



# RED WARRIORS

1st Battalion, 12th Infantry Regiment

**A**nother month has passed and the Battalion has certainly had its fair share of ups and downs. The first of the month saw the Red Warriors battling temperatures above 115 as they conducted operations in the Zhari District, near the village of Mushan.

The Battalion was called to go into an area notorious for harboring Taliban fighters and a known location for several bomb-making factories. The Red Warriors partnered with a Canadian Tank unit, further increas-

ing their fire power. The main goal of the mission was to disrupt and destroy Anti-Afghan Forces and Taliban movement in areas where insurgents have had an unopposed safe haven from which to base their operations.

Sadly, this operation cost us the lives of three Red Warriors, (See Memorial, page 3).

The Battalion did destroy several bomb factories and overall achieved their mission intent of disrupting the enemy forces in the Zhari District.

## Can I have some?

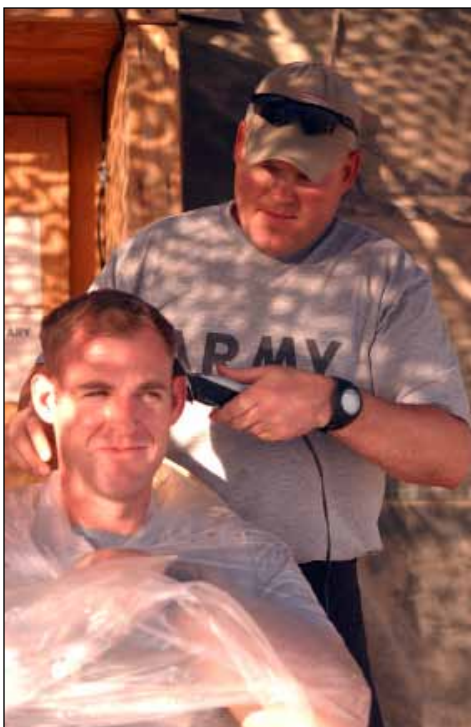


A Soldier from Charlie Company passes out candy to children in a village near Forward Operating Base Ramrod. Shy at first, the Afghan children build up their courage to interact with the Soldiers when they see the candy. By the end of the patrol, children are usually playing and joking with the Soldiers.

# Time to unwind



**T**he Soldiers took advantage of some downtime to unwind from the battalion mission. Directly in front of the chapel is a semi-decent dirt playing field where we organized football, soccer, ultimate frisbee and even a friendly competition with our Canadian brethren in a match of Tug-of-War. We don't like to brag, but we won 2-0. If you ask them, they were just there to have some fun.





## 21-Gun Salute



# Battalion honors fallen heroes

*“They gave their life for their Nation. They gave their lives for their friends. No greater commitment and no greater love can be displayed but that a man lay down his life so that we can enjoy the freedoms with which God has blessed us.”*



The sound of “Amazing Grace” twanged in the air as a lone bagpiper solemnly walked up to the three rifles, helmets and combat boots during a memorial service Aug. 7.

As the music continued playing, hundreds of mourners paid their final respects to the three fallen Soldiers from the 1st Battalion, 12th Infantry Regiment, who were tragically killed by two roadside bombs Aug. 1.

CPL Jonathan M. Walls, 27, from West Lawn, Penn., PFC Richard K. Jones, 21, of Roxboro, N.C., and PVT

Patrick S. Fitzgibbon, 19, of Knoxville, Tenn., were part of a four-day battalion operation in the Kandahar Province, clearing an area of insurgent fighters deep in enemy territory, when they were killed.

“Love of family, selfless and dedicated service, friendship, courage, patience and a passionate desire to improve are all qualities these warriors displayed on a daily basis,” said CPT Duke Reim. “They are the very finest of America’s sons and we will always remember them.”

Soldiers from the 1st Battalion, 12th Infantry Regiment, mourned the loss of PFC Matthew E. Wildes, 18, of Hammond, La., who died August 27 when enemy forces attacked his vehicle with an improvised explosive device. The memorial service was held Aug. 30 at Combat Outpost Terminator.



# Caught in the moment

*Photos of the Battalion throughout the month.*



**You sleep when and where you can. A Soldier grabs a quick nap during Operation Tora Arwa V.**



**Soldiers pose for a quick snap while on patrol. Below, a family enjoys some chai and nan (fresh bread).**



**A Soldier pulls security during a patrol Aug. 19 near FOB Ramrod.**





**Soldiers on patrol. Left, an Afghan girl clings to her father after he poured water on her to cool her off.**

**A**s we prepare for the next month of missions and activities, we cannot help but think of our family and friends back home. Again, it is your continued and unwavering support that encourages us to do the best job we can -- even when times are tough. You are the hope we hold on to when we need it the most. Thank you for all you do back home and for your thoughts and prayers.



Congratulations to the following August promotees:

- 2LT James Folwell**  
promoted to 1LT
- SSG Jared McCormick**  
promoted to SFC
- 1LT Snyder**  
promoted to CPT



### Award time

On August 23, the battalion executive officer, MAJ Brown, visited our Soldiers at Kandahar Air Field and had the privilege to present SSG Kelly, CPL Jennings, and PFC Kim with an Army Achievement Medal for their hard work coordinating all the resupply missions -- ensuring the Red Warriors had all the supplies needed to successfully complete the mission.

We also conducted two award ceremonies during the month: Soldiers from Bravo Company were presented the Combat Infantryman Badge, the Combat Medical Badge, and the Combat Action Badge Aug. 17.

Late in the day on Aug. 25, we presented 28 Soldiers from Alpha, Charlie, and HHC with their badges.



**A humorous mixup on CPT Vann's cake.**

### STORK DELIVERY

Congratulations to the following Soldiers' new addition to their family:

1LT Jordan and Crystal Scott,  
**Meredith Riley Scott,**  
7 pounds, 6 ounces

CPT Austin and Heather Vann  
**Ezra Vann,**  
6 pounds, 9 ounces

### Camera Fun

