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Hello Hatchet family and friends,

We sure have been busy so far this year. It is just the beginning of March and we have already conducted two major operations, a company picnic, and the Task Force Miss Salerno contest.



How would you like your burger?

We ended February with a company picnic. SSG Brown set up a fantastic party for the men and women of Hatchet to relax and enjoy themselves, even if for just one day. We had music, volleyball, horseshoes, and various board games. SSG Brown and SFC Easter fired up a couple of grills and cooked hamburgers, hot dogs, and sausages. The Commo Platoon (with the help of SGT Cain of HQ Platoon) dominated the volleyball court. Many teams tried, but none could oust them from the sand. I guess that means the Commo guys need to spend more time in the field.



Commo/HQ – 15; Everyone Else – 0

Following the picnic, the company walked over to the new expansion area to watch the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Miss Salerno contest. The Chaplain and S-1 put together a hysterical talent show for the Task Force's entertainment.

Each company sent one officer and one NCO to try for the coveted Miss Salerno crown. HHC's representatives were 1LT "Alice" Cooper (S-2) and SSG "J-Lens" Schulz (S-3). Each company also had to provide one skit to entertain the troops while the "ladies" changed from evening wear to swim suit and again from swim suit to talent. Hatchet's skit was provided by our two-time company skit champions, the Mortar Platoon.

The show was hilarious; rumor has it that it will be aired on Comedy Central sometime in the near future, so keep your VCRs on stand-by. Hatchet did very well while the Mortars were edged out by two guys from Delta Detachment, we took first place in the Miss Salerno contest with a awe-inspiring performance by 1LT Cooper. I can honestly say I have never seen a man lap dance the way he did. LTC Glenn and CSM Turnbull were at a loss for words. An encore presentation was NOT requested.

Recently the cooks had to say farewell to their old dining facility. The civilian company Kellogg, Brown, and Root have constructed a new facility and it is now up and running. While we will miss having our very own Geronimos cooking for us, the cooks will definitely not miss working every day for four and a half months without a break. To ensure they do not forget their trade, we will still be running a small dining facility at nearby Chapman Airfield for the Geronimos that live over there. The Hatchet cooks will still keep busy with medical classes, tactical training and live fire exercises, and last but definitely not least, a well deserved rest and relaxation (R&R) trip to beautiful Doha, Qatar.



Roughing it in Qatar

The Task Force has been sending Geronimos to Qatar since the end of December for four day trips. The first to go were the troopers who re-enlisted here in Afghanistan. Once all of the re-enlistees went, we started sending the remaining troopers as their schedule would allow. However, since our cooks were doing so much with so little, they could not afford to let their soldiers go. Now they will all be able to enjoy such niceties as Chili's restaurant, beer that does not have the word "near" in front of it, and most importantly, not having to hear the CO and ISG asking why there are no paper towels at the hand wash station or coffee in the coffee jug.

To our cooks, I say great job. All the Geronimos appreciate what you did, how you did it, and the obstacles you had to overcome. Thanks!



Chow Time!