



Vol. I, Issue 3

THE RESPONDER

Telling the Joint Task Force-Haiti story

a call to duty
February 20, 2010

Servicemembers distribute clean, fresh water in Haiti



Spc. Latu Halafihi, a water purification specialist with the 82nd Water Det., 16th Quartermaster Co., 530th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, 49th Group, provides local citizens with fresh water here Feb. 17. The 82nd Water Det. provides its neighborhood with clean drinking water twice daily. (U.S. Army photo by Spc. A.M. LaVey / XVIII Airborne Corps)

By Spc. A. M. LaVey
XVIII Airborne Corps

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti – The Soldiers of the 82nd Water Detachment, 16th Quartermaster Company, 530th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, 49th Group, have been purifying and distributing clean water here since they arrived last month.

“Our mission is to make and distribute potable water, not only to our servicemembers but also to the people of Haiti,” said Staff Sgt. Steven Latham, detachment noncommissioned officer-in-charge.

“We acquired a water source from the locals who run the well and the pump for us,” Latham said. “We are bringing up their water, making it clean and then distributing it.”

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Colombian forces

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti -- Lt. Gen. Ken Keen, commander, Joint Task Force-Haiti, meets with Colombian army Lt. Col. Ricardo Beltran (left), and Colombian army and air force personnel at an intermediate aftercare facility here. **Full story on Page 5**



Sgt. Andrew Miltenberger (L), and Capt. Scott Sann (R), both with the 544th Engineer Dive Team, inspect the pier at the Port-au-Prince Seaport as a Haitian citizen watches from the support structure. (U.S. Army photo by Staff Sgt. Stephen Roach)

Army divers help repair Haitian seaport

By Staff Sgt. Stephen Roach
XVIII Airborne Corps

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti – U.S. Army divers are deployed to Haiti in support of operation unified response. The small team of engineers specializes in underwater repair, recovery operations, as well as demolition.

544th Engineer Dive Team from Fort Eustis, Va., was in Belize for a partner nation training opportunity with divers from Central Belize and Guatemala the day the earthquake devastated the island nation of Haiti and they were sent straight to Port au Prince, Haiti to start mapping and surveying the Port-au-Prince Seaport shipping lanes to ensure there was access to the badly damaged pier.

There are only two ways to get supplies into Haiti, by air or by sea. The airport

here has been congested since the earthquake struck and the seaport’s north pier was completely destroyed. That meant the south pier which was also badly damaged has to be repaired to allow for the offload of much needed relief supplies from large vessels.

Ship-to-shore transport runs almost non-stop during the day, but the smaller vessels can only move so many supplies per trip. In order for the south pier to be used the Army divers have to restore vertical load stability.

Capt. Scott Sann, commander, 544th Engineer Dive Team, said, “The last thing you want to see is a ship weighed down with cargo that is meant for the Haitian people anchored out of the port waiting to come in. Our main mission right now is to get this pier back to its vertical load capability pre-earthquake.”

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JTF-H commander visits Spanish military allies in Haiti

By Sgt. Richard Andrade
XVIII Airborne Corps

PETIT-GOAVE, Haiti – Spain dispatched its naval amphibious assault ship, Castilla, to assist in Operation Hispaniola, Spain’s military relief operation for Haiti following the Jan. 12. earthquake.

The Rota Cadiz, Spain-based ship arrived in Haiti Feb. 4, transporting a field hospital, 50 medical officers and 450 troops. The ship is able to transport three helicopters, and several fast boats. The Castilla is expected to remain on-station for approximately three months.

Lt. Gen. Ken Keen, commander, Joint Task Force-Haiti, was escorted by Spanish forces throughout Petit-Goave and visited Spain’s medical aid stations and water distribution points. Keen met with the doctors and civilians working at the aid station who are assisting with the humanitarian aid effort.

The convoy of five vehicles drove through Petit-Goave with the Spanish Marines. There were people donning face masks to protect them from the dust in the streets while sweeping and cleaning up rubble that was on the sidewalk.

After visiting one medical aid station set up by the Spanish forces, Sgt. Maj. Louis M. Espinal, command senior enlisted advisor, JTF-H said the Spanish Marines and navy have “made an immediate impact,” to the city of Petit-Goave

There are many non-governmental organizations working with the Spanish forces assisting with the relief efforts in Haiti, offering food, water, and radios.

Seamus O’Brien, logistics director for Medical Assistance to



Lt. Gen. Ken Keen, commander, Joint Task Force-Haiti, is escorted by Spanish navy officers throughout the city of Petit-Goave, visiting Spain’s medical aid stations and water distribution points. Spain dispatched its naval amphibious assault ship, Castilla, to assist in Operation Hispaniola, Spain’s military relief operation for Haiti following the Jan. 12. earthquake. (U.S. Army photo by Sgt. Richard Andrade / XVIII Airborne Corps)

Remote Communities.

He said, “One of the issues after the disaster was that many people wanted to give aid but there wasn’t an organization set up here,” said.

“Aid for Haiti has been here for less than two years,” said

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Coast Guard conducts humanitarian aid mission at Port-Au-Prince orphanage



Coast Guard Lt. Teresa Wolf, a physician assistant assigned to Port Security Unit 307, and Methelus Edelette, A Haitian Coast Guard coreman, provide medical attention and medicine during an orphanage relief project, Feb. 3. (U.S. Coast Guard photo by Petty Officer 2nd Class Eric J. Chandler)

By Petty Officer 2nd Class Eric J. Chandler
USCG District Seven

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti - U.S. Coast Guard Port Security Unit 307 began conducting a series of humanitarian assistance missions at a local orphanage here Feb. 2.

The children of orphanages need more help than ever after a magnitude 7.0 earthquake hit the nation’s capitol on Jan. 12, killing more than 100,000 people and causing widespread devastation.

Members of the PSU are in Haiti performing security duties during efforts to restore full shipping capacity at the port, but seeing the extent of suffering and damage caused by the earthquake, the Coast Guardsmen were compelled to do more.

“We’ve just come here to do something to help a little bit and put smiles on these kid’s faces,” said Capt. Steven Baynes, Coast Guard Liaison to the Joint Task Force-Haiti. “This is probably one of the most fulfilling and worth while endeavors I have been on since being here.”

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THE RESPONDER

Telling the Joint Task Force-Haiti story

A CALL TO ACTION

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Air Mobility Command brings hope to Haiti



A C-17 Globemaster III from McChord Air Force Base, Wash., lands at the Toussaint L'Ouverture International Airport Jan. 24, in Port-au-Prince, Haiti. Department of Defense and U.S. Agency for International Development officials are conducting relief efforts in the area following a 7.0-magnitude earthquake that struck the region Jan. 12. (U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. James L. Harper Jr.)

By Capt. Jon Stock
Air Mobility Command

SCOTT AIR FORCE BASE, Ill. (AFNS) -- One day after an earthquake devastated the island nation of Haiti Jan. 12, Air Mobility Command Airmen along with its total force partners began operations to

support the crippled nation.

Since Operation Unified Relief operations launched, more than 10,000 AMC active-duty, Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard units around the globe have responded in support of the humanitarian mission.

"The support Air Mobility

Command [Airmen] provided, and continue to provide, after the earthquake in Haiti has been the largest, most concentrated disaster response I've seen in my 25-year Air Force career," said Col. Brian Reno, the director of the 618th TACC's Contingency Response Cell for Operation Unified Response.

"The Contingency Response Cell was running for 30 days straight, which is the longest activation the CRC has seen since Sept. 11, 2001. The men and women of AMC, starting here at the TACC, did a phenomenal job planning, tasking and executing missions to support relief efforts, all while continuing to meet the needs of forces deployed around the world, including those engaged in Operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom," said Reno.

AMC Airmen have flown more than 400 missions into Port-au-Prince delivering nearly 6,000 support members and 19 million pounds of cargo. More than 15,000 American citizens have been evacuated

by AMC Airmen through the Haitian airfield while 223 Haitian critical patients have been aeromedically evacuated to the United States. More than 30.5 million pounds were offloaded at the aerial port in Haiti by AMC personnel as well.

"During a recent 60-day deployment to the busiest aerial port in Afghanistan, we moved around 80 million pounds of cargo with about 115 aerial porters. That's a lot of weight," said Master Sgt. Shannon Koenigstein, the aerial port lead for the 817th Contingency Response Group.

"In our first 10 days on the ground here in Haiti, we had already moved more than 12 million pounds of cargo with 20 porters. The initial pace of operations here was blazing."

AMC air-refueling tankers were also in the relief operations keeping cargo aircraft in the air, flying 40 air-refueling sorties and delivering more than 130,000 gallons of fuel to 45 aircraft.

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Tech. Sgt. Wayne Pennington helps control airflow traffic at Homestead Air Reserve Base, Fla. This influx of aircraft operate out of the base to assist with the Haiti earthquake relief efforts. Sergeant Pennington is from the 512th Airlift Control Flight. (U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Adrian Cadiz)

Fort Bragg Field Service Company brings showers, clean laundry to troops in Haiti

By Spc. A.M. LaVey
XVIII Airborne Corps

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti – The 259th Field Service Company, part of the 189th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, 82nd Sustainment Brigade, based out of Fort Bragg, N.C., arrived here Feb. 10 to provide the Joint Task Force – Haiti and the 82nd Airborne Division with shower facilities and laundry services.

Two 20-person shower, laundry, and clothing repair teams, bringing with them three trailer-based Laundry Advanced Systems, have set-up shop at Logistical Support Area Sustainer and work to provide Soldiers with two very important, often overlooked services that almost seem almost luxurious in a field environment.

“Soldiers want clean clothes, they have got to get their stuff clean,” said Capt. Burton Carlson, commander of the 259th.

“We get it clean and return it to them in a timely manner.”

The laundry systems, known as LADS, can process 400 pounds of laundry in an hour

and with Carlson’s two systems at full capacity, can process about 20,000 pounds of laundry per day.

Starting a LADS site in the austere environment of Haiti has been very trying for Carlson and his team.

“Here in Haiti, it has been a challenge because there were no existing facilities, but we were able to get things started and now we keep them going,” said Carlson.

“Before I took command of the 259th, I did not realize the amount of resources it takes to conduct field showers and laundry,” said Carlson.

“If I don’t have water, or fuel or some type of sump that can extract grey water, I can’t do my mission. You have to always be thinking: what can I do to make this mission happen?”

“There are so many different pieces in the puzzle to make a field service company work, and we are working with the locals to make this mission a success,” he said.

This deployment to Haiti has been a great teaching tool, because the 259th has a lot of

newer Soldiers who have yet to deploy.

“This is an opportunity to train my Soldiers and deploy my equipment,” said Sgt. 1st Class Kumlai Manigault, a platoon sergeant with the 259th. “I get to know the capabilities and limitations of our Soldiers and equipment.”

“When you have a mission, especially in an austere environment such as this, you really get to know your people, their strengths and weaknesses,” said Carlson.

“You don’t get to see it until your unit faces adversity and challenges.”

Many Soldiers may not know about field service specialists or what they do here. Soldier’s laundry is collected from around Haiti and brought to LSA Sustainer

The laundry is received, inventoried and separated into mesh bags, 20 pieces of laundry per bag. The mesh bags are then coded with the Soldier’s information and then sent to be processed in the LADS. Each LADS has two drums that can fit 35 bundles per drum. It takes once hour to process a load: washing, two rinse cycles, and then it is dried – all in the same drum.



U.S. Army Pfc. Krystal Valentin, a shower/laundry and clothing repair specialist with the 259th Field Service Co., 189th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, 82nd Sustainment Brigade, inventories a Soldier’s laundry here Feb 18. The 259th is deployed to Haiti to support the XVIII Airborne Corps and 82nd Airborne Division with shower and laundry services. (U.S. Army photo by Spc. A.M. LaVey)



An Army shower/laundry and clothing repair specialist with the 259th Field Service Co., 189th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, 82nd Sustainment Brigade, operates the LADS, a rugged field laundry machine here Feb. 18. The 259th is deployed to Haiti to support the XVIII Airborne Corps and 82nd Airborne Division with shower and laundry services. (U.S. Army photo by Spc. A.M. LaVey)

From the LADS it goes to another tent, where it is re-inventoried, organized back into the Soldier’s laundry bag, and then it is ready to be picked up.

“I like what I do, it’s fun and different,” said Pvt. Elizabeth Ramirez, a shower/laundry and clothing repair specialist with the 259th.

“We do laundry and keep people clean,” she said. “When you get exhausted with this heat and humidity, a fresh shower and clean laundry always makes you feel great.”

“This is a good experience and we’re learning to interact with the people here outside our normal work environment,” Ramirez said.

“Being out in the field will help prepare us for our next mission, even though this mission may only be for a short amount of time.”

“We have a really good system going on, and I know this mission will go well,” said Ramirez.

Even with this type of mission and the new personnel, the 259th FSC is making it happen, helping those who are helping the people of Haiti.

“We bring patience, creativity and hard work – and that is what it takes to make this mission work,” said Carlson.

Safety



Spc. Jared Penland, an infantryman with Co. A, Headquarters and Headquarters Battalion, XVIII Airborne Corps, drinks a bottle of water while on guard shift here at LSA Dragon. (U.S. Army photo by Spc. A.M. LaVey / XVIII Airborne Corps)

By Mr Jesse Martin
JTF-H Safety

Drink Water.

Haiti has a hot and humid tropical climate that demands constant hydration. Fluid intake should replace fluid loss throughout the day. The best way to prevent heat injuries prevent them from occurring in the first place. When working out in the sun, drink five to seven ounces of water every 15 to 20 minutes - even if you don't feel thirsty.

Dehydration can lead to fatigue, loss of coordination, muscle cramps, heat exhaustion, or heat stroke. Heat injuries can cripple or kill you.

Leaders must ensure new arrivals who have not yet become acclimated to the heat should be careful about over working or exercising and should stay hydrated. Acclimatization normally occurs in one or two weeks. Some Soldiers may take a bit longer to acclimate than others. This is based upon the climate the Soldier came from, and the Soldier's individual physiology.

The initial symptoms of a heat injury that may develop include muscle cramps, dizziness, headaches, clumsiness, unsteadiness, staggering gait, irritability, vomiting, confusion, mumbling, becoming combative, or passing out, just to name a few. In all cases: STOP and rest, cool off, drink water and seek medical attention.

The potential for heat injuries is great here in Haiti. From the highest levels of command to each and every Soldier, it's everyone's responsibility to prevent heat injuries. Leaders need to keep an eye out for the signs of heat injuries and ensure an adequate amount of water is available.



U.S. Navy Lt. Yonnette Thomas, officer in charge of the Center for Information Dominance Learning Site in Norfolk translates between Haitian patients and a delegation of visiting physicians from Colombia aboard the hospital ship USNS Comfort. (U.S. Navy photo by Staff Sgt. Loobens Alphonse)

Colombians assist Haitian relief effort at intermediate aftercare facility in Port-au-Prince

By Sgt. Richard Andrade
XVIII Airborne Corps

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti – Many Haitians that suffered injuries during or after the Jan. 12 earthquake have been taken to the U.S. Naval Ship Comfort. Before and after patients receive care on the ship, they are seen by the doctors at an intermediate aftercare facility in Port-au-Prince set up on Jan. 23 by the U.S. air force.

Lt. Gen. Ken Keen, commander, Joint Task Force-Haiti, and Sgt. Maj. Louis M. Espinal, command senior enlisted advisor, JTF-H visited the IAF in Port-au-Prince that has Colombian army and air force elements and members of the U.S. Army, Air Force, and Navy. Keen met with the doctors and servicemembers who are assisting with the humanitarian aid effort.

The site was established to create a transitional environment for aftercare treatment and rehabilitation of Haitian patients. The majority of the airmen are from Travis Air Force Base, CA.

U.S. Air Force Col. John Mansfield 24th Expeditionary Medical Support (EMEDS) commander gave Keen a tour of the 20-bed hospital that offers; general surgery, orthopedic surgery, gynecology, urology, and pediatrics.

"The U.S. Army, Air Force and Colombian forces working together, I've never seen that in my career," said Mans-

field, "It is truly a partnership here.

"We have 220 personnel live here, 80 Air Force medics, 24 Columbians, and 120 navy master at arms to provide security, he said.

Lt. Gen. Keen asked Mansfield about the level of patients in the hospital and he replied, "We had no in-patients last night for the first time in three weeks, two weeks ago we had 18 in-patients over-night. Things have slowed down dramatically for the past week."

"With the pier so close, we provide an invaluable service, making sure the correct people get in and out of the USNS Comfort," said Mansfield.

Keen met Colombian Army Lt. Col. Ricardo Beltran, who is in charge of the Colombian element.

"The Colombian contingent has been in Haiti since Jan. 31., and we are here as long as it takes to help these (Haitian) people," said Beltran.

Columbian army 2nd Lt. Jeovanni Lasso said "All together we have two from the Colombian air force and the rest from the Colombian army, including three doctors, two nurses and eight paramedics."

Columbian air force 2nd Lt. Javier Andres Ocampo is here to help the Colombian army and the U.S. forces help the Haitian patients in this hospital.

"The Colombian forces' mission here is to work in conjunction with the U.S. Navy

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CONTINUATION

Water

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Like most resources, clean drinking water has been hard to come by after the devastating earthquake that rocked Haiti Jan. 12.

"When we arrived, there was a rush on the well," he said.

"We came in, and working with the owners, restored order so that people can come and get water. The people in the area seem very happy."

While the 82nd's primary mission is to support the JTF-H, the detachment really enjoys meeting and integrating with the locals in their neighborhood, which they do twice daily when they distribute over 3,000 gallons of clean drinking water to the community.

"When we issue out to the locals, you feel like you actually have a mission," said Spc. Melissa Jastram, a water purification specialist with the 82nd.

"Issuing out to other servicemembers - you feel like we are only supporting ourselves, but when we provide for the community, it really sets in that we are here to help them."

"I definitely see this as helping. The work that we are doing here make peoples lives better by providing them with clean water to drink," said Spc. Latu Halafihi, also a water purification specialist with the 82nd.

The Fort Lee, Va., based detachment is working with the local owners and operators to pull raw water up from the well, push it through the Army's reverse osmosis water purification unit which filters sediment and debris and then purifies it making it safe to drink.

The trailer-based ROWPU system is a self-contained water treatment plant and can produce potable water from any water source; and at maximum capacity can purify 3,000 gallons of water per hour and provide up to 20,000 gallons of water per day.

The Soldiers here "are exceeding the standard. They got here, they knew what their mission was and they have been performing excellently", said Latham.

"I love my job and I love what we are doing here," said Latham. As Soldiers, "we've got a big piece of the pie and we are here helping these people out. We really are doing our piece, one gallon at a time."

Divers

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Vertical load stability is needed to ensure trucks can move on and off of the pier without causing further damage or completely destroying it.

The repairs to the pier require a skill set that varies from SCUBA diving to carpentry.

After one team did the assessment another went to work cleaning the supports before drilling holes for new rebar cages that add stability, while yet another team built wooden frames that will hold the concrete in place while it cures.

U.S. Army divers spend a lot of time training so they can handle complex tasks under stressful conditions.

SFC Tracy Bower, team master diver for the 544th Dive Team, said, "Army divers have a pretty large mission.

We generally support the Army Corps of Engineers with repair and work in water front facilities like dams and other areas throughout North America and we do also travel outside the country. We spend a lot of time training, Army divers have to be jacks of all trades."

The dive school in Panama City, Fla., is a six month course. The first two months are diving-focused and the next four months are engineering-focused.

Working from the USNS Grasp, a Navy vessel with a civilian Merchant Marine crew, the 544th divers rarely set foot on land. They sleep on the ship, ride to the pier on Zodiac boats, and get to work in the polluted waters of the seaport here in Port-au-Prince. The hours are long, the bacteria levels in the water are high, and falling debris can make the work very dangerous.

These U.S. Army divers will be out of sight under the pier working to open this seaport so more supplies can be delivered until they complete the mission.

Spanish forces

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O'Brien, "but after the disaster, everyone started sending all sorts of resources, and a small organization like this just didn't have an administrative infrastructure to handle that influx."

"Now that it's been a month after the disaster," said O'Brien, "it's time to say 'get a decent supply chain', because up to now, all of our supplies have been random donations."

After leaving the medical aid station, Keen visited another base where the Spanish Marines and doctors work.

Frigate Capt. Juan Jemgruflot is the ship's chief of staff. He gave Keen and Espinal a tour of the medical stations.

"There are around 250 Marines for security here and some sappers to help with all the heavy equipment," said Jemgruflot. When asked if the Marines are used to distribute food, said, "No food, just water, we have water purification plant and we distribute water all over the city," said Jemgruflot.

"Everyday we coordinate with the local authorities, the U.N. and the local community in order to choose the best spot to deliver water," said Jemgruflot, "something like 10,000 liters of water everyday."

"We just visited a medical facility that treats over 200 patients a day," said Keen, "It is vital that the doctors, the marines and navy work very closely with the civilians in the area," said Keen.

After the visit to the Spanish forces base Keen was flown aboard Spanish navy ship, Castilla, where he was given a tour of the ship and met with members of its crew.

"It's been a real pleasure to see what the Spanish marines and navy are doing here and it is a great honor to able to see what impact they are making in the city of Petit-Goave," said Keen.

Coast Guard

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PSU 307 has been upgrading beds, providing medical care and spending time interacting with the children at the orphanage in addition to their Coast Guard assigned duties. They will be providing generators, repairing plumbing and adding fans to provide indoor ventilation.

"Just the smile on the kids' faces when we pulled up made it worthwhile. I mean, it's the reason why we are here, to help these people recover from this horrific event," said Baynes.

CONTINUATION

AMC

continued from page 3

Additionally, AMC Airmen air delivered more than 246,000 pounds of critical supplies such as water and MRE's through four missions using five aircraft.

"This has been one of the most rewarding experiences of my life," said Col. Patrick Hollrah, the commander of the Joint Task Force-Port Opening air element in Haiti. "For the first couple weeks, this airport was the main hub of humanitarian relief coming into Haiti. The 120 Airmen and 50 Soldiers I had the pleasure of serving with here were the difference between supplies sitting at the airport and supplies flowing out to the people who need them. They made a visible impact on this operation, and they can go home proud of what they were able to accomplish."

Colombians

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and air force to help the patients affected by earthquake that struck Haiti," said Ocampo.

"The patients that we care for are initially treated at the USNS Comfort, after that, they are brought here via helicopter or by ship," said Ocampo.

U.S. Air Force Col. Mary Pelszynski, the 59th Maternal/Child Care Squadron commander said that the air force contingency is from multiple locations in the U.S.

"We have air force personnel from McDill, Travis, Coney, Shaw and Scott Air Force bases," said Pelszynski.

When asked about the hospital's mission here Pelszynski said, "We have several missions here, our main mission is to support the USNS Comfort, we are the only entry into the Comfort, and we also bring

patients from the comfort," she said, "We arrange for patients' further care, by taking them to a non governmental organization, or another hospital, or to take them home if they are well enough to go home."

"This hospital is tri-service, the navy provides security, the air force provides the majority of the medical care here, and the army provides fuel," said Pelszynski.

Another mission that the hospital provides is that they are now going to some of the NGO's to provide humanitarian assistance.

"The navy and air force provide translators and we also have ministry of health representative to help us to place all of the patients," Pelszynski said.

The IAF is helping the USNS Comfort continue the mission of providing aid and to let the Haitian people heal physically and emotionally.

In case you have been wondering...

Financial entitlements for those supporting Operation United Response

ENTITLEMENTS	ACTIVE COMPONENT		RESERVE COMPONENT		CIVILIANS
	Single	Married	Single	Married	
Base Pay	No Change				
BAH	No Change	No Change	Yes	Yes	NA
BAS	Yes \$323.87 (E) \$223.04 (O)	Yes \$323.87 (E) \$223.04 (O)	Yes \$323.87 (E) \$223.04 (O)	Yes \$323.87 (E) \$223.04 (O)	NA
Family Separations (payable to Soldiers w/dependents)	No	Yes - \$250	No	Yes - \$250	NA
Hardship Duty	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	30% Base Pay Differential for Hardship
Temp Duty	\$3.50/Day	\$3.50/Day	\$3.50/Day	\$3.50/Day	\$3.50/Day Field Conditions
Imminent Danger	\$225	\$225	\$225	\$225	20% Base Pay Differential for Danger

As of Jan. 22, 2010 /Courtesy Army G-1

POSTCARD FROM HAITI



Naptime

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti -- U.S. Air Force Col. Todd Wall, a C-17 pilot with the 817th Contingency Response Group, McChord Air Force Base, Wash., holds a Haitian baby for a mother who fell asleep from exhaustion at Toussaint L'Ouverture International Airport here. (U.S. Air Force photo by Master Sgt. Alvin Johnson)

JTF-H gets new menu

Lt. Col. John 'Jay' Boyd
20th Military History Detachment

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti -- Logistics Support Area Dragon moved from one-star to two-star dining on Feb. 17 with the arrival of cereal packs and other delicious alternatives to the Meal Ready-to-Eat.

Indeed the much maligned and misunderstood veggie burger, along with its evil twin the vegetable lasagna, were quickly jettisoned in favor of the newly arrived taste treats.

A popular item is also the hot soup kit, a 'trend-setting' perfect fit for sunny Haitian afternoons in which the temperature usually goes into the 90s!

That said – the veggie burger has certainly met its match in variety and taste.

Truly Joint Task Force-Haiti continues its march towards transition!

Bon Appetit!!



U.S. Army Spc. Sabine Osirus, a human resources specialist with the J-1 casualty liaison team, 14th Human Resources Sustainment Center, attached to the XVIII Airborne Corps, enjoys yummy hot soup with Chief Warrant Officer 2 Enny Wade, a human resources technician with the J-1 strength management division, also with the 14th HRSC. (U.S. Army photo by Lt. Col. John 'Jay' Boyd/20th MHD)