



Vol. I, Issue 21

THE RESPONDER

Telling the Joint Task Force-Haiti story

a call to duty

May 3, 2010

MEDRETEs continue across Port Salut area

by Pvt. Samantha D. Hall
11th PAD

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti- The clinic opens around 8 a.m., but that does not stop several hundred Haitians from the Port Salut area from lining up outside. Many people stand with several children hanging on their sides, while others have been standing in line since 5 a.m.; all waiting to be seen by U.S. and United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH) Uruguayan nurses and doctors assisting in the Medical Readiness Training Exercise.

"We're seeing hundreds and hundreds of patients," said Maj. Claude Perkins, OBGYN physician, 94th Combat Support Hospital, of Fort Worth, Texas. "I think that most [Haitians] have never seen an American before so this is a good opportunity to make a good impression for the U.S. and for the Army."

Approximately 30 service members with the 94th CSH and 965th Dental Corps, along with MINUSTAH Soldiers and local translators, assist in providing free immediate health care for local nationals at three different sites throughout Port Salut. The exercises are being conducted over a period of several weeks.

"We're down here helping people," said Sgt. Greg Carter, licensed practitioner nurse, 94th CSH, of Little Rock, Ark. "This is what it's all about. A lot of these people have never seen a doctor and those that have can't afford the medicine. It's very rewarding what we're doing."

The sites are located at different schools where empty classrooms are transformed into make shift doctors offices, dentist offices and a pharmacy. All the stations have doctors and nurses waiting to help in whatever way possible.

"I came here because my tooth was killing me," Pierre Marie Lourdes, a local in the Port Salut area, said. "The [MEDRETE staff] took it out and I was given medicine."

As the line grew throughout the day, MEDRETE staff had to hand out red bracelets for people to come back the following day.

"It's great for the community who cannot afford to travel to Port Salut to go to the doctors," Lisane Alexis, a local in the Port



U.S. Army dentists from the 94th Combat Support Hospital, Seagoville, Texas, perform extractions during a U.S. Army Medical Readiness Training Exercise (MEDRETE) in Coteaux, Haiti, on April 30. (U.S. Army photo by Kaye Richey/Army South Visual Information)

Salut area, said. "This [clinic] comes at the right time for us. The line is so long because it's free."

Alexis said she stood in line to have her tooth looked at.

"I came here to be seen for toothache," Alexis said. "[MEDRETE staff] provided great hospitality and great medical care. They gave me medicine for my tooth and I will come back tomorrow for a follow up."

Dental problems were a common ailment for the many that stood in line.

"I am here because I am sick in my stomach and for dental," Justeau Beaubrun, a local in the Port Salut area, said. "I also have scratchy and runny eyes and sometimes I feel weak. The [MEDRETE staff] saw me and they gave me medications for my eyes and my tooth."

Haitians who had been seen were very happy with the treatment they received.

"I am happy they are here for we don't have money to afford [health care] elsewhere," Beaubrun said. "It shows they care about our health. I thank the [MEDRETE staff] for offering free care to the population [around Port Salut]."

The exercise was not just directed towards humans. A team of veterinarians with the 949th Medical Detachment (Veterinary Services), deployed from Ames, Iowa, vaccinated and de-wormed the Haitian's animals.

"We're here along with the MEDRETE," Capt. Kathryn Polking, veterinarian, 949th MDVS, said. "This is a Veterinarian Readiness Training Exercise (VETRETE) in which we're trying to treat some of the local's animals."

The team worked in conjunction with a minister of agriculture and vet technicians to determine what vaccines were best.

"The vaccines the horses, cattle, goats and sheep are receiving are the Anthrax vaccine and being de-wormed," Polking said. "That's important for protecting [the equine] but also protecting the people because an animal that dies of Anthrax is a major source of infection."

Horses, donkeys, cattle, goats and sheep were not the only animals the vets saw.

"We're vaccinating chickens against New Castle and pigs for classical Swine Fever," Polking said.

Both New Castle and Swine Fever are exotic diseases in the U.S., but they are present in Haiti. The team also treated open wounds with salves and gave out health tips to owners.

Haitians expressed gratitude towards the vets and the medics who spent several days assisting their community.

"We like the [clinic] idea because many are sick, but we don't have the money to go anywhere else," Lourdes said. "The Americans provide good services and we are all happy they are here."

“The Best Team Doesn’t Always Win...”

by Col. Richard Gary Moore
JTF-Haiti Chaplain

If you like football, the fourth and final quarter is where many games are decided. If you do not care for the game of football, then humor me because this short note is about the three “P’s;” persisting, persevering and prevailing. Before the fourth quarter starts, you may watch for two things. First, the players holding up four fingers to remind themselves and their fans, “...15 minutes more;” second, it’s a PSYOPS action for players on the field to run and beat the other team to set up for the first huddle of the fourth quarter. It’s their non-verbal communicate to the other team that, “...we are strong and ready to play some more football!”

All this is to say, “Don’t quit; follow through...” and keep your equanimity and resolve for the mission here in Haiti! All the helping contingents and agencies are lending a hand to the people of Haiti to shape their own future. This is a life event

for all of us because we are involved in something bigger than ourselves! In a speech during Britain’s most challenging times in WWII, Winston Churchill, a leader made for a season of war, confronted the British people with, “Never give in! Never give in! Never, never, never, never - in nothing great or small, large or petty. Never give in except to convictions of honor and good sense.” History tells us the rest of the story in how they prevailed.

The best team does not always win but the best team always prevails. We are on the team alongside the Haitian people, the Government of Haiti, MINUSTAH, and almost 1,000 non-governmental organizations, international governmental organizations, USAID and international governmental agencies that are all here getting up every day and pressing forward. For the strength to prevail, ask the Living God to help you, to sustain the people on your left and right and to strengthen your families. Ask God for those invisible spiritual supplies for your soul... and be amazed at the prevailing strength in your life!

Magazine recognizes Airman in top 100 most-influential

by Air Force Maj. David Small
Office of the Sec. of Defense Public Affairs

NEW YORK - Time magazine editors have named Air Force Chief Master Sgt. Antonio D. Travis to the 2010 Time 100, the magazine’s annual list of the 100 most-influential people in the world, for his efforts after the Haiti earthquake.

Travis was one of the first U.S. military members on the ground at the Toussaint L’Ouverture International Airport in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, only 30 hours after the Jan. 12 earthquake and less than 12 hours after the nation’s president requested U.S. assistance. The chief led a team of special tactics airmen from the 23rd, 21st and 123rd special tactics squadrons.

With his team of combat veterans, Travis led the largest single-runway operation in history, using hand-held radios to control thousands of aircraft. Their air traffic control tower was a card table set up next to the airport’s runway. “Twenty-eight minutes after touchdown, we controlled the first air landing followed

immediately by a departure, and we did not slow down for the next 12 days,” said Travis, who hails from Nelson County, Ky.

After establishing control of the airfield there, his team orchestrated an orderly flow for incoming aircraft and dealt with the constraints of the inadequate airfield, which potentially could have limited relief operations.

Facing 42 aircraft jammed into a parking ramp designed to accommodate 10 large planes and untangling the gridlock was the first of many seemingly insurmountable challenges necessary to facilitate the flood of inbound relief flights.

In the dawn of the U.S. response to the Haitian crisis, Travis coordinated with Miami-based Federal Aviation Administration officials via text messaging on his BlackBerry. His ingenuity paid massive dividends as priority aircraft transited the small airport, delivering lifesaving water, food and medical supplies in support of the U.S. Agency for International Development-led international humanitarian effort.

From chaos, Travis established order as his combat controllers reduced a four-hour hold time in the air on Day 1 to less than two hours on Day 2 and less than 15 minutes by Day 3.

For 12 days, 24-hours-a-day, the airfield team ran the international airport in Port-au-Prince. Together with more than 200 other airmen from Hurlburt Field, Fla., they tirelessly ensured the safe and effective control of more than 4,000 takeoffs and landings, an average of one aircraft operation every five minutes, and enabled the delivery of 4 million pounds of humanitarian relief to the people of Haiti.

Without computers or electricity, Travis and his team controlled as many as 250 aircraft daily, exceeding the normal capacity of the airfield by 1,400 percent without a single incident. By Jan. 25, his team was able to hand operations over to Air Force air traffic controllers with a portable control tower.

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THE RESPONDER
Telling the Joint Task Force-Haiti story

A CALL TO ACTION

The Responder is an electronic newsletter published every Monday for the Soldiers, Sailors, Coast Guardsmen, Airmen and Marines of JTF-Haiti.

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Transition and redeployment safety

by Duncan Brady
JTF-Haiti Safety Director

I would like to personally congratulate every junior service member and first line supervisor for the excellent incident / accident record associated with Joint Task Force-Haiti. While Safety Officers and NCO's are responsible for managing the Commander's Safety Program, and junior leaders for implementing, it is the individual professionals with their hands on the task who fuel its success.

The individuals form a team under the junior leader, holding each other to the standards associated with the task and conducting continuous Composite Risk Management as the localized mission fluctuates. This teamwork and professional application of task standards is what makes an organization safe.

Most accidents associated with this task force have been what some people call "the cost of doing business" type accidents: Slips, trips, falls, and minor vehicle accidents.

A few vehicle accidents could have been much worse had it not been for the proper combination of pre-mission planning, vehicle speed, and the use of personal protective equipment.

As an example, when a Light Medium Tactical Vehicle (LMTV) attempted to negotiate a tight corner, a wheel from its trailer guided to the edge of a small bridge which gave way. As the trailer rolled, so did the LMTV, with both ending up on their sides. While the vehicle suffered minor damage, neither occupant was injured due

primarily to the very slow speed and proper use of seat belts.

As the JTF rapidly transitions, one very real hazard will raise its ugly head; something the aviation community calls "Get-Home-Itis".

This occurs when people are in such a big hurry to pack up, load up, and get back to home station that they individually decide what shortcuts to take, which control measures to bypass and approve a level of risk that is outside of their authority to approve.

Get-Home-Itis can only be cured by direct involvement of leaders at all levels. This involvement includes senior leaders setting realistic timelines, manpower allotments and providing adequate resources, thorough mission analysis and Composite Risk Management by planning staffs and finally the hands-on involvement of first line supervisors.

Another major hazard is Haiti's climate. The intense heat and humidity of Haiti takes days, if not weeks, to fully tolerate. Fortunately, or possibly unfortunately, 99 percent of us have had the opportunity to become as acclimatized as we will ever get. But service members must not drop their guard against heat injuries. Hydration and work/rest cycles are as important as ever and must be built into the overall plan.

A more difficult control measure to implement is planning the most physically demanding tasks during the cooler periods of the day, such as early morning and evening. Supervisors must know who in their unit has



A service member conducts safety awareness by wearing goggles while washing off a vehicle. He also wears a helmet and does not horseplay while working with dangerous equipment. (Photo courtesy of U.S. Army)

experienced a heat injury in the past. Medical personnel, at the minimum Combat Life Savers, must be readily available and prepared to treat suspected heat injuries.

JTF-Haiti, along with our fellow government, non-

governmental, and international partners have accomplished some amazing tasks to assist a neighbor in need during a time of crisis. Just remember its not over until you're sitting at your own dinner table.

Hijinks, High Kicks give troops high morale

by Pvt. Samantha D. Hall
11th PAD

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti- The posters advertising them around camp read punch lines and pom-poms, but these women are more than just pretty faces with witty senses of humor. Comedians Carole Montgomery and Leighann Lord, and Miami Dolphins cheerleaders Kellie Covington, Fabiola Romero and Amy Madill, make up the Hijinks and High Kicks Armed Forces Entertainment tour that visited Port-au-Prince from April 27 thru April 29.

"We did three shows for the troops [here in Haiti] to show our appreciation," Covington said.

The women's visit to Haiti focused around performing for the troops and boosting morale, but that doesn't mean they didn't get to do a little sight-seeing themselves.

"We had a helicopter ride," Lord said. "We were able to get an aerial view of Port-au-Prince and see some of the damage and some of the beauty [of Haiti]. Everything in the news has been about what's happening and of course about the earthquake and all the organizations trying to help, but we forget some of the beauty of this country. We were able to see some of that from the helicopter."

The women all agreed that the helicopter ride was eye opening and enjoyable, even if the pilots had some fun while they flew.

The pilots were messing with the cheerleaders, swerving back and forth, Montgomery said. Although the cheerleaders got nervous at points, the two comedians just put their hands in the air and enjoyed the ride.

Following the Blackhawk tour, the group drove to LSA Dragon and saw more of Port-au-Prince from the ground.

"On the drive to [LSA Dragon], we drove through the streets and got to really see what's going on," Romero said. "The buildings are demolished; there are people on the streets. There are tents that have people living in them."

Montgomery said that people don't really see the true depth of the destruction until they are here and see it firsthand.

"You see the stuff on the nightly news about the devastation but you don't realize it until you really see it and people have no idea what it is really like down here," Montgomery said. "We, as Americans, take for granted that we have food every day and running water and toilets."



Miami Dolphins cheerleaders Fabiola Romero, Kellie Covington and Amy Madill perform part of their dance routine at LSA Dragon on April 28. The women are part of the Hijinks and High Kicks Armed Forces Entertainment tour that stopped at several military camps throughout Port-au-Prince. (U.S. Army photo by Pvt. Samantha D. Hall/11th PAD)

During their visit, the women held a schedule similar to the troops. They ate meals, ready-to-eat (MREs), dealt with the heat and humidity and found themselves wishing for the little comforts in life.

"The heated meals that come in a box, they've got to do something about them," Montgomery said. "Get a Lean Cuisine, Healthy Choice, something. I think that was a low point for me."

Before the show, the women were able to enjoy a hot meal and sat down to eat and mingle with the troops in the chow tent.

Spc. Darwin Quinteros, wheeled vehicle mechanic, Headquarters Support Company, Special Troops Battalion, U.S. Army South, along with several other Soldiers, sat with Madill and talked about how she got into cheerleading, college and the show.

"It was a good moral booster," Quinteros said. "The girls were pretty and we don't see that a lot being deployed. I liked their performance."

The show kicked off with Montgomery talking to the troops, as well as making them laugh.

"I talk about real things," Montgomery said. "I talk about my life, my marriage, my son, just everyday things. I'm the woman that says the things everyone wants to say, but don't want to say because they're embarrassed."

Montgomery said a newspaper once described her as looking so sweet, until she opens her mouth.

"I say whatever I feel," she added.

Lord followed Montgomery's act and then the cheerleaders performed several small dances. To get the crowds involvement, Madill, Romero and Covington quizzed troops on Miami Dolphins trivia and handed out their team's swimsuit calendars.

The troops laughed and got involved and seemed to have a good time, said Lord.

"I'm a comedian," Lord said. "I'm glad when I can bring a little laughter and a little joy. The 20 minutes I spend on stage or the meet and greets do just that. I wish I could do more."

The group was only able to stay three days in Haiti, with their brief stop at LSA Dragon on their second night, but that didn't stop them from wanting to stay longer.

"I would stay here longer if I could," Montgomery said. "If there were more people to entertain, I would stay."

Montgomery said these tours mean a lot to her because her father is a Korean War veteran and it means so much to see the Soldiers. She said her father gets a kick out of her tours because he still remembers Bob Hope visiting him on his deployments.

see MORALE on p. 7

Louisiana Guard set to lead new Haiti mission

by Spc. Darron Salzer
National Guard Bureau

ARLINGTON, Va. – The Louisiana National Guard is scheduled to lead a New Horizons humanitarian assistance exercise in Haiti beginning June 1, U.S. Southern Command officials announced April 25.

“We are proud to have our National Guard step forward to be a part of this important recovery effort,” said Gov. Bobby Jindal. “Louisiana received so much support from across the country and around the world after hurricanes Katrina and Rita; we stand ready to lend that same assistance to other parts of the world in their times of need.”

“These brave men and women know firsthand the type of hard work and perseverance it takes to recover from a disaster, and I know that they will serve the people of Haiti well,” Jindal added.

The exercise in Haiti will provide critically needed medical and engineering services to the country’s capital of Port-au-Prince and surrounding communities, such as Gonaives. The country was ravaged by an earthquake, Jan. 12.

“In three months, we’ve planned a significant exercise in Haiti where there wasn’t one previously,” said Army Lt. Col. Scott Jonda, the exercises branch chief for the Army Guard’s operations division.

“Our engineer units will provide some ... new construction of schools and clinics, and there will be medical units that will go out and provide various medical tasks in the community.”

SOUTHCOM officials said that free medical care will be provided at various sites, and that U.S. military medical personnel will be stationed at each site for 10 days to provide general medical, dental and optometry services for about 700 individuals daily.

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Spc. Eric Muessel, 209th Military Police Company, Fort Polk, La., controls the entrance to a U.S. Army Medical Readiness Training Exercise (MEDRETE) in Couteaux, Haiti, on April 30. The exercise is allowing U.S. and Haitian medical care providers to offer free level-one medical care to Haitians in the community during Operation Unified Response. (U.S. Army photo by Kaye Richey/Army South Visual Information)

209th MP Company assists in MEDRETE

by Pvt. Samantha D. Hall
11th PAD

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti- They may not look like they are doing much, but Soldiers from the 209th Military Police Company, deployed from Fort Polk, La., know their job is important.

“Our mission is to provide security for the Medical Readiness Training Exercise (MEDRETE),” said Pfc. Anthony Fasone, military policeman, 209th Military Police Company.

Roughly 10 MPs from the 209th MP Company assisted with security for the MEDRETEs which provide Haitians with immediate medical health care in the Port Salut area. They were put in charge of securing the area around the clinic as well as the hotel that service members stayed at.

Assisting with the security mission is the Haitian National Police.

“The Haitian National Police control the crowd on the outside and we make sure everyone is where they are supposed to be and things move smoothly,” said Spc. Derek Valentine, military policeman, 209th MP Company.

Valentine said working with the Haitian police was a good experience.

“They operate smoothly,” he said. “They speak really good English so there is no language barrier. They are cool guys to work with.”

The 209th MP Company deployed Feb. 7 to assist with Operation Unified Response. The company was originally tasked with convoy security for the World Food Program. They have assisted in reconnaissance missions throughout Port-au-Prince and security missions for several internally displaced persons (IDP) camps.

Specifically, the company was in charge of assisting with security for Golf Delmas, an IDP camp aided by the Jenkins/Penn Haitian Relief Organization.

“It’s better than the Middle East; at least we’re not getting shot at,” said Fasone, who is on his first deployment.

They are unsure of when the company will redeploy home or if the 10 military policemen will support the second wave of MEDRETEs, Valentine said, but they will be ready for whatever the mission asks of them.

377th TSC heads home after service in Haiti

by Capt. Jose R. Emperador
377th Theater Sustainment Command

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti— Roughly 100 Soldiers from the 377th Theater Sustainment Command will depart Haiti the first week of May after completing their mission in support of Operation Unified Response, the humanitarian assistance effort in Haiti.

Soldiers assigned to the New Orleans-based Army Reserve unit, commanded by Maj. Gen. Louis R. Visot, began arriving in Haiti late January to provide humanitarian aid support to the Haitian people, as well as sustainment services to the thousands of service members conducting their missions in the Port-au-Prince area.

Soldiers of the 377th are taking back with them a greater appreciation for what they are returning home to and the rewarding experience that was their humanitarian mission.

“A lot of times, until you have the opportunity to experience a new culture or a different part of the world, you really don’t know how blessed we are as a nation and how incredibly fortunate we are to be able to live in the United States of America...but more importantly to be able to serve in the United States Army,” Visot said. “It’s critically important that we tell our story...every Soldier, every Sailor, every Airman, every Marine, every Coastguardsman needs to tell the great story that we’ve had here in Haiti...and that story needs to be told throughout our nation.”

During their time in Port-au-Prince, the 377th conducted more than 3,000 humanitarian aid support missions, handled more than 2,900 shipping containers and 3,400 pallets, including 2.2 million rations and 1.2 million lbs. of bulk food items.

As a result, more than 240,000 families were fed. Water purification units under the 377th command produced approximately 1.1 million gallons of drinkable water in addition to issuing 1.1 million bottles of water.

The medical units conducted 5,600 medical assessments and treated more



Soldiers from the 377th Theater Sustainment Command depart Haiti the first week of May after completing their mission in support of Operation Unified Response, the humanitarian assistance effort in Haiti. (U.S. Army photo by Capt. Jose R. Emperador/377th Theater Sustainment Command)

than 770 patients and veterinarians administered nearly 2,060 rabies vaccinations to pets of Haitian residents.

In addition to sustainment operations, the 377th assisted and supported governmental and non-governmental organizations in improving conditions at internally displaced persons (IDP) camps and relocating residents of camps within hazardous areas to Government of Haiti resettlement sites.

Master Sgt. Anthony Lagarde, the non-commissioned officer in charge of providing buses and supervising drivers for internally displaced persons being relocated, says his service has been an incredibly rewarding experience.

“Working at the camps with the Haitian people has been the best part of this experience,” said Lagarde. “I really feel that I’m helping the Haitian people and it really makes me appreciate what I have back home. It’s been a great experience.”

Spec. Barbara Diaz-Colon, mail clerk, 377th TSC, recalls her experience at a local orphanage as one of the most vivid of her deployment.

“Being at the orphanage lets you know and appreciate what you have,” said Diaz-Colon. “It makes you appreciate your kids a little more.” She said it struck her most, how much the orphans craved attention. “As long as you gave them attention, they were smiling,” Diaz-Colon added.

In order to remain focused on the mission at hand, the Soldiers from the 377th depended on the support of their families back at home.

“We have to be grateful for the tremendous amount of support that we have received from our family members,” Visot said. “They have been incredible, understanding, appreciative and supportive. I’m very grateful to our families’ support as well as the support we’ve received from the soldiers still back at Belle Chasse.”

As the mission continues to transition in Haiti, the 530th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion from Fort Lee, Va. will take over the 377th TSC mission in a more limited role until operations are complete.

AIRMAN continued from p. 2

While directing the airfield operations, Travis also supervised a group of pararescuemen, known as PJs, and medical technicians who augmented a search-and-rescue team from Virginia. These teams were credited with 13 technical rescues and 17 additional saves. Additionally, the special tactics airmen he led surveyed nearly 100 sites for use as potential humanitarian relief supply delivery sites.

His teams' technical expertise and unflagging commitment ultimately led to successful air deliveries by C-17 Globemaster IIIs of humanitarian aid that included more than 150,000 bottles of water and 75,000 packaged meals that subsequently were delivered to earthquake victims by helicopter. Travis is the chief enlisted manager of the Air Force Special Operations Training Center at Hurlburt Field. He served seven-and-a-half years in the Marine Corps before transferring into the Air Force as a combat controller in 1993.

As a senior combat controller, he has supported combat, combat support, humanitarian, and search-and-rescue operations throughout the United States, the Pacific and European theaters, and at many austere locations across the globe.

Travis is married to the former Andrea Lawrence of Bardstown, Ky. Their children are Brittany, 21; Amanda, 19; and Emily, 15.

Time's full list and related tributes of all those honored appear in the magazine's May 10 issue, available on newsstands and online.

MORALE continued from p. 4

By the end of the day, the women were packed up and ready head back to their sleeping quarters for the night, but that didn't stop them from spending sometime signing autographs and talking to the troops one last time.

"We feel honored that we can come out here and help you guys [relax]," Montgomery said. "Laughter really is the best medicine."

Romero said being here and seeing the troops is powerful, motivating and uplifting.

"[Soldiers] give you the inspiration to be a stronger person to do more in your community and to stay dedicated to everything in your life," Romero said.

Lord ended her visit by saying to find joy each day and to remember the Soldiers everywhere.

"If you don't have a Soldier in your family, then you know someone who does and don't forget them," Lord said. "We've got men and women all over the world; keep them in your thoughts."

GUARD continued from p. 5

Engineering projects will include not only new construction at three schools, but also construction of a sports recreation area and water well improvements, said SOUTHCOM officials.

Army Lt. Gen. Ken Keen, SOUTHCOM's military deputy commander, said that the military humanitarian assistance mission would consist of about 500 Soldiers, led by the Louisiana National Guard.

"The Louisiana National Guard is excited about leading the New Horizons mission to Haiti," said Army Maj. Gen. Bennett C. Landreneau, the state's adjutant general. "While our Soldiers and Airmen are very proud to join the relief effort, this mission [will] also be an excellent training opportunity for them."

Jonda said the Louisiana National Guard will provide the duration staff, while eight other states and one territory will contribute Soldiers to this mission, including Missouri,

Nevada, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, California, Indiana, Massachusetts and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Specifically, North Dakota, Indiana and Nevada will provide military police support. Nevada and Montana will provide aviation support; and South Dakota will provide engineering support.

New Horizons missions began in the mid-1980s as an annual series of joint and combined humanitarian assistance exercises that SOUTHCOM conducts with Latin American and Caribbean nations.

New Horizons exercises typically last several months providing medical and infrastructure projects. These missions give deployed U.S. military forces invaluable training opportunities to work with partner nations.

The assistance from New Horizons is in addition to the over \$1.03 billion in emergency humanitarian assistance already provided to the Haitian people by the U.S. government since the devastating earthquake.



Members of the 118th Civil Engineering Squadron, Tennessee Air National Guard, work various construction projects at a home for children in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, on March 12. The Louisiana National Guard is scheduled to lead a New Horizons humanitarian assistance exercise in Haiti beginning June 1 that will involve about 500 Soldiers. (Photo courtesy of U.S. Army)

POSTCARDS FROM HAITI



Volunteers with non-governmental organizations (NGOs) assist families at the internally displaced persons camp, Golf Delmas, move their furniture. Many families were relocating to resettlement camps because Golf Delmas was an at-risk camp for the rainy season. (U.S. Army photo by Kaye Richey/*Army South Visual Information*)



Tim Rieser, staff member for the majority leader from the Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and related programs, walks with Alexandra Riboul, project manager for United States Agency for International Development (USAID), and Greg Gottlieb, international organization coordinator for USAID, during a tour of Ancien Aeroport Militaire on May 1. Rieser assisted in funding for USAID, who has been instrumental in providing relief to Haitians affected by the Jan. 12 earthquake. USAID and JTF-Haiti have worked side-by-side on many projects in support of Operation Unified Response. (U.S. Army photo by Pvt. Samantha D. Hall/*11th PAD*)



Doin Saurel, second from left, a Haitian leader at the Ancien Aeroport Militaire internally displaced persons camp in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, leads a tour of the camp site. He works with the non-governmental organization (NGO) Partners in Health. (U.S. Army photo by Kaye Richey/*Army South Visual Information*)



Soldiers from Alpha and Charlie Company, 2-325th Airborne Infantry Regiment, deployed from Fort Bragg, N.C., wait to board a plane home May 1. Maj. Gen. Simeon Trombitas, commanding general, JTF-Haiti, said goodbye to the Soldiers before they redeployed. 2-325th AIR assisted in Operation Unified Response and were key in handing out food supplies at distribution points and assisting in security. Trombitas told the troops that their assistance in relief efforts will not be forgotten by the people of Haiti. (U.S. Army photo by Pvt. Samantha D. Hall/*11th PAD*)