

Hello again from Demonland! Yes, it's beginning to look a lot like Christmas around here. We've taken the extra time and effort to string a couple of strands of Christmas lights up in the palm trees along Route Raiders in addition to SGT Prewitt volunteering to wear the Santa Claus suit on Saturdays (he still makes snide remarks to everyone, but at least he adds a "ho, ho, ho" on the end of each snippet). However, he keeps demanding milk and cookies twice a day. Thanks to SGT Prewitt's attempt at Christmas-time cheer, spending another Christmas in this fabulous corner of the world seems a little bit more tolerable.

Recently, Demon Company was finally able to distribute the valor awards for the 19 February SVBIED attack. 1LT Jokinen, SFC Housey, SSG Copeland, SPC Olps, SPC Patterson, SGT Ortega and SPC Vang all received their Bronze Star Medals for Valor from the BDE Commander (COL Funk) in addition to CPT Wallace, SGT Garcia, and SPC Byington receiving their Army Commendation Medals (ARCOMs) with Valor devices. SGT Garcia and SPC Byington also received their Purple Hearts from the attack and look forward to the free license plates upon their return. In addition to the Valor Awards, Demon Company also was privileged to execute a large number of promotions. SPC McClean, Stoodley, Patterson, Schenk all joined the NCO corps while PV1 Bardsley and PFC Miller were promoted to PV2 and SPC, respectively. Also SPC "Vote for Pedro" Ceballos became CPL Ceballos one hour prior to the construction of this newsletter.

2LT Bart Fletcher recently arrived to Demon Company to take charge of our Red Platoon fresh out of the University of Florida's ROTC program. Unfortunately, CPT Doyle did not let the XO greet him with a pack of Marlboro Reds in his ACH band and his chin strap unbuttoned. CPT Doyle also went the extra mile by banning SGT Nickerson from telling stories that start with "One time, in Sadr city," from OIF II. SFC Hankal has slowly made the readjustment back to his traditional NCO roll of maintenance and "professional mentoring" of the new Soldiers. He was sad to see his name removed from the Platoon's hand receipt for over sixteen million dollars of equipment. SSG Ratcliff continues to pollute the company net with his lies and falsehoods of the greatness of the Seattle Seahawks. Besides the aforementioned events, Red Platoon continues to dominate the "graveyard shift" on Route Raiders.

White Platoon continues to inspire the rest of the company with their strange desire to leave the comfort of their vehicles and do this strange "walking" thing around our AO. Why they would leave their warm vehicles and honey bun supplies continue to defy the reason and logic of their tanker brothers. Recently, 1LT Sean "L-Shaped Ambush" or "The Lone Ranger" Jokinen, the Battalion's Snipers, and HQ attachments discovered a small cache in the northern portion of our AO. While not the size of the "Holy hell, there's a SAM missile" cache found a couple of months ago, Operation Cold Harbor I still proved to be a success. SSG "I know I'm angry about something, but I'm not sure what it is" Copeland and SGT "I don't have time to bleed" Stoodley also learned that clearing a non-ventilated Iraqi chicken coop with the mine detector teams produce temporary symptoms akin to the late stages of tuberculosis coupled with dry heaves. White Platoon looks forward to future dismount operations and rising above the crippling honey bun addiction plaguing the tanker ranks of Demon Company.

Blue Platoon recently had SSG "Muzica DJ!" Ayala assume duties as Platoon Sergeant after SFC Housey went on emergency leave. 2LT Matt Jung recently has taken

the time to inform his chain of command that he is the “senior lieutenant” in Demon Pure (Demon Company with Bandog’s White Platoon reattaching and taking the place of SFC Battle’s PLT). He’s volunteered to provide his valuable experience to the other “junior Platoon Leaders” (i.e. the guys who got here a month after he did). Recently, Blue Platoon tried to get yet another vehicle coded out due to mechanical faults in order to push the total vehicle damaged/lost number up to an even 20. However, the mechanics thwarted their evil plans and saved the XO a great deal of paperwork. At the current moment, Blue Platoon is sitting in their lair making evil plans on how to destroy yet another vehicle.

HQ Platoon continues to serve the company as both an administrative work horse and a stand-in maneuver element. Recently, CPT Doyle led the HQ Platoon to cover a route security shift during Thanksgiving day in order to allow the Platoons to enjoy a Thanksgiving meal at the DFAC. On the route, Demon 6 proved to be quite lethal at the Company’s favorite game- The Seven Degrees of Kevin Bacon. Basically, one crew names one actor. Subsequently, each crew attempts to link said actor to Kevin Bacon via movies and their casts. While this may sound trite and trivial, one can deduce that our AO is really that quiet. HQ Platoon also supervised the construction on an IA Tower along Route Raiders. The mission was a rousing success, but caused a great deal of alarm. Demon Company realized that if the Battalion learned that Tower Construction was that easy, the IA would replace us on Raiders and we’d become available to go somewhere else. Accordingly, we’ve paid KBR to sabotage their crane and provide us job security in our AO. SGT Prewitt occupies his day with customs inspections in other battalions. Evidently, he’s decided that his wit and biting sarcasm needs to be shared with the entire brigade. CPT Wallace appreciates how quiet the CP has been as of late sans quotations from the Book ‘o Prewitt. In other news, the XO has accepted that God was not gracious enough to give him a nice, tour-ending flesh wound. Accordingly, Demon 5 continues to begrudgingly serve out his tour.

Well that about wraps it up for this installment of the Demon Picayune. For all of you back home, we regret not being able to spend the holidays with you this year. However, the presence of our surrogate family (no matter how dysfunctional it is) known as Demon Company provides us a sense of comfort. It’s not eggnog at Grandma’s house, but at least it’s something. On behalf of the Demon Command team, we send our warmest holiday regards and look forward to seeing you all again.

CPT Cory Wallace
Demon 5

PS- Nikki, I love you and remember, it’s not normal to watch “A Christmas Story” twenty times in a row despite what you may see



COL Funk awards SPC Patterson his Bronze Star with Valor Device for actions on 19 FEB.



COL Funk awards SGT Garcia his ARCOM w/V for actions on 19 FEB, as well as a Purple Heart. He is our hero.



COL Funk addresses the Demons after the awards ceremony.