



Photos courtesy of 82nd Sustainment Bde. PAO

Col. Chris Sharpsten, right, Command Sgt. Maj. Edward Bell, left, Spc. Nataliya Ardin and Spc. Shannon Gaddis cut the ribbon leading into the Hall of Heroes Nov. 7 at the 82nd Sustainment Bde.'s Center of Excellence building.

Brigade remembers fallen Soldiers over holidays

BY SGT. FIRST CLASS
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82ND SUSTAINMENT BDE. PAO

In December 2011, members of the 82nd Sustainment Brigade decided to do something different over the holiday season.

The unit held a ceremony for seven of its fallen comrades as a way of ensuring they would be remembered over the holidays.

Remembered were: Spc. Joshua R. Campbell, 546th Transportation Company; Spc. Shawn A. Muhr, 546th Transportation Co.; Sgt. Orlando C. Salazar, Headquarters Co., 82nd Special Troops Battalion; Sgt. Breon J. Smith, 659th Maintenance Co.; Staff Sgt. Carson Morris, Headquarters Detachment, 7th

Transportation Bn.; Sgt. Devin J. Daniels, 546th Transportation Co.; Sgt. Colby L. Richmond, 546th Transportation Co.

The unit remembered their sacrifice and the tears cried from each of their Families. They also remembered the memorial service as they recalled "Taps" and "Amazing Grace" being played.

As heart-breaking as that sounds, it's a reality that Provider Soldiers and Families share. The constant phrase "one is too many" looms over every Family member who suffers the loss.

The brigade honored its fallen comrades by remembering them in their thoughts, prayers and ceremonies.

Col. Chris Sharpsten, 82nd Sustainment Bde. commander and Command Sgt. Maj. Edward Bell recognized all of the unit's fallen Soldiers by opening a "Hall of Heroes" Nov. 7, 2011 at the Center of Excellence building. The memorial displays plaques of all of the deceased Soldiers in the brigade's history mounted on two painted murals.

A ceremony that took place this year recognized one of the fallen comrades as the United Service Organization Soldier of the Year.

On Oct. 7, 2011, David Muhr, Coon Rapids, Iowa, native and father of Spc. Shawn Muhr, received a commemorative plaque

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David Muhr, third from left, father of Spc. Shawn Muhr, receives a commemorative plaque honoring his son as the "2011 USO Soldier of the Year," during a ceremony Oct. 7 at the Raleigh Convention Center. Shawn was killed Jan. 29 in Helmand Province, Afghanistan.

Campbell unit prepares to train deploying paratroopers

Fury Brigade readies for future deployments by training with Currahees

BY STAFF SGT.
MATTHEW GRAHAM

4TH BCT, 101ST ABN. DIV. PAO

FORT CAMPBELL, Ky. — Col. Valery C. Keaveny Jr., commander of the 4th Brigade Combat Team "Currahee", 101st Airborne Division gave his Soldiers some final words of advice before their departure for Joint Readiness Training Center on Jan. 6, at Fort Campbell, Ky.

About 100 Currahee Soldiers were selected to assist as temporary trainer/mentors during the 82nd Airborne Division's, 1st Brigade Combat Team's rotation through JRTC.

Trainer/mentor is a term used to describe the individuals who serve as full time staff at JRTC, their job is to train the units who rotate through JRTC.

"You were selected because you are a gold mine of experience," said Keaveny.

The group of select Currahees recently

returned from Afghanistan and was chosen because of their expertise in their individual skills. The Soldiers are going to the JRTC for about three weeks, to bring some of the most successful techniques to use during the deployment, as well as new tactics the enemy might be doing.

"We are helping to prepare units to deploy troops to combat operations in Afghanistan," said Maj. Robert Born, the brigade's operations officer.

Born also described how the JRTC takes the most recent intelligence gathered from the battlefield, as well as current enemy tactics, in Afghanistan and immediately implements it into their training.

Keaveny, who has recent experience as a trainer/mentor prior to taking command of the Currahees, wanted his Soldiers to understand exactly how useful they could be.

"Your value is



Photo by Staff Sgt. Matthew Graham/4th BCT, 101st Abn. Div. PAO

Col. Valery C. Keaveny Jr., commander of 4th Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division, addresses his soldiers for a special mission on Jan. 6, at Fort Campbell, Ky. The group of nearly 100 soldiers will be sent to the Joint Readiness Training Center to help prepare the 1st Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division, for their next deployment to Afghanistan. The Currahees were selected to assist as trainer/mentors because of their expertise and knowledge, having recently returned from Afghanistan.

incredible, you were one of the last units to return from Regional Command East," said Keaveny.

He then went on to explain how their firsthand knowledge will be critical in preparing the 82nd Airborne's 1st BCT for the next deployment to Afghanistan.

"I want you to go to your counterpart every morning and say 'what do you want me to take a closer look at?'," said Keaveny. He explained that their role is to be a second set of eyes for their counterpart, showing them the possible techniques that could improve their readiness,

what works well and does not need to change.

Keaveny also told his troops how this is not only an opportunity to train the 82nd Soldiers, it is also a chance for Currahees to learn as well.

"This is a partnership. You may see something another unit is doing and

bring it back with you and implement it in your unit," he said.

"Before you leave, talk to your leadership and your subordinates, talk and think about what you want to bring to their training rotation and what you want to get out of it," ended Keaveny.