



VETERINARY SERVICE NEWS

July—September 2016 US Army Veterinary



Congratulations to all of the BOLC Graduates!!



Welcome to the United States Army Veterinary Corps and best of luck to each of you at your future assignments!

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Canine TC3 Training—Poland



Above: Two Polish dog handlers practice hemorrhage control on a working dog.
Right: A Veterinary Corps Officer assesses the proper tightness of a pressure wrap for hemorrhage control.



Above: A Veterinary Corps Officer assists Polish dog handlers with thoracocentesis on a training aid borrowed from Public Health Command.

The veterinary clinical specialist of the 64th Medical Detachment (Veterinary Service Support) instructed the final week of a 4-week tactical course for Polish and Norwegian Special Forces dog handlers from 27 June – 1 July 2016. The 64th MDVSS provided didactic and scenario-based hands-on instruction to 8 Polish dog handlers, 2 Norwegian dog handlers, and 1 Polish veterinarian on tactical care for military working dogs. The students provided extremely positive feedback and indicated that they now feel comfortable on the basics of trauma care. On the final day of the course, simulated canine injuries and evacuation were incorporated into a large exercise involving the entire Special Forces unit.

Congratulations to the 2016 Veterinary Corps Chief Awards Selectees!!



The veterinarian for United States Marine Corps Special Operations Command (MARSOC) has been awarded the 2016 Exceptional Veterinary Service Officer Award. The MARSOC Commander presented the award during a ceremony held at Camp Lejeune, NC.

A Non Commissioned Officer was awarded the 2016 Colonel Cliff L. Walker Leadership Award for a Junior NCO.

His nomination stated that he “is an NCO who truly puts his country, his Soldiers, and the mission before himself. During a deployment, he demonstrated excellent tactical and technical expertise while also ensuring the well-being of the unit and volunteering his time to help other deployed service members.

Upon redeployment he became the unit Operations NCO and performed this job to a level above his current rank. He also competed as one of the final 64 Soldiers in the 2015 Jack L. Clark US Army Best Medic Competition at Fort Sam Houston, Texas.



993rd Medical Detachment Veterinary Services in Operation Freedom's Sentinel



The 993D Medical Detachment Veterinary Services relieved the 994th MD (VS) in a Transition of Authority ceremony held at Bagram Air Field on 19 August 2016. Pictured on the right, the 994th MD (VS) completed a nine month deployment in Afghanistan and performed exceptionally well. Rocky, the wounded MWD whose photo went viral, was a patient of the 994th. The 993D MD VS, pictured on the left, has hit the ground running ensuring the outstanding accomplishments of the past rotation continue seamlessly.

Warrant Officer Shares Her Love of Food Safety with AIT Students.

A Chief Warrant Officer Two was recently profiled in an article published at army.mil. She currently serves as an instructor at the AMEDDC&S teaching advanced food safety. Read the original article at: <https://www.army.mil/article/174888>





Pacific Partnership 2016

Timor Leste



The Pacific Partnership 2016 veterinary team was engaged in Timor Leste in June. The team learned about the role of animals in the host nation's culture and economy and participated in side by side direct patient care. Seventeen patients were seen in conjunction with host national veterinary personnel, and two surgeries were performed. Host nation and PP16 veterinarians worked up patients together and shared differential diagnoses and surgical techniques.

A Veterinary Corps Officer instructs sterile scrub techniques and assists a host nation veterinarian with a canine



Twenty-five university animal health students were also in attendance and discussed technical tasks such as parasite identification with PP16 animal care technicians. Seven host nation veterinarians and Ministry of Agriculture officials collaborated with PP16 veterinarians to address two issues of public health significance: preventing the introduction of rabies into Timor Leste and risk reduction and process regulation for facilities processing potentially hazardous foods. The engagement culminated with a tour of the USNS Mercy for host nation colleagues.



PP16 veterinarian instructs sterile scrub techniques and assists a host nation veterinarian with a canine ovariohysterectomy.



Veterinary Services personnel high fives a student at a Child Health Outreach in Gleno, Timor Leste.



PP16 veterinary personnel with university animal health students and veterinarians.



Pacific Partnership 2016

Malaysia



The Pacific Partnership 2016 veterinary team visited Malaysia in August. Pacific Partnership VCOs, 68Rs, and 68Ts worked side by side with the Malaysian Department of Veterinary Services (DVS) and Malaysian Armed Forces (MAF) veterinarians to conduct collaborative health engagements and subject matter exchanges on diagnostic laboratory techniques, livestock disease surveillance, and small animal clinical medicine.



Veterinary Services personnel read the results of bacterial cultures.



A Veterinary Technician processing fecal samples.



Pacific Partnership veterinary team with DVS and MAF veterinary professionals



DoD Veterinary Pathology featured at the National Museum of Health and Medicine Science Café Series



Military veterinary pathology was the subject at the National Museum of Health and Medicine (NMHM) June Science Café. The NMHM Science Café is a series of informal talks that connect the mission of the Department of Defense with the public. The Chief of Resident Training, along with staff pathologists and residents from the DoD Veterinary Pathology Residency Program (DODVPR) at the Joint Pathology Center (JPC), hosted this presentation to highlight veterinary medicine in the military with a special focus on veterinary pathology. After a brief presentation, attendees were invited to visit a series of hands-on stations to learn more about Army Veterinary Pathology.



For the complete article, please visit the NMHM website at [Military Veterinary Pathologists Deploy Unique Medical Countermeasures](#)



Top: A staff veterinary pathologist at the JPC, discusses the mission of veterinary pathologists in the Department of Defense in support of the Warfighter, their families, and the public health at-large.
Middle: A third year resident in the DODVPR, discusses safety precautions necessary when working in a biosafety level 4 (BSL-4) laboratory.
Bottom: A first year resident in the DODVPR, discusses comparative histology with attendees at the Science Café.

Near right: A first year resident in the DODVPR, discusses comparative anatomy with attendees at the Science Café.

Far right: A young attendee tries on an example of the personal protective equipment.



PHCD-Fort Hood Soldiers Support Installation Event



Veterinary Services Food Inspectors (68Rs) conducted approved sources and food defense inspections at Fort Polk's Freedom Fest on 2 July 2016 for 4th of July Celebrations. There were over 16,000 people at the open-post event and the inspectors provided support to 10 vendors.



Veterinary Corps Summit

The Army Public Health Center hosted a Veterinary Corps Summit in June for senior veterinary professionals throughout the Department of Defense. The purpose of the meeting was to identify strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats in the Army's veterinary mission and to identify methods of performing the mission better. At the conclusion of the summit, veterinary professionals identified four areas of focus to further refine and synchronize their mission of monitoring and preventing diseases transmitted from animals to humans and protecting military personnel and their families from food-borne disease through surveillance, auditing and assessing vulnerabilities.

The four focus areas included:

- A. **Champion One Health within the AMEDD**
- B. **Re-engineer food protection programs to optimize productivity, customer support, and readiness**
- C. **Improve Force of the Future**
- D. **Improve Delivery of Animal Healthcare and Productivity**

445th and 993rd MDVS conduct CSTX Annual Training

Members of the 445th MDVS, with attached members of the 993rd MDVS conducted an 18-day WAREX at Fort Hunter Liggett, California. Soldiers performed a multitude of "notional" missions in the surrounding area and on camp, including sanitary audits, performing animal health and pregnancy checks on cattle, and working a local cattle herd.



A Different Kind of Field Work



CVM faculty and members of the 83rd Civil Affairs Battalion. Photo by Nathan Latil

July 13, 2016 | Tracey Peake

Soldiers in the Army's Civil Affairs units serve on the front lines of community relationship building and outreach – they're the liaison between the military and civilian authorities. As such, they need a lot of varied skills – everything from languages, to agriculture, to medicine – and not just of the human variety.

So Ft. Bragg's 83rd Civil Affairs Battalion and NC State's College of Veterinary Medicine created a pilot program to train Civil Affairs soldiers and medics in some basic veterinary care for farm animals. Similar partnerships have been created between universities and the Army in other states, and NC State had done similar work in the past, but didn't have a current program.

"We wanted to broaden all of our soldiers' horizons, and get them familiar with different animal breeds, how to handle them and do basic exams," says the Battalion Veterinarian, who spearheaded the project with NC State professor of ruminant health.

The pilot program launched in 2014. For three days, soldiers and medics were introduced to sheep, cattle and goats, and taught how to handle and herd the animals, how to do visual examinations of the mouth and face, and how to check for anemia and parasites. The third day of instruction was for medics only, so they could learn to do blood draws and more in-depth exams. In the end, about 75 soldiers left armed with information on basic livestock care that they could use to help communities abroad.

This year, horses were added to the mix. To see the partnership in action, click on the photo gallery at <https://news.ncsu.edu/2016/07/cvm-soldier/>.

Veterinary Services Soldiers and Civilians are Army Strong!

On 11 June 2016, a team from the Center for Laboratory Animal Medicine, Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USUHS) challenged the arduous Tough Mudder obstacle course in Doswell, VA. The Tough Mudder is described as a “10-12 mile mud and obstacle course designed to drag you out of your comfort zone by testing your physical strength, stamina, and mental grit. With no podiums, winners, or clocks to race against, it’s not about how fast you can cross the finish line. Rather, it’s a challenge that emphasizes teamwork, camaraderie, and accomplishing something almost as tough as you are.” After 3.5 hours, over 10.2 miles and negotiating 22 obstacles, the above pictured arrived at the finish line, victorious. Congratulations to the team from USUHS!



The team poses at the finish line!

438th MDVSS Staff Ride:

Sand Creek Massacre National Historic Site

The 438th MDVSS conducted a unit staff ride to Sand Creek Massacre National Historic Site. This event was utilized to further the esprit de corps with the Badger family, as well as an opportunity to conduct EO training and discuss the causes and consequences of a tragic event and those lessons can be applied in today’s Army.

The Sand Creek massacre was a massacre in the American Indian Wars that occurred on November 29, 1864, when a 700-man force of Colorado Territory militia attacked and destroyed a village of Cheyenne and Arapaho in southeastern Colorado Territory, killing and mutilating an estimated 70–163 Native Americans, about two-thirds of whom were women and children. After EO training commenced and the Sand Creek Massacre site, then the unit held a BBQ at the John Martin Reservoir.



US Army Veterinary Corps History

Operations Enduring and Iraqi Freedom Part 2, my veterinary experience – Brigadier General (Retired) John Poppe

My last edition had the 248th Medical Detachment (VS)(Airborne) at Camp Virginia in Kuwait in May 2003 just after the securing of Baghdad. After we had our stolen trailer returned, we had our march credits and equipment on line for the convoy to Baghdad with the 72d. Then we received redeployment orders to return to Fort Bragg as the medical planners determined that one veterinary detachment could cover the entirety of Iraq. This left us stranded at Camp Virginia looking for a ride home. As we looked for every available option for our 30 Soldiers and equipment, we offered to pick up some of the mission for the 109th Medical Detachment, an Army Reserve unit out of California who had already been in theater for an extended period of time and would be extended longer. The 109th was commanded by LTC Gary Brickler a USDA APHIS veterinarian and a good friend from my days at the 73d at Fort Lewis.

We picked up the food safety mission for the kabals in Kuwait and southern Iraq to keep our Soldier's idle hands from finding other pursuits before we redeployed. This would be invaluable training for our Soldiers as we convoyed into Iraq to support the food safety and military working dogs at Camp Bucca. At the time there were very few military working dogs (MWDs) in theater and Camp Bucca had two Army MWDs and I'm pretty sure the number of veterinarians in theater outnumbered the MWDs. As part of our food safety mission we did a single day snapshot of the amount of non-approved sources of subsistence in theater, it was a shockingly large number and percentage of the food being consumed and greatly assisted us in bringing this to the attention of commanders and logistical leaders to remedy this situation to reduce the risk to our forces.

To get back to Fort Bragg we had signed up for space available lift at all the airfields in Kuwait. As we convoyed back to Camp Virginia we noticed a C17 at Ali Al Salem Air Base so we drove down to the airfield to check it out. That particular C17 was full, but the flight controllers said we could check back each night after midnight for flight updates but don't get your hopes up since there would probably not be any flights going back to Pope Air Force Base near Fort Bragg anytime in the near future. That same night I had our operations officer call flight operations, there just happened to be a C17 coming the next day going almost empty back to Pope, great news! We had already positioned our equipment at the port facility in Kuwait. With the assistance of the 10th Combat Support Hospital (CSH) who was also stranded in Kuwait, they transported us to Ali Al Salem. As we offloaded the open bed trucks in full battle rattle in the 114 degree heat we were greeted by the same Chief Warrant Officer 3 from the 528th Special Operation Support Battalion from Fort Bragg we had sent our Soldiers with to Afghanistan, it is a small world.

For those of you have been to Ali Al Salem, it is a unique place in that the concrete hangars there all have holes punched in them courtesy of the US during Desert Storm when Iraqi forces under Saddam Hussein occupied the airfield and we were encouraging them to go back to Iraq. As we awaited our departure in one of these hangars, many of us were sitting on palletized plywood boxes also awaiting transport back to the US. I took a glance inside the crate I was sitting on and discovered that it was filled with gold plated AK 47s and hand guns no doubt on their way back to a museum somewhere or at least that is what I was hoping. One of these type weapons is on display in the E ring of the Pentagon on the second floor. I shared this knowledge of the gold plated weapons with my First Sergeant only, we didn't want any additional temptations for our Soldiers before getting on the aircraft home.

US Army Veterinary Corps History (cont.)

Being the senior officer on this flight, the flight crew invited me to join them in the cockpit for takeoff. As I climbed up into my seat, I noticed the logo on the headset of one of the Air Force pilots of the Washington State University Cougars. If you remember from part 1, a WSU Cougar pilot took me to OIF and now a Cougar would bring me home, go Cougs! We arrived back at Pope AFB at Green Ramp with all of our Soldiers in good health and with a big warm welcome from our families in June of 2003. In good health, but for myself I had lost twenty pounds trudging around in the sand even with eating 3-5 ice cream bars at lunch and dinner every day in attempts to keep the weight on. I had my change of command shortly thereafter and was shipped off to Newport, Rhode Island to the Naval War College since I wasn't smart enough to get into the Army one.

That ends my direct support of OEF and OIF, however all of us continue to support both of these efforts as we continue to deploy to Afghanistan and after OIF transitioned to Operation New Dawn and now our forces supporting operations in Iraq and Syria combating the Islamic State. We all have lost good friends during this period of persistent conflict. I remember the day clearly in May 2006 when I was doing physical training one morning and ran into COL Huck who broke the news of LTC Daniel Holland being killed in Iraq, our first combat loss of a veterinarian since the Vietnam War. He was a good friend of mine and I'll miss him stopping by and always saying "glad you got to see me". I'm sure glad we received approval to name the new military working dog hospital at Lackland Air Force base after him, thank you to all who made this happen for him and his Family, it's the least we could do for our hero. We also lost SFC Rauda in Afghanistan, a 68T who became an 18D Special Forces Medic and who also was one of my jump buddies from Fort Bragg.

Part of Operation Enduring Freedom that never received much attention occurred in the Philippines. When I was stationed in Hawaii as the Regional Veterinary Commander we would support OEF-P in the southern Philippines with food inspection support usually with one of our warrant officers who would have sanitary audits in the area. We finally convinced the surgeon at the Special Operations Command Pacific (SOC Pac) that they would greatly benefit from having a Veterinary Corps officer assigned. A series of veterinary corps officers served, coming from both the active duty and reserves. Much of their efforts focused on veterinary programs that would lead to access to villages by the special operators. These programs were successfully transitioned to the Veterinary Corps of the Armed Forces of the Philippines which is the definition of success for phase 5 stability operations.

We also haven't heard a great deal about Operation Enduring Freedom Horn of Africa. Thank you to all who have supported these efforts with the ultimate goal of stability on the continent of Africa, some of our great unsung heroes and programs that have kept this continent from lapsing into failed states and inviting the extremists we currently and continue to battle.

This ends my second installment on OEF and OIF, our commitment with multitudes of veterinary detachments and veterinary personnel deploying in support of the war on terrorism continues. Thank you all for your service to your Nation and the great sacrifices by you and your Families. For the real story of veterinary service support of the OEF and OIF you'll need to read the first chapter of the much anticipated Borden Institute Textbook of Military Veterinary Service to be published later this year, this is my story, and I'm sticking to it.

U.S. Army Public Health Center Health Information Products e-Catalog

Provides targeted health information products for service members, their families, military leaders and health care providers.

Veterinary products include posters, brochures and quarterly newsletters on topics such as preventive health, diseases, emergency, human and animal safety, food safety, tips and stories.

Order HIO e-Catalog Publications & Products at

<https://usaphcapps.amedd.army.mil/HIOShoppingCart/searchResults.aspx?hotlist=72>

(cost of ordering products covered by APHC mission funds, so no cost to unit).

Follow the APHC Facebook page at

<https://www.facebook.com/USAPHC#> for news and stories on

Veterinary Topics and articles directly from the quarterly newsletter! Feel free to share!



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Veterinary Connections

News Flash!

Veterinary Connections: Fall Edition and a special Holiday Edition are now available for download from the APHC Periodic Publications page:

Veterinary Connections—Fall Edition:

http://phc.amedd.army.mil/Periodical%20Library/VetConnections_Fall2016.pdf

Veterinary Connections—Holiday Edition:

http://phc.amedd.army.mil/Periodical%20Library/VetConnections_Holiday2016.pdf

Both newsletters have been sent to the printer. Print editions of both the Fall and the Holiday Veterinary Connections will be shipped directly to the clinics for distribution.

Don't miss an issue! Subscribe to the electronic version at:

usarmy.apg.medcom-aphc.mbx.iph-vet@mail.mil



Informal VC Gathering at the AVMA Convention

BG Tarring hosted an informal US Army Veterinary Corps gathering at the 2016 AVMA Convention held in San Antonio, TX. The meeting took place on 7 August 2016 from 1630-1700. Participants had an opportunity to catch up with colleagues and meet some of the newest members of the Veterinary Corps before continuing the fellowship at a local restaurant before the AVMA's concert.



New APHIS Pet Travel Website



United States Department of Agriculture

International Pet Travel: Help Your Clients Meet the Requirements

When working with veterinary clients who travel internationally with their pets, visit our new Web site at <https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/pettravel> for up-to-date information on what's required.



The U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) has launched a new Web site devoted to international pet travel. Pets are often considered part of the family, but traveling with a pet isn't as simple as just booking a flight or driving across the border. As a veterinarian, you'll need to work closely with your clients to make sure their pets have all required documents, vaccinations, treatments, and/or tests before they travel.

We know this process can be stressful. That's why we designed a new Web site to help guide you and your clients through each step. Some countries have pre-travel requirements that take advanced planning and time to complete, so it's important to start the process early.

On our pet travel Web site, you'll find detailed information about taking a pet from the United States to another country (export) and bringing a pet into the United States from another country (import). The Web site covers the import and export of certain types of pets, including:

- Dogs
- Cats
- Birds
- Ferrets
- Rabbits
- Rodents
- Hedgehogs and tenrecs
- Reptiles
- Amphibians

Taking Pets to Another Country

Countries often have detailed animal health requirements that must be met before pets can cross their borders. These rules can vary greatly, so it's important to find out the exact requirements for the destination country and type of pet.

With the help of APHIS' pet travel Web site, you can provide your clients with the most current information available for a particular country. There, you'll also find country-specific health certificates and instructions for completing them. This will help you and your clients fill out the forms correctly so they are accepted by foreign officials. Please note that you must be USDA-accredited to issue any international health certificates that require APHIS endorsement.

To help you and your clients through the process, the site also provides:

- Frequently asked questions and answers,
- A step-by-step checklist to better understand and prepare for international travel requirements,

- Detailed documents on sending pets to select countries, and
- A link to find APHIS' closest Veterinary Services office for assistance.

Bringing Pets Into the United States

APHIS' mission is to protect the health and value of American agriculture and natural resources. To prevent the entry and spread of foreign animal diseases into our country, pets entering the United States from other countries may need to meet specific APHIS requirements. You can find information about these requirements on the new site. And for pet bird owners, the site provides a list of APHIS-approved ports of entry and contact information for our animal import centers.

Other Federal agencies also have rules for bringing pets into the United States. Our new Web site includes links to those agencies' sites to help you meet all of your clients' needs.



Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
Veterinary Services

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Official Veterinary Corps Chief Facebook Page and Unaffiliated Veterinary Service Facebook Pages

VC Chief: <https://www.facebook.com/armyvetcorpschief/>

Unaffiliated:

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

