

It has been mentioned in the media on a number of occasions that the Army is developing rotation plan proposals for units to support the numerous missions around the world. The Arrowhead SBCT is one of the units the Army has to choose from to accomplish one or more of these many missions. Because we are a deployable combat unit, it should be no surprise that we will likely be called to deploy in the near future. Therefore, Task Force Tomahawk will continue to execute required training and readiness duties as we normally would in preparation for possible contingencies or deployments. Any specific dates you may have heard about are not related to any known deployment date. They are the transition points between different levels of training (individual, squad, platoon, and company) we would normally follow as shown in the Army training system (Draft Field Manual 7-0, *Training the Force*).

Some important points to remember:

- TF Tomahawk has not received a deployment order. If a deployment order is received, the details of the mission and the location will be classified. All other information that can be released will be passed using the Family Readiness Group channels and a very detailed pre-deployment briefing.
- All leaders from the Secretary of Defense down to your husband's fire team leader understand the importance of timely notifications for deployments and predictability of the length of those deployments. Be aware that the current assessment in the Department of Defense is that the likely length of an operational deployment for all units is 12 months.
- The media has shown a strong interest in what the SBCT is currently doing and what we may be asked to do in the future. It is likely that you may be approached by the media and asked for your opinion. Please feel free to do so, but I strongly encourage you not to speculate or spread rumors. It can only cause confusion, frustration, and may increase the risk your husband and the other soldiers may encounter. If you are not comfortable or don't wish to speak with the media, please refer them to the 10th Corps Public Affairs Office at 967-0155.

Some important steps you can take now:

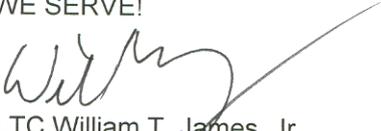
- ✓ *Review all your important administrative and legal documents:*
 - Do you have a valid power of attorney? Does it need to be renewed?
 - Do you have access to all bank/financial accounts?
 - Do you and your children (10 yrs. and older) have valid government dependent ID cards? Are they going to expire soon and do they need to be renewed?
 - Do you have copies of birth certificates, social security cards, marriage licenses, and/or previous divorce decrees?
 - Do your Will(s) and SGLI reflect recent births, deaths, marriages, or divorces?
 - Are home, auto, and life insurance policies up to date?
- ✓ Meet and talk to your FRG contact person to make sure the call out roster has your correct phone number, and that she has your correct snail mail and email addresses.

What you can expect at a pre-deployment briefing:

- Meet key FRG reps and the Rear Detachment Commander and NCO
- Receive instructions and rules for sending mail and/or care packages
- Receive instructions on how to contact a soldier in the event of an emergency
- Receive instructions on how to get an LES

Thank you for your continued support and your understanding.

TOMAHAWKS, WE SERVE!


LTC William T. James, Jr.
Commander


CSM Frank Leota
Command Sergeant Major