

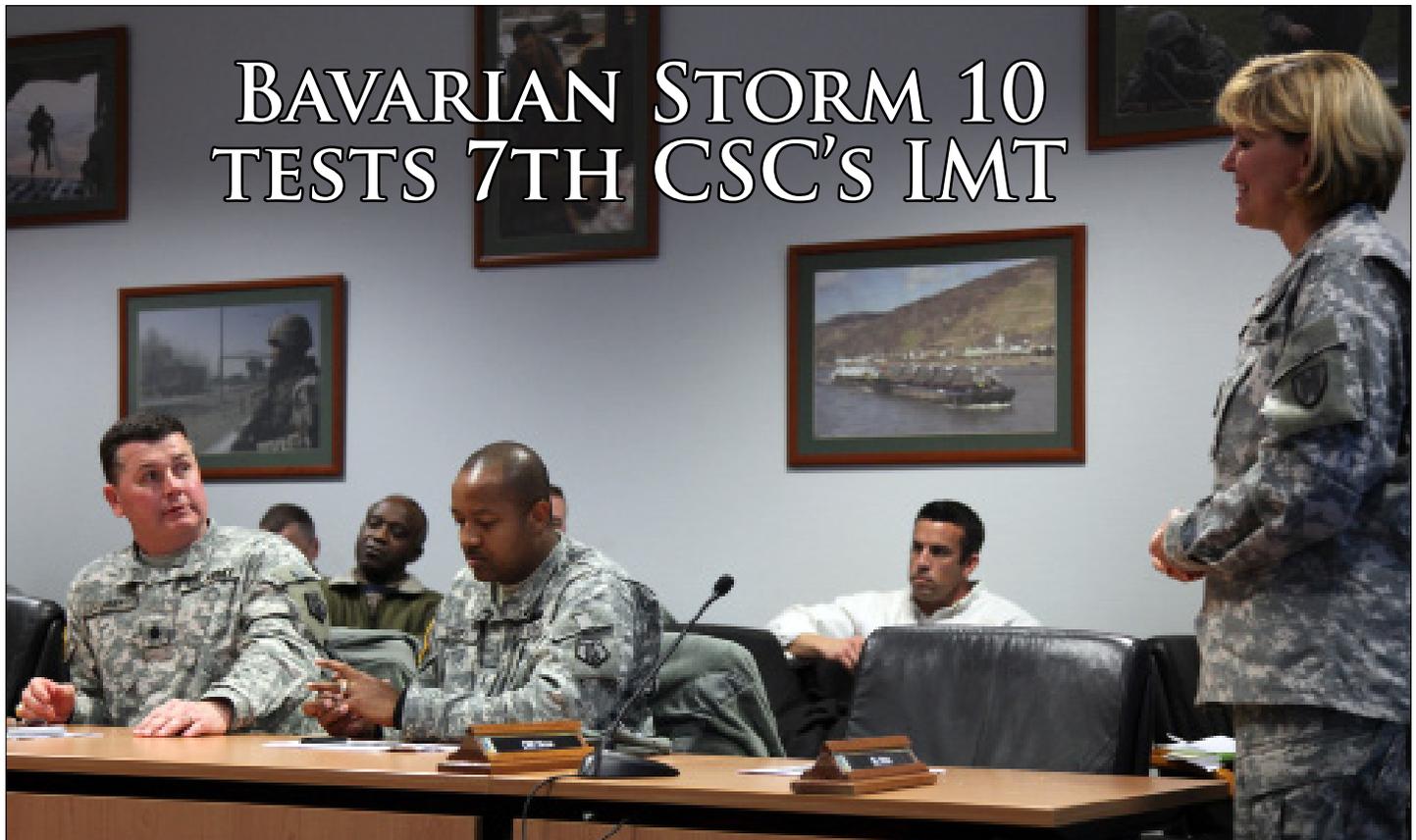


First In Support !

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21st Theater Sustainment Command, Kaiserslautern, Germany

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BAVARIAN STORM 10 TESTS 7TH CSC'S IMT

Lt. Col. George B. Loughery, the deputy logistics officer of the 7th Civil Support Command, and Chief Warrant Officer 3 Michael Drew, a service and support chief, discuss with Maj. Gen. Patricia McQuiston, the commanding general of the 21st Theater Sustainment Command, the importance of logistical requirements and ordering procedures and how they played a major role during Bavarian Storm 10. (Photo by Spc. Glenn M. Anderson, 221st Public Affairs Detachment)

*By Spc. Glenn M. Anderson
7th CSC PAO*

KAISERSLAUTERN, Germany – As a heavy snow fell on Kaiserslautern and the surrounding communities, bringing traffic and communities to a standstill, the 7th Civil Support Command's Incident Management Team participated in Bavarian Storm 10 at Rhine Ordnance Barracks here in December in support of the 773rd Civil Support Team's external evaluation to validate its capabilities.

The IMT was able to use the 773rd CST exercise validation as a useful integration opportunity to ensure it is synchronized with the chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear response reporting process as this has not been done before in a training exercise with the 7th CSC. This will better enable both the 773rd CST and the IMT to further hone their processes on reporting and requesting of information from a higher headquarters perspective as well as subordinate units.

“Bavarian Storm 10 was an opportunity to see how the 7th CSC IMT would function in a foreign consequence management situation to provide oversight and support to the 773rd CST,” said Capt. Meeshack R. Lee, assistant communications and information officer and 7th CSC IMT team member.

“It was a great opportunity for the IMT to get out and see how the 773rd CST does business and how their operations are run,” Lee said. “It gave us the opportunity to go back and form a plan, based on the specific requirements of the 773rd CST and how we plan to support them for future missions”

Among the many mock scenarios for the 773rd CST's chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear team of specialists, was a chemical incident that had occurred near Kaiserslautern where the 7th CSC's IMT was to assess the situation and monitor unfolding events

“This is a great chance for us to communicate with our units,” said Staff Sgt. Nylis G. Renschler II, the 7th CSC information technology noncommissioned

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officer in charge and the one in charge of tactical communication for the IMT.

“The 773rd is a key piece in the foreign consequence management puzzle, and we need to communicate with them and get information flow back and forth,” said Renschler.

As the 7th CSC pushed on with training and supporting the 773rd CST, the weather conditions became worse, making roads almost impassable, which made training that much more difficult. However, in a real world situation, a unit cannot be brought to a halt by weather or adverse conditions so the training continued.

“We have faced some adverse weather conditions, both rain and snow along with amber and red road conditions. Things here have really gone off without a hitch,” said Lt. Col. Tony Francia, incident management team officer in charge and chief of training for the 7th CSC.

“The fabulous part of our Bavarian Storm 10 exercise is that not only does it work at evaluating the training

level of the 773rd CST, but has incorporated multi-echelon training by establishing a command/control and sustainment mechanism above the 773rd,” said Francia.

“In that regard, it would be the IMT’s mission to ensure that 773rd is free to execute their mission while we coordinate the joint, interagency, intergovernmental, and multi-national response and establish the base for a follow-on Joint Task Force-Foreign Consequence Management Command and Control Structure,” he said.

As the weather improved near the end of the exercise, the IMT members of Alpha, Bravo, and Charlie teams had the opportunity to exercise the 7th CSC tactical standard operating procedures and put their portion to the test.

“Bavarian Storm 10 was very successful because it allowed us to define the way ahead for future missions and training events,” said Lee. “Now we can plan to support that unit for future missions.”

Hat Trick ...

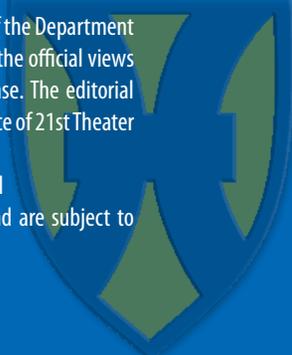


The 7th Army Joint Multinational Training Command commanding general, Brig. Gen. Steven L. Salazar, shakes the hands of some of the players of the Bayern Rangers hockey team during the January Grafenwoehr Community Huddle. The Bayern Rangers took third place during the 2011 U.S. Air Force Europe’s annual hockey championship in Garmisch, Germany. (Photo by Capt. Jennifer Dyrcoz, 18th CSSB Public Affairs)

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Rally Point opens on Tompkins Barracks



Col. Bill Butcher, the U.S. Army Garrison Baden-Wurtemberg commander, and members of the Heidelberg community and Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers program cut the ribbon at the grand opening of the Rally Point on Tompkins Barracks in Schwetzingen Dec. 10. The Rally Point is a morale, welfare and recreation center designed as a place for Soldiers in Heidelberg to relax and spend time with one another. (Photo by Capt. Kathryn Werback, 18th Eng. Bde. Public Affairs Officer)

*Story by: Spc. Aislinn Amig,
18th Eng. Bde. Public Affairs*

SCHWETZINGEN, Germany—Soldiers in the Heidelberg community spent the last few months renovating a building on Tompkins Barracks and now have a new recreational facility to show for it.

The Rally Point, which opened Dec. 10, is a morale, welfare, and recreation center designed as a place for Soldiers in Heidelberg to go after work to unwind, spend time with friends and get out of the barracks.

“Tompkins Barracks is so isolated from the rest of the Heidelberg community. It’s nice to have somewhere available to us that is close to home where we can hang

out,” said Pfc. Rebecca Quiroga, a topographic analyst with the 60th Engineer Detachment, 18th Eng. Bde. who hails from Portage, Mich.

The facility is within a minute of each of the barracks for Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 18th Engineer Brigade, U.S. NATO Brigade and the U.S. Army Europe Band.

“Soldiers wanting to have a good time outside of the barracks no longer have to drive in inclement weather or after they’ve been drinking,” said Master Sgt. John Pennington, the 18th Eng. Bde. operations noncommissioned officer in charge who is from New Orleans.

The Rally Point features a pool table, ping pong table, a digital poker machine, card table, foosball

and many gaming systems. In addition to the gaming amenities, the facility offers a library, a theater-style entertainment system with recliners and a full kitchen.

In the coming months, free wireless internet will also be available at the Rally Point.

“This is a great service, especially for newly arrived Soldiers needing to keep in touch with their families back home. They have somewhere they can go to connect with their loved ones before they are able to get their own internet connection,” said Pennington.

The Rally Point is maintained by Soldiers of the 18th Eng. Bde. and is expected to hold various Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers program activities in the coming months.

21st TSC Soldier selected for USAREUR Soldier's Chorus

Story by Staff Sgt. Tramel Garrett,
21st TSC Public Affairs

Nervous and tense, she gets on stage and stands in front of a panel of judges. Reaching down deep inside, she opens up and begins to sing like she's never sang before. She holds nothing back. When she's done a brief silence fills the air. Suddenly, the judges begin to applaud. Her nerves calm as she realizes her dream is now becoming a reality.

For Sgt. Tierra M. Brown, an automated logistic specialist, with the 21st Theater Sustainment Command and a native of Shelby, N.C., her dream became a reality when she was selected for the U.S. Army Europe Soldier's Chorus in October.

"It was great. I felt like I really deserved it. It was a great accomplishment, and I really felt proud of myself," said Brown.

The USAREUR chorus is a group of Soldiers with different specialties who perform to enhance the morale of their fellow Soldiers. The chorus travels around Europe and several Middle Eastern countries, performing about 200 times a year.

The chorus has performed in places such as Moscow's Red Square and in Iraq. They also served as part of a musical and cultural acknowledgement for Croatia and Albania during their accession ceremonies into NATO in 2009.

The men and women of the chorus represent the best vocalists and dancers of USAREUR. As a result, the auditions for the chorus are very competitive in search for talented Soldiers with the ability to sing and dance.

Prior to her initial audition, Brown was required to submit her Enlisted Record Brief, Army Physical Fitness Test card and latest weapons qualification score to ensure she was within the Army standards. Soldiers audition in their dress uniforms.

The process began as Brown gave a brief autobiography before singing the national anthem and three solo songs in front of a panel of judges. This is the first step of the selection process. Soldiers, who are selected, are given 30-day attachment orders and temporarily assigned to the USAREUR Soldier's Chorus leading up to their final auditions.

During those 30 days before the final auditions, the Soldier's Chorus training noncommissioned officer



Sgt. Tierra M. Brown, an automated logistic specialist with the 21st Theater Sustainment Command and a native of Shelby, N.C., sings during a Black History month event. Brown was selected for the U.S. Army Europe Soldier's Chorus in October. During her time with the chorus, she has performed multiple times at the residence of Gen. Carter F. Ham, the USAREUR commanding general. (U. S. Army Photo)

works with the Soldiers on their vocal performances and picks three songs for each Soldier to perform. The next step is to perform these songs in front of

the judges, who make the final selections.

“For my final audition I performed in a quartet; we performed Auf Wiedersehen, the German Nation Anthem and the American National Anthem,” said Brown.

After all the practicing, auditioning and preparation, Brown was selected to be a part of the USAREUR Soldier’s Chorus.

Two days later she was performing for the first time as a member of the chorus. In the last three months, she has performed multiple times at the residence of Gen. Carter F. Ham, the

USAREUR commanding general.

Brown said she started singing at the age of six in her church’s choir. She also remembers performing in local talent shows and singing the blues with her grandfather at a young age.

“I remember standing around the piano as my grandfather played blue suede shoes,” said Brown. “All of the grandchildren would be jumping around and singing as he played.”

“That was one of my earliest and fondest memories of singing,” she said.

Growing up she listened to Tina Turner, Gladys Knight and Yolanda Adams. Her favorite genre to sing is Neo soul. Her favorite artists are Jill Scott and Erika Badu.

Driven by determination to be successful, Brown said she overcame all her obstacles to reach her goal.

“I want to reach out to other people who have a passion for music and keep it inside. I just want to let people know to express themselves and get out there and not be ashamed of their gifts and pursue something,” she added.

Kleber tax center holds grand opening

21st TSC, Public Affairs

The Kaiserslautern Legal Services Center’s Tax Assistance Center in Bldg. 3210 on Kleber Kaserne held its grand opening and ribbon-cutting ceremony Jan. 31.

Maj. Gen. Patricia McQuiston, the commanding general of the 21st Theater Sustainment Command, was the guest of honor. McQuiston and Spc. Jasmin Hunter, a paralegal specialist with the 21st TSC, cut the ribbon at a grand opening ceremony.

Active duty servicemembers, reservists, retirees, Department of Defense civilians and family members are all entitled to use the 21st TSC tax centers at Kleber and Landstuhl at no charge.

Customers must bring a valid photo identification, social security cards, or Individual Taxpayer Identification Number cards for everyone on the tax return, a power of attorney for taxes (if applicable), a W-2 and/or a 1099-MISC, bank



Maj. Gen. Patricia E. McQuiston, the commanding general of the 21st Theater Sustainment Command, along with Spc. Jasmin Hunter, a paralegal specialist with the 21st TSC, cut the ribbon at a grand opening ceremony for the Kleber Kaserne Tax Center in Kaiserslautern, Germany, Jan.31. Hunter is the latest member of the tax assistance team to finish the volunteer income tax assistant course. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Tramel S. Garrett, 21st TSC Public Affairs)

account number and routing number for direct deposit of refund and a copy of previous year’s tax return, if possible.

The tax center at Kleber Kaserne is located in Building 3210 across from the shoppette. The center’s business hours are from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The phone number is DSN

483-7688 or civilian 0631-411-7688.

The Landstuhl Tax Center opened Jan. 24. It is co-located with the Education Center on the ground floor of building 3701. The phone number is DSN 486-6334 or civilian 06371-86-6334.

Trans. Co. cases colors, prepares for move to Fort Polk

By 1st Lt. Kevin Jagusch
41st Transportation Company

The 41st Transportation Company, 18th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, 16th Sustainment Brigade cased its company colors in the Grafenwoehr Field House here Jan. 13.

“It is not just the Soldiers of the 41st Transportation Company that deserve our thanks, but also their Families. The operations tempo for the last seven years has been very high and without the support from their Families and loved ones, they would not have been able to achieve such great success,” said Capt. Terrence Flanagan, the 41st Trans. Co. company commander and a native of Glastonbury, Conn.

The 41st Trans. Co. has been stationed in Grafenwoehr since its reactivation Sept. 16, 1998, and is relocating to Fort Polk, La., to support the 88th Brigade Support Battalion by providing truck transportation for containerized and palletized cargo.

“This is a great opportunity for the Soldiers to learn how a deactivation works and to take their knowledge with them to their future units,” said Spc. Steven Penoske, a native of Columbus, Ind., who works as a motor transport operator.

Since 2001, the 41st Trans. Co. has seen 51 months of deployment. The company supported the initial



Soldiers of the 41st Transportation Company stand in formation during the casing of the company colors ceremony Jan. 13 in the Grafenwoehr Field House. The 41st Trans. Co. will be relocating to Fort Polk, La. (Photo by Spc. Robert E. Lynds)

push into Iraq in 2003, redeployed there in 2005 and again in 2007.

The company’s most recent deployment was to Afghanistan in 2009, returning in the fall of 2010. During the deployment to Afghanistan, the 41st Trans. Co. provided not only logistical support, which was their primary mission, but also trained and executed convoy security, material handling support and provided a quick reactionary force while operating across two regional commands and numerous bases and camps.

“I am really ready to get back to the states,” said Sgt. Joshua Blazonis, a native of El Paso, Texas, who works as a team leader.

“My time in the 41st Transportation Company was spent as the platoon leader of basically the same group of guys. Now that everyone is leaving, I know I will miss them all,” said 1st Lt. Kevin Jagusch a native of Fenton, Mich.

“It is bittersweet to see everyone leave. It was my first unit so the Soldiers taught me a lot, and I wish them all the best of luck,” said 1st Lt. Katie Steele, a native of Lock Haven, Pa., who works as the 41st Trans. Co. executive officer.

“It’s a closing of one chapter and the starting of a new one,” said Spc. Raymond Allen, a native of Cottageville, S.C., who works as a motor transport operator with 41st Trans. Co.



The 41st Transportation Company commander Capt. Terrence Flanagan (Left), a native of Glastonbury, Conn., and the 18th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion commander, Lt. Col. Reed Hudgins, a native of Reisterstown, Md., case the 41st Trans. Co. colors as the company prepares to move to Fort Polk, La. The ceremony took place Jan. 13 in the Grafenwoehr Field House. (Photo by Spc. Robert E. Lynds)

720th EOD Co. cases colors, deploys to Afghanistan in support of OEF



720th Explosive Ordnance Disposal Company Commander, Capt. Clinton Pierce and 720th EOD Co. first sergeant, 1st Sgt. Daniel Hope case the company guidon during a ceremony Feb. 11 at the gymnasium on Coleman Barracks, Mannheim, Germany. The company deployed Feb. 15 in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Lynne Lantin, 16th Sust. Bde. Public Affairs)

*By Staff Sgt. Lynne Lantin
16th Sust. Bde. Public Affairs*

MANNHEIM, Germany — The Soldiers of the 720th Explosive Ordnance Disposal Company, 391st Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, 16th Sustainment Brigade cased the company guidon Feb. 11 during a ceremony at the Coleman Barracks gymnasium as the unit's final step prior to deploying to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom, Feb. 15.

The 720th EOD Co. 'Juggernauts', comprised of 44 Soldiers and led by the command team of Capt. Clinton Pierce and 1st Sgt. Daniel Hope, will provide multifunctional logistical support to Coalition Forces while deployed.

"We are confident in your abilities, your training and your character," said Lt. Col. Christopher Luekenga,

the 391st CSSB commander. "You make us proud as we've watched you develop into who you are today. You make us proud because you are willing to be the best our nation has to offer the world. You are an American Soldier."

Luekenga offered words of encouragement first uttered by General Douglas MacArthur in a speech given at West Point on May 12, 1962.

"As you depart, never forget these values; duty, honor, country," said Luekenga. "These words are your rallying point to build courage when courage seems to fail, to regain faith when there seems to be little cause for faith and to create hope when hope fails."

"On behalf of the families here today, I say to each of you, we respect you, we will miss you, but don't worry about us," Luekenga added. "Just do your duty and do it well."

Ramstein High School students learn ‘tricks of the trades’



Huy Nygugen, a Ramstein High School student, assists a dentist with an oral cleaning at the dental clinic on Ramstein Air Base. Nygugen and more than 120 other RHS students are enrolled in the Career Practicum Course, which gives students the opportunity to gain first-hand experience in a job field of their choice. (Photo by Ryan Langhorst, 21st TSC Public Affairs intern)

Story by Ryan Langhorst and Xavier Rodriguez, 21st TSC Public Affairs Interns

KAISERSLAUTERN, Germany – Preparation and good planning is a key factor for success on everyday missions and in life. This year, about 120 Ramstein High School students here got a head start by enrolling in and participating in the RHS Career Practicum Course.

The course, which is a program offered throughout the Department of Defense Dependents Schools -Europe high schools, allows students the opportunity to gain first-hand experience in a job field and get a taste of what life is like after high school.

Students who participate choose an internship to pursue, either for a single semester or all year long. At the start of the course, the students go through the process of applying for a job, learning how to dress for success and completing a resume for a mock interview.

“We get experience firsthand. In my case I got to observe at the dental clinic and see all the different oral procedures done there instead of just reading about them

out of a book,” said Huy Nyguyen, a RHS student intern at the dental clinic on Ramstein Air Base.

“No other class gives on-the-job training that you would normally have to wait until after high school to get,” said Alisha Waterhouse, a RHS student nurse assistant intern at Ramstein Elementary School.

The participants not only acquire valuable job skills such as responsibility and work ethic, but most show considerable improvement, both academically and behaviorally, RHS staff agree.

“Career Practicum is a wonderful experience, which causes the student to be inspired to work in an area that they might not have been interested in before,” said John Penter, a teacher at RHS.

The course provides a safety net that allows high school students to pursue an interest in a life-like environment while not making any final decisions.

“Students get only what they put into the Career Practicum Course,” Penter said. “If you have no goal, you will reach no goal.”

“You get students who might be interested in working with young children or in the field of education. The children respond extremely well to their presence in the class,” said Bethany Dines, a teacher at RES.

Throughout the internship, the course coordinators provide different activities to replicate a real job, like clocking in and requesting references. The program allows students to gain valuable experience as an intern and potentially opens the road to a brighter future.



Samantha Lefort reads to students at Ramstein Elementary School on Ramstein Air Base as part of her Career Practicum Course internship in the field of elementary education. The program allows students from Ramstein High School a chance to explore and experience what it is like to work in a career field of their choice. (Photo by Xavier Rodriguez, 21st TSC PA Intern)

21st TSC provides ‘class act’ mentoring, encouragement to KHS students

Story by Angelika Lantz, 21st TSC
Public Affairs

KAISERSLAUTERN, Germany – While it is a new initiative for the 21st Theater Sustainment Command, it appears to be on the road to success, and success is what it is all about.

Mentor a Student Today, or MAST, is a component of the 21st TSC’s partnership program with the Kaiserslautern High School here and aims to enhance the intellectual, social and physical growth of its students.

Lt. Col. Michael Cortez, the commander of the 21st TSC’s Special Troops Battalion, has noted success on two fronts.

“Our initial feedback has been very encouraging. We are having a positive impact in that the students are asking to see their mentors more frequently than we initially thought,” he said.

The response on the volunteer side is another plus.

At the beginning of January when the program started, there were five mentors.

“Now, by the end of the month we have 13 approved mentors and four more are processing their paperwork,” Cortez said.

Even so, he said, more mentors are needed, and Soldiers, Army Civilians and family members are encouraged to volunteer. MAST mentors will be screened and matched according to their academic interests or strengths.

While mentoring is primarily geared toward improving students’ academic achievement, it can also enhance their communication and social skills as well as provide guidance for decision making or problem solving skills.

“While we are mostly studying, I am also trying to get ‘my’ student to see beyond the now to the future. She is a senior who wants to go to art school. I want to see her graduate. I want to see her succeed,” said Capt. Sarah McInerney, the supply and logistics officer at the 21st TSC’s STB.

“The idea is to serve as an inspiration, as a positive role model, to the students. And, while we assist with their studies, we want to build up their grade point (average) and their self-esteem at the same time,” said Capt. Terrance Kratz, the commander of the STB’s

Act Now!

Mentor a Student Today!

Why M.A.S.T?

(Mentor a Student Today)

- Mentoring** can improve a student's overall academic achievement. Mentoring also helps students to improve communication, social skills, and provide guidance for decision making or problem solving skills.
- Mentoring** takes place at the Kaiserslautern High School in designated areas. Mentoring sessions are flexible to accommodate the mentor and mentee's schedule, which is usually during or after school. During the mentoring sessions, the mentor and mentee will spend time working on schoolwork in a multitude of subject areas.
- Mentors** are screened adult volunteers who, with their commanders approval, are matched according to academic interests or special academic strengths.

Soldiers, Department of the Army Civilians, and Family Members can enhance the intellectual, social, and physical growth of our Kaiserslautern High School students via the 21st TSC Adopt-a-School program.

To M.A.S.T. please contact LTC Cortez or CSM Lewis at 0631-413-6073 or 0631-413-7436, DSN 484, or michael.cortez@eur.army.mil or clifton.lewis@eur.army.mil

Headquarters and Headquarters Company.

On the professional front, it is important for the Soldiers to experience how their commitment and time can result in fairly significant improvements.

“It takes special people to do something to help others. This is their opportunity to live the Army value of selfless service and to give back to the community we live in,” said Cortez.

The MAST mentors, on the other hand, find each other to be a resource and inspiration.

“We keep tabs on each other and ‘our’ students, exchange ideas and share helpful websites, etc.,” said McInerney.

MAST mentoring takes place at the Kaiserslautern High School and requires a time commitment of one to two hours per week. The sessions are arranged to accommodate the students’ and the volunteers’ schedules.

For more information, contact Cortez or Command Sgt. Maj. Clifton Lewis at 0631-413-6073/7436 or DSN 484-6073/7436.