

## Company C, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 126<sup>th</sup> Aviation (GSAB)



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# T H E Family Readiness Group

Camp Beuhring  
Kuwait

October  
2012

## From the Commander

### GREETINGS FROM KUWAIT!

Company Commander



Charlie Company Family and Friends-

Hello Maine and Oregon! I haven't written a newsletter piece since August so I hope this piece finds all of you well. As you know, the end of August and September were difficult for the unit as I'm sure it was for all of you back home. The loss of SSG W. was, and still is, very hard to comprehend. I am happy to report that, although we still miss her tremendously, the healing process is well under way and for the most part, we are doing well.

These past two months have been some of the busiest we have seen since our arrival. The flying hour program is fairly aggressive which means that everyone across all MOS's are extremely engaged. This month I would like to commend our team of crew chief's. These guys, who are arguably the hardest working bunch in the unit, are doing fantastic. If it weren't for their strong work ethic and in-depth knowledge base, we would not be able to do all the missions we have been tasked with. The maintenance company that is part of our battalion is very small so the Charlie Company crew chiefs have taken it upon themselves to ensure that our aircraft are always ready. If your family member is a crew chief you should be extra proud this month!

I mentioned that we have been busy. Over the past couple of months we have seen both our battalion and our brigade change out with a whole new set of folks. With that came lots of policy and operational changes. Some of you may be aware that there was some re-organization on our airfield and we ended up losing our "big building" but, in typical Charlie Company fashion, we

adjusted quickly and have now setup everything in our new location. I had originally planned for a three day move but our boys and girls ended up making it happen in about 18 hours. Did I mention how hard this unit works?!

As it stands now, we in Charlie Company are the “old-timers,” here on Camp Buehring. We are “double-digit midgets!” (that’s military slang for less than 100 days) We are next “in the hopper” as they say for coming home. We have already started the planning process and now have a fairly clear time-line for departure. Exact dates are still in Jell-O but I would not be surprised if we were home before the super-bowl. No promise but it’s looking good.

That’s it from this side of the world. Again, I hope everyone is doing great. We miss you all and can’t wait to get back. Hopefully the next few months will go by quickly. It’s going to be great to get home and shovel our driveways! (really!).

-MAJ S



**If the whole “medic” thing doesn’t work out for SGT P., she can always go into hair styling! Here we have 7 of her first customers - all very pleased with her work!**

## From the First Sergeant

Hello everyone back home in Maine and Oregon. I would like to reiterate the Commander’s thoughts about the difficult event the unit went through at the end of August. We all are coping with the loss of SSG W. as best we can. We have a resilient group here, and while we miss SSG W. very much, we are continuing to focus on our safe accomplishment of our mission.

As we go through the changes that come with relocating our operating area and adjusting to our new battalion, we are continuing to do the quality work we always do. Both Maine and Oregon Soldiers continue to work seamlessly together and MEDEVAC coverage for our area of responsibility has not skipped a beat!

We are approaching the middle of October, which means cooler weather (although we still have not seen a daytime high temperature below 100 degrees!), and light at the end of our deployment tunnel. It is important to keep our “minds in the game”, but it is nice to realize that we have a significant amount of the deployment behind us.

Some of our folks will be able to get away from our camp and spend a few days relaxing at another location (still here in Kuwait – but away from the company area). The people that have had the opportunity to relax for a few days reported back that the chance to take the “mini vacation” was a great chance to clear their minds and recharge their batteries. Thank you to SSG M. for doing the research and planning the logistics to make this happen!

I hope everyone at home is doing well. We all look forward to seeing everyone again.

All my best,

1SG

## **From the Rear Det.**

Welcome Back FRG Newsletter!

It's great to hear that Charlie Co is doing well and adapting to their ever changing environment. I am not at all surprised that they only took 1 day to move all of their things to the new area. This unit ceases to amaze me with their resiliency and flexibility.

Our FRG has been extremely busy in the past month. At our October meeting they were able to package up almost 100 packages. Now when I say almost, I don't mean like when people who live in Tewksbury say they almost live in Boston. I mean they were able to package up 99 boxes for the soldiers of Charlie Co. Considering they had 9-10 people present, that is an amazing effort.

For our meeting in November we are putting a focus on Giving Back. I asked the FRG committee what they thought of the idea and everyone was in favor of doing something. For the past 7 months I have fielded requests and questions from a plethora of organizations and individuals on how they can support our Unit. Considering the economy and unemployment it is amazing to see that people wish to do their part and help out the troops. One of our family members, Mrs. B., does some volunteering in various food pantries in the local Bangor Area. When we finish with our can drive, we will be donating all the goods to these pantries. I invite any and all to bring in your canned and dry goods to the Armory between now and a date TBD later when we should donate them. For those of you living in Southern Maine, I travel from Portland every week to Bangor. I can receive your items and bring them in to be donated.

There is already a lot of buzz about the t-shirts. At the end of this Newsletter we have attached the order forms for the shirts. We know the price sounds high for a simple shirt, but factor in it's a 1 for 1 deal, it's a steal. For every shirt you buy at that price, we will be able to purchase another shirt to send over to the unit. Our goal is to provide every member overseas with a shirt by Christmas. Special Thanks To Mr. G for allowing the use of his amazing design as well as Laura B for getting it to print.

Enjoy the rest of the fall. Start preparing for the winter to come. Stay safe, be strong, stay together. Rear Det OUT

Mr L.

**From the FRG**

Hello Everyone!

I hope you have had a wonderful autumn season so far. We had a great turnout for our Fall Festival Flat Rate party. We were able to pack close to 100 care packages to send to our unit overseas. I want to thank Kalyn G. and Elizabeth R. for the countless hours they spent making caramel corn and sealing it to ship. I also want to thank Laura B. for her hard work in gathering tea and coffee donations to add to the care packages. Finally, thank you to the people who donated bottles and cans to help fund this project and to the many people who came out to help us pack up the boxes.

At the November drill we will be holding a bake sale and food drive on Saturday at 11:00. The food will be donated to the Samaritan Food Pantry. For each item that you bring to drill you will receive a drawing ticket. We will be raffling off a pie, and are working on the possibility of raffling off a turkey too! At 1:00 we will be holding our FRG meeting.

We are also in the process of selling Witch Doctor t-shirts with the goal of sending a shirt to every deployed soldier. The shirts come in three colors – tan, green, and gray. The cost is \$18. For each shirt we sell we will send a shirt to a soldier. You may also purchase a shirt for a soldier at a reduced cost. We are also selling unit travel mugs, t-shirts, and magnets. All of these items can be found on the Maine National Guard 126<sup>th</sup> website:  
<http://www.me.ngb.army.mil/family/126thAV.php>.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions, comments, or concerns.

Thank you,

Heather

## Important Contact Info.

Remember, if you are a Maine family and need any information or assistance, these are the folks you should contact in this order!

1. Mrs. Heather T. – Family Readiness Group Leader  
[126frg@gmail.com](mailto:126frg@gmail.com)
2. CW2 Todd L. – Rear Detachment, Title 10  
207-620-2280  
[todd.j.libby@us.army.mil](mailto:todd.j.libby@us.army.mil)
3. 1LT Cliff T. – Rear Detachment OIC (Officer-In-Charge)  
207-430-5336

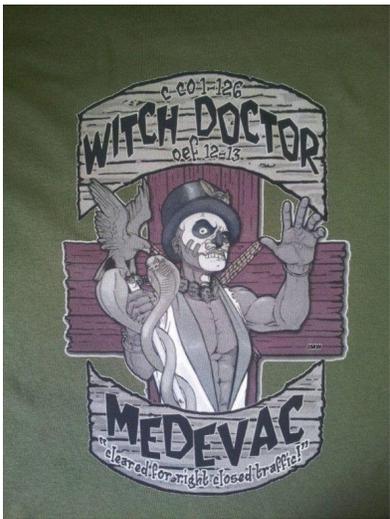
Other Helpful Numbers:

- 24 Hr. Hotline 1-888-365-9287
- AAFEES....Augusta 207-626-4123
- AAFEES....Bangor 207-990-7233
- American Red Cross 1-800-427-0009
- Chaplain 207-430-5898/5899
- Chaplain 24 Hour Careline 207-620-6009
- Commissary Bangor 207-990-7752
- Commissary Brunswick 207-921-2990
- Child and Youth Services Coordinator 207-430-5773
- Deployment Cycle Support Services, Director 207-430-5770
- Family Assistance Center Manager 207-430-5780
- **Family Assistance Center 24 Hour Hotline 1-888-365-9287**
- Family Program, Director 207-430-5777
- Family Readiness Assistant 207-430-5779
- ID Cards/DEERS (Camp Keyes) 207-626-4387
- Judge Advocate General (JAG) 207-626-4271
- Military One Source Consultant 207-232-8710
- Military One Source 24 Hour Hotline 1-800-342-9647
- Transition Assistance Advisor 207-430-5778
- USPFO 207-430-5619
- Yellow Ribbon NCOIC 207-430-5771
- Youth Programs Coordinator 207-430-5773

# T-shirts for Troops

The 126<sup>th</sup> FRG is selling Witch Doctor t-shirts with the goal of being able to send a shirt to every soldier that is deployed with the 126<sup>th</sup> MEDEVAC unit as a gift for the holidays. For each shirt you purchase we will send a shirt to a soldier. You also have the option of purchasing a shirt for a soldier at a reduced price and send a personalized message with the shirt. The shirts are offered in three different colors: green, tan, and gray. The Witch Doctor patch is on the back of the shirt and on the front of the shirt it says "We Support C.Co. 1-126<sup>th</sup> MEDEVAC". Soldier's shirts will not have the wording "We Support".

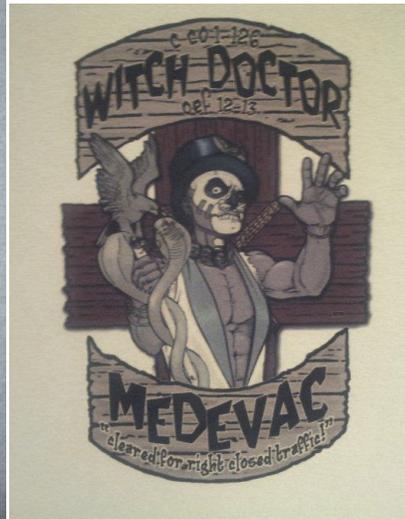
The backs in all three colors:



Green



Gray



Tan

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Adult T-shirts	Price:	Sizes	Quantity/Size
Gray Witch Doctor T-shirt	\$18 (add \$2 for 2XL and 3 XL)	Small - 3XL	
Green Witch Doctor T-shirt	\$18 (add \$2 for 2XL and 3 XL)	Small - 3XL	
Tan Witch Doctor T-shirt	\$18 (add \$2 for 2XL and 3XL)	Small - 3XL	
		Subtotal:	

Children T-shirts	Price:	Sizes	Quantity/Size
Gray Witch Doctor T-shirt	\$15	Small – XL	
		Subtotal:	

Troop T-shirts	Price:	Sizes	Quantity/Size
Green Witch Doctor T-shirt	\$10 (add \$2 for 2XL and 3XL)	Small – 3XL	
		Subtotal:	

If you would like your shirts mailed to you please add \$11.50 for 1-8 shirts and \$15.50 for more than 8 shirts. We will ship Priority Mail. Please write your mailing address on the back of this form.

Total: \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail your check (payable to 126th FRG) and order form to:

345 Fillmore Street, Bangor, ME 04401

ATTN: 126th FRG

All money is due with the order. Thank you!