



VETERINARY SERVICE NEWS

October-December 2015



26th United States Army Veterinary Corps Chief

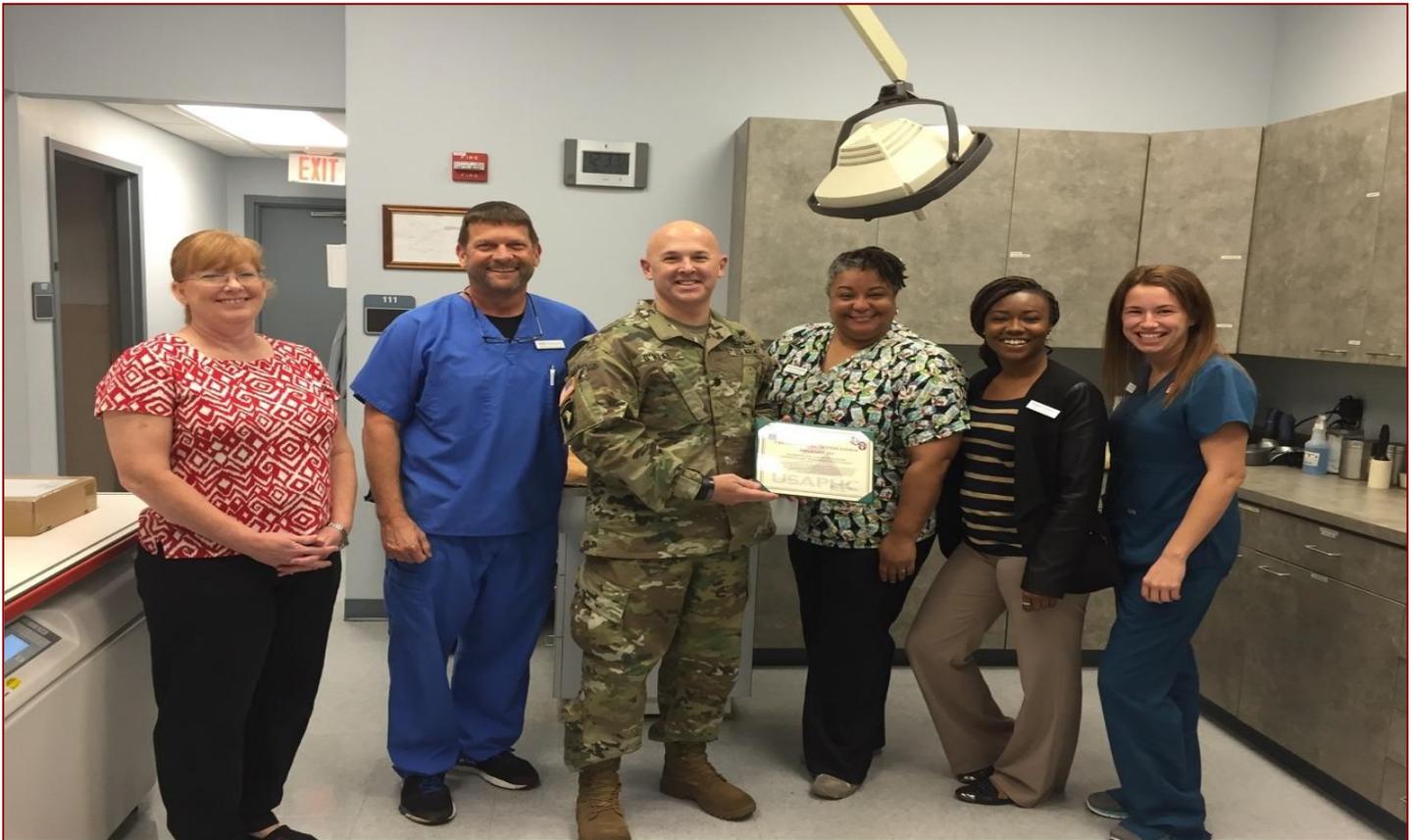


On 29 October 2015 the United States Senate confirmed the nomination of Colonel Erik H. Torring III for appointment in the United States Army Veterinary Corps to the grade indicated under Title 10, U.S.C., section 3064 and 3084, Brigadier General and 26th Chief of the United States Veterinary Corps. The effective date for this promotion was also 29 October 2015. A promotion ceremony will take place on 15 December 2015. In early January 2016, BG Torring will also begin serving as the Deputy Commanding General, Regional Health Command - Atlantic (Provisional), Fort Belvoir, Virginia.

IN THIS ISSUE:

P2 Barksdale AFB VTF Award
 P3 Exceptional VCO Award
 P4 ACVP Leadership Award
 P5 248th MDVSS in Afghanistan
 P8 994th MDVSS in Afghanistan
 P9 NATO Sanitation Audits
 P10 64th MDVSS NATO Training
 P13 Beyond the Horizon
 P14 218th MDVSS in Action
 P16 218th MDVSS Decon Training
 P17 43d MDVSS Large Animal Training
 P18 72nd MDVSS Soldier Best Medic

P19 72nd PMO Training
 P20 82nd CA Bn Capacity Building Training
 P21 Air Force Academy Falconry Program
 P22 PHCD-Fort Gordon Veterinary Services
 P24 Holiday Food Safety
 P25 PNCD-Fort Hood Activities
 P27 Dr. Daniel E. Salmon Award Nominations
 P28 Veterinary Corps 100th Birthday
 P29 Veterinary Corps History
 P32 AMEDD Museum Request for Material
 P33 Freckles
 P34 Facebook Pages



The PHCD-FH Commander presents a Certificate of Appreciation to the team at Barksdale AFB VTF for having the highest quarterly earnings of the entire PHC District – Fort Hood.

Congratulations to the 2015 Exceptional Veterinary Corps Officer Selectee



Above: VCO receiving award from MARSOC Marine Raider Support Group Commander.



Right: MARSOC Force Technician and Force Veterinarians.

On September 23rd, a Veterinary Corps Officer was awarded the 2015 U.S. Army Veterinary Corps Exceptional Officer Service Award. She was nominated for the leadership attributes, expertise, and positive personality she demonstrated while serving as the Camp Lejeune Veterinary Branch Officer-In-Charge and as one of two Force Veterinarians at the U.S. Marine Corps Forces Special Operations Command (MARSOC).

During her time as the Branch OIC, she was solely responsible for over 100 military working dogs across three installations and a food safety mission protecting a population at risk of over 170,000 service members and dependents. Her veterinary staff at the Camp Lejeune Veterinary Treatment Facility supported a large privately owned animal mission with over 10,000 outpatient visits a year grossing over \$190,000 annually. She also served as a mentor to incoming Veterinary Corps Officers in addition to being requested as a subject matter expert and recruiter for veterinary students at a national veterinary student symposium.

She seamlessly transitioned to MARSOC as a Force Veterinarian, completing the MARSOC Full Spectrum-Survival, Evasion, Resistance, and Escape course and the United States Army Basic Airborne Course. She was kept busy spending almost 35% of her time in the field supporting events such as the Vohne Liche Kennel's Annual Canine Olympics with over 100 Multi-Purpose Canine and conventional dog teams attending. In addition, she instructed Marine Critical Skills Operators on equine conformation and first aid at the U.S. Marine Corps Mountain Warfare Training Center, as well as was 'by name' requested from host nation leadership to lead a working dog small unit exchange shaping future medical engagements.

She is an energetic and versatile Officer, possessing the intestinal fortitude and physical stamina to fully embody the spirit of this award.

Veterinary Corps Officer Receives ACVP Presidential Award for Leadership



COL Todd Johnson was one of only four pathologists to receive the American College of Veterinary Pathologists (ACVP) Presidential Award for Leadership at this year's ACVP meeting. ACVP President gives the Presidential Award based on a nominee providing notably valuable service to the College that clearly exceeds normal expectations. Presidential Awards are bestowed by the ACVP President with ACVP Council approval. COL Johnson received this prestigious award for his sustained contributions to the ACVP Advisory Group of the Maintenance of Certification Development Committee and for serving as the Chair of the Credentialing Committee. COL Johnson has not only been a leader in the ACVP but has also made a tremendous and enduring impact on our Department of Defense Veterinary Pathology Residency (DODVPR) while assigned to various positions at the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology (AFIP) and more recently the Joint Pathology Center (JPC). Above: Dr. Mark Simpson (left), President of the ACVP, is pictured with COL Todd Johnson (right).

248th MDVSS IN AFGHANISTAN

Veterinary Medicine team conducted cross training with members of Forward Surgical Team (FST).



Soldiers examine a Military Working Dog (MWD) before his anesthetic procedure while his handler (right) tells them about the dog's medical history.



Soldier takes a blood sample to do bloodwork before an anesthetic procedure.



FST Soldiers place an IV catheter in an MWD before her anesthetic procedure.

248th MDVSS IN AFGHANISTAN

The Veterinary Medicine Team conducted a Semi-Annual Bakery Sanitation Audit in Afghanistan.



Food Safety Officer inspects the flour sifting process .



Veterinary Inspection Team poses with their Georgian Guardian Angels before returning to headquarters.

Elsewhere in Afghanistan, a Veterinary team conducted an outdoor abs class in order to increase rabies awareness during World Rabies Day.



The raffle prize winner



Group photo after the class

248th MDVSS IN AFGHANISTAN

A VCO trained a Special Operations Surgical Team (SOST) on canine clinical practice guidelines (CPGs) to improve care at point of injury. In Afghanistan, dog teams are present all over the country, while veterinary assets are limited, so 248 MDVSS provided CPG training to more than 300 human health care providers in the last 9 months.



A VCO received a certificate of appreciation from the U.S. Department of State, signed by Ambassador McKinley, in recognition of his outstanding support to the DoS Airwing K-9 team during his time in Afghanistan.



A Veterinary medicine team vaccinated Afghanistan Border Patrol (ABP) dogs and trained ABP handlers on basic husbandry and to assist in a veterinary exam. Prior to this visit, the working dogs lapsed on their vaccination series because the ABP lacks a contract with a local veterinarian to provide medical support.



994th MDVS IN AFGHANISTAN

The 994th MDVS from Round Rock, TX, strives to be the “go to” unit for overseas missions and crisis response around the world. The unit arrived in Afghanistan and assumed the veterinary mission in early November, after a thorough and much appreciated transition from the noted 248th MDVSS.

The 994th Veterinary Service teams continued to provide MWD training for the NATO ROLE III and local FST medical providers on canine clinical practice guidelines (CPGs). The ROLE III put the training to immediate use during a real world MWD casualty event.

One VTF Officer in Charge is responsible for a variety of coalition force MWD's, including American, British and contract working dogs. The 994th MDVS has high expectations for the deployment and had a very busy month with more challenges to come.



Upper left: 68T with a CWD seen on out patient service at the VTF. Right: VCO debrides and flushes a MWD laceration with assistance from the US Navy Chief of Trauma at the NATO Role III.



Left: 68R performs a receipt inspection on frozen meats. Right: The 994th Food Safety Officer works with Anham QA Director to review Anham's logistics procedures during a routine sanitation audit.

SANITATION AUDITS IN A NATO THEATER

Following the completion of the mission of the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) at the end of 2014, a new, follow-on NATO-led mission called Resolute Support was launched on 01 January 2015 to provide further training, advice and assistance for the Afghan security forces and institutions. In September 2014, NATO published Standardization Agreement (STANAG) 2556. The STANAG is an agreement that NATO nations will implement the standards outlined in AMedP-4.5 (Audit Principles and Risk Assessment of Food Processors and Suppliers Providing Food to the Military). The purpose of this document is to standardize audits of food processors and suppliers.



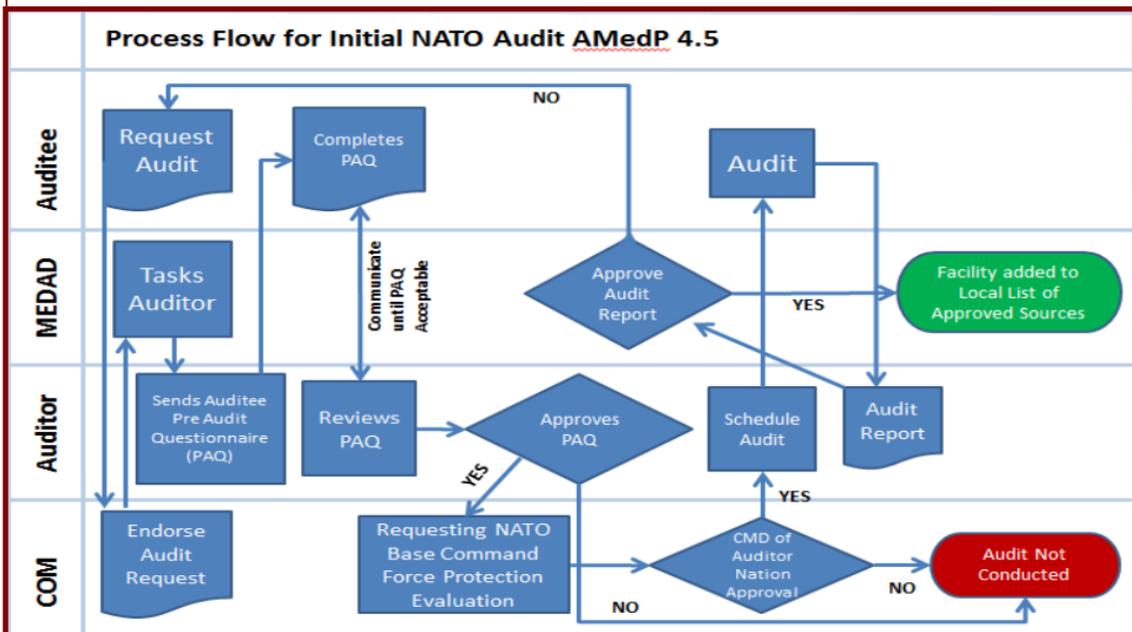
Veterinary Food Protection Team inspects the loading docks.

The 72nd MDVSS Food Safety Officer (FSO) led the development of a standard procedure for auditing sources requested for procurement at NATO led forward operating bases seen below.

In October 2015 the 248th MDVSS was tasked to perform the first NATO audit for Operation Resolute Support. Their FSO performed the audit alongside two Veterinary Corps Officers (VCO) from the 248th MDVSS and US Air Force Public Health assets. The audit was performed at an off-base catering facility using AMedP 4.5 which has foundations taken from MIL-STD 3006C. The audit was performed in two phases; a desktop review of food safety policies and procedures and a walk-through audit to validate that they do what they say that do.

The facility was found to be below the acceptable NATO standards set forth in AMedP 4.5, and a final report was delivered to them in order for the facility to address the issues noted. Critical findings included: not using Approved Sources (as set forth in the Resolute Support/ NATO Food Sanitation SOP); employees not receiving the required medical screening; no use of a sanitizer in sanitation procedures and signs of pest infestation. In order for the facility to request another audit, all deficiencies noted in the report must be

resolved and management must show proof of the actions taken.



MEDAD- Medical Advisor for the Train, Advise and Assist Area
 COM- Commander of the NATO led operating base

64th MDVSS and Trident Juncture

NATO Medical Partners collaborate during Trident Juncture 2015 in support of Strong Europe

KAISERSLAUTERN, Germany – In Zaragoza, Spain members of the 64th Veterinary Service Support (MDVSS) and 71st Preventive Medicine (PM) Detachments from the 421st Medical Battalion (Multifunctional) stationed in Baumholder, Germany recently had an opportunity to collaborate with their Spanish and German counterparts during Trident Juncture 2015 (TJ15).

More than thirty Allied and Partner Nations participated in the major NATO exercise, known as Trident Juncture 15, taking place throughout Italy, Spain, Portugal, the Atlantic Ocean, the Mediterranean Sea, Canada, Germany, Belgium, and the Netherlands. It has been touted as the largest multinational military exercise in almost 13 years, offering US military element the ability to integrate and maximize interoperability in a complex, joint environment.

The 64th MDVSS Commander stated “...having an opportunity to discuss the capabilities of our NATO partners was critical to our understanding of how we fit into this multinational environment. What we learned is that veterinary mission support in Spain and Germany is truly a merging of what the MMB has in two separate specialized detachments. This knowledge may help us frame how we can work together in the future...”

The Spanish Veterinary Officer in Charge (OIC), and several members from the ARGUSAN-3 team positioned in Zaragoza visited the US members positioned at the Joint Logistics Base in support of TJ15. Medical leaders discussed veterinary medicine and animal health, but also public health analysis of food and water which may directly affect the health of Soldiers forwardly deployed for operations like TJ15. The detachments’ technicians showed Dr. Garcia-Villacampa collected water samples being incubated for presumptive analysis in their field laboratory and were able to showcase their field equipment and demonstrate sanitation testing of food preparation surfaces. According to the Spanish Veterinary OIC, the Spanish preventative medicine equipment and capabilities are quite similar to the US. To quote the PM Detachment Commander, “opportunities to collaborate with our NATO partners such as the Spanish, allows better understanding of our forces’ similarities, but more so of how we can integrate force health protection.”



The Preventive Medicine Detachment Commander and a Spanish Veterinary Officer discussing similarities and differences between the preventive medicine capabilities of their units.

64th MDVSS and Trident Juncture (cont.)

One major difference between the two forces is the US reliance on their noncommissioned officer and enlisted Soldiers to execute veterinary and preventive medicine tasks remotely in the absence of direct Officers supervision. Doctrinally speaking, the US Army calls this “Mission Command,” where Soldiers understand Commander’s intent and exercise professional judgement in the execution of their duties. According to the 64th MDVSS senior enlisted advisor, “...much responsibility falls upon our enlisted Soldiers, where they are given the autonomy to effectively rank health risk and convey those risks with recommended mitigation steps to Commanders.” Later in the visit, the Spanish Veterinary OIC hosted a tour of the ARGUSAN-3 Veterinary clinic in Zaragoza, where US member were able to view and ask questions about the Spanish Veterinary organization, equipment, and laboratory skills.



Spanish and American veterinary teams at a visit at the Mtn. Inf. Bn 23, Pack Animal Center base camp.

Additionally, members of the 64th MDVSS visited the German Mountain Infantry Battalion 23, Pack Animal Center (PAC) working mules. Headquartered in Bad Reichenhall, Germany, a platoon of mules were forwardly deployed to Zaragoza in support of the Mountain Task Force 233. The Head of PAC accompanied the platoon to TJ15 serving as the team’s veterinarian. During the visit he and his team displayed their veterinary and preventive medicine capabilities, to include their unique equipment and transportation needs. The battalion has fifty-four working equines in three platoons both for packing heavy equipment and mounted reconnaissance in terrain inaccessible to motorized vehicles. The PAC Head compared his team to the US Marine Corps Mountain Warfare division in Bridgeport, California to explain the similarity between the US and Germany forces. The visit accorded the US Soldiers a chance to become familiar with large patients (of the animal-kind) and specific medical techniques required to keep them in top working form. A 68R, Food Inspector by trade, had the opportunity to try out the blacksmith equipment while helping to create a new horseshoe for one of the mules. On a subsequent visit to the 64th MDVSS set-up, the PAC Head was intrigued by the expeditionary nature of the veterinary medical team.

Specifically, he was impressed with how the equipment stows in prefabricated cases, a capability he hopes to replicate within his unit. Coincidentally, the PAC Head and 64th MDVSS Commander knew each other from another military veterinary event several years ago, their encounter again during TJ15 allowed them to reconnect quickly as they look forward to collaborating more in the future.



SPC Joshua Ament and CPT Janine Veronneau show LTC Franz von Rennenkampff the 64th MDVSS's expeditionary capabilities.

While TJ15 is touted as the largest NATO exercise in many years, it offered many nations, allied and partnered the ability to collaborate and learn to increase in a better understanding of each capabilities and limitations. Experiences such as these allow nations to build new relationships or solidify preexisting ones to build a Strong Europe.

Story By Maj. Michael Story
Photos By 21st TSC Public Affairs

For more information on the activities of the 64th MDVSS see the following link:

<https://www.facebook.com/AFNWiesbaden/videos/vb.124520577574217/1326996987326564/>



994th MDVSS Beyond the Horizon

Beyond the Horizon (El Salvador 2015) is a U.S. Army South-led, joint U.S. Southern Command and government of El Salvador exercise deploying U.S. military engineers and medical professionals to El Salvador for training and to provide humanitarian services. The purpose of BTH is to conduct civic assistance and medical and engineering support to show U.S. support and commitment to El Salvador.



Army Reserve veterinarians discuss how Civil Affairs and Veterinary Services can work together to enhance the VETRETE mission.



Veterinarian fills syringes with vitamins for the animals at a local farm in El Salvador.

Veterinary Soldiers from the 994th MDVSS out of Round Rock, TX participated in U.S Army South led mission of Beyond the Horizon 2015 in El Salvador. The 994th veterinary team partnered with the El Salvador Ministry of Agriculture to conducted 10 VETRETE's within the surrounding community of Chalchuapa.



Soldier restrains a cow for veterinarian while interpreting for doctor from the local Ministry of Agriculture (MAG) office.

A veterinary preventive medicine officer with the 451st CA BN out of Houston, TX augmented the team with additional interpreters and assisted in the coordination of sample collection from local animals. The team collected 10 samples (blood and fecal) from 7 different farms of poorly conditioned animals.

Samples were sent to the El Salvador Regional veterinary laboratory for testing, which confirmed that 7 had intestinal parasites and 3 had Rickettsial bacterial infections.



Vet Team presented a token of appreciation from the local community members for bringing veterinary services to their remote area.

218th MDVSS in Action

Veterinary Support to Pacific Pathways 2015



Members of the 218th MED DET (VSS) in support of Pacific Pathways.

In August and September 2015 the 218th MED DET (VSS) sent five members in support of the 25th ID for Pacific Pathways 2015. During this mission, the unit traveled to Indonesia and Malaysia. Support provided included set up of a food/water laboratory, training, Preventative Medicine support, Public Health support and commercial sanitary audits in support of PHC-Pacific's mission.

The 218th MED DET (VSS) mission for Pacific Pathways 2015 was primarily a food mission. Over 130 microbiological and chemical tests were performed in the food lab. This testing provided definitive data that allowed Commanders to make informed decisions regarding food and water risks. Over 140 personnel were trained on safe food handling and storage. Multiple DFACs and cantinas were inspected regularly to ensure the safety for the Soldiers of Pacific Pathways 2015.

Commander of the 218th LTC Kevin Nemelka and CPT Morgan Bernal led the Preventative Medicine and Public Health missions by providing field sanitation advice, food and water risk assessments and zoonotic disease risk assessments. Ongoing assessments of the field sanitation and food/water risks were provided to 25th ID Commanders. Two commercial sanitary audits in Malaysia were also performed in support of Public Health Command – Pacific's mission.

218th MDVSS in Action

218 Medical Detachment (Veterinary Service Support) Participates in Washington State Fair

Soldiers from the 218th Medical Detachment (Veterinary Service Support) served their community by volunteering at the Washington State Fair September 8-24, 2015 in Puyallup, Washington. Veterinarians, veterinary technicians, and food inspectors from the 218th performed health inspections for animals entering the fair to ensure they were free of communicable diseases and then set up food inspection and animal medicine displays to demonstrate what it means to be in the Veterinary Corps.



Young Washington State Fair attendees learns what it is like to operate in an Army expeditionary veterinary clinic.



Pictured here are 68T and 68Rs of the 218thMDVSS.

Expert Field Medical Badge Challenges Soldiers of the 218th MDVSS

From 18 to 29 September 2015, the 47th Combat Support Hospital hosted standardization and testing for the Army's Expert Field Medical Badge on Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Washington. Of the 201 candidates who started standardization, 47 successfully completed testing to earn their badges – including one VCO of the 218th MDVSS. The test phase included a written exam, challenging day/night land navigation courses, three demanding combat testing lanes (evaluating candidates' ability to perform various medical, communication, and Soldier skills), and a 12 mile ruck march. The EFMB was established in 1965 as a special skill award to recognize exceptional competence and outstanding performance by field medical personnel.



A member of the 218th MDVSS successfully completed the 12 mile ruck march and earned the Expert Field Medical Badge on

Although each candidate ultimately is evaluated on their individual performance, the EFMB provided a tremendous opportunity for candidates to train together as a team and motivate each other through the mental and physical rigors of the event. Other Soldiers of the 218th MDVSS served as cadre and support personnel for the EFMB competition making the whole event possible.

218th MDVSS CBRN Decon Training

The 218th Medical Detachment partnered with the 420th Chemical Battalion of the Washington State Army National Guard on November 9-10, 2015 to perform a Field Training Exercise on chemical and biological decontamination of personnel and military working dogs.



Soldier performs decontamination after a simulated chemical attack at the FTX



Soldiers of the 218th MDVSS wearing chemical protective suits utilize the mobile showers of the 420th Chemical Battalion to decontaminate following a simulated chemical attack.



A Soldier wearing the chemical protective suite receives instruction from a trainer in the 420th Chemical Battalion on self-decontamination using a field expedient

43d MDVSS “follows food trail from farm to fork”



Commander of 43d MDVSS, seated on Merlin the Longhorn Steer surrounded by all the Soldiers of the 43D MDVSS living up to their motto of "By the Horns!"

DUBLIN - Military veterinarians took enlisted animal care and food inspection training to a new level during a three-day exercise here, deep in the heart of Central Texas' ranching community.

“The military doesn't have any livestock assets, as it were here, so going to local civilians is only way to get access to this type of training,” said Capt. Julie Pack, a veterinarian with the 43rd Veterinary Detachment.

Pack, a graduate of both Tarleton State University and Texas A&M, didn't have far to look when she began cold-calling former professors and area ranchers for help. Her Family owns the Lazy JP ranch outside of Dublin, complete with registered longhorn cattle.

“I can honestly say that this is the first time in my whole time in the Army that I've gotten to actually work with cattle and horses,” said Staff Sgt. Paul Cota, a veterinary/food inspector with 14 years of experience. “I've been to commissaries; we've done all that, but never training like this.”

Billed as a large animal field exercise, the training took Soldiers on a hands-on tour of cattle ranches, dairy farms and meat and cheese processing facilities.

In the Army, enlisted veterinary specialists are broken down into two separate, but compatible job specialties; animal care and veterinary food inspections. It's a very small career field; there are less than 70 enlisted animal care and veterinary/food inspectors for all of Fort Hood – less than 1,600 Armywide.

Animal care specialists are responsible for the prevention and control of diseases transmitted from animal to man, as well as the comprehensive care for government-owned animals. On Fort Hood, that means military working dogs and the horse and mules of the 1st Cavalry Division's Horse Detachment.

“Previous to this, I only worked with dogs and cats,” said Sgt. Jimmy Holiday, a veterinary/food inspector. “This is my first time with animals of this size. I'm willing to bet that a lot of vet detachments do not do this. They do not come out here and work with these large animals. It's almost a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.”

Veterinary food inspectors are tasked with ensuring the safety of food for human consumption, food inspections and combined veterinary services. Both on the installation and deployed, veterinary food inspectors are responsible for ensuring the sanitary conditions in food storage facilities and commissary stores.

“Number one, you're keeping the Soldiers safe and you're saving the government money,” Cota said. “A lot of people are going to try to sneak things through, especially being down range. (Vendors) are going to try to do what they can to cut some corners and to save some money, but that's why we're here training to know and be able to identify what is going on. That way, when we are out there, no one is getting sick.”

At the Lazy JP, veterinary teams learned how to safely handle and work around animals weighing as much as a car and sporting horns. Each step of the way, Pack and other military veterinarians provided tips – where and how you stand is important when driving cattle into a pen – and teaching points gathered though years of study and working with large animals.

“(This training) gives us the confidence, because we work with (our veterinarians) on a daily basis,” Holiday said. “We know that they are proficient in their job and they are not going to tell us anything that would put us in any harm. If we ever get nervous, they're right there to support us.”

In addition to time spent on the Lazy JP, Soldiers also toured the Veldhuizen dairy farm, a Family-owned farm that produces artisan raw milk cheeses. Their herd of Jersey cows, a breed known for producing rich, creamy milk, can produce thousands of gallons of milk daily.

“Giving milk is their job, and that's what they do,” said Maj. Emilee Venn, one of seven veterinarians who put the training together. “Good producers will, especially with farms like this where they really, on a personal level, care about these animals, they put everything they can into making them as comfortable and as healthy as possible because there's that respect of what we're getting out of them later on.”

Venn explained that due to years of specific breeding, most dairy cows are “super” milk producers. An average Jersey cow can produce an average of 120 pounds of milk per day – that's roughly the energy equivalent of a human running a marathon.

“We normally only see the food once it is processed and in the store, but now we get to see what actually happens,” Holiday said. “At the dairy, the process that the cows go through, I didn't know how much went into getting a carton of milk.”

“They understand the things that are going on,” Venn said.

“When they are checking that milk off the truck that's going into the commissary, they've already got an idea – they know where that's come from. They've got, at least, a working knowledge of where the source of that is. I feel like, once they go through that, they're more enthusiastic and they can do a better job.”

- Story by Nick Conner, Fort Hood Sentinel News Editor

72nd MDVSS Soldier Earns Best Medic Title

SGT Karslo, a 68R assigned to the 72nd Medical Detachment (VSS), competed in the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) Best Medic Competition from 23-25 September 2015 at Ft. Campbell, Kentucky. He represented the 86th Combat Support Hospital along with his partner of B Company, 86th CSH. The duo won the overall competition. However, because they were not members of the Division, they were not yet able to represent the 101st at the Army's Best Medic Competition. So they did it again 14-15 October 2015 and won the 44th Medical Brigade Best Medic Competition. This prepared them well for the Army Best Medic Competition at JBSA-San Antonio from 28-30 October 2015 where they finished 13th out of 32 competing teams. Great job!!



SGT Karslo and SGT Sibagatullin about to cross the finish line first during the final event of the Ft. Campbell 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) Best Medic Competition.



Fort Campbell's Best Medics SGT Sibagatullin (left) and SGT Karslo (right)



Receiving Certificates of Achievement from the Army Surgeon General and MEDCOM Command Sergeant Major.



Scaling the tower at the Camp Bullis, TX Obstacle Course.

72nd MDVSS PMO Course

Southeast Region FDA and Tennessee Department of Agriculture (TDA) team up with Middle Tennessee State University (MTSU) and Purity Dairy to provide dairy training for the 72nd Medical Detachment (VSS)



The 72nd MDVSS coordinated a combined FD371 Milk Pasteurization Controls and Tests and FD372 Milk Plant Sanitation and Inspection course that was held in Nashville, 30 November to 4 December 2015, to meet training requirements for the unit's 2016 deployment. On short notice Federal, State, Academic, and Industry all pitched in to put on this training. The Fort Campbell FYGVE and the 195th MDVSS also took advantage of this opportunity. During the course the VCOs had an in depth course on Pasteurized Milk Ordinance requirements including testing and sanitation giving them a solid foundation for audits of dairy plants. The USFDA SE Region Milk Specialist, and the TDA Dairy Coordinator both mentioned that this was one of the best groups they ever taught. The instructors along with the TDA, MSTU, and Purity Dairy all received Certificates of Appreciation from the 86th CSH Commander for their outstanding support.



UNCLASSIFIED

VETERINARIANS COLLABORATE IN SUPPORT OF 82ND CIVIL AFFAIRS BATTALION MEDIC VALIDATION FIELD EXERCISE

Active duty veterinary personnel as well as reservists collaborated in an effort to validate medics (68W) assigned to Baker Company, 82nd Civil Affairs Battalion (CA BN), out of Fort Stewart, GA on November 30 to 4 December 2015. The focus of the event was a scenario-driven Field Exercise Training (FTX) that was occurring in Mali. Four-man CA Teams worked through a variety of events that focused on preventive medicine with guidance from the unit's Special Functions Team (SFT)

The 82nd CA BN Veterinarian (SFT), conceptualized a village interaction with sick animals as a challenge for the teams. The main objectives were not for the teams to practice "tailgate medicine"; rather to gather information pertinent to veterinary reach-back capabilities, determine the need for any veterinary interventions, and assess the health and husbandry of various animal species.

Prior train-up for the event included several didactic learning sessions on animal handling and physical examinations. Furthermore, the unit utilized key relationships with local farms to work with and gain experience with handling large animals.



The 304th CA BDE Veterinarian (left) observes as a Baker Company Medic, 82nd CA BN provides guidance to herdsman role players, 68Ts from Fort Stewart Branch VS.

A local traveling petting zoo was hired for the event in order to simulate a local populace who raised animals. Role players were instrumental in this capacity, and with the help from Fort Stewart Branch Veterinary Services, District Ft. Gordon, the scenario was able to have knowledgeable subject matter experts to be able to describe symptoms of disease, answer questions about husbandry, and assist teams in examining animals. Furthermore, assistance from reservist 43rd Civil Affairs Battalion Veterinarian and reservist 304th Civil Affairs Brigade Veterinarian were essential to the success of the event. Both veterinarians served vital roles playing para-veterinarians servicing the local populace, who had little to no access to pharmaceuticals, supplies, or even knowledge for that matter. Additionally, a fluent French speaker from the Third Infantry Division was incorporated into the scenario to test the teams' language skills.



Veterinary role players pose with animals at the end of the exercise. From left to right: 82nd CA BN Veterinarian, OIC, Fort Stewart Branch VS, 68T, Fort Stewart Branch VS, 68T, Fort Stewart Branch VS and 443rd CA BN Veterinarian. Not pictured: 304th BDE Veterinarian and another 68T, Fort Stewart Branch VS.

Teams were evaluated by veterinarians, with tasks to include correct performance of physical exams on all given species, proper triage and history-taking of animals on case-by-case scenarios, gathering information relevant to each animal scenario and providing feedback to herdsman.

The overall focus was on communication and information-gathering skills, receipt of information applicable to communicating the situation with the battalion veterinarian, and determining future potential veterinary information exchanges. Overall, this exercise allowed for veterinarians to identify weaknesses and areas requiring further training to develop teams towards deployments that are nested under US Army Africa's Lines of Effort 2 (Enable African Partners) and 3 (Shape the Operational Environment).

- Story by MAJ Danielle Diamond

Veterinary Services at Air Force Academy

Fort Carson District has recently completed an exciting revision of the veterinary care program for the United States Air Force Academy (USAFA) Falconry Program. Historically, the falconry program limited its use of the USAFA Veterinary Treatment Facility (VTF) to monthly/quarterly inspections and occasional health certificates for travel to away sporting events. The majority of veterinary care was pursued through private practice, as the falconry program retained an existing budget for this purpose due to its use of falcons as official mascots, public relations assets, and educational tools.



Falconry is one of the extracurricular activities offered to cadets. There are usually 12 falconers, with four chosen from each new class at the end of the year to replace graduating seniors. The new falconers begin training in January under the leadership of experienced upperclassmen, the officer-in-charge and a Master Falconer. Without proper instruction, novices can physically harm the birds or adversely affect their training. Falconers' duties include daily checks of each bird's health and condition, training sessions during which the birds are fed a measured ration of meat, frequent cleaning of the mews and routine maintenance of equipment. Six weeks or more are required to properly train an eyass or young falcon. When a bird is in top condition, it is able to fly for more than an hour and make repeated stoops. The birds are flown throughout the year, weather permitting, to keep them in top condition. Between May and October, when the birds are molting, the training is minimized to prevent damage to new feathers. Young birds hatched in May or June grow rapidly and by the end of July are fully feathered and ready for training.



Through the extensive outreach efforts of the USAFA VTF, including CPT Natalie Erker and SGT Christopher Kilby, a new and exciting relationship with the program was initiated. Multiple, emergent, sick call cases were referred to MAJ (P) Nic Cabano upon his arrival. With MAJ (P) Cabano's extensive Raptor experience and the VTF staff's dedicated care, patients with crop dehiscence and ulnar fractures were managed effectively and trust was established with the team. Baseline physical exams of all falcons including ROVR documentation, facilities inspection, and SOP development were conducted in short order. A local consultation network was established with Colorado State University and the Rocky Mountain Raptor Program. Additionally, a research study was initiated in an effort to improve the existing breeding program by the Branch Chief, CPT Sean Stockwell. Fort Carson District looks forward to a lasting and rewarding partnership with the USAFA Falconry Program for many years to come.

- MAJ(P) Nic Cabano

PHCD-Ft. Gordon on the Move Conducting Veterinary Service Missions

GTMO Section participates in Norwegian Foot March

On 19 Sep 15, all eight Soldiers from the Guantanamo Bay, Cuba VTF participated in the Norwegian 30k Foot March. The 18.6 mile march started at 0400 and volunteers lined the streets cheering on the determined Soldiers. Leading up to the event, the Soldiers trained by ruck marching 6, 8, 10, 14 and 16 miles before normal work call, meeting as early as 0400.

Participants were required to carry rucksacks weighing a minimum of 25 pounds, not including water. Rucksacks were weighed prior to starting and again at the finish line. The weight could consist of anything except sand, rocks or any other item that could be dropped and then replenished along the route. The completion standards for males ages 34 and under was 4:30 and males ages 35-42 is 4:35. The standards for females ages 34 and under was 5:15 and females ages 35-42 is 5:25.

Of the 85 Soldiers who started the event, only 32 completed in their allotted time, including three of the GTMO Section Soldiers. These Soldiers received the award and certificate for completing the ruck march



Fort Rucker Section Promotes Domestic Violence Awareness



Soldiers of the Fort Rucker Section attended and participated in the Garrison Commander's DVAM event at Ft Rucker, teaming with Soldiers and Civilians on the installation to stand up and speak out for victims in domestic violence situations.

PHCD-Ft. Gordon on the Move Conducting Veterinary Service Missions (cont.)

Vaccine and Wellness in Puerto Rico

From 11-12 Sep 2015, Fort Buchanan Section conducted a vaccine and wellness clinic at Coast Guard Air Station Borinquen (CGAS BQN) in Aguadilla, Puerto Rico. Aguadilla is located approximately two hours from Fort Buchanan and the personnel stationed there frequently have difficulty finding quality veterinary care in their area. The clinic was held from 0830 to 1600 on Saturday (12 SEP) and 0830 to 1300 on Sunday (13 SEP). Pets were seen on appointment basis, but walk-ins were also accepted. The majority of appointments were annual wellness exams (vaccines, heartworm tests, etc.),



but a few minor "sick calls" were also seen. The Section was also able to add several patients to their Ft Buchanan VTF dental and surgery wait lists. The Section took laptop computers and a printer, and were able to utilize ROVR without difficulty. Clinic conducted in housing, which was provided by the installation.



Educating Kids on Pet Care and Safety

Veterinarian at MacDill AFB is very active in the community promoting Public Health Command District – Fort Gordon and educating the youth on veterinary care for their pets. She gave classes to the children on how to approach a pet safely; what to do if you see a stray animal or injured animal; how to check your dog for problems; and how to properly take care of your pet.



PHCD-Ft. Gordon on the Move Conducting Veterinary Service Missions (cont.)

Vaccine and Wellness in Puerto Rico



On 24 Jul 15, members of the Fort Gordon Veterinary Treatment Facility (VTF) and Tingay Dental Clinic's Endodontic Residency Program performed root canal surgery on MWD Nero. The MWD's left mandibular canine had worn to the point of exposing pulp, which caused it to necrose and the tooth to become non-viable. An endodontic resident performed the root canal under guidance from their program director. The Fort Gordon VTF OIC, and 68T Soldiers from her Section brought anesthetic equipment to Tingay Dental Clinic and performed anesthesia during the procedure. Fort Gordon VTF and Tingay Dental Clinic have built an excellent

partnership. The members of the dental team have been incredibly supportive and helpful to the VTF in arranging endodontic procedures as well as periodontal consultations for multiple MWDs. This collaboration is beneficial and educational to both the endodontic residency program and the Veterinary staff, resulting in improved access, safety and quality of care to MWDs.



WO1 Reminds The Army to Practice Food Safety!



WO1 David Kloberdanz of the Army Public Health Center recently published an article on the United States Army Homepage reminding service members and their families about the importance of food safety during the holidays. See article at following link:

<http://www.army.mil/media/414509/>

PHCD-Ft. Hood Supports Military/Veteran Communities



PHCD-Hood
On Point!



North Texas Branch CERTEX Certification Training for 994th MDVS

Event:

994th Medical Detachment Veterinary Services (MDVS)
Certification Training Exercise

Bottom Line:

North Texas Branch (NTB) provides critical MOS training to enhance readiness for the 994th MDVS.

Background:

The Medical Training Task Force coordinated the 994th MDVS's execution of certification training within the NTB operational environment in order to effectively execute Mission Command and ensure proficiency in METL tasks.

Summary of Activities:

- 1) NTB evaluated Soldiers on MOS specific training provided at three locations.
- 2) NTB coordinated with a Veterinary Clinical Specialist to perform veterinarian anesthesia and surgery credentialing.
- 3) Soldiers completed effective and realistic MOS training.
- 4) NTB provided feedback to the Medical Training Task Force.
- 5) Feedback was consolidated and provided to the unit.

Best Practices:

- 1) Integration of training into the NTB unit mission to develop realistic scenarios
- 2) Fully credentialed Veterinary Corps Officers
- 3) Open interaction and developmental feedback

Conclusion:

This joint effort increased unit readiness and functionality of the 994th MDVS and developed NTB Soldiers by providing them an opportunity to share knowledge and cultivate others.



PHCD-Hood
One health, on point!



Serving the Community

South Texas Branch Soldiers Support Disabled American Veterans

Event:

The Disabled American Veterans Unit #17, Universal City, Texas organizes ongoing volunteer opportunities including Bingo, Minor League Baseball games, and homeless feeding services.

Bottom Line:

South Texas Branch Veterinary Services Soldiers dedicated well over 300 cumulative hours to Disabled American Veterans (DAV) between 31 August 2015 and 31 October 2015.

Background:

- DAV is a veterans advocacy group that began in the 1920s with chapters across the country. Its mission is to fulfill our country's promises to the men and women who served.
- South Texas Branch Soldiers began volunteering with this organization in December 2014 and continue to regularly dedicate their time and smiles to Disabled Veterans of the South Texas community.

Best Practices:

- Volunteering connects Soldiers to the community, increases social network, and boosts social skills.
- Volunteering increases self-confidence and provides a sense of purpose.
- Selfless service fosters empathy and develops optimism.

Conclusion:

"As Soldiers, volunteering gives us a sense of humility, respect, patriotism, gratitude, and appreciation for what we have. We were provided with an opportunity to pay homage to those who served before us."

-SPC Robin Cornelius



Left: South Texas Branch Soldiers at a San Antonio Missions game



Soldiers gather at Liberty View Church to feed homeless Veterans of San Antonio

Left: Soldiers assist Veterans at the San Antonio Missions baseball game



PHCD-Hood
On Point!



Leading The Charge
In support of our U.S. Army Memorial Cavalry

Event:

2015 National Cavalry Competition
Historic Fort Reno, Oklahoma

Bottom Line:

Arizona Branch veterinary personnel provided veterinary support for over 40 DoD-Owned Military Working Equids (MWEs) from four Army installations located in Arizona, California, Oklahoma, and Texas.

Background:

- The National Cavalry Competition has been held annually by the National Cavalry Association for the last 12 years.
- Cavalry riders from U.S. Army Memorial Cavalry Units, along with civilian re-enactors, compete in numerous events to include military horsemanship, military field jumping, mounted pistol, mounted saber, wheeled horse, and the overall Bolte Cup Championship.

Support Provided:

- Veterinary health checks for six horses while traveling with 4th U.S. Cavalry B-Troop Memorial from Fort Huachuca, AZ to Fort Reno, OK.
- Veterinary health checks for horses arriving from Fort Irwin, Fort Sill, Fort Hood, and Fort Huachuca to historic Fort Reno.
- Eyelid laceration repair for MWE Shepherd from Fort Sill.
- Medical management of suspected foot fracture with therapeutic shoeing for MWE Duke from Fort Huachuca.
- Surgical treatment of chronic muscle abscess for MWE McDonald from Fort Sill.
- Medical management of numerous swollen joints and sore backs.

Best Practices:

- Ensured safe travel and arrival of over 40 MWEs so that Active Duty and Civilian cavalry riders could compete.
- Provided medical and surgical management in order for horses to continue to compete and to ensure safety for all Military riders.

Conclusion:

As we continue to strengthen our on-post and community partnerships, events like the National Cavalry Competition provides great opportunity to support military history, camaraderie, teamwork.



PHCD-Hood
One health, on point!



Making a Difference
Borderland Branch Wins "Grand Challenge" at Fort Bliss

Event:

Fort Bliss VTF (Borderland Branch) win Individual and Unit Recycling Competition, Fort Bliss, Texas

Bottom Line:

SPC Antonio Jackson has been identified as a "Recycling Hero" at Fort Bliss and will be one of 60 Soldiers, Civilians, and Contractors featured on billboards around post. Additionally, the Fort Bliss VTF won the unit-level award and will receive \$1,000 for their unit fund.

Background:

- Fort Bliss has one of the most active recycling programs in the Army, and makes it a point to highlight some of the most effective contributors to their program.
- As part of its Grand Challenge, the recycling program picks one unit each month to recognize for "exemplary recycling efforts" and donates \$1,000 to their unit fund.

Best Practices:

- Implement the Fort Bliss Recycling Policy and ensure it's posted
- Promptly schedule unit recycling training
- Schedule a building assessment to learn how you can recycle more
- Ensure only recyclables go in the recycling containers, and that none go into the garbage dumpsters
- Fix environmental issues identified during an EPAS inspection
- Serve as a role model – let others see you recycling right

Conclusion:

This outstanding commitment to the local community displays Borderland Branch's innovative approach to partnering in a very visible way.



TOP: Borderland Branch.



RIGHT: VS Soldier stands next to a Recycling Hero poster in Freedom's Crossing at Fort Bliss.



Dr. Daniel E. Salmon Award

For Exemplary Achievement in Federal Veterinary Medicine

Award: The Dr. Daniel E. Salmon Award is presented annually to recognize outstanding contributions and notable service in the public's interest by a veterinarian federally employed in any human health, environmental health or animal health discipline. This award was established to honor the first director of the United States Department of Agriculture's Bureau of Animal Industry in its centennial year--1984. Dr. Daniel E. Salmon was a world renowned veterinary medical scientist who pioneered research in bacterial diseases of animals and in immunology. His efforts led to the development of killed vaccines and to the naming of the bacterial genus Salmonella in his honor. His work contributed immeasurably to improving the public's health and to disease control efforts in general.

It is hoped that this award will encourage federal veterinarians to continue excellence in their performance and to aspire for public service as a lifelong career and to recognize veterinarians with exceptional federal service. One award may be given yearly to worthy nominees. The award consists of a plaque and an honorarium of \$500.00. This award is supported through the National Association of Federal Veterinarians.

Eligibility Criteria: The nominee must be a veterinarian who is a career employee of the federal government with at least 5 years of service as of December 31st of the current year.

Performance Criteria: The nominee must have demonstrated sustained significant contributions over a period of five years or more in federal programs involving public health, consumer protection, or animal health and welfare while serving in any preventive medicine, regulatory, research or environmental health position.

The significant contributions must have been from resourcefulness and skill in the application of veterinary medical sciences in implementing new programs or in carrying out existing programs of any federal agency. Said performance should have been at a level of excellence well above the norm, i.e., those who have gone that "extra mile."

Information Requested: No more than 1 nomination per each 400 (or portion thereof) veterinarians employed may be submitted by an agency within any federal department. Please send the signed electronic version of the nomination letter to Dr. Michael Gilsdorf at mgilsdorf@nafv.org. Exhibit materials may be attached but all the basic information requested below **must be included** in the nomination letter. The nomination letter must be typewritten, singled spaced, with new subject paragraph double spaced and numbered to correspond to the following:

1. Name, title and grade/rank (as of December 31, of the current year) of nominee.
2. Bureau, agency or corps and department.
3. Home address and email address of nominee.
4. Educational background and awards or commendations received during nominee's federal employment.
5. Give a brief description of nominee's present grade, duties and responsibilities including the scope of work, its complexity and overall responsibilities for varied programs and supervision.
6. Give a brief chronological outline of previous positions held indicating scope of duties and responsibilities.
7. State the reasoning, using specific examples, that shows the nominee has made sustained significant contributions involving public health, consumer protection, preventive medicine, animal health or animal welfare while serving as a federal employee. These examples must show resourcefulness, skill and dedication in applying the broad knowledge of veterinary sciences. Rather than just listing accomplishments, explain the significance of their contributions to communities, to programs, to 97 or to preventive medicine.
8. Submit the wording (in 35 words or less) of a proposed citation to be included on the award plaque.

The recommendation must be signed by the head of the agency or his/her representative. All nominations to be eligible for the 2015 award must be received no later than **January 31, 2016**. (No exceptions will be made!)

The award will be presented in 2016 at the annual Department of Agriculture Honor Awards Ceremony.

A special "Dr. Daniel E. Salmon Award Committee" of distinguished government officials and private citizens is named each year by the President of the National Association of Federal Veterinarians. An NAFV member may not serve on said committee.

Additional information respecting this announcement may be obtained from:

Dr. Michael J. Gilsdorf

Executive Vice President

National Association of Federal Veterinarians

1910 Sunderland Place, N.W.

Washington, DC 20036-1608

Tel: (202) 223-4878 Fax: (202) 223-4877

Email: mgilsdorf@nafv.org

Website: www.nafv.org

Save the Date!! U.S. Army Veterinary Corps 100th Birthday, 3 June 2016, Fort Sam Houston

US Army Veterinary Corps 100th Anniversary



For more information on the Anniversary Celebration see this website: <http://www.uniformedvma.org/>



FRONT VIEW



US Army
Veterinary Corps

Check out our latest Veterinary Corps Video at the following link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7kE8xhGG1PU&feature=youtu.be>

US Army Veterinary Corps History

US Army Veterinary Services in World War II: Growing the Force

By

Nolan A. (Andy) Watson



FIGURE 41.—Veterinary food analysis in the 1st Medical General Laboratory, Salisbury, England, in the fall of 1944.

As war erupted in Europe and in the Pacific, American military planners knew that they would have to build an enormous force. Over 8 million Americans served in the Army during World War II. During the war, veterinary service personnel strength peaked at 2,116 veterinary officers and 6,370 enlisted Soldiers, as well as a small group of civilians. These numbers are slightly less than the numbers for World War I. The mechanization of the military and a much lower dependence on animals for transportation are the chief reasons for the lower numbers. In fact, the Veterinary Corps is one of the few branches that did not have peak numbers during World War II.

During this time, about 15 percent of the nation's total veterinarians were in the Army. The Veterinary Corps Officers were comprised of Regular Army (not more than 126 at any time during World War II), National Guard, Officer Reserve Corps, and a few retired Regular Army officers brought back to active duty. The Veterinary Corps Reserve

was the major source for officers in the active Army veterinary service during this expansion.

The War Department Tables of Organization and Equipment (T/O&E) for veterinary units numbered 24 initially and grew to 65; at least 550 activated units had veterinary officers and enlisted personnel assigned to them. Veterinary personnel were assigned to almost all unit sizes and designations: Army, Corps, and Division Headquarters; Infantry, Armored, Airborne, Mountain, and Cavalry Divisions; Cavalry brigades and regiments; Field Artillery battalions and regiments; Division Artillery; medical department units including veterinary field units; Quartermaster units; Signal Corps units; Transportation Corps units; and Army Air Force units.

The missions and tasks of the veterinarians ranged from animal care (equines, pigeons, and a growing number of canines), to food inspection and laboratory work. Veterinarians also developed a list of sanitarily approved commercial food establishments. By 1944, about 4,000 commercial food establishments were being regularly inspected every month, including those in allied countries overseas. From 1941 to December 1945, the Veterinary Service inspected almost 13.5 billion pounds of procured meat and dairy products.

Veterinarians and their detachments worked closely with the Quartermaster Corps to provide professional and technical services to at least seven animal purchasing boards, seven remount areas, four remount depots, six dog centers, 18 depots and 34 market centers to inspect, supply, and care for the armed forces' horses and mules, dogs, as well as perform subsistence procurement, testing and food surveillance inspections.

The build-up was not only massive, but desperately needed to support the Army during the war. The next issue of the newsletter will examine the role of Veterinary Services in the first battles.



FIGURE 97.—Veterinary in-storage inspections of subsistence at an Army depot in the United Kingdom, 1944.

Source: Miller EB. United States Army Veterinary Service in World War II. Washington, DC: Office of The Surgeon General, Department of the Army; 1961.

UNCLASSIFIED

US Army Veterinary Corps History

US Army Veterinary Services in World War II: The First Battles

By

Nolan A. (Andy) Watson

Shortly after the attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, Army veterinarians initiated an anti-biological warfare program, or what is now called a food defense program in Hawaii. The program instituted a plan to safeguard fresh milk from deliberate bacterial contamination, and extended the program to soft drink beverage plants, ice cream manufacturers, and other commercial food industries throughout the Hawaiian Islands.

Veterinarians in the Philippines were surrounded almost from the beginning of the war as Japan invaded the island soon after attacking Pearl Harbor. Serving in very difficult circumstances, they were vital in local procurement and field slaughter of carabao (local water buffalo) for over three months, as supplies diminished and American forces were surrounded. Later their skills were also needed to provide medical care during the long imprisonment.

One veterinarian who served in the Philippines, Captain Clayton Mickelsen, received the Distinguished Service Cross. His DSC citation mentions his great achievement in delaying the enemy advance as well as concern for his fellow soldiers:

“For extraordinary heroism in action at Rosario, La Union, Philippine Islands, on December 22, 1941. During a concentrated fire from enemy tanks and infantry at close range against the rear guard of the 26th Cavalry (PS) Lieutenant Mickelsen, with one other officer, with total disregard of his personal safety, remained between the hostile troops and his own force, set fire to a truck placed on a bridge, and remained at the bridge exposed to enemy fire until satisfied that the bridge was in flames. Subsequently, Lieutenant Mickelsen, with the other officer, in a scout car, moved slowly with the rear most elements of the 26th Cavalry, picking up the wounded and collecting and giving orders to stragglers. By his heroic actions, Lieutenant Mickelsen prevented unhindered pursuit by the hostile tanks, saved the lives of a number of wounded, collected many stragglers and set an inspiring example of courage for the entire regiment.”



CPT Clayton Mickelsen, before service in the Philippines.



Detail image of COL William Gochenour's uniform. Gochenour served alongside Mickelsen and also became a prisoner of war. Later Gochenour gained notoriety as an Army Veterinary scientist.

Sadly, Mickelsen later succumbed to illness as a prisoner of war. As with previous conflicts there were losses of veterinary personnel. A total of 17 Veterinary Corps officers died or were killed during World War II. Of that number, 10 Veterinary Corps officers were captured by the enemy, wounded or killed, and four VCOs were killed in action. Some of the conditions faced by the personnel in the Philippines and later the China-Burma-India Theater of Operations were recognized; Five VCOs and approximately thirty-one veterinary enlisted men were awarded the Combat Medical Badge. Others would receive the Combat Infantryman Badge.

Source: Miller EB. United States Army Veterinary Service in World War II. Washington, DC: Office of The Surgeon General, Department of the Army; 1961.

US Army Veterinary Corps History

US Army Veterinary services during the Korean War

By: Nolan A. (Andy) Watson

Within two weeks of North Korea's invasion of South Korea on June 25, 1950, Veterinary Service units arrived with US and UN forces in Korea, with the 95th Veterinary Food Inspection Detachment (VFID) arriving on July 8, 1950 and the 476th VFID arriving on July 15, 1950. At the end of 1950, one port veterinarian and four VFIDs were in Korea; the 150th VFID participated in the Inchon landing on September 24, 1950. Attached to larger organizations and near the ever-changing frontlines, recognition of their inspection mission was often overlooked in the first months of the war. Refrigeration issues, improper storage and theft were continual problems.

Veterinary resources were largely shared or transferred between Japan and Korea inside the Far East Command (FEC). This would make sense for both proximity and as the country of Korea was still recovering from Japanese occupation, and didn't yet have dairy or large food production facilities. At the beginning of 1951, there were 13 VFID units within the command and at the close of the year, 30 VCOs assigned to FEC. Throughout the war, veterinary laboratory service for the FEC was largely provided by the 406th Medical Laboratory in Tokyo, the 1st Medical Field Laboratory attached to the 121st Evacuation Hospital, or by other nearby medical units willing to share resources.

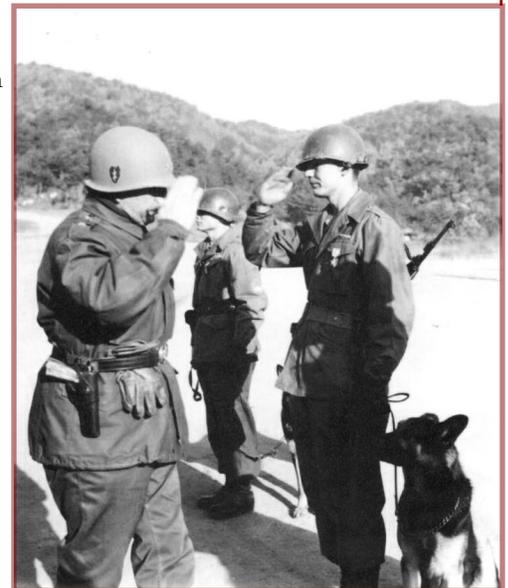
Although food inspection was their primary mission, some veterinary units were involved with animal care. The 26th Infantry Scout Dog platoon arrived in Korea in June 1951. Initially, the unit had several "journeymen" dog handlers acting as veterinary technicians in the field. When the dog platoon was attached to the 3d Infantry Division, the port veterinarian for the 21st Transportation Medium Port served as the attending veterinarian. Later when the dog platoon was transferred to the 24th Infantry Division, the veterinarian performing food inspection for the 548th Quartermaster depot at Chunchon (477th VFID) was tasked to provide medical care for the unit's canines. At the close of the war, the 150th Veterinary Detachment was freed from its duties of food inspection at the massive Enemy Prisoner of War (EPW) holding area at Koje-Do Island south of the Korean Peninsula and sent to Munsan-Ni north of Seoul. At Munsan-Ni, the unit was attached to the 43rd Surgical Hospital, Mobile Army (8055th MASH). Establishing operations in a Quonset hut with the sign "1st Veterinary Hospital in Korea", the unit provided animal care as well as food inspection for the Munsan-Ni to Ui-Jong-Bu areas.

Public health concerns were also an issue. In the years after Japanese occupation of the Korean Peninsula and before the outbreak of the Korean War (1945 to 1949), cholera, smallpox and tuberculosis were frequent problems. Later during the war in 1951, veterinary supplies were quickly transferred from Japan to prevent further expansion of an outbreak of hog cholera and swine erysipelas.

Veterinary efforts and those of the US Army in general stabilized as hostilities ceased with the Korean Armistice Agreement on July 27, 1953. The military footprint within the country remained as the uneasy truce held. Veterinary services continued to ensure food safety and to provide animal care as designated for the next 50 years. Still performing the mission, their numbers have declined in the country, due to the decrease in the number of troops which were shifted to the Global War on Terror.

Sources:

William H.H. Clark. History of the U.S. Army Veterinary Corps during the Korean Conflict. Annual Report of Medical Service Activities, Medical Section, General Headquarters, Far East Command, January-December 1951.
Eight Army Surgeon Report of Activities. Section VI, Veterinary Service. 1951.
Granger R. Fickbohm. Cold Noses, Brave Hearts: Dogs and Men of the 26th Inf Scout Dog Platoon.



Sergeant Robert Goodwin (26th Infantry Scout Dog Platoon) receives the Silver Star for rescuing two wounded soldiers trapped in a minefield while under enemy fire. Goodman was one of the "journeymen" dog handlers/veterinary technicians providing basic care in the field, although their specialty remained Infantry.



WOUNDED—Baron, veteran canine with the 26th Scout Dog Platoon, receives treatment from Sgt. Robert D. Goodwin (right), Long Beach, Cal., and words of encouragement from his master, Cpl. Judson E. Taylor, Allegan, Mich. The dog was separated from Taylor by a grenade explosion during a recent patrol with Company C, 15th Infantry Regiment. Rescuers found him two and one-half days later, wounded and weak from loss of blood. (U.S. Army Photo by Sgt. Frank Conger)

AMEDD Museum Seeks Exhibit Material

We encourage all the Corps and specialties to seek out and pass along photos, equipment, documents, and other objects to the AMEDD Museum and the ACHH archive which are related to their service. We can only exhibit the items and photographs that we have access to, so please help us to tell the AMEDD story even better.

Artifacts & Objects: 3D objects are accepted through the museum staff and require a small amount of paperwork that identifies the donor and any pertinent information about the provenance and history of the items. Once the museum is contacted and a few details are provided, a determination is made as to whether the museum can accept the material. It's a very simply process that keeps the collection of the museum from getting too cluttered with duplicative material.

The museum's phone number: **210-221-6358**

The museum's addresses:

**U.S. Army Medical Department Museum
3898 Stanley Road (bldg. 1046)
Ft Sam Houston, TX 78234**

Or

**U.S. Army Medical Department Museum
P.O. Box 340244
Ft Sam Houston, San Antonio TX 78234**

Documents and printed images/photos also require documentation and captions so that we know where these things originated from, but they can be sent/shipped directly to the ACHH Archives:

Archive phone number: **210-808-3297**

The archive's address:

**U.S. Army Medical Department Museum/ACHH Archive
3898 Stanley Road (bldg. 1046)
JBSA, Ft Sam Houston, San Antonio TX 78234**

For submitting digital photos to the museum: We need the very highest resolution possible. These can be submitted via email (usarmy.jbsa.medcom-ameddcs.list.amedd--regiment@mail.mil) CD or we can provide an online folder for large data files. For help with this contact Fran Trachta (francis.s.trachta.civ@mail.mil) Along with the high resolution copy of the photos we also need thorough captions, potentially a signed release (we can provide that via email).

In loving memory of “Freckles”

Ms. Gean Gros is a life long military dependent and client at the Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base, Fort Worth, TX veterinary clinic for over 45 years. Ms. Gean's husband retired from the Air Force in 1969 and passed away in 1975. Since, she has suffered various medical conditions which have left her physically limited. The veterinary clinic is located in a small connex sized building on the installation and painted a neutral tone. She rescued a malnourished Australian Shepherd named “Freckles” year ago. As she sat in the waiting room with Freckles at the NAS JRB Fort Worth vet clinic, she thought the building appeared plain and sad. Freckles lived over 12 years and passed away in time. As Ms. Gros put together a puzzle with the image which reminded her of Freckles, she could not find it in her to tear it apart. She framed the picture and donated it to the veterinary clinic in loving memory of “Freckles”. Ms. Gros continued putting together puzzles, framing them in memory to those who have touched her life and donated them to the veterinary clinic in an effort to help brighten the community. This hobby has now led to over 20 framed pictures at the NAS JRB Fort Worth veterinary clinic. She stated that in spite of her limited physical abilities and financial constraints, she wanted to help brighten the military community. “Animals are here for unconditional love. They are always happy to see you.” They support you through your life. She would like to encourage others to do what they can to support the military community.



Unaffiliated Veterinary Service Facebook Pages

1. UVMA (Uniformed Veterinary Medicine Association)
2. AREVP (Association of Retired Enlisted Veterinary Personnel)
3. The mighty 68R club
4. 68T, 68R and 68S NCO Leadership Support Forum
5. Soldiers of the Veterinary Corps
6. Army Veterinary Corps Group
7. Former Students of the 68R10 Veterinary Food Inspection (2012-2015)
8. 68T [Animal Care Specialist] MOS
9. ROVR