

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

Company B 37th Engineers spent the past week continuing their efforts to improve the quality of life in the American sector. The vertical elements have been busy with making improvements at local schools. These efforts include the removal of debris from one schoolyard and hauling sand for another. Second platoon has placed concrete footers for the new tower at OP Gunner. The horizontal elements have been making headway on the Pozoranje sidewalk project in the areas of earth excavation and aggregate backfill. They have also been busy with various haul operations in support of other TF 11 Engineers missions. The 155th Asphalt Detachment has widened the South Access Road at CBS Gate 3 and began to pave the CBS Slingload Pad and Target 1 Bypass along route Hawk. The Bushmasters also had several soldiers achieve greatness: SPC (P) Reed won TF 11E soldier of the month; SGT Rivers won TF 11E NCO of the Month; SPC(P) Morrison scored the highest on the battalion promotion

board; and SGT Freckleton finished first in the TFF Army Birthday Run winning a \$50.00 AAFES gift certificate. Also during the past weeks we moved the company motor pool in order to facilitate the efficiency of maintenance operations. We would like to welcome CW2 Madrigal, SSG Simmons, and SSG Thompson to the Balkans and congratulate SSG Simmons on his successful completion of BNCOC. We bid farewell to SGT Monzillo who did an exceptional job as the company supply sergeant for the past three months. We also awarded our first medals upon his departure of Camp Bondsteel. He was awarded an Army Achievement Medal, Kosovo Campaign Medal, and NATO Medal prior to his departure for a job well done and his contribution to the Peacekeeping Operation.

CPT De Lapp
Bushmaster 6

Special points of interest:

- Bushmasters Been Busy (B³)
- CMS stays busy planning and surveying future projects
- 1st Platoon builds workout equipment
- 2nd Platoon Participates in 10K run
- LE Completes POLUKRBAT Upgrade
- Asphalt Platoon 50% complete with all Route Hawk Bypasses

CMS Section

The Construction Management Section (CMS) has been extremely busy ever since our arrival here at Camp Bondsteel. From the very first day we have been reconnoitering project sites, creating designs, and managing projects—whatever it takes to feed the Bushmaster construction machine!



SSG Patterson, SGT Hall, and SPC Gerebics surveying Pozoranje Sidewalk Project as locals watch.

The CMS job is to manage projects from conception to completion and all the “stuff” in between. So when the Bushmasters had an opportunity to build a sidewalk to benefit the city of Pozaranje, for example, the CMS team sprang into action to get the project ready for the Bushmasters to begin work. First, CPT Templeman, the OIC, SFC Thomas, the Vertical Inspector, and SSG Hatfield, the Horizontal Inspector, visited the project site and decided on a plan, then our techni-

cal engineers led by SSG Patterson, SGT Hall, SPC Ruluked, and SPC Gerebica, drew a design and made a materials list. They also went out to the project site and conducted surveys. Finally, CMS coordinated with a local translator to translate the list of materials into Albanian and metric units!, and arranged for delivery. As the project continues, CMS will monitor the quality of work and adherence to the design to ensure that every project with the Bushmaster name on it stands for quality!

CPT Templeman/SFC Thomas

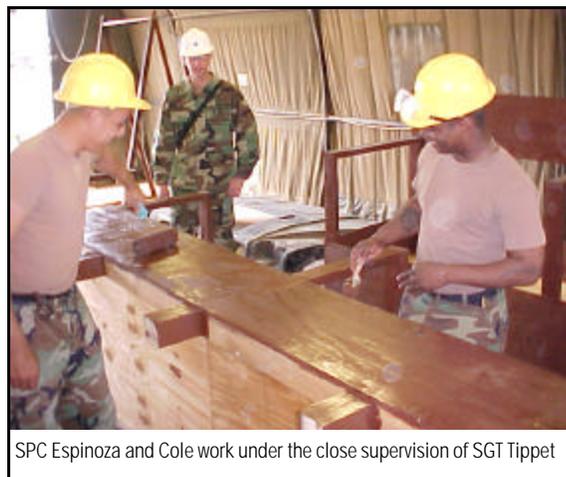
1st Vertical Platoon

Hello to all the families and friends of the 1st Platoon Bushmasters. All is well in Kosovo; everyone is staying safe and eating extremely well. These past few weeks the platoon has excelled in fulfilling its role as one of only two vertical construction platoons in theatre. We kicked off the month of June by promoting Corporal Redd to Sergeant. The platoon also directed its efforts toward two major construction projects and a few small-scale projects. The first major project was the designing and construction of four bookshelves and four desks for the local elementary school we sponsor. Every Friday we go out to our sponsor school and deliver care packages containing everything from books to school clothes. The children enjoy seeing American soldiers and are extremely receptive to our visits. On 8 June 2001 we visited the school to see the kids and deliver the new bookshelves and desks.

Following the school project, we immediately focused our attentions on improving the quality of life for soldiers who are living at remote outposts. The platoon designed and constructed pull-up bars, a weight rack, and a flat/incline bench for an outpost called Red Base near the city of Pasjane. Once word got out that we did this, we soon found ourselves building the same type of exercise equipment for another outpost named OP Terminator. Once we finished with the exercise equipment at OP Terminator, we stayed on-site to install some much-needed lighting around the outpost.

Aside from these two major projects, the 1st Platoon Bushmasters also executed some small tasks as well. On 2 June SPC Stanley, PFC Hill, and PFC Sloma built a wall for the 11th Engineer Battalion's arms room to ensure safe-keeping of all their sensitive items. On 7 June SPC

Castleberry and SPC Pollock built a Guidon stand for the Battalion Sergeant Major. On 8 June SGT Redd, SPC Espinoza, and SPC Amrhein constructed a weapons rack for the 11th Engineer Battalion. Finally, on 9 June we broke ground on the Pozaranje Sidewalk Project that will keep us busy for the rest of the month. As you can see the men are doing some great work. From all the soldiers of 1st platoon we want to say hello and we wish the best to all the families and friends of the Bushmasters.



SPC Espinoza and Cole work under the close supervision of SGT Tippet

1LT Marmon/SFC Page

2nd Vertical Platoon



Sergeants Ascott, Bunner, and Brown before 10K Run w/2nd Plt Guidon

don, these paratroopers were the only group with the intestinal fortitude to ruck the entire 10k and easily managed to place in front of many who had run the race.

We are continuing our humanitarian aid efforts and assistance with our sponsor school, BiBaj (Be-Bi) Elementary. SSG Ray Strohl's squad installed electrical outlets and made general home improvements to a sponsored family in a neighboring town. We have delivered more clothing and supplies to BiBaj and cleaned up the schoolyard, freeing it of huge piles of debris and trash. In addition, we have also emplaced nail strips

Hello again to all the families and friends of Bravo Company, 2nd platoon from Camp Bondsteel, Kosovo. This completes our first month in Kosovo country. We have had time to dig in and make ourselves at home with everything Camp Bondsteel and the surrounding towns have to offer. SGT Michael Bunner, SGT Michael Ascott, and SGT Eugene Brown participated in the Semi-annual 10k race on May 29, 2001. While carrying our platoon guidon,

on the classroom walls to enable the hanging of dry erase boards, bags, etc.

2nd Platoon has been given a few projects to improve the location of other units and their abilities to accomplish their particular missions. SSG Donald Hendricks' squad set in place flagpoles for one of the Kosovo Forces (KFOR) American-Russian checkpoints to fly. The American Flag, as well as the Russian flag, now fly proudly over the Kosovo/Serbia border for all to see. SSG Joshua Walls' squad made improvements at a remote outpost 200 meters from the Kosovo/Serbian border. These improvements included removal, rebuilding and relocation of two guard towers and the relocation of a guard gate on the mountain top outpost. All the while, SSG Strohl's squad has been integrated in with the other squads providing technical construction assistance as required.

So, as you can see, all is going well for the platoon. Until next time, 2nd Platoon sends its best wishes to all of our friends and loved ones back in the States. Please keep the letters and packages coming because your support makes this deployment so much better and bearable.

1LT McRae/SFC Price

Light Equipment Platoon

Hello again to everyone back in the States. It seems as though the pace is not going to slack off any for the Light Equipment Platoon. We've been busy fixing all of the routes around the American Sector, replacing the pot-holes and mud with smooth gravel. We fixed a highly traveled route near a small American Base Camp. The 200 yard section of the route ran right through the town of Zegra. The mission went off without a hitch except for a minor mishap involving a truck and a powerline.

Just before the fighting ensued in Macedonia, many refugees were flooding into Kosovo to escape any possible violence. We were tasked to



SGT Matteson working the SEE at OP Gunner to relocate gate

clear an area to provide a refugee camp for the people crossing the border. We were able to react fast to the needs of the border guards by deploying a team of DEUCEs to get the job done.

We also fixed the entrance road to the Polish-Ukrainian Battalion. The previous road was built by the unit we relieved in Kosovo. Parts of the road were starting to break up so we came in to patch up the parts that needed it most. We went in and dug up all of the soft clay underneath the road, and then laid rock down. We capped off the road with gravel and smoothed it out.

The LE platoon was also tasked to do a joint project with the vertical platoons. In the town of Pazaranje, we laid the ground work for a concrete sidewalk connected to a concrete bus stop. The location for the project was right in the middle of town and right next to the local school. The bus stop is already frequently used and hopefully once the sidewalk is built it will be used by the kids in the school to stay out of the street.

In between major projects, members of LE have been traveling out with the vertical platoons to provide support on their vertical missions with equipment we have. Those missions have taken them all around the sector including OP Gunner and OP Sapper. When not on a mission outside the gate, LE has been working on our vehicles to get them working again. Many of the vehicles we took over from our predecessors needed much TLC. But given the pace of horizontal work around here, it's easy to see how they neglected to keep their equipment in a mission capable status!



Dumping a Load of Rock for POLUKR BAT road upgrade

1LT Wohlfiel/SFC Constantino

Maintenance Platoon

During the past few weeks the maintenance section continues to work diligently against time keeping vehicles serviceable for upcoming missions. As each day ends the mechanics burn the midnight oil to ensure a vehicle is fully operational. First squad has been working with the engineer equipment such as: scrapers, tractor wheeled, and five or twenty ton dump trucks. Sergeant Freckleton has been ensuring the job his squad receives is fully carried out and accomplished by SPC Tran and SPC Manners. Second squad continues to work on the Bobtail tractors (M920), which have been a major obstacle for maintenance. Sergeant Ovanic and PFC Henson have accomplished a great portion by overseeing three of the six are now fully mission capable. Congratulations goes out to second squad for their dedication and hard work on the M920's. The direct support squad, led by Sergeant Turowski, continues to tear into vehicles with major problems. Just recently they began working on a DEUCE removing parts that are difficult to remove and weigh around seventy pounds. The equipment that maintenance works on cannot be fixed without the assistance of the clerks, Sergeant Knight and SPC Vincent. They have been working quickly making sure the right parts are ordered and tracked, along with keeping track of the paperwork and status of vehicles in shop and fixed. The person who oversees the squad's conduct the jobs needed to be done is the motor pool sergeant led by Staff Sergeant Bolender. He has been making sure that the operation of the motor pool continues to run a smooth course when fixing the engineer equipment.

Besides just working on the vehicles, maintenance has sent

several teams out on recovery missions. Each time when a team has been sent to recover the vehicle the mechanics have been successful. They have made it back safely and without any incidents occurring and really helping out the platoon.

Just recently the maintenance platoon has welcomed the long awaited arrival of Chief Warrant Officer Madrigal and Staff Sergeant Thompson. Both have arrived safely at Camp Bondsteel and have settled in. After getting used to the time change they caught up on the missions at hand. Since their arrival, it has increased the moral of maintenance platoon, as the section is altogether at Camp Bondsteel.

Congratulations goes out from maintenance platoon to SPC Tran and SGT Ovanic who have passed the board becoming eligible for promotion.



SGT Ovanic uses his expertise to troubleshoot a FMTV electrical problem.

2LT Henz/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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WE ARE ALMOST ON
THE WEB!

155th Asphalt Platoon

The Ridge Runners have been busy working on the Route Hawk Bypasses for the past two weeks. The Bypasses insure that KFOR will be able to supply the area of operations if key bridges or tunnels are blocked. This was the first time that the Ridge Runners would be involved in a multi-national project. The Greek Engineers do the entire earthwork for preparing the bypasses for the platoon. The French Engineers are the project managers for the KFOR engineer section. The Bypasses showcase the beauty of southern Kosovo. It is a lot like east Tennessee with the small river cutting through the floor of the valley and the small fields. The only thing missing is the corn whiskey with "Rocky Top" in the background.

The 1st squad led by SSG William Travis started Bypass 4 after Charlie Company, 11th Engineers blasted a large rock that had the potential of closing the bypass. Bypass 4 allowed the asphalt platoon to show that no mission is too hard for us. The bypass was only 15 feet wide at some points and flanked by a 100 to 200 foot drop. SPC William Rudolph rolled the edge while being carefully watched SFC Eddie Brooks. The 2nd squad led by SSG Kenneth Perry finished the bypass and moved to Bypass 5 the same day. The bypass took 789 tons to complete. SGT Lee Scott and SPC Alan Jones hauled the equipment out daily and provided road guard support. SPC Jessica Gaines and SPC Shawn Woodward provided the troop transport and support.



Target 5 Tunnel Bypass Road Before



Target 5 Tunnel Bypass Road After

Bypass 5 was a short run that took only 326 tons of asphalt to complete. Both line squads worked on it and quickly finished. Bypass 6, a possible bridging site for an Assault bridge and a Mabey-Johnson bridge, was the next project. This bypass took 652 tons to complete. The platoon was visited by the CPT Eric Moysan from the French Engineers and thanked for their hard work and determination on reaching project completion.

The next mission was expansion of the South Access Road that took 550 tons to complete. Every day cars and trucks arrive at Camp Bondsteel on the asphalt laid by the Ridge Runners from the Tennessee National Guard. The platoon has laid nearly 13,000 tons of asphalt into our tour already. The next projects will be Bypasses 1, 2, and 3 along with the Sling Load Pad and the Forward Area Refueling Point on Camp Bondsteel.

We Pave the Way!

1LT Lacy/SFC Brooks