



**JOINT READINESS TRAINING CENTER
AND FORT POLK
PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE
*Press Release***



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Fort Polk's 46th Engineer Battalion to host Esprit De Corps Ball

FORT POLK, LA. —The 46th Engineer Battalion will host the annual JRTC and Fort Polk Esprit De Corps Ball Saturday, May 8th, 2004 at the Holiday Inn, Alexandria.

The night begins with a reception at 5:00 p.m. followed by the ceremony at 6:00 p.m. Command Sergeant Major Hubert Green, who is retiring in July after 30 years of service, will be the guest speaker.

Special guests include retired COL George Gray, former battalion commander of the 46th, retired CSM Harold Montgomery, former battalion CSM, and veterans attending are Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Edge, Mr. and Mrs. David Wentowrth, Ms. MerriAnn Anderson and her sister Roxanne.

The purpose of the ball is to build esprit de corps amongst the engineer family of Fort Polk & Joint Readiness Training Center, veterans of the 46th Engineer Battalion and our civilian partnership teams.

The 46th EN Headquarters Support Company, Alpha Company, Brovo Company and 814th Multi Role Bridge Company deployed in support of Operations Enduring and Iraqi Freedom in February of 2003 and returned home in July 2003 with the exemption of the 814th who returned home in February 2004. Charlie Company deployed in October 2002 and returned home in July 2003.

The battalion's primary mission in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom was the construction of two internment facilities located in Southern Iraq. The base camp became known as Camp Bucca outside of the port city of Umm Qasr. The 46th completed the two internment facilities including the associated road network and accompanying lagoon for wastewater disposal. In total, the scope of construction was approximately equal to the construction of a housing division, complete with electrical systems, road network, sewer and sanitation systems and lighting.

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46th EN Ball / 2-2-2

The internment facility construction was one of the highest priority missions for the Coalition Forces Land Component Command (CFLCC) to rapidly process, screen, and secure prisoners.

The battalion then received additional high priority missions in Northern Kuwait. These missions involved repairing and maintaining key supply routes to allow forward and rearward movement of maneuver forces. Retrograde facilities including wash racks, concrete pads, and base camp areas were constructed for the eventual redeployment of units including the 3rd Infantry Division.

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The 46th EN will hold a Media Opportunity from 5:00 to 6:00 p.m. at the Alexandria Holiday Inn Downtown Convention Center. Please call Maj. Ron Elliott at 531-1418 or Samantha Bingham at 531-4630 to coordinate access. Please arrive no later than 5:00 p.m. at the Holiday Inn lobby, 701 4th St, Alexandria, La.