



**A Message From
The President
MG Joseph P. O'Leary (Ret)**



The 101st Expeditionary Signal Battalion, has departed New York to join American forces serving in Afghanistan. After a year of intense preparations the final day with families and loved ones came on Sunday 19 Aug 12 at Stewart Air National Guard Base in New Windsor, New York.

The Air Guard generously provided a large empty hangar for the Battalion and dependents to enjoy food and soft drinks, mingle, and spend a couple of final hours together before departure. A formal ceremony, including addresses by invited dignitaries led by the TAG of New York MG Pat Murphy, ended with the Battalion marching off to retrieve their carry on luggage, and then on to the 747 Aircraft waiting to ferry them to Fort Bliss, Texas.

At Fort Bliss the Battalion will undergo a month of combat training and certification before their final leg into theater. A sizeable Rear detachment has remained and will continue training as a National Guard unit. The Detachment Headquarters will be stationed in the Yonkers armory. The Orangeburg armory will also be used for meetings and training.

The Rear Commander MAJ Narciso Saldana, and staff are planning a Christmas party for the Rear Detachment personnel and all Battalion members dependents, time and place to be announced. It is expected that the Liberty Chapter members will be invited also. I'm sure information will be passing back and forth from the Battalion Forward and those at home.

I would hope this information be shared with other interested parties including the Liberty Chapter, SCRA. I'm sure you all join with me in wishing the 101st and all its members good luck, and God speed, and hope for their safe return.

As soon as the information becomes available it will be published on the Liberty Chapter web site at www.nysignal.org

**SCHEDULE
OF
MEETINGS**

Thursday
18 Oct 2012
1930 Hrs
Polish C.C.
Yonkers, NY
Spouse/Friends
are Invited

Monday
7 Jan 2013
1930 Hrs
Yonkers
Armory

Monday
8 Apr 2013
1930 Hrs
Yonkers
Armory
Annual
Elections

Monday
8 Jul 2013
1930 Hrs
Yonkers
Armory

**ANNUAL DUES
ARE
\$12.00 E6 & Up
\$2.00 E-1 to E-5
Due in April
Each Year
Check Your
Mailing Label
In Apr 2012 for
Expiration Date**



The Liberty Chapter Annual fishing trip aboard the "Riptide III" was cancelled due to severe storm weather.

Upcoming events

Our next meeting is scheduled on 18 Oct at the Polish Community Center in Yonkers, NY at 1930 hrs. A reminder that spouses/friends are invited. There may be a last minute change to this if the Polish Center is not available. If so then it will be held at the armory in Yonkers. A quick e-mail notice will be sent out to everyone if this change is made.

NGAUS Conference & Exhibition
135th General Conference
Sept. 20-23, 2013 - Honolulu

101st Sig Bn Rear Detachment and all Battalion Dependents Holiday formal December 2012. Exact Date and place will be published when finalized.

Photo and article from the Fort Bliss "Monitor"



FORT BLISS, TX-- New York Army National Guard Command Sgt. Major Dan Bien, the CSM of the 101st Expeditionary Signal Battalion, speaks to members of the Fort Bliss community during an event commemorating the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001.

The 101st trained for deployment to Afghanistan at Fort Bliss. ".let me say thank you for not forgetting why we fight," Bien told the audience. Bien was the special guest speaker during the 9-11 Retreat and Remembrance Ceremony at Fort Bliss, Texas, Memorial Circle, Sept. 11, 2012 and a guardsman who was also a first responder at Ground Zero 11 years ago.

Bien previously deployed to Iraq as a First Sergeant with D Troop, 101st Cavalry Regiment, and is now deploying to Afghanistan as a Bn CSM with his fellow New York Army Minutemen.



LIBERTY CHAPTER

To Promote the Esprit de Corps and Fraternity of the Signal Corps

101st Expeditionary Signal Battalion Departure Ceremony at Stewart Air Base

Article and Photos provided by DMNA web site



STEWART AIR NATIONAL GUARD BASE, Newburgh--Soldiers of the New York Army National Guard's 101st Expeditionary Signal Battalion held a mobilization ceremony and boarded a charter plane taking them to Fort Bliss Texas for post-mobilization training on Sunday, August 19 at the base here. (Photo by Eric Durr, Div of Military and Naval Affairs)

A farewell ceremony in which the Soldiers were addressed by Major General Patrick Murphy, the Adjutant General of New York, Brigadier General Michael Swezey, commander of the 53rd Troop Command, and Ms. Mary Kavaney Assistant Deputy Secretary for Public Safety, representing Gov. Andrew Cuomo. At the conclusion of the ceremony the Soldiers moved to the air strip at Stewart ANGB to board their 747 jet transportation to Fort Bliss, Texas

LIBERTY CHAPTER OFFICERS
PRESIDENT: Joseph P. O'Leary
VICE PRES : Jackie Russell
TREASURER: Carlos Rodriguez
AWARDS: Paul Suchanyc
MEMBERSHIP: Kim Farrier
EVENTS: Steve Wadelton
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**Liberty Chapter
Signal Regiment Assn
State Armory, Quincy Place
Yonkers, New York 10701**

The 101st Expeditionary Signal Battalion deployed to Afghanistan on Sep 28, to provide communications support to military units across that country using the state-of-the-art Warfighter Information Network-Tactical system that employs satellite technology to provide voice and data connections to military units.

The battalion, commanded by Col. Greg Dreisbach, has been preparing for deployment for the past two years. The Soldiers just completed pre-mobilization training at Fort Drum where they trained on basic warrior skills like tactical maneuver, land-navigation, and grenade throwing.

While the unit has not deployed to combat since it's reactivation in 2004 many of its Soldiers have served in Afghanistan and Iraq.



Liberty Chapter
Signal Regiment Assn
State Armory, Quincy Place
Yonkers, New York 10701



Mailing Label



SUPPORT OUR TROOPS

Maj. Gen. Dana Pittard
It remains the greatest honor
and privilege to serve with
each of you.



Fort Bliss **MONITOR**

The 101st ESB conducts largest commercial air lift that FT Bliss has ever seen



Soldiers of the 101st Expeditionary Signal Battalion work with the Fort Bliss Unit Movement Branch to load the 747 with shipping containers of communications equipment for deployment. Photo by Claudia R. Kennedy, DoMaD Public Affairs.

Claudia R. Kennedy,
DoMaD Public Affairs:

More than 450 National Guard Soldiers of the 101st Expeditionary Signal Battalion from New York state and New Jersey arrived at Fort Bliss Aug. 19 to conduct pre-deployment training.

The unit arrived with a large amount of specialized communications equipment such as satellites, nodes, generators, trucks and containers of accessories required for training to conduct their mission in Afghanistan. As the unit conducts their mobilization training at McGregor Range, the 101st ESB unit movement team works double-time preparing for the largest strategic commercial airlift Fort Bliss has seen in years.

Capt. David Myones, 101st ESB unit movement officer, worked hand in hand with Kevin Williams, unit movement coordinator for the Directorate of Mobilization and Deployment, as well as the Fort Bliss Unit Movement Branch, to ensure proper training, planning and execution of this gargantuan task.

Williams, who has worked in his position at Fort Bliss for seven years, said this is the largest commercial airlift DoMaD and Fort Bliss has seen since a patriot battalion deployed in 2003. In order to ensure that the unit met the short suspense between mobilization training and their latest arrival date into theater, Williams worked 10 to 14 hours a day for almost two weeks, including weekends, training and assisting the 101st with all the meticulous and time-consuming prep work.

“On military aircraft, you can simply roll in the equipment or drive it right into the plane, chain it down, and off it goes,” said Williams.



The 101st Expeditionary Signal Battalion unit movement team loads 747 cargo planes to a capacity of 180,000 pounds, including Humvees and generators to conduct a relief in place in Afghanistan. Photo by Claudia R. Kennedy, DoMaD Public Affairs.

On commercial aircraft, all the equipment must be placed on pallets and chained down before it can be loaded on the plane. Height and weight requirements are different for military aircraft. Equipment must go through a joint inspection process where crews check fuel levels, equipment tie-downs, hazardous materials, and vehicle weight to determine the center of balance.

The 101st received eight commercial 747 aircraft and one military C-5 aircraft, which was required because some of their specialized equipment exceeded the height restrictions on the commercial carriers. The unit loaded all the cargo onto the planes and departed out of Biggs Army Airfield the last few weeks of September to commence their tour in Afghanistan providing critical signal support to all units in theater.

Col. Greg Dreisbach, battalion commander for the 101st ESB, presented Williams with a carved wooden plaque Sept. 27 for his contributions and assistance to their unit ensuring all their critical communications equipment got shipped properly and on time.

“Our mission is very critical,” said Command Sgt. Maj. Daniel Bien of the 101st ESB. “If these units don’t have communications, they can’t accomplish their mission. We take our mission very seriously.”

“We have so many good Soldiers that are anxious to go serve their country. We’re so proud of them,” said Dreisbach. “Morale is very high. Soldiers are trained, ready and eager to go.”

This is the first deployment in 60 years for the 101st ESB since the Korean War. Sgt. Carlos Alvarez, an all-wheel mechanic from Yonkers, is one of the first in the battalion to deploy on the first commercial strat air flight.

“It is a big honor to be a part of something so big and make a difference,” said Alvarez.