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.
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.

“Since 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.

“Ours is to train with and operate side-by-side in a combined live fire exercise,” said Lt. Col. Harvey. “Our mission was to train jointly with the U.A.E. soldiers on individual and platoon level tasks and operations.”

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.

Capt. Altrich C. Harvey
Chaplain, 150th BN

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 soldier 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.

Capt. Altrich C. Harvey
Chaplain, 150th BN

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.
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