

APVR-GC

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Minutes of the 16 December 2003 United States Army Alaska (USARAK) Well-Being Steering Committee (WBSC) Meeting

1. The meeting of the USARAK Well-Being Steering Committee (WBSC) was held on 16 December 2003. Mr. Lambert, USARAK Well-Being Coordinator welcomed everyone, then COL Boltz, USAGAK Commander/Chairperson called the meeting to order at 1335 making the following comments.

COL Boltz stated that Well-Being is a holistic program and we have a new way of looking at things in the Army. COL Boltz stated in talks with MG Brown that he said we are building foundations everyday in USARAK, transforming the organization, building communities during deployments, and that Well-Being has to be an adaptive program that supports these changes. COL Boltz said that in the review of the cohort briefing that was presented at Fort Wainwright. Changes are being made in USARAK programs that will affect Well-Being. COL Boltz stated that in review of the IMA charter a major bullet was the support of well-being of deployed soldiers and their families.

2. In attendance at the meeting were:

COL Boltz	Mr. Curry
Mr. Possumato	Mr. Peet
Mr. Endsley	Chaplain Johnston
MAJ Carpenter	COL Hamilton
LTC Brown	COL Wood
Mr. Mauer	

Members absent:

COL Gamble  
CSM ALLEN

3. Mr. Lambert provided the WBSC members with an update on the following:

a. ICE training: About 124 service managers attended and completed the ICE training. Judging by the attendees' comments, the training was successful and well received.

APVR-GC

SUBJECT: Minutes of the 16 December 2003 United States Army Alaska (USARAK) Well-Being Steering Committee (WBSC) Meeting

b. Corporate assessment: The review of the assessment tool was completed by DPW, DOL and the 172<sup>ND</sup> SIB Command. The assessment will be implemented from 29 Dec through 9 Jan 2004 and will involve about 115 Officers (O3-O6) and senior NCOs (E8-E9).

c. Other activities: Survey tools for four W-B functions (Relocation, Barracks, Child Development Service, and Family Housing) have been developed and reviewed by their respective proponents. The surveys will be posted on the Well-Being web site by the end of December with links on all critical web pages. The surveys will be marketed through PAO.

#### 4. Old Business:

a. Tasker list: Mr. Lambert stated that out of the original list, three items were deleted, as they were not feasible or not applicable. The council reviewed the remaining taskers on the list. With regard to the paper on STDs, COL Boltz inquired if the slides submitted by MEDDAC for STDs went through COL Gamble. Mr. Peet replied that he did not know. Mr. Curry asked for the status of tying the outcome to Army standards. Mr. Lambert replied that the issue was discussed during the 6 Nov Ft. Richardson council meeting. The newly published standards were provided to the proponents through the FRA GC's office with the request to complete a status report on their well-being functions. Mr. Peet stated that the same tasker sent in September, we received only three replies.

COL Boltz asked the FWA GC what was the status of combining the AFAP issues and Well-Being as asked by Gen Brown. LTC Brown stated that it is a work in progress and there are some AFAP regulation issues involved. Mr. Lambert stated that AFAP issues are very important to identify Well-Being priority functions and accordingly where to focus our efforts and resources. He added that he has requested the list of the FWA AFAP issues and he has yet to receive them.

COL Boltz stated that she would like to focus on re-deployment, post deployment zeroing in on the entire deployment cycle, and if the tasker is showing completed that it address the entire deployment process. Mr. Peet replied that it does not it this time and COL Boltz asked Fort Wainwright to examine this issue up north also. Mr. Lambert stated that a proactive approach is needed. Chaplain Johnston added that the chaplain office is working with Charlie 84<sup>th</sup> they are giving a marriage PMCS test to all married couples to determine problems areas so the commander is aware of them before the company moves out.

APVR-GC

SUBJECT: Minutes of the 16 December 2003 United States Army Alaska (USARAK) Well-Being Steering Committee (WBSC) Meeting

COL Boltz stated this was an excellent tool and are the resources available up north to do the same thing. Mr. Lambert agreed that this was an excellent tool and he had used it before. Additional comments made from FWA about the usefulness of the test and could it be used on a larger unit. COL Wood also added this was a good tool to use for the up coming deployment from FWA in the spring and more feedback to come from Chaplain Johnston on using the PMCS test. COL Boltz asked about the school zone traffic at both installations. Mr. Peet and LTC Brown stated that it was completed at both installations.

b. The reduction of accidents by 50 percent: Mr. Maywald was not present to report on the initiative. COL Wood stated that the safety council met with MG Brown in early December and that minutes of the meeting were available. COL Wood briefed that there were a number of injuries among soldiers and out of 50 incidents, most were sports injuries. COL Wood stated the need to watch this closely. COL Boltz asked if we will have a safety, piece tied to the people quarterly R&A and COL Wood replied yes we could. The provision of protective gear for organized sports was also discussed by the council and will be further explored.

c. Shortage of rooms in the barracks: Mr. Peet and LTC Brown stated that this was no longer an issue. MAJ Carpenter, 203<sup>RD</sup> BN representative, concurred. COL Wood commented the problem has been addressed with the remodeling of some old barracks.

d. CIF issue. Mr. Endsley explained the experienced shortage in cold weather equipment was briefed at the command staff and the shortage was due to a problem with the contractor. Mr. Endsley stated cold weather boots are being acquired from different theaters and we are taking anything that we can get to solve the problem.

## 5. New Business:

a. W-B action plan implementation review: Mr. Lambert stated the Action Plan would serve as a status report to gage our progress and direction.

(1) Steering Committee charter: This item was completed and signed.

(2) Establishment of a Well-Being Action Council at Wainwright: This action is still pending. LTC Brown stated that he is hopeful to have the council established and holding its first meeting in January 2004. Mr. Lambert stated he reviewed the Fort Wainwright charter and it looked good.

APVR-GC

SUBJECT: Minutes of the 16 December 2003 United States Army Alaska (USARAK) Well-Being Steering Committee (WBSC) Meeting

(3) ICE implementation policy: Mr. Lambert informed the council that COL Boltz and COL Wood have signed the policy.

(4) Assignment of Well-Being functions to proponent directorates: Mr. Lambert stated this was no longer necessary as the corporate assessment takes care of assigning the W-B functions. Mr. Lambert further stated that the directorates are very receptive and helpful with the corporate assessment process.

b. Consistent and uniform support to families of deployed soldiers: Mr. Curry stated that things have been handled differently at both installations. With upcoming deployments, we need to ensure that the process and support services to families are similar. LTC Brown stated they are working hard on this issue to insure families are taken care of. COL Boltz stated that these issues would be revisited during the two-day deployment Planning conference scheduled for 21-22 Jan.

c. Wainwright pool hours: Mr. Curry talked about the problem at the Fort Wainwright pool concerning lifeguards and operating hours. Currently we have four lifeguards on staff and we are actively recruiting to get more on board. To mitigate the hiring difficulties, salary increase and added support from BMM are some solutions to consider.

d. Airborne brigade: Mr. Curry stated that we need info on scheduled arrivals to better plan for provision of services. The CoS will give a briefing that shows the different battalion implementation through 05. CoS commented that the 4-23 infantry is going to FWA no later than 2010.

e. Jan 2004 People quarterly R&A: COL Wood had it re-scheduled to 25 Feb 04. A pre brief by the Garrison Commanders will be included on the 11 Feb WBSC agenda. Slides must be submitted to the WB coordinator NLT 6 Feb 04.

f. Child abuse prevention month conference: Plan to bring several speakers to talk to soldiers and family members on deployment related DV. The primary target audience will be health, education, law enforcement and CYS personnel. DCA will assist in funding the conferences scheduled both north and south during the month of the military child. FAP managers will coordinate and work with MEDDAC and DENTAC.

APVR-GC

SUBJECT: Minutes of the 16 December 2003 United States Army Alaska (USARAK)  
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6. Comments/recommendations/initiatives:

a. LTC Brown stated his concern over installation specific issues being addressed by the Steering Committee. COL Boltz replied that installation specific issues would be left to the installation councils once they are established and running.

b. Mr. Lambert commented that he had a positive briefing with LTC Norris who requested to be notified of future Ft. Richardson W-B council meeting dates.

7. Meeting was adjourned at 1450.

8. Minutes prepared by Mr. Lambert, USARAK Well-Being Coordinator.

//ORIGINAL SIGNED//  
DONNA G. BOLTZ  
COL, MP  
Commanding

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USAGAK XO  
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CHIEF OF STAFF  
GARRISON SGM, FRA/FWA  
GC, FRA/FWA  
CDR, MEDDAC  
CDR, DENTAC  
USARAK SAFETY DIRECTOR  
203<sup>RD</sup> COMMANDER  
DIRECTOR, DOL  
USARAK CHAPLAIN