DANGERFORWARD

MONTHLY NEWS OF THE

1ST INFANTRY DIVISION







Foreword **Cavalry Parade** Field Hosts Ceremonies



Holds Change of Command Ceremony



1ABCT Welcomes new Commander in Change of **Command Ceremony**



Fort Riley Unveils **New Homes**



Big Red One NČOs **Build Espirit** de Corps







A NCO's Impact On the Big **Red One**







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and Friends.

As we enter the heart of summer, the Fighting First continues to exemplify excellence in service to our great nation. Our Soldiers have been tirelessly dedicated to their mission throughout July, making significant contributions to the communities we serve and advancing the legacy of this storied Division.

This month, our troops have been ac- as we commemorate our history, celetively engaged in supporting recruiting events across the states of Kansas and Missouri, reaching out to potential future leaders of our Army. It's a Sincerely, testament to our commitment to cultivating the next generation of warriors Forward Magazine and leaders. As the Army observes the 50th Anniversary of the All-Volunteer Force, we reflect on our continued dedication to providing an opportunity for individuals to serve their country by choice, driven by a calling to be a part of something bigger than themselves.

As we celebrate Independence Day on July 4th, we recognize the importance of our Army culture and values. Our shared commitment to duty, honor, and country is the backbone of our strength and resilience. We honor our independence while reaffirming our dedication to preserving the freedom and security of our great nation.

EDITOR'S NOTE

Dear Big Red One Soldiers, Families,

Danger Forward is a tribute to the dedication and achievements of the 1st Infantry Division and its Soldiers, and it serves as a testament to the enduring spirit of service and sacrifice. We invite you to join us in honoring the remarkable men and women who are the backbone of this Division and the entire U.S. Army.

Thank you for your continued support, and please enjoy this July 2023 edition brate our values, and embrace the future of the 1st Infantry Division.

Editor-in-Chief of the Danger

DANGER FORWARD



CAVALRY PARADE FIELD HOSTS CEREMONIES

ol. Thomas Hipskind relinquished command of Division Headquarters and Headquarters Battalion, 1st Infantry Division, to Lt. Col. Jeffrey A. Bracco during a ceremony Aug. 4, 2015 at Fort Riley. Hipskind led DHHB during its recent nine-month deployment to Iraq and will go on to serve as the inspector general for the state of Wisconsin. Bracco came to Fort Riley from Fort Bragg, North Carolina, where he served in the Special Forces community.







change of command is a military tradition that represents a transfer of authority and responsibility for a unit or command. The history, tradition, and accomplishments of the command are embodied in the colors. The passing of colors from an outgoing commander to an incoming commander ensures that the unit and its Soldiers are never without official leadership, represents a continuation of trust, and signifies an allegiance of Soldiers to their unit's commander.

Friday, July 28, 2023, Durable Brigade held a Change of Command Ceremony where the outgoing commander, COL Ricardo Jones, relinquished command of the brigade to the incoming commander, COL Charles Montgomery.

CHANGE OF COMMAND CEREMONY



JUNE 297

FORT RILEY, Kansas

oldiers, families and friends of the 1st Infantry Division Artillery, 1st Inf. Div., welcomed a new commander and bid farewell to the outgoing commander during a change of command ceremony at Cavalry Parade Field June 29. 2023.

U.S. Army Col. Richard J. Ikena Jr., the outgoing DIVARTY, 1st Inf. Div. commander, relinguished the "Drumfire" Brigade to U.S. Army Col. Jeffrey W. Pickler.

U.S. Army Maj. Gen. John V. Meyer III, the 1st Inf. Div. and Fort Riley, Commanding General, presided over the event as they transitioned command from Ikena to Pickler.

The official party conducted an inspection of troops where the command team rode around the entire formation on horses provided by the Commanding General's Mounted Color Guard before returning to the center of the field

to conduct the passing of colors. The inspection of troops is an Army tradition where the incoming commander assesses the unit's readiness and fitness.

The passing of the colors is a tradition that dates back to the era of Alexander the Great. During this portion of the ceremony, the color guard, led by Command Sgt. Maj. Michael L. McLaughlin, presented the colors to the official party, where Ikena relinguished command to Meyer. From there, Meyer passed the colors to Pickler, assigning him responsibility for the brigade.

Ikena has served as the DIVARTY commander since June 2021. He is a third-generation Soldier and commissioned into the Field Artillery Branch in 1997 through the University of West Florida R.O.T.C. program.

"Today is truly a great day for the Drumfighters," Ikena said. "This event pro-

vides a great opportunity to continue to share, celebrate, and honor the legacy of team Drumfire."

After his remarks, Ikena ended his the Field Artillery from the United States speech with reciting the "Long Motto Call" as his last order for the unit.

Ikena will transition to Fort Leavenworth, Kansas as the commander of the Mission Command Training Program. Pickler completed his War College Fellowship at the George C. Marshall

"Today is truly a great day for the Drumfighters,"

said COL Richard J. Ikena Jr.



Story by Pfc. Mackenzie Striker and photos by Pfc. Koltyn O'marah



U.S. Army Maj. Gen. John V. Meyer III, the 1st Infantry Division and Fort Riley Commanding General (right), passes the unit colors to Col. Jeffrey W. Pickler, the incoming 1st Inf. Div. Artillery commander (left), during a change of command ceremony at Cavalry Parade Field. The passing of the unit colors is a historic military tradition symbolizing the transfer of leadership from one commander to another.

European Center for Security Studies and later served as the Marshall Center Chief of Staff. He was commissioned in June 2001 as a Second Lieutenant in Military Academy.

"There is no greater honor than to command our nation's sons and daughters." Pickler said, "It is with great humility that I accept this responsibility, and I will definitely do my very best."

(From left to right) U.S. Army Col. Jeffrey W. Pickler, Maj. Gen. John V. Meyer III and Col. Richard J. Ikena Jr. are mounted on horses with the Commanding General's Mounted Color Guard at Cavalry Parade Field. Mever. Pickler. and Ikena performed a ceremonial inspection of the troops.

> U.S. Army Col. Richard J. Ikena Jr., the outgoing 1ID Artillery Commander (left), Maj. Gen. John V. Meyer III, the 1ID and Fort Riley CG (Middle) and Col. Jeffrey W. Pickler, the incoming 1ID Artillery Commander wait to perform the passing of the colors











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U.S. Army Col. Richard J. Ikena Jr., the outgoing 1ID Artillery commander (right), passes the unit colors to Maj. Gen. John V. Meyer III, 1ID and Fort Riley CG (left), during a change of command ceremony at Fort Riley, Kansas, Cavalry Parade Field.

DIVARTY



U.S. Army Maj. Gen. John V. Meyer III, the 1ID and Fort Riley CG (right), passes the unit colors to Col. Jeffrey W. Pickler, the incoming 1ID Artillery commander (left), during a change of command ceremony at Fort Riley, Cavalry Parade Field.

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"This event provides a great opportunity to continue to share, celebrate, and honor the legacy of team Drumfire."

said COL Richard J. Ikena Jr.



U.S. Army Col. Richard J. Ikena Jr. bids farewell to his old team during his change of command ceremony on June 29, 2023, at Fort Riley, Kansas, Cavalry Parade Field. Ikena gave a special thanks to his friends and family for their support in his Army career.

The brigade completed a pass in review after the incoming commander spoke about taking over the unit. The pass in review is a historical tradition that demonstrates the glory and strength of the amassed Soldiers.

After the pass in review, the ceremony concluded with a cavalry charge con-

ducted by the Commanding General's Mounted Color Guard. The cavalry charge is a historic Army tradition that dates back to the United States' earliest cavalry units.

"I look forward to the next few chapters alongside each and every one of you," Pickler said.

"I look forward to the next few chapters alongside each and every one of you,"

said COL Jeffrey W. Pickler

"It is with great humility that I accept this responsibility, and I will definitely do my very best."

said COL Jeffrey W. Pickler

U.S. Army Col. Jeffrey W. Pickler speaks on the future of the Brigade during his assumption of command ceremony. Pickler expressed his gratitude for the excellent guidance he received from Col. Richard J. Ikena Jr. prior to taking command.

1ABCT Story by Spc. Daniela Lechuga Photos by Pvt. Autumn Johnson & Spc. Kenneth Barnet WELCOMES NEW COM-



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U.S. Soldiers from 1st Infantry Division Artillery, 1st Inf. Div. fire "Old Thunder" during the 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, Change of Command ceremony at Cavalry Parade Field on Fort Riley, Kansas. The custom of firing a cannon symbolizes trust and respect and marks special military occasions.

FORT RILEY, KS

he 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, conducted a change of command ceremony at the Cavalry Parade Field on Fort Riley, Kansas, July 10, 2023.

U.S. Army Maj. Gen. John V. Meyer III, and Command Sgt. Maj. Christopher L. Mullinax, command team of the 1st. Inf. Div. and Fort Riley, presided over the event as "Devil Brigade" transitioned command from Col. Brian E. McCarthy to Col. Ian J. Lauer.

The official party, consisting of Meyer, McCarthy and Lauer, performed an inspection of troops prior to the passing of colors, a tradition that dates back to Alexander the Great. The color guard ceremoniously presented the colors to the official party, signifying McCarthy giving command of the brigade to Lauer.

McCarthy commissioned through Officer Candidate School in 1998 as an Armor officer, and has served in the 18th Airborne Corps, 2nd, 3rd, 4th Inf. Div., and the 1st Cavalry Div. among other units. McCarthy is a graduate of the Armor Officer Basic and Infantry Captains Career Courses and was a Command and General Staff College Art of War Scholar. He is also a graduate of the School of Advanced Military Studies and the Army War College's Carlisle Scholars Program. He has served in Europe, Asia, and the Middle East, including three deployments in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and another for Operation Inherent Resolve. His awards include the Purple Heart, the Bronze Star Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal and the

Humanitarian Service Medal. He served as the 1st ABCT commander since June 2021.

"Waking up this morning, I thought back to the first time I held those colors, 25 months ago, and I cannot believe how quickly the time has gone by," McCarthy said. "I'm amazed by all these Soldiers and what this armored combat brigade has done and continues to do for our nation. I've always been confident in the Devil Brigade Combat Team's ability to meet every challenge."

During his speech, McCarthy mentioned that one of his former commanders often told him that there is nothing more important than a Soldier.



"Each of you joined to do better, to be better," McCarthy said. "You joined something larger than yourself. It's your Army that gave this world this great nation. Without the 1st Infantry Division, without America's first brigade, the United States that our founding fathers envisioned does not exist. There is nothing more important than a Soldier and it's been my honor to stand within your ranks."

Following his closing remarks, McCarthy recited the "Long Motto Call", the Division's motto, as his last order for the unit after which Lauer thanked his predecessor and formally introduced himself to the unit.

U.S. Soldiers with the 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, stand at attention during the 1 ABCT, 1st Inf. Div., change of command ceremony at Fort Riley, Cavalry Parade Field. Units of the 1st Inf. Div. The 1st ABCT showed

inspection of the troops.



1ABCT DAGG

Col. Brian E. McCarthy bids farewell to his old team during his change of command ceremony at Fort Riley, Cavalry Parade Field. McCarthy gave a special thanks to his friends and family for their support in his Army career.

Col. Ian J. Lauer speaks on the future of the Brigade during his assumption of command ceremony on Cavalry Parade Field. Lauer expressed his gratitude

for the excellent guidance he received from Col. Brian E. McCarthy prior to taking command.



(From left to right) Col. Brian E. McCarthy, (middle) Maj. Gen. John V. Meyer III, and (right) Col. Ian J. Lauer, are mounted on horses with the commanding general's mounted color guard, July 10, 2023, at Fort Riley, Kansas, Cavalry Parade Field. McCarthy, Meyer, and Lauer performed a ceremonial



Col. Brian E. McCarthy (right) passes the unit colors to Maj. Gen. John V. Meyer III (left) during a change of command ceremony at Cavalry Parade Field. The passing of the unit colors is a historic military tradition symbolizing the transfer of leadership from one commander to another.

"To the Soldiers of America's first brigade, your professionalism is on full display here today,"

said CSM Toriano G. Lauer

Lauer received his commission through the University of Minnesota in 1999. He has graduated from Armor Captain's Career Course, and the Joint Command and General Staff College at the Baltic Defense College in Tart, Estonia. He is a 2022 graduate of the United States Army War College with a master's degree in Strategic Studies. His last assignment was as the Assistant Chief of Staff, operations and training officer, for the NATO Rapid Deployable Corps - Turkey in Istanbul, Turkey. Lauer has had three deployments in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and one deployment in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

"To the Soldiers of America's first brigade, your professionalism is on full display here today," Lauer said. "You honor the U.S. Army, the 1st Inf. Div. and the Devil Brigade by upholding the time honored traditions of this ceremony. Our war fighting purpose is clear and we will continue to execute the routine things well, while building the most capable and lethal combined arms team possible."

Following Lauer's remarks, the brigade performed a "Pass in Review", the most traditional part of the ceremony which demonstrates the glory and strength of the assembled troops.

To conclude the ceremony, the Commanding General's Mounted Color Guard rushed across the field to perform a cavalry charge, the finest tradition of the cavalry. The ceremonial charge is reminiscent of the historic Army tradition in which mounted combatants advanced towards their enemy in an attempt to engage in close combat.

"Let fortune yield to experience and steal your resolve in declaring a séance," Lauer said. "Let us try sustaining victory throughout, because this we'll defend. Duty First. America's First. Devils."



D UNVEILS HOMES

JULY 1211

FORT RILEY, Kansas

ifty-two new single-family homes were unveiled as part of an initiative by the 1st Infantry Division in partnership with Corvias Property Management in the Warner Peterson Neighborhood on Fort Riley, Kansas, July 11, 2023.

Prior to unveiling the homes with a ceremonial ribbon cutting, remarks were made by Command Sqt. Maj. Christopher L. Mullinax, command sergeant major of the 1st Inf. Div. and Fort Riley, and Pete Sims, the Department of Defense Managing Director at Corvias, in support of the Army's resiliency goals and to improve the installation's desirability for Soldiers while stimulating the local community.

"Of all the places I've lived, and I'm not just saying that because I'm the division sergeant major, I couldn't have had a better experience being here

with the Fort Riley team and living on this installation," said Mullinax. "The reason that all works is because we have this great partnership with Corvias." Since the partnerships began in 2006, Corvias has invested about \$600 million in improvements, which includes the development of 2,169 homes on Fort Riley. According to Sims, this is believed to have an economic impact of approximately \$1.4 billion.

"As a trusted Army partner we not only focus on the homes and families but we also try to help our military partners with their goals and objectives," said Sims. "One of these is renewable energy."

On Fort Riley, Corvias has developed around 12.3 megawatts of energy derived from systems capable of harnessing solar power. A new phase looking to add an additional 4.35 MW has been approved to begin in the near future.



Pete Sims, the Department of Defense Managing Director at Corvias Property Management, speaks in front of a newly renovated home in the Warner Peterson Neighborhood. Corvias, in partnership with Fort Riley and the 1st Infantry Division unveiled 52 single-family homes in support of the Army's resiliency goals and to improve the installation's desirability for Soldiers while stimulating the local community.

A group of newly renovated homes stands in the Warner Peterson Neighborhood on Fort Riley



Spc. Charles Leitner



Command Sgt. Maj. Christopher L. Mullinax, command sergeant major of the 1st Infantry Division and Fort Riley, speaks in front of a newly renovated home. Corvias, in partnership with Fort Riley and 1ID, unveiled 52 single-family homes in support of the Army's resiliency goals and to improve the installation's desirability for Soldiers while stimulating the local community.

"Corvias has created an environment where our Soldiers and their families can be successful,"

said CSM Christopher L. Mullinax



1st Infantry Division leadership and representatives of Corvias Property Management cut a ribbon in front of a newly renovated home in the Warner Peterson Neighborhood.



Bree Toles, a resident manager with Corvias Property Management, stands in the doorway of a newly renovated home in the Warner Peterson Neighborhood.

"This is a real great benefit to our housing community because it fixes our costs in the long term and then it helps the Army with their resilience and renewable energy objectives," said Sims.

As part of The Army Climate Strategy, the service hopes to deploy a gigawatt of renewable energy projects by 2025, enough to supply 250,000 homes. This objective includes building micro-grids on every installation across the United States by 2035. By 2030 this strategy hopes to achieve a 50% reduction in net greenhouse gas pollution on Army installations with the ultimate goal of achieving net-zero emissions by 2050.

"Corvias has created an environment where our Soldiers and their families

"Being here with the Big Red One and being a Soldier living on the installation, they've made sure I've been taken care of."

said CSM Christopher L. Mullinax



Lynn Hammond, Residential Communities Initiative Division Chief of Fort Riley Directorate of Public Works, feeds carrots to horses of the 1st Infantry Division's Command General's Mounted Color Guard, in front of a newly renovated home in the Warner Peterson Neighborhood.

can be successful," said Mullinax. "We have an elite group of civilians that work tirelessly behind the scenes in all sorts of different jobs. Being here with the Big Red One and being a Soldier living on the installation, they've made sure I've been taken care of."

FORT RILEY, Kansas

he 1st Infantry Division and Fort Riley hosted a "Big Red One Year of the Noncommissioned Officer" team-building event at Camp Forsyth Soccer Complex on Fort Riley, Kansas, July 20, 2023.

JULY 231

Soldiers of the 1st Infantry Division play "Duraball" at the Camp Forsyth Soccer Complex on Fort Riley, Kansas. The 1st Inf. Div. hosted the Duraball tournament as a team building event to promote esprit de corps amongst noncommissioned officers.



Story by Spc. Steven Johnson Photos by Spc. Steven Johnson & Spc. Dawson Smith

The event started with three different games of "Duraball," a unique team-building experience in which ultimate football, soccer and rugby are played simultaneously on one field.



Sergeants major played against corporals, first sergeants played against sergeants and sergeant first class' played against staff sergeants, bridging the gap between the ranks.

"We are out here doing a team building event," said Sgt. Maj. R. Terry Woods Jr., the operations sergeant major for 1st Combat Aviation Brigade, 1st Infantry Division. "We brought the NCOs together to strengthen the bonds between our NCOs."

This event brought the NCOs together to reinforce the connections that were already there and to create new ones. Big Red One NCOs are stronger together.

"It is important for us to come together like this to get that face-to-face interaction that you don't get on a day-to-day basis," said Staff Sgt. Evan Ruchotzke, a mass communications specialist assigned to the 19th Public Affairs Detachment, 1st Inf. Div., who played on the staff sergeants' team.

The final match was a fierce game between the sergeants major and the sergeants first class. Although the sergeants first class played a good game, the sergeants major prevailed, claiming the championship title with an 18-16 victory over the younger NCOs.

Leaders need to pass on the history of their organization, maintain mission readiness and develop unit cohesion in order to accomplish a mission, according to the NCO guide. Upholding traditions ensures the Army's culture becomes indispensable to every member of the Army team. This event allowed the 1st Infantry Division's NCOs the opportunity to engage, reflect upon, and share their experience while participating in healthy competition.

"I look forward to continuing to build that cohesion throughout our corps of NCOs," said Sgt. 1st Class Reginald Lawson, a motor transport operator assigned to the 541st Division Sustainment Support Battalion, 1st Infantry Division Sustainment Brigade, 1st Infantry Division. "I can't wait to do more events like this."

"I can't wait to do more events like this."

said SFC Reginald Lawson



Soldiers of the 1st Infantry Division play "Duraball" at the Camp Forsyth Soccer Complex. The 1st Inf. Div. hosted the Duraball tournament as a team building event to promote esprit de corps amongst noncommissioned officers.



U.S. Army Master Sgt. Hal Herring, the support operations noncommissioned officer in charge for the 1st Infantry Division Sustainment Brigade, 1st Infantry Division, examines the "Duraball" team brackets. Herring was the head referee for the Duraball tournament.





Sergeants major of the 1st Infantry Division pose for a photo at the Camp Forsyth Soccer Complex. The sergeants major emerged victorious to secure the title of Duraball champions.

Sgt. 1st Class Reginald Lawson, a motor transport operator assigned to the 541st Division Sustainment Support Battalion, 1st Infantry Division Sustainment Brigade, 1st Inf. Div., cheers his team.



11D SUST-AINMENT

LULY 231

FORT RILEY, Kansas

.S. Army Maj. Gen. John V. Meyer III, Commanding General of the 1st. Inf. Div. and Fort Riley, presided over the event as "Durable Brigade" transitioned command from Col. Ricardo D. Jones to Col. Charles "24 months ago, I stood in front of L. Montgomery.

The official party, consisting of Meyer, Jones and Montgomery, performed an inspection of troops prior to the passing of colors, a tradition that dates back to Alexander the Great. The color guard ceremoniously pre- Inf. Div." sented the colors to the official party, signifying Jones giving command of the brigade to Montgomery.

Jones' military education and schools include the Army War College, where he earned a Master's of Strategic Studies, U.S. Army Command and

General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, Captains Career Course and the Quartermaster Officer Basic Course.

this formation and I vowed to provide the soldiers with three things: purpose, direction and motivation," Jones said. "Together we have a very fit, inspired, trained and invested organization ready to fight, win and provide sustainment support to the 1st

During his speech, Jones mentioned that he believes that he worked alongside the most mentally and physically fit Soldiers who were some of the most inspired and well trained in the 1st Inf. Div.



ANGER FORVYARD



Story by Pfc. Koltyn O'marah Photos by Spc. Steven Johnson & Pfc. Jordan Dymally

"...I vowed to provide the sol-diers with three things: purpose, direction and motivation," said COL Ricardo D. Jones

SUSTAIN-MENT

DURABLE



Col. Ricardo D. Jones speaks during his change of command ceremony at Cavalry Parade Field, where he relinquished command of the Durable Brigade.



1 ID Sustainment Brigad

28 JULY 2023



Col. Charles L. Montgomery, incoming commander of Sustainment Brigade, speaks during his assumption of command ceremony.

"I challenge you to bloom where you are planted,"

said COL Ricardo D. Jones

Following his closing remarks, Jones recited the "Long Motto Call", the Division's motto, as his last order for the unit, after which Montgomery thanked his predecessor and formally introduced himself to the unit.

a second lieutenant in the United States Army Logistics Corps on May 11, 2001, through the University of Southern Mississippi's ROTC Golden Eagle Battalion.

"To the sustainers, every soldier has said Montgomery. a paragraph and line number and I am no different," Jones said "I challenge you to bloom where you are

planted, you are a valuable asset to this division and the value you create will increase division readiness every day."

Following Montgomery's remarks, the brigade performed a "Pass in Review", the most traditional part of the Montgomery was commissioned as ceremony which demonstrates the glory and strength of the assembled troops.

> "Sustain to victory, Danger Six this is Durable Six signing on through the Big Red One net, no mission to difficult, no sacrifice to great. Duty first,"

"..., Danger Six this is **Durable Six** signing on through the Big Red One net, ..." said COL Charles L. Montgomery



The wife of the outgoing commander of the 1st Division Sustainment Bde, is being presented red roses. The roses are in full bloom which symbolizes our love and respect for her devotion and loyal support for the last 2 years.

The wife of the incoming commander of the 1st Division Sustainment Bde, is being presented vellow roses. Yellow is the color of iov and friendship and symbolizes the relationship between the squadrons soldiers and the family readiness group. Shortly, the rose buds will blossom as will their relationship with the soldiers and their families as they grow into a cohesive team.



As a gesture of appreciation, Mrs. Chenora Montgomery and children are presenting a basket of carrots to the fine horses of the commanding general's mounted color guard on behalf of all the spouses.



Story and photos by Spc. Dawson Smith

U.S. Army 1st Sgt. Jason M. Wright, of Victory Reception Company, poses for a photo. Wright told of how he became the SAMC President, Ft. Riley Chapter.

WRIGHT-

NGER FORM

A NCO's **IMPACT BIG RED** JOIN SIgi



FORT RILEY, Kansas

t was the most anxiety-filled, stress-induced board I have ever gone to," said U.S. Army 1st Sgt. Jason M. Wright, the 1st Sqt. of 1st Infantry Division and Fort Riley's Reception Company. "It was the best thing to to get the practice. have ever happened to my career."

When he was a newly-promoted Staff Sgt., Wright was informed that he could run for Sergeant Audie Murphy Club membership. At the time, his master sgt. took him to an induction ceremony where he saw the medallion the noncommissioned officers wore as a result of their accomplishments. Wright felt instinctively called to be a part of this club.

"I stopped checking my phone, I stopped playing video games, I stopped watching T.V., and I worked put my life on neutral and pause."

Wright prepared for the board by prac-

ticing basic tasks and battle drills such as physical training, writing skills and written tests. Some warrior tasks, like throwing a grenade, needed to be polished up, but Wright said he was happy

"I usually don't feel this unprepared to go to a board," Wright said. "How can I tell my Soldiers what to do when I am out of practice?"

was not asked questions regarding specific regulations. Instead, the members of the board challenged him regarding hypothetical situations.

Wright passed the board, despite the intellectually challenging questions.

"They're not asking 'what is AR 670-1," out only once a day, " said Wright. "I said Wright. "They're asking what Sergeant Wright would do if this, that and the third happened... and that's realistic. Everything is not so clear cut."

After his selection by the rigorous board. Wright met with the president and the vice president of the SAMC to have a conversation about becoming the SAMC President, Ft. Riley Chapter.

As the SAMC President, Ft, Rilev Chapter. Wright wanted to showcase what the Sergeant Audie Murphy Club membership was about. He also said that he wanted other junior Soldiers to join and expand the club, helping oth-In a surprising twist, however, Wright er leaders become better leaders, He said that it means a lot to him to be the face of the organization, which translates well while he serves as the first sergeant of Victory Reception Company.

> Wright encourages Soldiers new to Fort Riley to ask for help, and he uses his position as a leader to make the first impact on Soldiers, and also recruit NCOs into SAMC.

"...and thats realistic. **Everything** is not so clear cut."

said 1SG Jason M. Wright











1ST Infantry Division

FORT