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Annual Unit History

*Due NLT 01 February each year for the previous calendar year.
Refer to 28ID Military History Program SOP, dtd. 15 August 2008, for specific guidance.*

For Calendar Year: 2008

Unit: A/1-109 IN (HVY)

Unit Address: 232 Tryon Street, Honesdale, PA 18431

Unit POC: SFC Karl Petersen, URNCO

Unit POC Phone Number: (570) 253-2420

I. Introduction or Forward *(A brief account on the unit's origin and its accomplishments over the years and a statement about the current period covered)*

Company A has been a subordinate command of the 109th Infantry Regiment since its inception and has always called the town of Honesdale its home. The unit shares the lineage and honors of the 13th Regiment and the 109th Infantry.

Calendar Year 2008 brought multiple challenges to Company A. In April 2008, the unit conducted a change of command where the out-going commander, CPT Peter G. West II handed over the guidon to CPT George Murphy. Simultaneously, the unit changed it's senior NCO leadership when 1SG James Weilgus retired and SFC Charles Belgio was selected as the unit's new First Sergeant.

The unit was called upon to support multiple mobilizations during the year. While more than 18 soldiers were mobilized in support of Operation Enduring Freedom, the unit was preparing to mobilize another 26 personnel in support of the 56th Brigade and the 28th Aviation Brigade deployments in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

In November and December, the unit welcomed home 18 personnel from their year-long deployment to Afghanistan. These soldiers were greeted at the airport by unit members and members of the Family Readiness Group. The formal welcome home and freedom salute ceremony is scheduled for March 2009.

II. Organization and Administration

A. Organization *(Select the type of organization from the pull-down menu)*

Infantry

B. Mission *(A brief mission statement and the Mission Essential Task List)*

Federal Mission: Company A, 1st Battalion (Heavy), 109th Infantry conducts individual, crew, and collective training to improve training readiness and reduce post-mobilization time. On order, the company alerts, mobilizes and deploys to conduct full spectrum operations in support of national military objectives.

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State Mission: On order of the Governor of Pennsylvania, Company A, 1st Battalion (Heavy), 109th Infantry alerts, assembles, and deploys to provide humanitarian relief, disaster relief and military support to civilian authorities during times of natural disaster or civil strife.

METL:

Conduct a Defense, Task # 07-1-1027
 Conduct a Movement to Contact, Task # 07-1-1072
 Conduct an Attack Against a Stationary Force, Task # 07-1-1171
 Conduct an Attack of a Built-up Area, Task # 07-1-1180
 Conduct Area Security Operations, Task # 07-1-1270
 Conduct Deployment Activities, Task # 07-1-5045

C. Personnel

1. Commander and Staff (Brief biographical sketches)

Commander: CPT George C. Murphy
 First Sergeant: 1SG Charles Belgio
 Executive Officer: 1LT Chad Gray
 1st PLT: 2LT Michael Koscelnak
 SFC James Kille
 2d PLT: 2LT James Roper
 SFC Andrew Prebich
 3d PLT: 1LT Andrew Park
 SFC Harry Young

2. Medal of Honor Winners (Brief biographical sketches, if available, and a brief account of the action or a copy of the citation) (If none, enter "NONE")

None during the calendar year.

3. Others (Winners of Distinguished Service Cross, Silver Star, Bronze Star, and other) (If none, enter "NONE")

Individual soldier data is not yet available due to continuing REFRAD and demobilization process. Information on awards received during multiple deployments in 2008 will be captured in the 2009 unit history.

III. Major Accomplishments during the Year

A. Operations

Company A, 1-109 IN (HVY) provided support to two GWOT missions during CY 2008. The unit had 18 soldiers deployed with 3-103 AR as part of a Security Force (SECFOR) mission in Afghanistan. the majority of these soldiers were assigned to platoon-sized elements that provided security for Provincial Reconstruction Teams (PRT).

On 3 June 2008, the unit received word that one of their unit members assigned to 3-103 AR in Afghanistan was seriously wounded. SSG Earl Granville was involved in an IED attack and was very seriously injured. As a result of

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the injuries, SSG Granville lost his left leg at the knee and his right foot was severely fractured. SSG Granville continues to recover at Walter Reed Hospital.

The unit mobilized 26 soldiers to backfill elements of the 56 BDE as they were preparing to deploy to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. These soldiers deployed in September 2008 and are expected to return to their parent unit in September 2009.

B. Training and Exercises

Despite the high operational tempo (OPTEMPO) and personnel tempo (PERSTEMPO), the unit was still able to train on their assigned equipment and missions. The training year focused on M2A2 Bradley Fighting Vehicle (BFV) gunnery up to and including Bradley Table VI. the unit qualified 4 crews on all of their tables during Annual Training at Fort Pickett, VA from 14-28 June 2008. The balance of the training year was spent on ensuring individual and crew-level proficiency in Army Warrior Tasks and Army Battle Drills to ensure individual soldier readiness.

C. Special Events

1. Unit Day Ceremonies

None

2. Civil Actions *(State active duty)*

No state active duty periods conducted during the training year.

3. Permanent Changes of Station

No unit stationing changes during the calendar year.

4. Recruiting Initiatives

Unit conducted multiple recruiting events throughout the calendar year. Unit was without an assigned recruiter for the majority of the calendar year which made scheduling and resourcing events extremely difficult. The unit sustained its assigned strength during the calendar year.

5. Other *(Include community activities, morale support activities, Christmas party, etc.)*

Unit continues to be very active in the community and hosts several events during the year. Most notably, the unit hosted two blood drives for the American Red Cross.

IV. Special Equipment Fielding

No major new equipment fieldings during the calendar year.

V. Appendices

A. Lineage and Honors Certificate

See Lineage and Honors of 109th infantry Regiment

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B. Unit Citations

None

C. Selected Orders *(Include alert orders, mobilization orders, etc)*

NONE

D. Other.

Award of streamer for service in OIF scheduled for Spring 2009.

VI. Glossary *(A list of words not commonly used, acronyms and their explanations)*

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