

IVY GUNNER NEWSLETTER

August Issue



Building Mission Readiness

Training Highlights

The IVY GUNNER Brigade...

Over the past month, the Ivy Gunners deployed to the field for two weeks in support of Lethal Ivy. Our Fires and Sentinel sections also deployed down to Pinon Canyon to support 1SBCT's training. Overall, the entire DIVARTY Staff and HHB executed Lethal Ivy with great success and safely redeployed the entire staff back from the training areas. The DIVARTY continues to lead Division level training events from the front and ensures our staff are the most qualified and lethal Soldiers in the 4th Infantry Division.

Thank you to the Families and Friends of the IVY GUNNERS!

The strong support network we have motivates us to persevere through any challenges. Our tempo for this year peaked this month, however we still have a lot of work ahead of us to prepare for the following year of training. The belief in our mission and your encouragement fuels our determination to excel in our duties. We are immensely grateful for your support and we hope to keep making you all proud as we continue honing our warfighting skills on our training glidepath to excellence.

IVY GUNNERS

FIT TO FIGHT!



COL Charles Knoll
DIVARTY Commander



CSM Juan Lozano
DIVARTY Command Sgt. Maj.

Ivy Gunner Family, Friends, and Teammates,

Thank you all for the support you have shown throughout the month of August. After a very full summer of training and block leave activities, we have now entered the new training cycle with Lethal Ivy. We are proud to welcome all new Soldiers to the team and are excited to work with you over the next year as we train up for Warfighter in 2025. We know the importance of putting in the work now in exercises such as Lethal Ivy to ensure our success later down the road. Thank you again to the families and friends of the Ivy Gunners who continuously support their Soldiers through it all.

**STEADFAST AND LOYAL!
IVY GUNNERS!**

HONOR BATTERY



CPT Jacob Planchon
BTRY Commander



1SG James Woolbright
BTRY First Sergeant

Greetings, Honor Battery family!

Honor Battery was hard at work during the month of August. Honor fully supported Lethal Ivy, a tactical command post exercise that began with systems and equipment validations in TA Bravo. From there, the battery got a rep at tactical movement and convoy operations while jumping the command post to the Fort Carson Training Area and establishing the tactical operations center in an austere environment. Additionally, Honor Battery supported 1BCT's field training exercise in Pinion Canyon by sending a Sentinel team and observer coach and trainer package. We also had 6 Soldiers graduate the Basic Leaders Course as they prepare to become NCO's: SPCs Polizzi, Pedroza, Perez, Brown, Arevalo, and Galvan. SPC Brown also won the Distinguished Leader Grad at BLC! Finally, we congratulate our two newest SGT's: SGT Mendez and SGT Civis!

UNITE AND CONQUER!



We are extremely proud of all the Soldiers that graduated from BLC this month! We look forward to the successful careers they will have in the future as NCOs and appreciate all their hard work in making the organization better.



READY COMPANY



READY Co implemented and hosted the inaugural Mountain Post Patching Ceremony, shedding light on the proud and rich history of 4ID and partner units.



Congratulations to the new Ready Company Executive Officer CPT Meixueiro!



CPT Sydney Sanders
READY Commander



1SG Antonio Hernandez
READY First Sergeant

Greetings, Ready Company Family!

August was a month of new beginnings for us as we began hosting the weekly 4ID Patching Ceremony to help us welcome our new Soldiers to the Mountain Post. Every Wednesday at the Special Events Center at 1430. It is truly inspiring to see the impact of the many leaders from Fort Carson gathering to integrate with their new Soldiers. Ready Company would like to extend our Congratulations to CPT Meixueiro, Anthony our new Executive Officer and SFC Deleon from 3 ABCT joining us as the newest member of our elite Cadre!

We also would like to shine our spotlight on SSG Ellis, Craig! Hailing from Arkansas, SSG Ellis enlisted as a 15T Helicopter Repairer. Prior to joining us at Ready Company, he was a member of the Fort Carson Mounted Color Guard. SSG Ellis is our "Go To NCO" at Ready Company. He is currently serving as member of our Cadre instructing 150-200 soldiers through their week of in-processing. SSG Ellis is constantly working to ensure that all the Soldiers he helps are empowered with the knowledge of the resources available at the Mountain Post. He's also a stellar machinist and technician. Thank you again SSG Ellis for all your hard work and motivation! We are lucky to have you on our team!

14TH PUBLIC AFFAIRS DETACHMENT



CPT Alex Werden
14TH PAD Commander

SFC Care Hart
14TH PAD NCOIC

Soldier of the Month: Spc. Maliyah Williams

Spc. Williams greatly improved her photography skills under the tutelage of Staff Sgt. Barajas. She sought out opportunities to hone her craft and was constantly recognized by the Coalition members that she supported. Her photos were shared by the Dutch PA Director and on their military's social media.

NCO of the Month: SGT Dominique Mendoza

Sgt. Mendoza took over as the CJTF-OIR social media manager in addition to her regular duties. She is an engaged leader, constantly communicating with her Soldier in a different location and regularly providing mentorship and guidance to enable him to reach his full potential.

Messenger Family!

In the month of August, the 14th Public Affairs Detachment Soldiers supported dozens of significant events in support of all twenty-five members of the Coalition and nearly all the downtrace units within Iraq and Kuwait. In addition to providing photography and videography support, the team created graphic designs and written products to help inform both internal and external audiences of the continued importance of the Coalition's efforts to advise, assist, and enable partner forces to ensure the enduring defeat of ISIS.

The team continues to knock it out of the park every day and we're excited to finish this mission successfully with just a few short months left until we return home. We can't wait to re-join the rest of the team at Fort Carson and see our families and friends!

The Soldier's Messenger

Staff Sgt. Barajas participates on a Coalition training event.



Staff Sgt. Hobbs and SGT. Mendoza review an image.



Spc. Brandon (left) and Sgt. Mendoza (right) capture Coalition training events.



HHBN



LTC Nick Tallant
HHBn Commander



CSM Jill Steele
HHBn Command Serg. Maj

Battle Ready Team,

August was hugely busy for the Ivy Battle Team with the Corps Warfighter and the Lethal Ivy Exercise. During this month our Soldiers supported V Corps with a major training event to validate their command and control, Warfighter Exercise 24-5. The team then went straight into an 8-day field exercise to train our own command and control, Lethal Ivy. The team absolutely crushed it at both events! This month we hosted our first SFRG Steering Committee Meeting. We have a lot of fun upcoming events, and we'd love to recruit some volunteers. Please feel free to reach out to our Command Family Readiness Representative, SSG Javanni Maples. Also this month, your Soldiers were part of team building events for our command post teams. During two days of physical training events, we challenged them to team circuit workouts and mentally tested them with cognitive exercises. Highlighting success this month, our battalion completed its retention mission! We could not have done it without your family's dedication and continued willingness to support the Army and the nation. Thank you for your support!

BATTLE READY!



Division G2 Soldiers were honored to reenlist 3 Soldiers this month!



The 4ID Band supported the 147th Arkansas Valley Fair, Friends of Gold Hill Mesa, and the Colorado Springs Vibes Military Appreciation Game.



Our Division Rear Command Post teammates getting after it with a grueling circuit workout competition.



HSC



SSG Jordan from Lethal Academy's Combatives program reenlisted for an awesome opportunity in recruiting.



HSC Operations and the RCP folks enjoying chow out in the field for Lethal Ivy.



Our Fires section enjoying the cookout brought to the BN by the SISCO SFRG after Lethal Ivy.



CPT Catherine Berry
HSC Commander



ISG Joseph O'Donnell
HSC First Sergeant

Hatchet Family!

Over the last month, HSC has been sprinting through August with preparation and execution of Lethal Ivy. During the preparation phase, our Soldiers were hard at work on maintaining vehicles, ensure all their gear was "good to go," and brushing up on their technical skills. While some Soldiers were in the field, our remaining personnel at Home Station focus on repurposing excess equipment trying to save the Army money. This effort is one of the many, but biggest Ivy priority. The execution of Lethal Ivy had Soldiers spread across two different locations conducting warfighting functions. With upcoming events, the HSC family is looking for volunteers to help spearhead some of the HSC Command Team's ideas. If anyone is interested, please let CPT Berry know, specifically our upcoming Trunk or Treat. Soldiers in September are going "back to the basics" with some individual Soldier training while others are at Fort Leavenworth hitting the books. Time to learn!

"ALWAYS READY"



SISCO



CPT Sean Slusar
SISCO Commander



ISG Briana Kozain
SISCO First Sergeant

Sentinel Family!

Sentinels focused on team building, field exercises and Soldier career progression during the month of August. 1LT Walsh (DMAIN) and 2LT Davila (TAC) hosted DMAIN and RACP team building PT events for the new team in preparation for Lthal IVY. Sentinels deployed the DMAIN and RACP to the MTC and TA 11 in support of Lethal IVY. This was our new staff team members first field exercise in the road to Warfighter. Our Soldiers implemented many lessons learned from IVY Mass which made Lethal IVY a strong success for our crawl phase FTX. SPCs Davis, Rodriguez, and Garland from G2 all reenlisted to continue service in our Army. SGT Landry the SISCO supply Sergeant promoted to SSG and reenlisted INDEF to continue his service in our Army. SFC Kaufman (DIV SURGE) also reenlisted INDEF! SSG Thornton, SPC Fraile and PFC Rojas were thrown a surprise baby shower to welcome their growing families!

SHIELDS UP!



SSG Mirghani (G2) working out of the Company CP at Lethal Ivy in preparation for redeployment.

DMAIN conducting validations in conjunction with G6 at the MTC.



Sentinels C2 Systems established in the field to provide the CG the ability to fight his Division.



1SG Kozain being interviewed by PAO about multi domain operations in the field.



4ID BAND



SSG Mark Hsieh and several friends completed a two-day trip through the Chicago Basin in the San Juan mountain range.



WO1 Devin Thomas
Band Commander

Photo Coming Soon

ISG Jackson
Band First Sergeant

We farewelled SSG Brianna Williams and she is now the newest Director of Cadet Instrumental Music at the Coast Guard Academy.



SGT Caitlyn Gurgel is an MPT Leader for the Woodwind Quintet, Operations NCO, and SFRG Alternate CFRR. She is also enrolled in a Master's Program for Project Management and volunteers in the Ft. Carson and Colorado Springs communities. She is extremely deserving of the highlighted Soldier for this month.



Hatchet Family!

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“ALWAYS READY”



PAY DAY ACTIVITIES

On the first Friday of every month, DIVARTY completes Pay Day Activities. The day begins at PT, when we complete in an HHB-led PT Competition. In August, we divided our DIVARTY Staff & HHB into seven sections to compete in a lap around Pershing Field. While running a lap around Pershing Field, teams had to complete deadlifts, planks, push-ups, tire flips, kettle bell carries, sled-drags, and leg tucks. After PT, 1SG Woolbright and the Platoon Sergeants inspected the ranks in their dress uniforms. The DIVARTY Staff conducts SHARP and EO training and ensured an early release at 1200.



Pictured above, SGT Cespedes grading CPT Brooks and her team as they deadlift and plank their way through the first station.

Pictured below, SPC Coonrod running with 2 x 45-lb kettle bells at the second station.



Pictured above, SSG Corpuz pulls the 90-lb sled in the fourth station around the field.



Pictured above, SSG Ruby and SFC Scales lead the way running around the track on Pershing field.



Pictured above, CW2 Jordan at the seventh station conducting the 8-count push-up with his teammates.



Pictured above, SGT Thapa finishing the competition at the last station: 10 leg tucks.



Pictured on the left, SPC Brown and SPC Civis lead their team on the sixth station: 75 tire-flips.

TRAINING EVENTS



On the left, our Legal Team participates in Lethal Ivy by continuing garrison legal operations and advising DIVARTY Fires and Counterfire on the Law of Armed Conflict.

DIVARTY executed Lethal Ivy alongside the Division Staff to train new members of our team in their daily operations as the Brigade Headquarters element.

On the right, SSG Bennett demonstrates use of a spectrum analyzer. Below, CPL Vo teaches a Combat Life Saver class to Soldiers during Lethal Ivy.



Above, Chaplain Baranoski checking on Soldiers, SPC Figuracion and SPC Brown, as they conduct training for Lethal Ivy.

PROMOTIONS



CPT Paez is our S8 Finance Officer that works closely with the DIVARTY S4 to ensure proper procedures are conducted when purchasing Army and Office equipment for DIVARTY. We are very proud of the successful career CPT Paez has had thus far and are excited to see what is in store for him as he moves forward.

SGT Mendez is a 91B Wheeled Vehicle Mechanic. SGT Mendez works in the motor pool to ensure DIVARTY's vehicles are mission capable. He provides extensive knowledge and experience to Soldiers in and out of his section daily. SGT Mendez is extremely deserving of this promotion because he always puts the Soldiers first and ensures that they are taken care of.



SGT Civis is a Geo-Spatial Engineer for DIVARTY. He consistently demonstrates exceptional expertise, particularly during product development for DIVARTY operations. His knowledge surpasses his current rank, as proven by his meticulous attention to detail and commitment to excellence in producing operational and briefing materials. SGT Civis leads MA briefs for the DIVARTY Commander and staff, further highlighting his leadership abilities and dedication to the mission.

CPT Meixueiro is a 13A who currently serves as the READY Co Executive Officer. CPT Meixueiro served most of his time at Fort Carson in 2-12FA as their Fire Support Officer while in Syria and as the Target Acquisition Platoon Leader upon return. We wish CPT Meixueiro the best of luck as he moves on to future endeavors at selection in the fall. Thank you for everything you do to ensure 4ID is the most ready Division in the Army.



RETIREMENTS

CPT Rendon is a 13A, Field Artillery Officer, and has been at DIVARTY for a year, serving as the DIVARTY Adjutant and AS3. CPT Rendon spent several years in 2-12FA as a Fire Direction Officer and Land and Ammunition Officer. CPT Rendon will be retiring and moving to Texas. Thank you for everything you did for DIVARTY!



SFC Taylor will be retiring this year after 21 years of service as a 25H, Network Communication Systems Specialist. Following his retirement from the Army, he will be attending trade school to become a certified technician.

DIVARTY is very grateful for your leadership and subject matter expertise you have shared with your Soldiers and Staff!