



RED HORSE Times



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Newsletter for
1 ERHG
Members and Their
Families

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- The Pit Crew 2
- Bubba's Final Burst 2
- Saftey 2
- Picture Page 3
- Monster Mash II 4
- Chief's View 5
- Commander's Corner 5



RED HORSE DOES BAGRAM

By Capt Stacy Nimmo

As you cruise down Disney Drive (usually behind a "Jingle Truck") new facilities, roads and infrastructure is popping up everywhere. The crazy weather, short construction season and abundant challenges at Bagram created the perfect recipe for us to shine. The crew arrived in May, and it was a blessing to see their smiling faces. Road weary, but chomping at the bit to start.



In true HORSEmen spirit they dove right in on several projects. The dirt boys flooded Steel Beach and devised a plan to remove 16,000 Russian steel planks, replaced with 25,195 square meters of concrete before the start of winter. Their amazing plan and execution has been lauded at all levels from Maj Gen Rodriguez (Army) and Brig. Gen. Hyatt (455 AEW/CC) to the pilots and crews that fly the Chinooks and park on the new ramp. The guys are truly giving the HORSE a great name. Our paving team also placed \$3.3M of asphalt, creating foreign object debris cover and smooth driving surfaces on severely dilapidated roads.

The vertical guys jumped on the Aircraft Maintenance Unit facility. They constructed over 3,800 square feet of office space, installed two 17.5 ton HVAC units, over 670



linear feet of duct work and a 12' X 14' roll-up door. Without missing a beat they moved to the Consolidated Air Movement Facility and erected a 7,560 square foot PEB with mezzanine. At every turn the project managers and craft leads worked with end-users to ensure their needs are met...as a result, leadership is ecstatic with their new facilities and cannot say enough about RED HORSE!



Our vehicle maintainers were left with quite a challenge—half our blue fleet had lapsed on maintenance, 71 pieces of leased equipment had to be repaired and turned in under an extremely short deadline and their shop needed some serious love. Four weeks later, the vehicles were turned in...the government saved over \$500K...the blue fleet and the shop looks phenomenal.

Halfway through our deployment CENTAF changed things up a bit and we added extra folks to help

out. Tasked with drilling wells at Army FOBs the team has done an outstanding job setting the 819th up for success despite delays getting the drill rig in country. We were also charged with constructing B1 Aircraft Revetments to support an F-15E Strike Eagle plus-up. Despite delays the team will finish with a bang and ensure the F-15Es fly their CAS missions.



While our craftsmen made Bagram a better place, SrA Cordero and SSgt Cavin supported us by all means possible, running water, ice and Gatorade to projects, setting-up Texas Hold 'em tournaments, and organizing events and BBQs. The services team was quite literally "at our service". They turned in laundry bi-weekly and ensured we had plenty of options to unwind at day's end. Above and beyond their job, they always lent a hand on projects...escorting trucks, putting up revetments, or playing in concrete.

As I look back on the big projects and little "favor" jobs, we truly made Bagram Airfield a better place, contributing to the war-fighters in a significant way. I couldn't be prouder and salute the team for their accomplishments and sacrifices. They truly embody the RED HORSE spirit of "Can Do, Will Do, Have Done!"

The Al Udeid Pit Crew *By Capt Steven J. Thomas*



Capt T offers a big HUG of THANKS for his Pit Crew.

It's like watching a NASCAR pit crew; a group of individuals, each working ferociously to complete their respective task that, when performed correctly & efficiently, enable the driver to rapidly get the car back in the race, setting the whole team up for success. Of course, the race can't be won without a remarkably talented driver, but that driver has no chance without a committed, competent pit crew.

The support team at Al Udeid has proven to be nothing short of phenomenal! Like a pit crew, they often remained outside the spotlight, but have most surely been a cornerstone to the tremendous successes achieved by all 1 ERHG.

From buying, tracking, & receiving \$5 million worth of construction material to maintaining & managing 465 vehicles at 12 sites to palletizing & shipping 2000 tons up range,

the troops at Al Udeid have exemplified AF Airmen. Integrity, Excellence, & Service have been at the forefront of their performance, and will continue to shine through as Logistics Plans & Services lead the way for over 1000 RED HORSE to rotate through here in the following weeks.

As their site commander, it has been an immense honor to work with such fine people & I'd like to say Thank YOU!



All I can say is, luckily

Bubba's fingers

weren't loaded.

Bubba's Final Burst *By MSgt Roylyn "Bubba" Monroe*

As I sat in my office this morning, pondering what great words of wisdom I could conjure up for my last article, I got to thinking about all this great team of professionals has accomplished since beginning this journey back in March.

It's been an interesting ride to say the least—from the ADVON playing in the snow at Ft. McCoy to the unbearable heat at the 'Deid, each site continually strove to do their best to get the

job done—and I must say, "MISSION ACCOMPLISHED!"

On the site visits I've made throughout our time here, there's been one theme I've tried to share with most of you: be true ambassadors of RED HORSE, set the standard high because you are auditioning our skills for the rest to see. I must say that there's no doubt in my mind, each of you has truly accomplished that.

We've had our ups and downs, be it materials or equipment, pro-

fessional differences, and even some personal tragedy along the way; one thing for certain—you've kept your head held high, never faltered and always pressed forward.

It's been my honor to be the First Sergeant for the 1st ERHG and I sincerely thank you for making me so proud to wear the red hat—our RED HORSE badge of honor. God bless us, our families, our country and God's speed on our journey home.

HOMEWARD BOUND.....Safely *By TSgt Bill Kosier*

My fellow Horseman, we all know that it has been a long deployment and we're all looking forward to going home to be with our loved ones. Being away for almost seven months can make you anxious, but we're not quite there yet! Just a reminder for everyone, we are only allowed to have three alcoholic beverages per day at the Deid. We haven't had any issues since our arrival, so let's keep our record clean.

Keep an eye on our brethren when they rotate back from the FOBs! Let's all get home safe! Here are some Safety reminders that should be passed on to our HORSEmen rotating out:

- 1) when outside of Coalition Compound between sunset and sunrise the use of reflective belts is mandatory! The only exception is Personnel wearing AF PT Gear.
- 2) The use of headphones while walking, jogging or rollerblad-

ing on roadways is not authorized!

- 3) Watch out for bus stops! AUAB policy is to stop and pick up anyone waiting at designated Bus Stops if you have room in your vehicle! Don't forget to stop when buses are at designated Bus Stops with yellow flashers on. So, let's finish up our last month smoothly and safely! In closing I would like to say that it has been an honor to serve with you all!!



Wildman, Fire Marshal Bill (Kosier) finishes his 1.5 mile run. Next stop, water. BE SAFE!!!!!!!!!!

RED HORSE PICTURE PAGE



(Above) CMSgt Darden receives Balad shuffleboard training from TSgt Mettlin.



(Left) "It's cool guys...I got this. Seriously, why do we have the fork-lift???"- SrA Melissa Cordero



(Above) Peek-a-boo!!!!!! SSgt Brandon Bozarth thinks he has a great hiding spot—little does he know we can see through the stairs!



(Above) SrA Michelle Rogers sands away at Sather Air Base, Iraq. Trying very hard (unsuccessfully) not to get any on her .



(Left) Only after getting the man lift into the perfect position does Sgt Benjamin Knell realize that he's afraid of heights.



(Above) Before Seniorman could find a phone booth, he, Lt Wiesner, MSgt Villela and SSgt Cruz were presented with a certificate for completing the Aircraft Maintenance Unit project.

(Below) "I know I don't pray to you very often... but if you are up there and can hear me...save me Seniorman!!!!!" ~ TSgt Tim Beecy



(Left) SSgt Weylin Williams and SSgt Stevie Coscolluela prepare bay light conductors for a K-Span in Balad.

(Below) TSgt Harold Young shows off his "smooth operator" skillz at the Steel Beach. Bagram Air Base will never be the same. Phew!!!!



(Left) SSgt Perez taking a break from trying to figure out the electrical panel. "I just don't know, it all looks like spaghetti and Ramen noodles to me."



(Above) SrA Sisneros puts the finishing touch on an electric panel.



(Above) When I grow up, I want to be this tall.

(Right) See, I told you I could jump up and touch the ceiling. Of course I never said anything about jumping off scaffolding.



(Above) Sometimes even clean-up can be fun.



(Above and Right) The Balad team continues to set construction records.



Final Editor's Note: MSgt Kevin Salzman

I hope you've enjoyed reading the RED HORSE Times as much as I've enjoyed preparing it for you. Six months ago I didn't know what to expect when I showed up at Ft McCoy. We had meetings about what projects we were working on and how it all tied into the big picture. Either way, I didn't have a clue as to what a "Dirt Boy" was, what a K-Span looked like or even how to describe a PEB. Since our arrival, I've learned many things about RED HORSE and the capabilities we bring to the fight. But as I look back, one thing came to my mind, the expectations RED HORSE seemed overwhelming--but that's what being a "HORSEman" is all about; accomplishing the impossible. As I return to my family and Italy, I will always remember my time as a HORSEman.

1st ERHG August Award Winners

Al Udeid:

Hardcharger Amn: SrA Andrew Starbuck
 Hardcharger NCO: SSgt Jedidiah Waters
 Airman of the Month: SrA Andrew Starbuck
 NCO of the Month: TSgt Daniel Bird
 SNCO of the Month: MSgt Jon Hopp

Balad:

Airman of the Month: SrA Kenneth Urey
 NCO of the Month: SrA Javier Romero

Bagram:

Airman of the Month: SrA Douglas Chester
 NCO of the Month: SSgt Scott Cruz

BIAP:

Airman of the Month: SrA Jose Cortez
 NCO of the Month: SSgt Michael Holmes

Congratulations to all award winners!

1st ERHG September Award Winners

Al Udeid:

Hardcharger NCO: SSgt Kenneth Harris
 NCO of the Month: SSgt Frederick Holden
 SNCO of the Month: MSgt Kevin Salzman

Balad:

Airman of the Month: SrA Ken Urey
 NCO of the Month: SSgt Javier Romero

Bagram:

Airman of the Month: SrA Eric Delong
 NCO of the Month: SSgt Brandon Bozarth

BIAP:

Airman of the Month: SrA Michelle Rogers
 NCO of the Month: SSgt Adam Winter

1st ERHG Quarterly Awards Winners

Airman of the Quarter: SrA Jose Cortez
 NCO of the Quarter: SSgt Derek Erickson
 SNCO of the Quarter: MSgt Adonis Padua

1st ERHG October Birthdays

MSgt Roylyn "Bubba" Monroe:	2 Oct	TSgt Jeffery Ray:	2 Oct	TSgt Phillip Hayes:	19 Oct
SSgt Kenneth Harris:	11 Oct	CMSgt Thaddus Montgomery:	19 Oct	SSgt Quincy Lewis:	16 Oct
TSgt William Kosier:	30 Oct	SSgt William Mello:	18 Oct	SrA Danny Watson:	31 Oct

Al Udeid Monster Mash: We came, we saw, we won again!!!

By: MSgt Kevin Salzman

Only three other brave teams dared to show up for the Al Udeid Monster Mash to vie for the title against two teams from RED HORSE. These valiant individuals put forth a great effort just to get defeated by... you guessed it RED HORSE.

Upon arrival, we again pondered what was in store for us on this hot and humid October day. The memories of our first victory quickly faded as we realized the competition was within us. Did we have the physical and mental toughness to compete in another grueling series of events? Could we, RED HORSE, bring it all together and show Al Udeid that we are the best and come in First and Second place? Well, one out of two ain't bad!

Our first task was another memorization exercise. We memorized as many words and phrases as possible, then ran to the pool to form a human chain and walk four laps without breaking the chain. Our next task was at the track where we were required to carry one member of the team twice around the track. Luckily, each team had their light-weights (SSgt Waters and SSgt Borsil) and chose the piggy-back ride as the best method to make up a lot of time.

Upon completion of our two laps, we

ran to the gym for a mind numbing, masochistic Sudoku puzzle. Team 1 blew right through it while Team 2 struggled their way out of contention. The next task was Ranger Style push-ups that both teams completed quickly to the amazement of all spectators.

As usual, we sprinted out of the gym to our next task, a 300 pound tire flip for 100 yards. Chief Darden, from Team 1, attempted to complete this task all by himself, but finally decided it was best to work as a team. After the tire flip, we all sprinted back to Memorial Plaza to await our fate.

As the results came in, we almost met our goal of a first and second place finish. Doing our math correctly, we realized it was first and last place. When RED HORSE works together, there isn't anything we can't accomplish. Never ones to leave a job undone, we led while making sure the other teams followed, got out of the way and brought up the rear to make sure no one was left behind.

The family came out and cheered us on again and made it worth the physical anguish the teammates suffered. RED HORSE made history by winning the

second straight "Monster Mash". We retained the bragging rights to the championship belt and will add another emblem to prove our superiority. We strove for and achieved excellence in the second Monster Mash, proof of our physical and mental toughness. The first team led by Chief Darden, consisted of SSgts Harris, White, Waters and SrA Watson finished with a time of 38:27. The second team, led by Capt Thomas consisted of Lt Russell, MSgt Salzman, TSgt Bird and SSgt Borsil finished with a time of 47:14; proof that Sudoku really stinks!



Chief's View

By: CMSgt Mark Darden



Almost seven months ago we left our families and friends behind to embark on another deployment to South West Asia, continuing the legacy of RED HORSE to provide vital heavy construction capability.

Most of us showed up fired-up and ready to get it on, while others may have been a little unsure as this may have been their first deployment. One common bond we all shared was the desire to serve our unit and country to the very best of our ability. Some Airmen headed off to Iraq and Afghanistan while others made their way to Kuwait.

Each location had its own set of challenges just waiting to be overcome. These challenges consisted of less than stellar craftsmanship, material shortages, strained base agency relationships and customers who were skeptical of our capabilities. The commander and I visited each location early on, assessing the projects and met with key leadership to set goals and reassure them of our unit's commitment to provide quality construction.

We told customers they wouldn't wit-

ness a better trained harder working group of Airmen than the RED HORSE forces deployed to their base. During the deployment the commander and I continued to visit each site and saw the amazing transformation and progress of facility construction, Airfield paving and placement of asphalt for vital roads. With each visit the customers expressed their appreciation and shared stories of your resolve and determination to complete their projects. Despite manpower, material shortages and bothersome mortar attacks; in RED HORSE fashion you got it done! They are now ardent RED HORSE fans!

You all really made my job easy. I'm honored to be your Chief and truly proud of each of you for embodying the RED HORSE spirit of tenacity, superior work ethic and ingenuity. Your unwavering commitment to excellence led the 1ERHG to unprecedented success.

Even though we only have days instead of months left, please continue to focus on safety. Most severe injuries and accidents normally happen within the last 30 days of a

deployment; don't be a statistic. Watch over your comrades and be a good battle-buddy to the very end. In the next few weeks excitement of our return will continue to grow. I'm quite sure your family members and friends have asked the proverbial question "when are you coming home?" Some may have asked your exact location. Please remember Operations Security (OPSEC). Although the answers to these questions may not be classified, when put together, the information could reveal sensitive details of military operations that could endanger mission effectiveness or lives. Don't divulge your location, dates leaving or returning from the deployment. This information will be passed on to your family members through secure channels.

To all the families/friends; your steadfast support was truly the hinge-pin to our ability to operate at such an intense level. Your continuous supply of packages and encouraging letters fueled the morale and welfare of the Airmen. Words can't express my gratitude or the gravity of your generosity. I sincerely thank you for your patriotism ~ God bless you.

Commander's Corner

By: Lt Col Michael Kozak

Seven months ago we departed home with the "Can Do" attitude that RED HORSE is famous for. Our families and loved ones back home also began their seventh month odyssey when we departed, dealing with monthly bills, illnesses, car repairs, discipline, separation, and so many other issues that our peers in the civilian world will never comprehend. Your commitment to your country and a cause larger than yourself is an honor that you will have for the rest of your lives, you are the next greatest generation in American history!

Six months ago we departed Combat Skills Training at Ft McCoy WI with the "Will Do" attitude that would sustain us through the grueling summer months, construction challenges, design flaws, air travel within the AOR, material shortages, and of course separation from our families and loved ones. The tasks before you were often daunting, but all of

you, Horsemen and families overcame adversity and together have made an indelible place for yourselves in the lives of tens of thousands of war fighters throughout the AOR.

Six months later we are ready to depart the AOR for home knowing that together we "Have Done" more construction with only 150 Horsemen in a six month span than any other RED HORSE unit in recent memory! Thirty six construction and design projects in five countries (Qatar, Kuwait, Afghanistan, Iraq, and Oman) valued at 49 million dollars in support of Operations IRAQI and ENDURING FREEDOM! To put this into perspective, a 404 person RED HORSE squadron in the states normally does about 8 million dollars construction in a year, you did six times that amount in half the time!

Expeditionary Munitions Storage at Al Jaber AB Kuwait (CENTAF #1 project);

Expeditionary Munitions Storage design at Thumrait AB Oman (CENTAF #2 project, saved 3 million dollars); Steel Beach (270K sf of aircraft parking six months early) and the other outstanding projects highlighted in our feature article at Bagram Airfield Afghanistan; five K-Spans for ECES and EOD, asphalt roads, and concrete work at Sather AB Iraq; eight K-Spans for ELRS to support 1,200 vehicles at Balad AB Iraq; and an Armory expansion, 2000 tons of materials and 55 vehicles shipped up-range, and over 2,200 pax moved to support RED HORSE in the AOR at Al Udeid AB Qatar.

The opportunity to lead such an amazing group of men and women in a combat zone is every commanders dream. I wish they could all be as lucky as I have been to lead you. Your dedication, hard work, and pursuit of excellence is a tribute to you, your families, and the RED HORSE community. You have made a difference!

