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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.*

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**For Calendar Year:** 2008

**Unit:** HHC, 128th Brigade Support Battalion

**Unit Address:** 826 Crane Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15216

**Unit POC:** SFC Marcello Giori

**Unit POC Phone Number:** 412-343-5514

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### **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)

The 128<sup>th</sup> Forward Support Battalion was expanded, reorganized, and redesignated on 1 March 1992 as the 128th Support Battalion and remained assigned to the 28th Infantry Division. The Alpha, Bravo and Charlie Companies of the 128th FSB were formed from companies/platoons of existing units:

Alpha Company became the distribution company and was formed from a transportation platoon (Detachment 1 (TMT), 228th Supply and Transportation Battalion), requiring total MOS reclassification throughout the unit. This was the most drastic change in the battalion, as soldiers were reassigned jobs as ammunition handlers, warehouse operators, and fuel handlers.

Bravo Company was an existing maintenance company (Charlie Company, (Forward Support), 728th Maintenance Battalion). Although the soldiers had maintenance MOS's there was considerable reclassification in the types of maintainers required (now required to support Mechanized and Armored Battalions).

Charlie Company was an existing medical company (Bravo Company, 103rd Medical Battalion). Although their change was not as extreme, they too were reorganized to meet the needs of supporting a Mechanized Infantry Brigade. Charlie Company formed into three platoons: Headquarters, Ambulance Platoon and the Treatment Platoon.

The HHD of the 128th FSB was a newly organized unit, taking command and control of the three newly reorganized, redesignated companies.

On September 2007, the 128<sup>th</sup> Forward Support Battalion was expanded, reorganized, and redesignated as the 128th Brigade Support Battalion (BSB) in an effort to reduce the number of Heavy Brigades within the Army. The push was to increase the role of the National Guard as a lighter modular force capable of integrating into a variety of possible military configurations and missions. The HHC of the 128<sup>th</sup> Brigade Support Battalion was transformed from the existing headquarters element of the HHD of the 128<sup>th</sup> Forward Support Battalion as the Iron Brigade, 2BCT, ushered in the sweeping changes of converting the heavy brigade into a light infantry brigade.

### **II. Organization and Administration**

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

Support

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

HHC is the command and control element for the 128<sup>th</sup> Brigade Support Battalion. It is responsible for coordinating training, synchronizing transportation, supply, maintenance and medical operations. On order, the HHC/128TH BSB mobilizes and deploys to a theater of operations and provides C2, Administrative, logistical, and mess support to the battalion providing CSS/FHP to 2 BCT/28 ID units conducting full spectrum/stability operations. On order, as directed by the Governor, conducts/supports military assistance to civil authorities in support of Homeland Defense.

The mission essential Task List follows:

- Deploy Unit
- Relocate Unit
- Establish Unit Area
- Provide Administrative and Logistical Support
- Defend Assigned Area
- Redeploy Unit

**C. Personnel**

**1. Commander and Staff** (Brief biographical sketches)

Commander. 1LT Brian W. Priest. 1LT Priest was born in Lewistown, PA. He graduated from Indian Valley High School, Lewistown, PA. He continued his education at the Art Institute of Pittsburgh earning an Associates in Specialized Technology focused in Special Effects and Product Design and then at the Indiana University of Pennsylvania earning a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Studio Art and where he took advantage of an international cooperation program to study abroad at the Akademiya Likovnih Umjetnosti in Zagreb, Croatia. 1LT Priest's career as a Guardsman began June 25, 1996 when he enlisted into the Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2-112 Infantry, 56th Brigade as an infantryman. His military education includes the Army Medical Department (AMEDD) Officer Basic Course and AMEDD Captain's Career Course. 1LT Priest's awards include the Army Achievement Medal (4 OLC); Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal; National Defense Service Medal; Humanitarian Service Medal; Army Service Ribbon; MG Thomas R. White Ribbon; General T.J. Stewart Medal; and the Louisiana Emergency Service Ribbon. He lives in Mechanicsburg with his wife Kimberly and their two children Helena and Quentin.

First Sergeant- 1SG Howard K. Brown is a graduate of Brooke High School, Wellsburg, WV and a graduate of the West Virginia Police Academy. He served for 25 years on the Wheeling Police Department; retiring as a Detective in the Investigation Division his last 14 years. His military career began in 1972 when he enlisted in the United States Marine Corp Reserves, where he spent 8 1/2 years. His career with the Pennsylvania Army National Guard began when he enlisted at Headquarters 2d Brigade in Washington, PA. His military education includes: Primary Leadership Development Course, Basic Non-Commissioned Officers Course, Advanced Non-Commissioned Officers Course and numerous other qualification courses. 1SG Brown's awards and decorations include: Army

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Commendation Medal (w/3 olc), Army Achievement Medal (w/2 olc), Army Component Achievement Medal (w/2 olc), Selected Marine Corp Reserve Medal, National Defense Service Medal (w/ 2 stars), Iraq Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Armed Forces Reserve Medal (w/silver hourglass & M device), Non-Commissioned Officers Professional Development Ribbon (w/letter 3), Army Reserve Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon, Pennsylvania Service Ribbon (w/1 star), MG Thomas R. White Medal, and the Gen. Thomas J. Stewart Medal. 1SG Brown is currently employed as an Inspector with the West Virginia Division of Labor. 1SG Brown and his wife, Trudie, live in Wheeling, WV; they have 3 children and 3 grandchildren.

**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

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

CWO4 Dennis Burke and CSM Wesly Davis received the Meritorious Service Medal(MSM) for their years of service.

**III. Major Accomplishments during the Year**

**A. Operations**

The HHC provided 9 soldiers to backfill positions within the 56<sup>TH</sup> SBCT destined to deploy to IRAQ in early 2009.

**B. Training and Exercises**

February - Vehicle Convoy Training (VCOT) conducted in Connellsville and Combat Lifesaver (CLS) was conducted at Crane Armory. March - Convoy Lanes Training conducted at Burgettstown, PA. April - Maj Rayburg, Bn Operations Officer, conducted Convoy Lanes Training to personnel from unit. May - Pre/Post Deployment Training (formally known as Annual Training) was conducted 3-17 May 2008 at Fort Pickett, Virginia. June - PDT recovery operations conducted. July - New SINGARS radios along with Blue Force Tracker (BFT) equipment installed at Brigade Headquarters in Washington, PA. August - No highlights. September - Army Physical Fitness Test (APFT) was conducted at South Park in Pittsburgh, PA. October - Maintenance Assistance Teams (MAIT) sent out to supported units in preparation for upcoming inspections. Battalion internal Soldier Readiness Processing (SRP) conducted at Crane Armory. November - Unit receives MAIT visit and inspection of units status and deployability. December - Class "A" dress uniform inspection. New Equipment Training (NET) was conducted on the Defense Advanced GPS Receiver (DAGR), the Blue Force Tracker (BFT), the Battle Command System(BCS3) and the issue of multiple pieces of new equipment (e.g. LMTV, MTV, Up-Armored HMMWVs, M4 Rifles)

**C. Special Events**

**1. Unit Day Ceremonies**

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On 11 September 2008, a remembrance ceremony was conducted at Crane Armory in remembrance of the victims of 9/11.

## **2. Civil Actions (State active duty)**

## **3. Permanent Changes of Station**

CSM Wesley Davis retired upon serving 32 years of active duty. CSM Paul Walker was assigned as the 128<sup>th</sup> BSB CSM.

## **4. Recruiting Initiatives**

GX Nights were introduced as recruiting mechanism for exisiting soldiers to bring interested civilians in to learn about the Army National Guard. The night consists of interactive displays, National Guard recruiting props, and National Guard merchandise and gifts that are provided to potential enlistees.

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

07 September 2007, the Battalion Career Counselor, SSG Ruben Carrillo, organized a Battalion Fun Day that incorporated family involvment into a morale building recreational day filled with competitions, food and social interaction.

14 December 2008, was the annual Christmas Party for the HHC and their families.

## **IV. Special Equipment Fielding**

Navigation Set: Satellite Signals AN/PSN-13  
Receiver-Transmitter: RT-1523F(C)  
Rifle 5.56 Millimeter: M4  
Truck Utility: Heavy Variant HMMWV M1097  
Truck Cargo: 4X4 LMTV W/E  
Truck Utility: Heavy Variant HMMWV M1165  
VSATs: Satellite Communication  
Battle Command Staff Systems

## **V. Appendices**

### **A. Lineage and Honors Certificate**

1 October 1988 Organized in Pittsburgh, Pennslyvania, as Detachment 1, Company A 103d Medical Battalion.

25 October 1988 Federally Recognized

01 October 1989 Reorganized and redesignated as Company B, 103d Medical Battalion.

01 March 1992 Reorganized and redesignated as Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 128<sup>th</sup> Support Battalion(Forward Support Battalion), 28<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division

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01 September 2007 Reorganized and redesignated as Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 128<sup>th</sup> Brigade Support Battalion.

**B. Unit Citations**

None

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

None

**D. Other.**

None

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

BFT - Blue Force Tracker

BSB - Brigade Support Battalion

DAGR - Defense Advanced GPS Receiver

LMTV - Light Medium Tactical Vehicle

MTV - Medium Tactical Vehicle

PDT - Pre/Post Deployemtn Training (formally Annual Training)

VCOT - Vehicle Convoy Training

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