposts as a part of the outpost campaign plan. The soldiers in these remote camps really appreciate the improvements which make living in these rough conditions a bit more bearable. The 155th Asphalt

Platoon is also making a world of difference for those who drive down routes Rat, Amber and Chrome. Filling some of the million pot holes with asphalt, and grading the dirt roads make the locals and KFOR very happy. Last but not least, the Maintenance section and Headquarters section keep the company rolling with great support every day. Overall Bravo Company has been keeping busy and it has made the time go by fast. We are 25% complete with our mission overall. The next few weeks will bring continued work on the projects and Outpost campaign plan, as well as begin work on another new basecamp in Vitina. We will also celebrate the 4th of July by having the day to enjoy activities on the camp, and will even be able to wear civilian clothes (preferably red, white, and blue) for five hours!

CPT De Lapp  
Bushmaster 6

### Special points of interest:

- We are on the World Wide Web at: <http://www.tffimonteith.hqusaureur.army.mil/11ENG/welcomepage.htm>
- CMS stays busy planning and surveying future projects
- 1st Platoon Featured in *Stars and Stripes*
- 2nd Platoon Continues on Outpost Campaign Plan
- LE Breaks ground on Cernica Basecamp
- Asphalt Platoon Paves SSA Road and repairs Routes in sector

### CMS Section

The Construction Management Section has continued in its mission of providing quality assurance and construction management to Task Force 11<sup>th</sup> Engineers. During the past month we have been working closely with the Bushmas-



SGT Hall surveys Freedom Field in Gnjilane, to the delight of the crowd!

ters on the Pozoranje sidewalk project, with SSG Patterson and SPC Ruloked meticulously making necessary design changes. SGT Hall has been working feverishly to complete the design for Freedom Field, the new soccer/basketball track complex in Gnjilane that the Bushmasters will help build. SSG Hatfield and SFC Thomas have been monitoring the Bushmaster work at Cernica and OP Gunner. Additionally, SFC Thomas has been very busy helping out Alpha and

Charlie companies of the 11<sup>th</sup> Engineers with their designs of bridges which they will be installing this month. SPC Gerebics has become the first from CMS to make the "reconnaissance" to Sophia, Bulgaria, and I'm sure he'll pass on the entire route classification to the section upon his return. On top of all the fun and work, CMS has also been given the task of teaching member of the TMK (Kosovo national guard) how to plan projects. All in all it has been a fun but busy month for the Construction Management Section!

CPT Templeman/SFC Thomas

## 1st Vertical Platoon

Hello to all the families and friends of the 1<sup>st</sup> Platoon Bushmasters. All is well in Kosovo; everyone is staying safe and doing extremely well. Having a Task Force run to celebrate the Army's birthday kicked off the middle of the month of June. At the end of the run we sang the Army Song and cut the birthday cake. The run really built esprit de corps within the platoon and a picture of PFC Hill was even taken while out in front of a pack of runners and put in the newspaper the next day.



Specialist's Stanley, Cole and Petroski work hard at placing concrete

These past few weeks the platoon has excelled in the placing of 100ft worth of sidewalk in the Kosovo town of Pozaranje. The light equipment platoon finished bringing the first section of the sidewalk up to grade on 12 June and the very next day the men diligently worked on the first section of the 600ft sidewalk. By 14 June we had all the formwork in place and the men were ready to pour the first 100 feet of concrete. On 18 June we began forming the 2<sup>nd</sup> section of the sidewalk and bus stop. On 19 June the word had spread that 1<sup>st</sup> platoon B/37<sup>th</sup> was building a \$25,000 sidewalk in Pazaranje and a reporter from the military newspaper, *Stars and Stripes* came out to do a story on the platoon and the project we were working on. The article on the men appeared on the front page of *Stars and Stripes* on 20 June. The picture on the front page depicted SPC Arroyo putting together formwork for the sidewalk. This sidewalk project is forecasted to be complete by 9 July at the very latest. The men are working hard every day. Many people do not realize how hard it is to work in ninety-degree heat with forty pounds of gear on for eight hours. The reporter from *Stars and Stripes* even remarked, "I bet working with all that gear on and with your weapon on your back does not make things very easy."

As you can see the men are doing great things and working extremely hard to make things better for Kosovo and for the entire Task Force. So, please keep the letters and care packages coming. They mean a lot to the men over here. Well, from all the soldiers of 1<sup>st</sup> platoon we want to say hello to all the families and friends of the Bushmasters and we wish that you will keep us all in your thoughts and prayers.

1LT Marmon/SFC Page

## 2nd Vertical Platoon

Hello again to all the families and friends of 2<sup>nd</sup> Platoon. Since our last newsletter, the platoon has stayed very busy with quality of life improvements throughout the entire U.S. Sector. These projects are designed to increase security as well as make the units stay in sector much more to enable.

During this period, 1<sup>st</sup> Squad went to Vrbovac Check Point, in the town of Vrbovac, and made some much needed improvements. The list of improvements included filling the HESCOS (protective dirt barrier baskets) around the check point, putting in anti-sniper screens, building a deck with overhead cover and a dry goods storage shed. SPC Hettinger was the key player in putting up the anti-sniper screen, which significantly increases the security of all the soldiers at the Check Point by obscuring the checkpoint from observation from the outside. SGT Barnes, SGT Ascott, SPC Walters, SPC Hettinger, and PFC Trujillo also built the deck with overhead cover and the dry goods storage shed to improve and protect the unit's quality of life. Because of their outstanding efforts and hard work, all of the squad members were presented with a company coin. PFC Trujillo's hard work earned him a KFOR coin.

Meanwhile, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> squads were putting on the finishing touches to Outpost Gunner, which included SGT Walker's artistic touch drawing the 20<sup>th</sup> Brigade Engineer patch on the tower. After completing that very difficult and time-consuming project, they took a much needed and well-deserved break. During that time, CPL Rivers, SPC Dayton, SPC Nevarez and PFC Greer spent countless hours in 2<sup>nd</sup> platoon construction tent building bookshelves and pull up bars for 1<sup>st</sup> squad missions. PFC McCracken built a table for a unit at the Binac Church Check Point that was in a class all its own. 2<sup>nd</sup> squad even played the role of federal express by guaranteeing that all items were delivered in a timely manner to both locations.



2nd Squad at complete Observation Tower on OP Gunner

Well, that about does it for 2<sup>nd</sup> platoon right now. The Army is another year older and we are another month closer to being at home with our loved ones. Independence Day will soon be upon you just as it will be upon us. We celebrated the Army's birthday (JUNE 14) by participating in a Post Run with the rest of Camp Bondsteel during a strong downpour of a thunderstorm. Oh Joy! We will be celebrating the 4<sup>th</sup> of July with a very brief fireworks display, and a BBQ Day. Thank you all for your letters and packages from home. They have helped improve our morale and quality of life. Until next time, 2<sup>nd</sup> Platoon sends our love and best wishes to all our families and friends.

1LT McRae/SFC Price

## Light Equipment Platoon



Working side by side to level a hilltop with Brown and Root for a new basecamp near the town of Cernica

Since our last newsletter, the Light Equipment platoon has continued doing great things for the Task Force and for the people of Kosovo. We received a number of smaller support missions as well as a large project in conjunction with Brown and Root Services. SGT Thorne and 3rd Squad continued work out at the Pozaranje sidewalk/ bus stop project. They continued excavating the existing soil and backfilling the area with compacted gravel. This provided a good solid base for the vertical platoons to come in and start laying concrete, who inadvertently took all the credit for the project in the papers. Much of the work was done

with a Bobcat or SEE due to the limited space in the area. SGT Lundy worked with Brown and Root Services starting on 15 June to help them construct a new base camp near the town of Vitina. We were tasked to build the road that approached the new base camp. We also provided some dozer and grader support on the base camp site. SGT Lundy's squad did much of the engineer equipment operation on site while SGT Matteson's squad provided drivers for the dump trucks hauling the soil. In total, the road took about 900 cubic yards of gravel and rock to complete. We did an excellent job supporting Brown and Root on the project and will be working with them again in the very near future. When not supporting the other two major projects, 1st Squad was used to support all of our smaller missions. SGT Matteson supported the 326 EN in building a parking lot for a local school. The existing plot of land was covered in deep mud and piles of garbage. We cleared the plot and graded it smooth. Then we placed some gravel down and compacted it to keep it from getting muddy again. SGT Matteson also supported C/11 EN in fixing a bridge on a major KFOR route. We prepared the abutments by placing more gravel down and by providing the truck that hauled the bridge span out to the site. Along the same route, 1st squad also provided some dump truck support to C/11 EN to backfill a culvert that they emplaced.



Rolling out filter fabric for Cernica Basecamp Access Road

1LT Wohlfeil/SFC Constantino

## Maintenance Platoon

It has been over a month now since the arrival of maintenance platoon at Camp Bondsteel, Kosovo. Everyone in the platoon has been continuing to work vigorously every day in order to keep the company's vehicles up and running. The job has been non-stop for maintenance, keeping everyone gainfully employed as time passes quickly. Things have calmed down as the platoon has become settled in and developed a work routine to ensure the job is accomplished.

The status of maintenance would not be where it is without the help from the clerks. SPC Vincent has been ordering parts and picking them up when the parts arrive at Camp Bondsteel. SPC McAmis and PFC Henson conducted a successful recovery mission of a HMMWV that was stranded. They were able to react right away as soon as the mission was received and execute in a timely manner. SPC Manners has successfully completed a puzzling job on a 20-ton dump truck that would not start. He worked side by side with the Brown & Root Service Technical Assistants troubleshooting the vehicle to find the problem and together were able to get the vehicle running. Congratulation goes out to SGT Freckleton for his recent victory in the 226<sup>th</sup> Army's Birthday run that was

conducted by Task Force Falcon. The majority of the camp participated in the run, but he was the first one to complete the course. Afterwards, he received a Task Force Falcon coin for his accomplishment in the run. SGT Freckleton led the way for Bravo Company and maintenance platoon.

Everyone has been continuing to work hard and stay focused on the mission making the rotation here in Kosovo successful. The work that maintenance has been faced with has been a challenge, but the platoon manages to stay strong and continue moving forward. Since the beginning of the rotation maintenance has been a key asset for the company ensuring the vehicles remain at a fully mission capable status. Excellent job goes out to maintenance for all the hard work and effort they put in.



SPC Tran and SGT Freckleton Troubleshoot a SEE

2LT Henz/CW2 Madrigal/SSG Bolendar



Company B 37th En Bn (C)(A)  
Camp Bondsteel, APO AE 09340  
Commander  
CPT James De Lapp

First Sergeant  
1SG Richard Smith

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## BUSHMASTERS

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<http://www.tffmonteith.hqusareur.army.mil/11ENG/welcomepage.htm>

## 155th Asphalt Platoon

From the Ridge Runners

The platoon has reached the half waypoint in the deployment. The Ridge Runners have laid nearly 14,000 tons of asphalt and it appears we will lay this amount before we leave in September. Since the last issue we have moved out into the MNB-E sector on road repair too give some relief to the 3-7 soldiers having to contend with potholed roads. We also have finished the Bypasses on Route Hawk for KFOR and look forward to working with the French and Greek Engineers on Route Stag West.

The 1<sup>st</sup> squad led the way on completing the Camp Bondsteel Sling Load Pad. Brown and Root Services did the prep work and we laid 1241 tons of asphalt on the project. While working on the pad we trained new operators on the pavers. SPC William Rudolph tried his hand at operating the paver with excellent results. The pad was completed in 3 days and will keep the dust down for the log pack helicopters coming into Camp Bondsteel. The squad then moved to Route Rat in the southern area of Kosovo doing pothole repair. They have used over 60 tons of asphalt on this route in 5 days of work. The 2<sup>nd</sup> squad finished up the Bypasses on Route Hawk and moved on to SSA Road on Camp Bondsteel. The SSA Road is 1,990 feet long and will take 1,300 tons of asphalt to complete. This week we finished up the SSA Road-project and then the squad expects to help 1<sup>st</sup> complete route repairs. SGT Douglas Bibee has helped the Light Equipment Platoon with their projects on the D7 Dozer. The rest of 2<sup>nd</sup> squad has provided TC's for LE's mission near Cernica.

1LT Lacy/SFC Brooks



Onsite Planning by 1st Squad



Leveling Asphalt for pothole repair on Route Rat.