Greetings to all of our Military, Civilian and Family friends,
I am Lt. Col. Paul Boler, commander of 1st Battalion, 155th Infantry Regiment, headquartered in McComb, Mississippi. We are one of three Combined Arms Battalions (CAB) within the 155th Armored Brigade Combat Team. We differ from the other two CABs with our more mechanized infantry and long, storied lineage.

The 1st Battalion 155th Infantry Regiment has a rich history and can trace its lineage back to 1799 when the Regiment was commissioned as a militia unit in the Mississippi Territory. That makes the regiment older than the State of Mississippi, the oldest Battalion in the 155th ABCT and the sixth oldest Infantry Regiment in the United States. Some notable past commanders of this Battalion include Andrew Jackson and Jeff Davis, who is also credited with coining the battalion motto: “Stand Fast”.

Over the last four weeks, the battalion has assumed mission command over its role in the Operation Spartan Shield mission, having conducted a successful Transfer of Authority with the outgoing unit, 1st Battalion, sixth Infantry Regiment. We have settled into our roles and are adjusting to our new home for the next eight months here at Camp Buehring, Kuwait. We are continuing to build combat readiness and look forward to developing sustainable relationships with our Kuwaiti counterparts.

I want to close by saying thank you to all the amazing Soldiers in this Brigade. You are writing the next chapter in the 155th ABCT’s proud story of service to state and country and it’s an honor to serve next to each one of you. To the loved ones we leave behind, while you may not wear this uniform, you are surely serving our nation through your personal sacrifice and separation from your loved one. And I thank you for your service!

“STAND FAST!”

STORM 6

The 155th ABCT is wrapping up the largest ever APS-5 draw. They are now in the process of ensuring vehicles are ready to go for any mission they may be called to execute in support of Operation Spartan Shield. (Photo by Sgt. Brittany Johnson)
FRONTLINE FRAMES

2-198 AR Soldiers conduct refueling operations to prepare for medical support at Udairi Range in Kuwait. (Photo by Sgt. Johnny Johnson)

The tactical operations center for the 1-98 CAV during a sandstorm at Camp Buehring, Kuwait. (Photo by Capt. Zach Bergman)

SAFE DRIVING IN A FOREIGN COUNTRY

- **Drivers tend to be more aggressive, leave room for braking.**
- **When a driver flashes their high beams, it is a signal to move over so faster traffic may pass.**
- **The national Kuwaiti BAC is .00, therefore, consuming any alcohol before driving is against the law.**
- **Kuwaiti law prohibits cellphone use while operating a vehicle.**
Fear Not: It’s often said that there are two things in life that are sure: death and taxes. As sure as those two realities are, they are not the only two things in life that are sure. From the perspective of spiritual, mental, and emotional health, the professionals will tell you that most of the problems that ail so many of us stem from fear. A fear of what could happen, but hasn’t already come to pass.

What I want to speak to here is the fact that fear is not an action, but a reaction, and we control it. The Bible says that we should not fear. In 1 John 4:18 it tells us that perfect love casts out fear (anxiety in some translations). You see, fear & anxiety are to be thrown out or flung away. We are not to live under the rule or the dictates of fear. God, in His infinite love, has established His grace in the life of His children. It is that love that cannot coexist with fear. Fear keeps us from giving all that we should, it keeps us from loving as deeply as we could, and it keeps us from sacrificing all that we would.

In the few words that I have left, let me gently remind you that we as Chaplains are here and always ready to guide you in your journey of life. We want to encourage you, not discourage you. And isn’t it wonderful that the word encourage means literally to infuse courage into someone; to heart-en someone; to make strong, inspire. I pray that in all that we do as Chaplains, you and your family can say that we’ve encouraged you. Please call on us anytime. It is our privilege to serve alongside these incredible soldiers. Soli Deo Gloria – Glory to God alone!

Chappy

2/1 ABCT Transfers Authority to 155 ABCT

Story by Sgt. Brittany Johnson

The 155th Armored Brigade Combat Team conducts a relief in place/transfer of authority ceremony July 15, 2018. They replace the 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division.

During this ceremony, the 155th ABCT assumes responsibility at Camp Buehring, Kuwait, and takes over 2/1 AD’s role as the decisive effort in Operation Spartan Shield.

The RIP/TOA process is meant to insure a smooth transition between units so the OSS mission can continue seamlessly.

“The 155th’s role in the TOA is very similar to what the 2-1 (AD) did when they arrived,” said Col. Doug Ferguson, 155th ABCT commander. “It is important that we continue to build upon the foundation that they have laid.”

As the unit began arriving in country, the 2/1 AD “Iron Brigade” passed on their best practices and tactics, techniques, and procedures to give the incoming brigade a solid foundation for success. Nearly every Soldier in each unit had a counterpart to share information and ensure the mission would continue successfully.

The 155th ABCT has been training for months at Fort Bliss, Texas to ensure they are ready to do their job. The units will essentially swap places as the Fort Bliss-based 2/1 AD transition back to El Paso.

Col. Chad Chalfont, commander of the Iron Brigade, relinquishes responsibility and passes it to Col. Robert Ferguson. Once complete, the relieving unit has the responsibility of the mission and the requirements that come with it.

The 2/1 AD cases their brigade colors, signifying mission complete. The 155th ABCT uncases their brigade colors to symbolize they are ready to take over the OSS mission here at Camp Buehring and wherever else they may be called.

Added Ferguson, “The 155th is now more prepared than ever to conduct decisive operations in a complex environment.”
My name is Maj. Marilyn Upton, and I am the S1 for the 155th ABCT. Most of you are probably asking yourself, “What in the world is an S1?” The short answer is we are the staff section who does all personnel paperwork. We do, in fact, process a lot of paperwork, but all our work is completed in order to take care of Soldiers and their Families.

Our mission is to assist with anything and everything to ensure Soldiers’ personnel transactions are properly completed to include TRICARE health benefits for family members and enrollment in DEERS. We also produce orders, process promotions, conduct mail operations, process red cross messages, and verify accurate accountability and pay entitlements. Lastly, we conduct casualty operations, write policies, update career and retirement information, and ensure proper manifesting and movement is carried out. I have a team of nine hard-working Soldiers at the brigade level, and every battalion has a minimum of three at their level. We are responsible for carrying out these tasks for over 3500 Soldiers.

It’s an honor to serve each and every Soldier in this brigade. We all have different jobs and responsibilities but at the end of the day we are all working toward mission success!

Maj. Upton

Check us out online!
@155ABCT

Parting Shot

A Charlie Co. 1-155 IN Abrams tank fires a round to “confirm zero” at Udairi Range, Kuwait. (Photo by Capt. Alex Pendergraft)

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