

Briefs

Memorial service

A memorial service for Spc. Devin L. Olmos, C Company, 94th Brigade Support Battalion, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division, is held today at the Main Post Chapel at 10 a.m.

BJACH exercise

Bayne-Jones Army Community Hospital conducts a hospital-wide force protection exercise Wednesday. Clinics, lab and the outpatient pharmacy close at 1 p.m. The emergency room and wards remain open, but if you need access to these areas, use the emergency room entrance and entrance A. During the exercise, movement through the hospital will be strictly controlled and delays may occur. Beneficiaries in the hospital during the exercise may be asked to enter a controlled area until the exercise is complete.

Employer days

The following employers visit the Soldier for Life — Transition Assistance Program, located at 7438 California Ave., bldg 4275, at Polk Army Airfield. For more information call 531-1594 or visit facebook at www.facebook.com/FortPolkSFLTAP:

- Tuesday from 8-9 a.m.: Louisiana Workforce Commission; 8 a.m.-noon: Legal Shield and Groendyke; 8 a.m.-1 p.m.: Wyotech.
- Wednesday from 8 a.m.-noon: HS Group Consulting, Houston Police Department and Trimac Transport.
- Thursday from 8-9 a.m.: ProTemp; 8 a.m.-noon: Universal Technical Institute and Federal Bureau of Prisons.

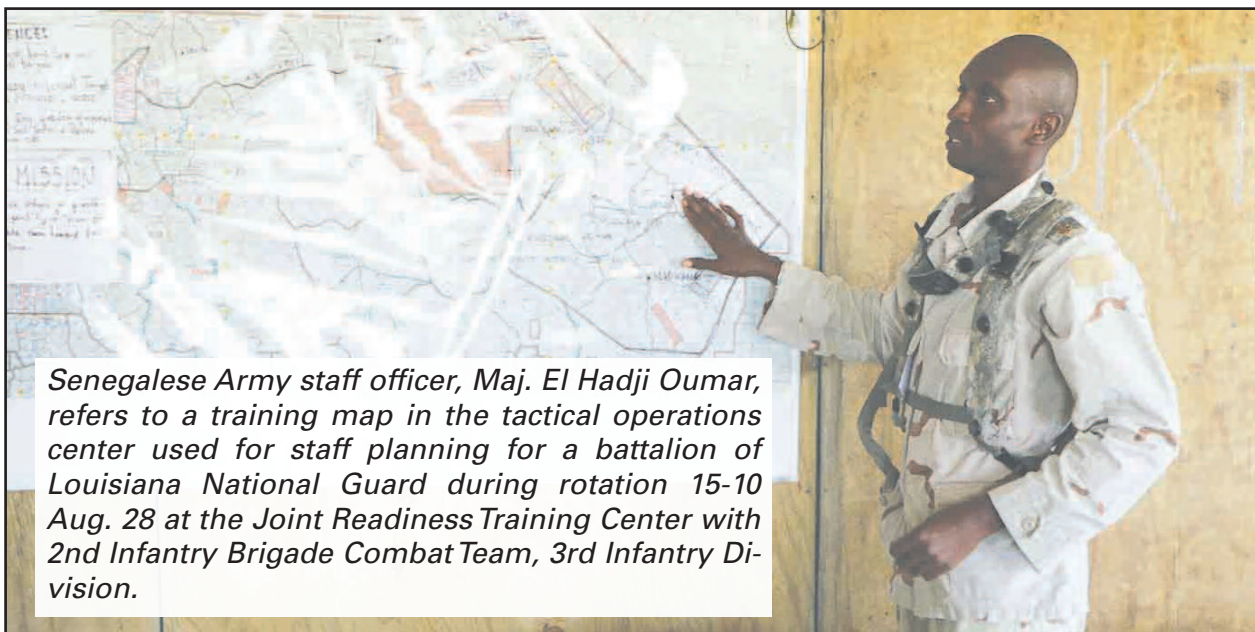
Special agents

The U.S. Army Counterintelligence Special Agent Recruiting Team visits Fort Polk to conduct briefings Tuesday and Wednesday at 9:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. both days. Briefings are held in room 101 at the Education Center, 7460 Colorado Ave, bldg 660. Presentations are aimed at enlisted Soldiers E-4 and E-5. For more information call Randall Long at (520) 533-2320/2317 or send email to Randall.g.long.civ@mail.mil or Christopher.l.mielke@mail.mil.

Immigration brief

An immigration and naturalization brief is offered by the Relocation Readiness Program Sept. 29 from 2-4:30 p.m. at Army Community Service, bldg 920. The information is free but registration is requested by calling 531-6923/6941. Register by Sept. 25.

Please see **Briefs**, page 5



Senegalese Army staff officer, Maj. El Hadji Oumar, refers to a training map in the tactical operations center used for staff planning for a battalion of Louisiana National Guard during rotation 15-10 Aug. 28 at the Joint Readiness Training Center with 2nd Infantry Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division.

Capt. CHAD ASHE/OPERATIONS GROUP

JRTC, Senegal Army create rapport

By Capt. CHAD ASHE

JRTC Operations Group

FORT POLK, La. — Senegal army staff officers, in an effort to build the foundation for a training center in western Africa, participated in rotation 15-10 at the Joint Readiness Training Center with the 2nd Infantry Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division.

Senegalese officers replicated a battalion staff for a maneuver force battalion from the Louisiana National Guard, who executed planned ground movements in Fort Polk's training area against opposing forces. They also replicated a host nation security force team, operating in training area Dara Lam.

Maj. El Hadji Oumar Faye is a Senegalese staff officer who planned for the battalion and a deputy commander for the 5th Infantry Battalion in Senegal.

Faye said it was valuable to see how the units work together in the training scenario based on the staff planning provided.

"It is a great experience for us. The U.S. Army has a lot of experience and we are interested in how they (plan for) their troops."

These allied forces arrived at the request from Senegal military leaders during the African Land Forces Summit, attended by 36 African nations Feb. 9-12 in Dakar, Senegal.

Please see **Senegal**, page 5

Vernon Parish schools named third best

FORT POLK PROGRESS

LEESVILLE, La. — The Vernon Parish School District is the third-best school system in Louisiana, according to Onlyinyourstate.com, which compiled its list by comparing the ratings of individual schools and the state district performance scores.

The study surveyed all school systems across the state with more than seven schools. It weighed state district performances scores (which are released annually by the Louisiana Department of Education) at 75 percent and percentage of schools with an "A" rating by 25 percent.

Vernon Parish scored the third top spot with its high overall state district performance score of 110.4 with two-thirds of its schools earning an "A" rating.

Superintendent James Williams said Vernon Parish schools will continue to strive for greatness.

"We are proud of our schools and school system. We have good teachers and students that work extremely hard to ensure that we can offer a top quality educational process," Williams said. "We strive to do the best we possibly can and are

dedicated to accomplish improvement each day. We appreciate the strong community support and have outstanding parental involvement, both of which serve as very positive influences in our success."

Vernon Parish schools, the Central Louisiana community and Fort Polk have worked collaboratively on the Education Initiative to make local schools the best possible for all students in the parish. The Vernon Parish School Board recently adopted the Education Initiative Action Plan, which identifies key educational goals over the next five years and how to reach those targets.

Fort Polk Progress has worked with community leaders and educators to help formulate the plan. Its chairman, Michael Reese, said the region has remained steadfastly committed to giving its children the best possible education and that the district's success is a product of that community effort.

"The Army has directed base communities to make sure that military connected students are receiving the best possible education," Reese said. "This report is further evidence of the outstanding job the Fort Polk area schools are doing to provide the best possible opportunities for our military partners."