



3RD CAB

FAMILY DISPATCH

ISSUE # 2

NOVEMBER

IN THIS EDITION

WELCOME MESSAGE	1
BRAWLERS IN ROMANIA	1
SOLDIER TASKS	3
NEVER TOO LATE	9
THOUGHTS FOR THANKSGIVING	10
FOR FAMILIES	11
HELPFUL RESOURCES	12
KIDS CORNER	13
3CAB SKETCHES	14

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Thursday
November
2025

3CAB FAMILY DISPATCH

Issue
#2

Keeping Families Connected

WELCOME SFRG!

EDITOR'S NOTE

This month has been a season of settling in, building momentum, and finding our rhythm here in Europe. As you flip through this issue, you will see snapshots of what your Soldiers have been doing behind the scenes. From the Transfer of Authority ceremonies that officially placed 3rd CAB in the lead, to the first missions, community events, and holiday moments, this has been a month of transition and purpose.

As the holidays approach, we hope this newsletter helps bridge the distance. Thank you for the strength you give your Soldiers. You are part of every step we take forward.

A Moment with the Brawlers in Romania

While training continues across Europe, our Brawler team in Romania found a quick moment to pause for something simple but meaningful. Their battalion commander, hard hat still on from site operations, stopped to take a selfie with two of his Soldiers on the airfield. It was a small snapshot, but it captured the kind of leadership that keeps teams tight, motivated, and grounded during a demanding mission.

Across every task force, relationships matter. Leaders who step into the work with their Soldiers, share the long hours, and take a minute to laugh or snap a photo help strengthen the connection that makes deployed teams feel like family. For the Brawlers, this moment reflected the spirit of their mission in Romania. They are working hard, supporting operations, and staying ready, but they are also finding the human moments that make the experience easier and more meaningful.



These quick interactions remind Soldiers that they are seen and valued. A simple selfie can break up the pace of the day, boost morale, and create a memory that will stick long after the deployment ends. It is leadership at its most genuine. Not staged, not formal, just present.

The Brawler team continues to represent 3CAB with pride, professionalism, and a strong sense of camaraderie. Moments like this show why their mission is more than tasks and timelines. It is about people, relationships, and the leaders who take the time to connect along the way.

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FALCON SWAG SHOPS



TF Falcon Hi-Tech Performance
Hoodie Tan



TF Falcon Hi-Tech Performance
Hoodie Black



TF Falcon Ceramic mug



TF Falcon Hi-Tech Performance
Unisex Tee



TF Falcon Wall Flag

And More At



TF FALCON SHOP

SOLDIER TASKS

AN INSIDE LOOK AT YOUR SOLDIERS TRAINING



How We Plan the Mission

This month, our staff has been deep into something called MDMP. That is the Military Decision Making Process, but think of it like planning a huge family road trip, just with helicopters, soldiers, and a lot more responsibility.



At its core, MDMP is how the Army plans. It is a step by step way to look at a problem, gather the facts, talk through options, choose the best one, and then make sure every team knows exactly what to do. If you picture a giant puzzle on the kitchen table, MDMP is the method we use to sort the pieces before the picture comes together. Here is the simple version.

1. First, we figure out the problem.



Just like when you plan a vacation, you start with the big question. Where are we going. What is the goal. What do we need to get there. Our staff looks at the mission the brigade has been given and breaks it down in the same way.

2. Next, we gather information.



4. Finally, we prepare to execute.



Once we pick the smartest path, we start tightening the details. Who is doing what. What equipment is needed. What support is required. This is where all the moving parts start lining up.



This part feels like a group deciding the best route to avoid traffic or arguing over which restaurant is worth the detour. The staff lays out different ways to accomplish the mission and weighs what could go right or wrong with each plan. After that, we choose the best plan and refine it.

3. Then, we brainstorm options.



Families might check the weather or look up hotel reviews. Our staff studies maps, terrain, resources, partner units, and timelines. Everyone brings their piece of the puzzle so we can see the whole picture.

This is the moment when a family loads the car, checks the GPS, and rolls out. For us, it means issuing the final plan, rehearsing, and syncing every team across the formation. Everyone knows what to do and when to do it.

All this planning is leading to our major training event coming up soon. These exercises are the Army's version of a full dress rehearsal. They let us test our plans, work through surprises, and make sure that when it matters, our brigade can respond quickly, confidently, and safely.

Your Soldiers have been putting in long hours, thinking through every detail so the team is ready for anything. They are learning, coordinating, problem solving, and getting stronger together.

TASK FORCE TALON

SOLDIER TASKS

AN INSIDE LOOK AT YOUR SOLDIERS TRAINING



Every Flight Matters

U.S. Army Spc. Clark, assigned to Task Force Vipers, goes to conduct a preflight inspection HH-60M Black Hawk at 33rd Air Base Powidz, Poland, November 4, 2025. (U.S. Army photo by Sgt. Alex Pantoja)

The safety of our Soldiers is always a top priority, especially in an aviation brigade. Our aircrew members and chiefs are essential to the completion of every mission.



3-17 CAV is redesignated as 1-3 Attack Battalion

Days before the transfer of authority ceremony with 1-501st Attack Battalion, the 3rd Squadron, 17th Cavalry Regiment was deactivated and its personnel was re-flagged as 1st Battalion, 3rd Aviation Regiment (Attack Battalion). 1-3 AB's history with 3rd Infantry Division goes as far back as 1987. Since then it was relieved, inactivated, assigned, relieved, assigned to 3rd CAB in 2004, redesignated, inactivated and reactivated to Germany in 2015. Now 10 years later, the Viper Battalion returns home to 3rd CAB, 3rd ID.

TASK FORCE VIPERS

SOLDIER TASKS

AN INSIDE LOOK AT YOUR SOLDIERS TRAINING

Field Feeding in Action

This month, our field feeding team set up and operated one of the three remote feeding sites at the airfield to support 1st Battalion, 3rd Aviation Regiment during their training. These sites are positioned across the area so Soldiers can grab a hot meal without breaking the training flow.

Out in the field, a warm meal becomes more than just nutrition. It gives Soldiers a quick reset, a break from the cold, and a sense of normalcy during long days of flying, maintaining aircraft, and supporting operations. A good plate of food has a way of lifting morale, warming tired hands, and reminding Soldiers that someone is looking out for them.



Our feeding team makes all of this possible. Their day starts long before the first Soldier arrives. They coordinate with the DFAC, load and transport meals across the installation, and deliver the food safely to the remote site. Once there, they set up the serving area, keep everything organized, and make sure the food stays hot, clean, and ready for the steady wave of Soldiers who rely on them. The work is physical and nonstop, yet the team approaches every shift with professionalism and pride.

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Thanks to the feeding team hard work, 1-3 AB has been able to sustain a fast training tempo, and our team continues to show how essential field feeding is to mission success. A well-fed team is a focused team, and our field feeding crew continues to prove just how essential their support is to mission success. They keep the brigade moving, one hot meal at a time.

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Vipers Support Senior Leader Visit

The Viper team recently supported the Assistant Secretary of War's visit by showcasing the Apache platform during a static display at the airfield. As the sun set across the flight line, the aircrafts stood ready for viewing, and Viper Soldiers walked leaders through the cockpit, systems, and capabilities that make our aircrafts such a critical part of Army aviation.

Static displays are more than a chance to "show and tell," they highlight the depth of training, skill, and teamwork behind everything our aircrafts can do. By stepping inside a cockpit, senior leaders could see firsthand the technology, precision, and crew coordination that define the 3CAB mission. This static display was a reminder that capability is built by people. The Vipers continue to set the standard, representing 3CAB with pride and showing exactly why their platform remains one of the most respected in Army aviation.

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SOLDIER TASKS

AN INSIDE LOOK AT YOUR SOLDIERS TRAINING

Washington Commanders visit “To The X” Task Force Brawlers

Our Blackheart, Task Force Brawlers team hosted members of the Washington Commander’s performance group, the Command Force, and their mascot Major Tuddy at Incirlik Air Base, Türkiye.

Chief Warrant Officer 2 Paul Dobos, a lifelong Commander’s fan, was able to lead the discussion covering the mission set of our UH-60 Black Hawks while in the area of operation.



3rd CAB Soldiers support Incirlik Air Base sustainment operations

Our Blackheart team at Incirlik Air Base are working hand in hand with Air Force Airmen as they unload a UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter from a C-17 Globemaster III aircraft.

Our flight crews have been hard at work receiving their equipment and getting familiar with their side of the area of operations. We even conducted rotary wing training with our Air Force counterparts.



TASK FORCE BRAWLERS

SOLDIER TASKS

AN INSIDE LOOK AT YOUR SOLDIERS TRAINING

Workhorse Excellence

This month, several Soldiers from the 603rd Aviation Support Battalion were recognized for their outstanding performance and commitment to the mission. Their achievements highlight the strength of the Workhorse Battalion and the vital role they play across the brigade.

Recognition in an aviation support battalion is not handed out lightly. The Soldiers of the 603rd are the ones who keep operations running when no one is watching. They move equipment, manage maintenance to sustain readiness, and solve problems quietly in the background so the brigade can stay in the fight. Their effort touches every aircraft that launches and every task force supported across multiple locations.

When these Soldiers earn recognition, it reflects weeks and months of discipline, teamwork, and pride in their craft. It shows they consistently go above and beyond, not because someone is looking, but because the mission depends on it. These awards remind the formation that excellence is not just a standard. It is a habit built through steady, reliable effort.



Moments like this carry special meaning. They are a reminder that the work your Soldiers do each day is seen and valued. Their dedication strengthens both the brigade and the communities they serve far from home.

These Soldiers achievements reflect the heart of the Brigade : quiet excellence, steady support, and a commitment to ensuring mission success every single day.

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Maintenance Thrives

Our Task Force Workhorse team conducts maintenance and receives vehicles to their motorpool. (Photos by Cpl. Ashni Brown)

TASK FORCE WORKHORSE

SOLDIER TASKS

AN INSIDE LOOK AT YOUR SOLDIERS TRAINING



603rd Chaplain Choir performance at Illesheim Christmas Market

By Jacqueline Haderlein

The 603rd Church Choir, led by CH Kinney, performed at the Illesheim Christmas Market at the local church before an audience of at least 60 people.

The Illesheim Church Choir, under the direction of Pastor Christine Stradtner, contributed additional German singers to the event.

The concert was warmly enjoyed by local residents, Soldiers and Command Team of the 603rd Aviation Support Battalion, highlighting shared values and traditions during the Christmas Market.

3rd CAB Strives to Integrate into USAG Ansbach

By Jacqueline Haderlein

Col. Robert Harless, left, presented the Mayor of Illesheim, Roland Scheibenberger, right, with a brigade coin as a token of gratitude for the mayor's support to the 603rd ASB unit over the next nine months on October 24, 2025.

The Brigade and Task Force Workhorse command teams had the opportunity to integrate with various host nation Partners, such as mayors from the surrounding communities, the head of the local kindergarten, Ms. Daniela Corona, the Pastor of Illesheim, Ms. Christine Stradtner, the Deputy Principal of Burgbernheim School, Mr. Dominik Ignatzek, and many others.



The group photo from the left: Dominik Ignatzek, deputy principal of Burgbernheim School; Roland Scheibenberger, mayor of Illesheim; Col. Robert Harless, brigade commander; Jennifer Lord, brigade senior enlisted leader; Jeffrey Rigney, battalion commander; Michael Manwaring, battalion senior enlisted leader.

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TASK FORCE WORKHORSE

Sgt 1st Class Sanders Re-enlistment: Never Too Late

By Staff Sgt. Dean Johnson

“I always wanted to be a Marine. When I first sat with a recruiter was during Desert Shield, my mother got sick, things turned out for the worst and she passed away, by the time that happened Desert Storm was over and I went on with life,” Sgt. 1st Class Robert Sanders, Communications and Information Technology NCOIC, recalled.

On October 27, 2025, Sanders, assigned to 3rd Combat Aviation Brigade, 3rd Infantry Division, took the oath of re-enlistment at Powidz, Poland while a CH-47 Chinook helicopter flew idly in the background and the American flag held tight by two Soldiers. Already serving 15 years in the Army, this re-enlistment secures Sanders at least five more years of service.

“It’s never too late to do anything in your life,” Sanders said, “if it’s something that you want to do and it’s something you’re passionate about, age is only a number. Pull the trigger don’t hesitate, life is about the experiences you have.”

Sanders had gone back and forth several times on serving in the military. The years following September 11th saw economic hardships for jobs in the construction sector where Sanders was a project manager for a fairly successful construction company. As the war pushed forward, expanding into multiple fronts, and the economy was still recovering, Sanders contemplated once again.

“One day in 2009 I was just thinking about my life and where I was and I always wanted to be in the service. I decided I didn’t want to be 60 years old and have a regret. I met with a recruiter and the rest is history,” Sanders said.

Despite many personal accomplishments and accolades Sanders has accrued over his Army tenure, when asked what his greatest achievement was he stated, “Several of my Soldiers have stayed in touch with me over the years and one of them just pinned master sergeant last month. Watching those guys develop and turn this into a career and excel, that’s the best thing I’ve accomplished so far.”

Sgt. 1st Class Sanders is a no non-sense type of NCO and tends to solve problems head-on. It is this dedication to service and retention of critical knowledge that keeps the Army strong; by re-enlisting, Sanders helps maintain a higher operational readiness which improves lethality across the force.

Sanders’ advice, to anyone in or out of military service, exemplifies his experiences he has had throughout his multiple careers and personal life which is, “Never settle for what you have, don’t get comfortable in one type of job or position. Challenge yourself to expand your knowledge but also expanding what you do in your career field. Don’t get comfortable, keep it moving, keep it challenging, keep it fresh.”



Thoughts for Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving carries a unique weight for service members who spend the holiday far from home. Across dining facilities, field sites, and deployment locations, the day takes on a different meaning. It becomes less about tradition and more about connection. Instead of family kitchens and familiar routines, Soldiers gather with the people who share their daily challenges, responsibilities, and victories.

One of the most symbolic moments each year is when leaders step behind the serving line. Command teams and senior NCO's take on the role of hosts, handing out turkey, mashed potatoes, and warm smiles to the Soldiers they lead. The act is simple, but it represents something larger. It is a reminder that leadership is rooted in service and that even on the busiest missions, people come first.

For Soldiers, the holiday often blends humor, homesickness, and resilience. A private calling home from the corner of a DFAC, a sergeant trading stories over pie, or a junior leader checking on their team creates a sense of belonging that reaches beyond rank. These moments show that the Army family is not just a phrase, It is a lived experience.

Thanksgiving in uniform reinforces a deeper truth about military service. While the work is demanding and often unpredictable, no one carries it alone. Meals become a gathering point, a place where teammates pause just long enough to appreciate the support systems around them. Even far from home, the holiday offers a reminder that gratitude is not tied to location. It is found in the people who stand beside us every day.

Even at a distance, we find family. And in every place the mission takes us, we find reasons to give thanks.

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Soldiers at the Warrior Restaurant on Hunter Army Airfield line up to for the Thanksgiving meal.



Senior leaders from 3rd CAB and 3rd Infantry Division help serve Soldiers at the dining facility. A tradition that reminds leaders that they too serve the people that carry out their orders.



FOR FAMILIES

A SECTION TO UPLIFT AND SUPPORT OUR FAMILIES



Trees for Troops

Soldiers E4 and below can receive a free Christmas tree this season between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. at Hunter Club! Just bring your DOD ID card and pick up your tree to bring a little extra holiday magic!

After 1 p.m., the giveaway will be open to all soldier and retirees so everyone to take part in the holiday spirit. Trees are limited so don't wait!

Youth Sports Track & Field Registration Is OPEN!

Get ready to sprint into the new year! Build skills, make friends, and have fun this season—don't miss out!

Registration: Nov 15, 2025 - Jan 1, 2026

Season: Jan 1 - May 1, 2026

Ages 5-15: \$65 (uniform included!)

Register now with Parent Central:

- Fort Stewart: (571) 802-0010
- HAAF: (571) 801-7512



Winterfest

Join us in kicking off the holiday season at Winterfest, a Coastal Christmas Celebration at:

Club Stewart Fri, Dec 12 | 6-9 PM

Hunter Club Wed, Dec 10 | 6-9 PM

This family-friendly holiday tree lighting will include lots of holiday activities like letters to Santa, delicious food and beverages and a charming holiday market!

Enjoy music performed by the 3rd Infantry Division Band as Christmas carolers fill the air with melodious cheer, all leading up to Santa Claus's arrival!



HAAF UPCOMING EVENTS

FOR FAMILIES

A SECTION TO UPLIFT AND SUPPORT OUR FAMILIES

Just Pick Up During the Holidays

Secretary of the Army Dan Driscoll

Fifteen years ago, Ranger School's Winter Mountain Phase nearly broke me. I slipped and fell, couldn't get up, and the cold crushed me. I was done in that moment. But my Ranger Buddies picked me up and helped me start moving again. That was an inflection point for me: I realized no one can go through life alone, we all break eventually, and we need each other.

At some point, all of us need a battle buddy to share the load. In that moment, you need someone to pick you up with grace and compassion. But, last year, we lost 260 Soldiers to suicide. Soldiers aren't getting the help they need. Signing those letters of condolence—and knowing we could have helped—is heart-breaking. I wish we never had to write another one.

The Holidays can be a high-risk period for self-harm. We know it's a problem, it happens every year, so we'll address it head-on—like 11th Airborne in Alaska who haven't lost a Soldier to suicide in 14 months. They systematically prioritize Soldier checks to offer help, make sure they are ok, and address risk factor root causes. We will do this across the Army.

This isn't performative – it's real for me. The Army is literally my family: my grandfather and father were Soldiers, my nephew is serving now, and I hope my children serve in the future. My Army buddies are my family too: I still lean on my Platoon Sergeant and driver from my 2009 Iraq deployment and convinced them to work for me in this office. When I make decisions, I do it fully knowing that my friends and our sons and daughters will bear the consequences. This is personal for me, I know it is for you too, so let's change it together.

For those who need help: when your phone rings during daily check-up, just pick up, and ask for help. Seeking help is not weakness—it takes courage, faith, and trust that your family, friends, and community will accept you and help you. We want to pick you up, share your load, and get you moving forward again. There is light beyond the darkness that surrounds you. Just keep fighting through this moment, pick up your phone, and let us help you.

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988 Lifeline



Army Suicide Prevention

Emergency Resources

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline: 988 or Text HOME to 741741

HAAF Domestic Violence Hotline: 571-802-7474

Army OneSource Helpline: 1-800-342-9647

Veterans/Military Crisis Line: 1-800-273-8255 (Press 1)

Brigade Staff Duty: 912-315-5024

Military Police: 912-315-6133

National Domestic Violence Hotline: 1-800-799-SAFE (7233)

American Red Cross: 877-272-7337

Installation Resources

Exceptional Family Member Program: 571-801-7494

Army Emergency Relief & Community Services: 571-801-7494

Family Advocacy Program Hotline: 571-802-7474

HAAF Finance: 571-801-7528/ 7530

Legal Assistance Office: 571-801-5149

Parent Central Services & Registration (CYS): (571)801-7512

Soldier Family Service Center: 912-315-6816

Army Housing: 912-459-2147 or 571-801-3393

Medical Resources

HAAF Tuttle AHC: 571-802-0435

HAAF Dental Clinic: 571-801-7148/ 7149

Pediatric Medical Care: 571-802-0394

Behavioral Health for Active Duty Soldiers: 571-801-7462/ 7463

Military Family Life Counselors: (912) 663-9753 or (912) 844-0749

Army Substance Abuse Program: 571-801-7462/ 7463

SFRG CORNER

ART, STORIES, AND FAMILY UPDATES



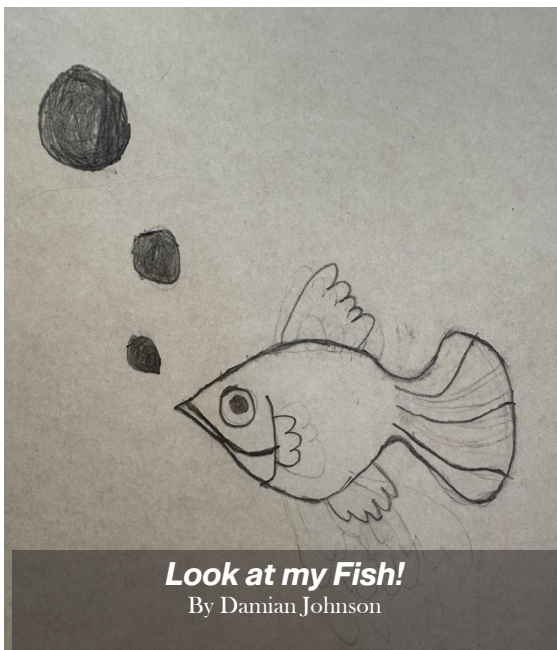
Ashley Harless and the 3RD CAB SFRG at the second harvest food distribution on Hunter, along with many soldiers who helped load food for families in need.



Khalia Johnson reaches 8 months or 212 days as of this photo.



Damian Johnson (Center) and his classmates at the Southwest Trunk or Treat.



Look at my Fish!
By Damian Johnson

KIDS CORNER

3CAB SKETCHES

