



'Tis the Season...

...to enjoy the holidays and we're enjoying them Kandahr-style. Ok, so Halloween was a bummer (everyone, and I mean EVERYONE, had the same costume) but we had quite a feast at the Dining Facility (DFAC) for Thanksgiving and am sure Christmas will be just as tasty. We've got O'Doul's icing down for New Year's Eve and, soon enough, we'll be figuring out how to pack up all the stuff you've been sending us for the long trip home. In the mean time, though, keep those care packages coming and Happy Holidays!! 😊

- Commander**
CPT Paul Mulligan
- First Sergeant**
1SG David Santiago
- Executive Officer**
1LT Cindy Guzman
- Operations NCO**
SFC Michael Folta
- Cable Platoon**
2LT Alicia Seda
SFC Hector Burgos
- Signal Platoon**
1LT Anthony Chon
MSG Herman Ayala

Commander's Corner

By CPT Paul Mulligan

Happy Holidays and Seasons greetings. I hope this Newsletter finds you in good spirits.

During the holiday season it is even more important to stay connected with loved ones. Find a way to ensure you can be part of your Family's tradition in some way. Talk with your fellow Soldiers and celebrate with them while we are deployed, keep each other's morale and spirits up.

Charlie company has been highly engaged in communications operations across RC-S, and doing great work while simultaneously improving each section's areas of responsibility. We are truly blessed to have such dedicated and professional Soldiers in our company.

Never forget that the deployment is only temporary, and although we may not be able to spend time with those we love this year, next year's celebration will be that much sweeter.

I'd like to take this opportunity to let my wife Christina know that I am thinking of her always, and can't wait to spend next year with her and our new baby.

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'WE OWN THIS'

- Chaos 6



CPT Mulligan enjoyed some birthday cake and some birthday push-ups. Happy Birthday Sir!

First Sergeant Speaks



By 1SG David Santiago



Thanksgiving dinner served First Sergeant style! And, yes, SPC Cocha also had to do push-ups 1SG style too. :)

First I would like to thank all our Soldiers for the great jobs they are doing. I continually hear nothing but great things that Charlie Company Soldiers are doing throughout our Area of Responsibility (AOR).

During our Thanksgiving meal I took time to show my appreciation to all and help serve chow at the Niagara DFAC. We should take time during this Holiday season to thank our loved ones for all their support. We are quickly approaching the halfway point and we need to continue to work and get the job done as Charlie Company always does. Stay focused and let's all get home safe and sound to our loving Families.

I will like to congratulate the following Soldiers on their recent promotions: SPC Jasmine Morel promoted to SGT, PFC Shelica Graham promoted to SPC and PV2 Stephen Pritchett promoted to PFC. HAPPY HOLIDAYS and be safe.

TOC Operations

By SFC Michael S. Folta

Our TOC Team is in full swing and rolling right along.

While we may be chastised for our Flag Football playing abilities (let it be known that we played against a team that outsourced half of their team and brought in "ringers"; just sayin'...), we're having a playoff-caliber year so far providing administrative, training, automation and logistical support for our fellow Soldiers.

While the Cable and Signal Platoons are critical elements in completing our mission here, the TOC Team is the heart and soul of our organization ensuring our Soldiers are paid, trained and supplied with the equipment they need to accomplish their missions. A tip o' the cap to the Cable and Signal Platoons for their outstanding work and to the TOC Team for providing the outstanding support they deserve.



1SG Santiago and Team TOC vow to avenge their first game loss to the Cable Dawgs. Anyone have Tebow's number?...

Cable Platoon

By: 2LT Alicia Seda, SFC Hector Burgos and SGT Kenneth Burris

I am happy to share this holiday season with each of the talented men and women of the Cable Platoon. Our collective success as a unit is a direct result of your continued support. Thank you and Happy Holidays.

-2LT Seda

As the Cable Dog's Platoon Sergeant, I would first like to say I am honored to be serving alongside such hard working and dedicated Soldiers. I want to emphasize the outstanding jobs my Dawgs have displayed and am very proud of their dedication to the mission and to each other. Congratulations to the Cable Dawgs for schooling Chaos TOC on how real flag football is played... 11-5! Bring on the challenge!



Recently I had the privilege of attending an excavator training HMEE-1 operator course with some of the Soldiers; this equipment is our newest and most powerful addition of machinery. We had a lot of fun learning how to operate it and look forward to utilizing it on upcoming missions. The hands-on training we are receiving throughout this deployment is serving to better develop all the Soldiers' military and civilian skill sets. Happy Holidays to All...

-SFC Burgos

During the month of November, several cable teams have been on missions and have re-installed Cat#6 in several buildings in order to meet the proper I3A and military standards. Throughout these missions, many of the Soldiers have displayed great knowledge and understanding of their 25L MOS skills (wire and Panduit installation, termination procedures, etc). I would like for all of us in the unit to take the time to tell their fellow 101st ESB Soldiers, "The Cable Dawgs", congratulations and to keep up the good work!!!

-SGT Burris

Signal Platoon

By: 1LT Anthony Chon

During the holiday season, we think about our loved ones back at home and the sacrifices that they have to make. This year, for many wives, husbands, and children, it will be the first time that they will not be spending the holiday season with their significant other, father, or mother. I ask that you continue to stay strong and continue to support your Soldier.

The men and women of C Co, 101 ESB have been doing a phenomenal job with the missions that they have been tasked to conduct. Some of our Soldiers are working on one of the largest communication networks in the world. Others are validating equipment to ensure that it is full mission capable. These jobs require a high level of technical knowledge and are no easy task.

These are stressful times for many Soldiers, not just because the mission at hand, but also because of the time spent away from home. Do not forget that deployment is only temporary and continue to support your Soldier until they make it back home safe and sound.

The Outsites...

By: SSG Marcus Jones

Team Jones would like to wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving!! Even though we were all far away from our respective homes, the 101 ESB, 181 Engineers (EN) (Massachusetts), 4-2 Agricultural Development Team (ADT) (Mississippi), Dynacorp crew, PTDS (Blimp "Eye in the Sky" Guys), and the Romanian 21st Mountain Battalion (MTN BN) got together to give thanks on Thanksgiving. Oh yeah, and chow down on some good grub as well.

And although the Commander insisted that he become the OIC of the team after his visit, renaming the team to "Team Mulligan", and that SSG Jones return to the company and take over his duties, Team Jones remained in tact.

Team Jones was also fortunate enough to gain an honorary member recently. Benny, the IED Detector Dog, is part of the Romanian 21st MTN BN. In this tour alone, Benny has found more than 40 pounds of explosives. Benny's tour in country is coming to an end and he will be heading home for much needed R & R.



"Team Jones" gets a visit from the Commander.

By: SSG Michael Rivera

"Team Rivera" has been pretty busy as of late with visits from the CSM, Operations SGM, CPT Mulligan (to promote PFC Graham to SPC; congrats again!), 1SG Santiago and some of the Cable Dawgs (to assist with wire projects on the FOB).

The Network Management Team has had numerous projects since their arrival. Between re-establishing connectivity to critical infrastructures to routine maintenance (i.e.—find the broken wire), Team Rivera has been on top of their game and working well outside their normal scope of duties to ensure their communications stay up.

And as SSG Rivera so eloquently put it: "The game is still in session as the teams (Cable Dawgs and Network Management) are continuing to complete assignments as they come about. No need to push pause, reset, or power down as the Signal Warriors are well equipped and trained." :)

As for SSG Rivera... he just recently signed a 2-year extension in order to solidify his upcoming promotion. Hooah!



"Team Rivera" challenges SSG Celeste and CPT Mulligan to dominoes.



...The Outsites



“Team Monty” patching the “Desert Thunderbird”.

By: SSG Ferdinand Montalvo

Team Monty has been together for two months, but it seems longer. We’ve managed to create a “Teamwork” environment and it has been at the core of our success. For example: Several times a week we recite the Soldier’s and NCO Creed as a constant reminder of our Army Values. We encourage each Soldier to manage their time productively participating in on-line training in order to be a more efficient Soldier. And, of course, constant communication with Family and friends back home brings balance and purpose to what we do.

SPC Susana and PFC Kablan tackle the intricacies of the network environment; from network cables to phones and computers, they know their stuff! In this environment where dust prevails and signal connections are interrupted, these young Soldiers are always in demand.

Our generators require constant upkeep to sustain mission capability thanks to SGT Bang. He is always dependable providing excellent maintenance and service to sustain mission capability.

And at the helm is our NCOIC Team Chief, SSG Montalvo, affectionately referred to as “Shortround”, who works in collaboration with Team Leader SGT Espaillat. Together they ensure the team functions at its peak, providing leadership and direction so every challenge and daily task is met with success and the mission is accomplished.

By: SSG Glinory Michel

Holiday Greetings to all,

Being here during the holiday season and getting our missions accomplished makes us think about our loved ones at home and how we are truly blessed to have their support.

We look forward to being reunited with our loved ones once again for the next holiday season. Season’s greetings to all, and once again thank you for all of your support and sacrifice!

SSG Michel
SGT Anderson
SPC Capers



1SG Santiago patching SPC Capers with the “Desert Thunderbird”.

The Lighter Side.....



1. Christmas comes early for Team Jones. 2. SGT Hinton getting some love from SFC Burgos. 3. Team Monty enjoying another care package delivery. 4. Thanks Adopt-A-Platoon! 5. Benny, the IED Dog. 6. SPC Martin losing his mind over beef sticks.

.....And The Distant End



1. Cable Dawgs playing with their new excavator. 2. CPT Mulligan cuts his b-day cake.
 3. Team Jones and 4-2 ADT. 4. Team Rivera gets a visit from 1LT Chon. 5. SGT Vasquez, SGT Sosa and SSG Carson "GQ" it up. 6. Team Jones' Thanksgiving spread.

Flags for Friends (& Families)

Our Soldiers have been flying flags for friends, Families and loved ones back home as a small token of appreciation for all of your support. We've designed a handsome flag certificate authenticating each flag flown and is signed by the Commander and First Sergeant.



Unfortunately, the Post Exchange can't keep up their supply with our demand and have been sold out of flags for some time (and not sure when they'll be getting more back in stock).

We're not sure if Santa will get this in time for the holidays, but if you have any organizations that would like to donate a flag or two for our Warriors to fly, please let them know their patronage is greatly appreciated.







So that all shall know, this flag was flown in the face of the enemy,
illuminated in the dark by the light of justice, and bears witness
to the strength of the American Soldier protecting the freedom of the
United States of America and that of the World.
It was flown at Kandahar Airfield, Afghanistan
on the 23rd day of November, 2012 during

OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM

For
Your Name Here

David Santiago
1SG, USA
First Sergeant



Paul Mulligan
CPT, USA
Commander

December



www.armyfrg.org

Login at top right corner of screen to stay up to date with our Signal Warriors' FRG's.

- or -

- 1) Select "Find an FRG" tab at top right of screen
- 2) Select "New York"
- 3) Select "101st Signal Battalion" (under "New York National Guard")
- 4) Create profile as "Sponsor" (Soldier) or "Family Member"
- 5) Complete registration by creating a username and password.

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
25	26 SGT Clarke's Birthday	27	28	29	30 SPC Cardoza's Birthday	1
2	3 SSG Montalvo's Birthday	4	5	6	7	8 SPC Alvarez, SSG Casiano & SGT Williams' Birthday
9	10	11	12 SGT Domenech's Birthday	13 SPC Samuel's Birthday	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21 SPC Ovalle's Birthday	22
23 PFC Hidalgo & SFC Orosz' Birthday	24	25 SPC Johnston's Birthday	26	27	28 SPC Dhanraj & SPC Feliciano's Birthday	29
30 SSG Michel's Birthday	31	1 	2	3	4	5

Dear Santa (or USPS)...

We have all been really good this year (even the Cable Dawgs). For real. We promise. Just make sure you plan accordingly due to restricted airspace and rules of engagement (we worry about the reindeers) and leave early enough to get here on time but we understand if you're late. Love, Charlie Chaos.

Company C, 101 ESB
ATTN: First and Last Name
APO AE 09355

In the event of a Family Emergency, please contact **American Red Cross**
1-800-RED-CROSS

Family Readiness Group

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Happy Holidays from Charlie Chaos!

