



Thunder Times

A Bi-Monthly Chronicle of the
155th Armored Brigade Combat Team



Volume 1 | Issue 16 | Oct. 5, 2018

THIS ISSUE

From the Top	Pg. 1
Current News	Pg. 1
Frontline Frames	Pg. 2
Play It Safe	Pg. 2
Chappy's Chat	Pg. 3
From the Front	Pg. 3
Meet Your Team	Pg. 4
Parting Shot	Pg. 4

**155th ABCT
FAMILY READINESS
24 HOUR HOTLINE
601-313-0155**

FROM THE TOP



CSM John Beasley
Command Sgt. Maj.
155th ABCT

We have been deployed now for a little over three months. I hope everyone has gotten into a good rhythm and operational tempo and you have been able to make the most of your time here so far. It is tough being separated from family and friends but there are many opportunities and resources to grow stronger every day, both professionally and personally.

The heat should break soon and this could lead to an increase in training as we take advantage of the favorable weather. I want you all to be aware of the dangers of complacency, particularly in a static environment like we have here in Kuwait. Safety cannot take a back seat to convenience. It only takes a second for a situation to turn from unsafe to tragic. I want

to encourage Soldiers at every level to continue checking on your battle buddy. This is a team effort and every Soldier is an indispensable asset to our team.

I also want to take this time to congratulate the over 50 new Dads within the Brigade that have experienced the joy of a new baby. I realize that all of you have not had the opportunity of returning home for this experience, but your sacrifice has not gone unnoticed.

Lastly, I want to tell you how proud I am to be a part of this great brigade. We have graduated 44 Soldiers from the Basic Leader Course and it seems that everywhere I go I see leaders mentoring others on becoming, not just better Soldiers, but better people. The objective is for every Soldier to have an opportunity to excel and grow in their area of interest. There will be numerous changes within the ranks of the Brigade upon return, so insure you are ready to step up into these positions by keeping yourself physically fit and enrolling in and completing all required military education. This is a once in a lifetime opportunity and I hope each and every one of you take advantage of it.

CURRENT NEWS



Soldiers from 2nd Combined Arms Battalion, 137th Infantry Regiment conduct Military Operations in Urban Terrain (MOUT) training at the U.S. Army Central Command Readiness Training Center, Camp Buehring, Kuwait on Sept. 20, 2018. The training is part of Iron Union 8, a training exercise designed to strengthen military relations between U.S. and Middle Eastern Partners. Iron Union is a U.S. Army Central-led, bilateral exercise that is held alternatively with Emirati and Kuwaiti military forces. The location of the exercise rotates between the UAE and Kuwait. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by Staff Sgt. Michael Williams)

FRONTLINE FRAMES



Vehicles are staged outside of Forward Operating Base Gerber before conducting a training exercise for Iron Union 8. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Michael Williams)



A U.A.E. vehicle is staged before a live fire exercise during Iron Union 8. (Photo by Spc. Stephan Morgan)



An M1 Abrams fires during a live fire exercise as part of Iron Union 8. (Photo by Spc. Stephan Morgan)



Lt. Gen. Michael Garrett, U.S. Army Central commander, visits Soldiers of the 155 ABCT, at Camp Buehring, Kuwait. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Michael Williams)

S A F E T Y

WEAPON SAFETY

- **TREAT EVERY WEAPON AS IF IT IS LOADED.**
- **HANDLE EVERY WEAPON WITH CARE.**
- **IDENTIFY THE TARGET BEFORE YOU FIRE.**
- **NEVER POINT THE MUZZLE AT ANYTHING YOU DON'T INTEND TO SHOOT.**
- **KEEP THE WEAPON ON SAFE AND YOUR FINGER OFF THE TRIGGER UNTIL YOU INTEND TO FIRE.**

CHAPPY'S CHAT



Capt. Altrich C. Harvey
Chaplain, 150 EN

One of the qualities most important and essential to being a chaplain is compassion. Compassion for his fellow man as well as compassion for the soldiers and command group he serves. Every day is a new opportunity to affect, influence, or change the environment around me. Being able to notice subtle differences in the climate around me and being able to influence them in a positive manner is something that I strive to do

for each and every person I encounter. In influencing the environment around me it brings to mind Ecclesiastes 9:11 "I returned, and saw under the sun, that the race is not to the swift, nor the battle to the strong, neither yet bread to the wise, nor yet riches to men of understanding, nor yet favour to men of skill; but time and chance happeneth to them all." Knowing that the soldiers and command of the 150th BEB face test and trials both here and back home, as their Chaplain and a follower of Christ I do my best to exemplify the love and compassion of Christ at all times.

CH Harvey

U.S. Partners with U.A.E. for Iron Union 8

Story by Staff Sgt. Michael Williams



155 ABCT Preps for Live Fire

CAMP BUEHRING, Kuwait -- Soldiers assigned to the 155th Armored Brigade Combat Team participated in a field training exercise with United Arab Emirates Land Forces during Iron Union 8, near Camp Buehring, Kuwait, September 14 through 27.

"The fact that this is the eighth iteration of the partnership exercise, is a testament to the strong friendship that our nations have built," said Lt. Col. Carlin Williams, 2d Battalion, 137th Infantry Regiment commander.

For two weeks, U.S. and U.A.E. service members merged together to focus on readiness and combat arms.

"As we train and work together over these next few weeks, we shall continually learn from one another and improve each other's capabilities," said Williams.

Iron Union 8 is a recurring partnership exercise where United Arab Emirates and U.S. forces engage in each of the war fighting functions while increasing interoperability, said Maj. Brandon Bear, 2-137 IN operations officer. This is an opportunity for both forces to gain valuable knowledge and insight into each other's tactics, techniques, and procedures as well as generate lessons learned.

"The main goal of this training is to experience change between our troops and U.S. troops," said

Lt. Col. Ahmed S. Alketri, U.A.E. officer-in-charge for Iron Union 8.

Through military partnership, Iron Union increases interoperability, emboldens allies, and works toward the objective of regional stability.

"Our partnership shows the world that we stand united to fight terrorism and aggressors anywhere in the region," said Bear. "No matter where the threat, we will ultimately be able to operate together to close with and destroy the enemy."

From squad to battalion-level training, 2-137 IN, lead the way during the exercise.

"Our mission was to train jointly with the U.A.E. soldiers on individual and platoon level tasks and operations," said Bear. "We did everything from first-aid, to clear a trench, to operate in a defense as part of a Combined Live Fire Exercise."

At the end of the exercise, both forces stood side-by-side in formation in a closing ceremony, signifying the bond between the two countries.



2-137 IN Soldiers conduct MOUT Training at Camp Buehring

Meet Your Team



1st Lt. Terry Hill
Public Affairs Officer

My name is 1st Lt. Terry Hill. I am the Public Affairs Officer for the 155th Armored Brigade Combat Team. I am part of the Brigade commander's personal staff and my role is to assess the public affairs situation, advise senior leaders on public affairs issues, and assist them in making well-informed

decisions, and translate the decisions into effective public affairs operations. I have an awesome team that conducts the day-to-day operations of communicating the Army's Story to the American people and you, the Soldier.

The first question I'm usually asked is, "Are you

here to take pictures?" This is a common misconception. Photography is only a small part of what we do. We are typically seen at events with a camera but, like any staff section, most of our work and long hours are spent in the office refining products and planning for future events.

We also produce high quality video and print products, run the Brigade social media platforms, communicate with national and international media, ensure communication with the public during operational planning, work with other staff get their message out, and try to help out where we can due to the unique training and skill set our Soldiers possess. These skills directly translate to civilian work so it is rewarding in many different ways. It's an honor and privilege to tell the story of the 155th ABCT.

1st Lt. Terry Hill

Click to check
us out online!



Check out our
[Homepage](#)

PARTING SHOT



A 2nd Battalion, 137th Infantry Regiment Soldier supports training with United Arab Emirates Soldiers during a Combined Arms Live Fire Exercise. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Michael Williams)

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

DEERS Enrollment [1-800-538-9552](tel:1-800-538-9552)

Military One Source [1-800-342-9647](tel:1-800-342-9647)

155th FRG Hotline [601-313-0155](tel:601-313-0155)

(Available 24/7)

[CLICK TO DOWNLOAD OUR APP!](#)

[APP STORE & GOOGLE PLAY](#)

**PUBLISHED BY THE
155TH ABCT PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE**

PAO - 1st Lt. Terry Hill II

PAO NCOIC - Staff Sgt. Michael Williams

PA SPECIALIST - Spc. Jovi Prevot