

FSC “WARDOG” NEWSLETTER

Greetings once again from FOB Salerno, Afghanistan! First, we would like to say that all the soldiers currently deployed here in Salerno, as well as Bagram, are all currently healthy, well fed, and in good spirits. Time here continues to move along at a rapid pace, mission is going extremely well, and the teamwork, compromise and cooperation seen throughout the FSC has daily contributed to the overall success of Task Force 1-501st. From the thousands of miles logged by our drivers, to the thousands of hours logged by our Direct Support and Organizational mechanics under the hood, the soldiers and NCO's of the Forward Support Company have impressed all those involved in and around Afghanistan.

The strength that we have all displayed while away from friends, family and loved ones has much to do with the strength in which you all have continued to possess and pass on, through letters, emails, photos, and wishes of wellbeing. We have all heard great things about the FRG program, and it is through such outstanding participation and dedication that your hard work and gentle concern has made its way across space and time, and ultimately brought comfort to those here in Afghanistan. For this we say thank you.

Please continue to know that your thoughts and prayers are daily recognized and appreciated...because in the end, we are all in this together. Take to heart that the determined members of the FSC will continue to drive on, complete the mission at hand, and do so in the safest manner possible. Once again, we thank you, we love you...God bless.

Below are some small excerpts from each section of the FSC. We hope you enjoy reading them.

DS PLATOON: DIRECT SUPPORT MECHANICS

The Direct Support Platoon continues to keep the 501st in the fight. On a daily basis, the soldiers of the DS Platoon prove their worth over and over by doing the sometimes nearly impossible with often scarce resources. The expertise provided by those you love continue to allow the Task Force to make an impression in our area of operation. All of the men of the DS Platoon are experts in their field, and for this you should be very proud of them.

Since the last newsletter, the DS soldiers have taken part in several operations, repairing as far forward as possible, and making a name for themselves along the way. Our work here does not always keep us in our shops however. Often times we have been called up to act as machine gunners during convoy operations, village searches, and ultimately supporting the Infantry.

We have also worked hard to assist with projects aimed at improving the daily living conditions here at the FOB, and have found time to relax whenever possible. Please take the time to find the soldier in the attached photo, and take pride in what he is doing. We all miss you very much, and will continue to work hard and make you proud until our deployment is over, and we all return home to you...our families.

SSG Douglas Novak
DS Platoon

MOTORPOOL PLATOON: ORGANIZATIONAL MECHANICS

Another month has come and gone, and the Motor Pool Platoon continues to make this company look good, every step of the way. The FSC's outstanding support is a direct result of all the hard work your sons, husbands, fathers, and brothers are daily contributing, whether at the FOB, or out on mission. We are happy to welcome back SSG Tallant to our platoon, and we are also happy to welcome one new soldiers, PV2 Houch hailing from Sacramento, California. Both of these gentlemen make the Motor Pool that much more effective. Finally, we would like to wish all our wives and girlfriends a Happy Valentines Day.

SSG Arroyo
Motor Pool Platoon

SUPPLY & TRANSPORTATION PLATOON (S&T)

The S&T platoon is one of the major assets of the Forward Support Company (FSC), and the 1-501st Task Force. We have provided transportation and fuel support for the Task Force and its attached units. When not on mission, we pull continuous maintenance on vehicles and equipment so that our support will not be found lacking. We do more than just provide transportation support. We also take on part of the job of the Infantry-men in conducting Cordon and searches and providing security for them as they accomplish other task. We honestly enjoy what we do. The terrain is rough to negotiate, but we have done so without any accidents or incidents. While doing all this, we recently received a new Platoon Sergeant, SGT Jones, Donald. He is not new to the platoon, just the position.

All of the platoon members send greetings to their friends and loved ones from Afghanistan.

“We all are safe and awaiting the time when we can come home!”

SGT Donald Jones
S&T Platoon

FSC “WARDOGS”
FOB Salerno, Afghanistan
7 February, 2004