

# Dietitian Section

*By COL Brenda Forman,  
Chief, Dietitian Section*

Greetings colleagues

Let me begin by saying thank you to each of you for the job you are doing, whether deployed in support of OIF or working in a Nutrition Care Operation or other staff job. I appreciate all you do everyday for our Army!!

## **Welcome Home to OIF veterans!!**

I send a hearty welcome home to all of our OIF Veterans. Since the last edition of the Medallion, several dietitians and 91M's have redeployed back home. We extend to each of you a warm welcome home and thanks for a job well done. I know all of you have stories to tell, and we look forward to hearing about your experiences. Make sure you complete your final AAR and submit it to the Corp Chiefs Office so we will have a record of your deployment. Combat Dietitians who have redeployed are listed below. Many of the 91M's who were assigned to these units have returned as well.

- **MAJ Bonnie Eilat** was one of the first to come home. Bonnie was deployed with the 115<sup>th</sup> Field Hospital and returned home to PCS to her new assignment as the XO for 1<sup>st</sup> Recruiting Battalion at Ft Meade Maryland.
- **COL Virginia Stapely** arrived back to 3<sup>rd</sup> MEDCOM a couple of months ago and is getting adjusted to the US again. COL Stapely is a USAR officer who was activated in support of OIF. COL Stapely did an outstanding job in her role as the senior dietitian in theater.
- **CPT Trisha Stavinoha** arrived home o/a June 03 and stopped in to see me here at MEDCOM while on vacation visiting her family. CPT Stavinoha was deployed with the 115<sup>th</sup> Field Hospital.
- **CPT Nichelle Johnson** has arrived home and PCS'd to her new job as a recruiter in Atlanta. Nichelle deployed with the 86<sup>th</sup> CSH from Ft Campbell.
- **1LT Emily Tarleton** arrived back safely at Walter Reed Army Medical Center after being deployed with the 47<sup>th</sup> CSH. LT Tarleton is now on transitional leave prior to her ETS from the army.
- **MAJ Leslie Sanders** has arrived back safely at Ft Lewis Washington after her deployment with the 62<sup>nd</sup> Medical Brigade.

- **MAJ Christine Edwards** is home to her family and friends at Ft Campbell Ky after completing a very challenging mission during her deployment with the 86<sup>th</sup> CSH.
- **LT Tamrin Massey** arrived back to Ft Hood recently after being deployed with the 21<sup>st</sup> CSH.
- **CPT Kerryn Davidson** arrived back at Ft Carson very recently and is making her way back to Fort Sam Houston so she can PCS to West Point. CPT Davidson deployed with the 10<sup>th</sup> CSH, and was held over to support the 21<sup>st</sup> CSH.
- **MAJ Richard Meaney** arrived back a few days ago and is clearing at Ft Bragg, will take some well deserved R&R before he heads to Texas where he will work in Combat Development Directorate.

***THANKS TO EACH OF YOU FOR YOUR SACRIFICE AND SERVICE!!***

### **Soldiers still Deployed**

Although many officers and 91M's have returned home, we have quite a few still deployed. Please continue to stay in touch with these officers and 91M's. Send a card or e-mail, send a care package...I know they'd appreciate hearing from you.

**MAJ John Kent** is deployed with the 30<sup>th</sup> Medical Brigade and working as the G-5. Of course John is doing a terrific job and making things happen. We are fortunate to have his footprint on the ground.

**MAJ Wayne Kostolni** is deployed with the 28<sup>th</sup> CSH and has been in country for quite a few months now as well. Here's what MAJ K shared with me in a recent e-mail: **"I think what makes it bearable for me is the nights. Usually by midnight it's cool enough to sleep, but the stars out here are great. I've learned a great deal about the stars. Had to take up some hobby to pass the time. Every night I pull my cot outside and sleep under the stars. You never have to worry about clouds. Never before have I been able to follow the moon's rotation, but now I know exactly where the moon will appear and when. I can identify individual stars and it's amazing to watch the night sky change over many hours as the earth rotates. It's easy to recognize God's handiwork out here."** Many of you may not know, Wayne was married this past year and is spending his first year of marriage away from his new bride. What a sacrifice!!

**MAJ Colleen Kesselring:** Colleen is still deployed with the 21<sup>st</sup> CSH. I recently received a letter from MAJ Kesselring and she noted ***"they were hanging tough and staying busy taking things one day at a time."*** Many of you may not remember, but MAJ Kesselring and SSG Wells were deployed to Kuwait from January 02 – May 02 and both are now deployed again.

As of this publication, **LTC Guy Desmond** remains deployed with the 1<sup>st</sup> Medical Brigade from Ft Hood Texas. We anticipate he will be redeployed in the very near future.

**CPT Julie Boyette** from Ft Bragg recently deployed and arrived at her destination safely as a backfill to the 28<sup>th</sup> CSH. Recent communication with CPT Boyette indicates she is getting acclimatized and is doing well. Here's an excerpt from a message from CPT Boyette:

*"I am happy to be here! We are in the middle of moving to Baghdad this week; I'm very excited about the move. You are right, MAJ Kostolni and I aren't together, he is in Tikrit. We are able to communicate well through email. It took a few days, but I am finally adjusted to the environment."*

*I appreciate your message and prayers! Here's my address:  
CPT Julie Boyett  
28th combat support hospital  
APO AE 09302-1274*

**MAJ MaryBeth Salguiero** also recently arrived as a backfill for the 21<sup>st</sup> CSH. Here's an excerpt from a note I received from her recently:

*"Our days are going great! I'm getting used to the temperatures and living conditions, so I am doing just fine. The 91M's are all doing well - taking one day at a time. The 91M's do their jobs very well and the staff appreciates all that they try to do given the limited rations, etc."*

**CPT Hillary Harper** remains in Kuwait with the 47<sup>th</sup> CSH, although we anticipate she will return in a few weeks to join her husband at Ft Campbell. She will be replaced in theater by **1LT Michael Trust** from Dwight David Eisenhower Army Medical Center.

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## Upcoming Events

**VTC:** I am hosting a VTC on **30 September 2003** and hope many of you will be able to join me. Unfortunately, we can only have 20 sites, but the remainder will be able to join by audio. MAJ Spielmann in the Corp Chiefs office will notify you with the time for the VTC. At this VTC, I plan to discuss progress we've made this past year and will also unveil our strategic plan/balanced scorecard for the section. A group of dietitians met here in San Antonio in June and developed this plan. I will be asking for volunteers to help implement this plan – so don't be shy!!

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**Advanced Nutrition Support and Force Health Protection Conference- **Date Changed:**** this conference, which is designed for officers and 91M's that are PROFIS, has been changed. It is normally held in January; however, it will be held in October this year in conjunction with the **OIF After Action Conference**. The conference will be **October 20<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup>, 2003**. Participants in the ANSFHP course will then participate in the

OIF After Action Conference 22 and 23 October 2003. This is a different format than we've had in the past, however it promises to be an awesome course. If you are PROFIS and have never attended this course, please contact CPT Tanya Crail at the Nutrition Care Branch, AMEDD Center and School.

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**OIF After Action Conference:** As mentioned above, this conference will be October 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> here in San Antonio. Individuals who were recently deployed in support of OIF will be invited to this course so we can discuss and document lessons learned and provide this information to Combat Developers to effect change to doctrine.

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**DOD Nutrition Symposium:** We are very busy planning a very exciting symposium, which will be here in San Antonio 24 and 25 October 2003. The meeting will end at noon on Saturday 25 October to allow you time to attend the opening session of the Food Nutrition Conference and exhibits which will start Saturday afternoon – 25 October 03. I hope as many of you as possible will plan to attend. The conference agenda, registration form and notice about social events during this time will be placed on the SP web page and will be sent to you by e-mail very soon.

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In case you have not heard, our proposal was approved to upgrade the **Dietetic Internship to a Masters Degree** program. Students starting the internship in September 2005 will complete a Masters degree with the Uniformed Services University of Health Sciences in addition to the supervised practice dietetic internship. The first class will graduate in 2007.

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**LTC Vivian Hutson** is getting settled in at the American Dietetic Association's Washington DC office where she is doing a one year Training With Industry. Vivian will be working on a lot of issues affecting Military Dietetics at the National level. I've asked LTC Hutson to describe some of the activities she is working on at the upcoming DOD Nutrition Symposium.