

# 1st MSC Gazette

Recruiting Promoting and Growing Citizen Soldiers

Vol. No. 2 Issue 1



Sgt. José Babilonia, Staff Sgt. Luis Dávila and Sgt. 1st Class William González

# Audie Murphy Induction

Fort Buchanan, PR – Three highly qualified Noncommissioned Officers (NCOs) were inducted to the elite Sergeant Audie Murphy Club (SAMC) for the Caribbean Chapter, 24 Sep. This is the first time that the Army Reserve in Puerto Rico has such an honor.

The final SAMC board was conducted 31 Aug. at the 1st Mission Support Command

Fort Buchanan, PR – Headquarters at Fort Three highly qualified Buchanan. Then, five Noncommissioned outstanding NCOs Officers (NCOs) were from different battainducted to the elite lions competed but Sergeant Audie Muronly three succeeded.

These selections prove the high level of professionalism of our soldiers.

The soldiers who participated in this board are Sgt. Jose Babilonia from the

448th Eng. Battalion, Sgt. 1st Class Mike González from the 210th Headquarters & headquarters detachment (both representing the 210th Regional Support Group-RSG), Staff Sgt. Luis Dávila and Sgt. 1st Class William González (in representation of the 166th RSG) and Sgt. 1st Class Nelson Colón from the San Juan Medical Recruiting Station.

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#### 1st MSC Gazette

#### Promoting, Recruiting and Growing

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#### Puerto Rican fallen hero is honored



"He (Sgt. Ramos) is a hero not only to Puerto Ricans, but to all Americans."
Maj. Gen.
Joseph Anderson

Brig. Gen Fernandez, Yolanda Más, Ramos children and family as they re-inaugurate Ramos' Hall

Fort Buchanan, PR
- The United States
Army Reserve - Puerto Rico honored 9 Sep.
one of the first Puerto
Rican reservists fallen
during the War on
Terrorism.

Sgt. Miguel A. Ramos from Mayaguez, Puerto Rico was honored by naming an important assembly hall at the 1st MSC headquarters as Ramos Hall.

As part of the honoring ceremony, the 1st MSC opened a permanent exhibition of historic photos and articles, highlighting the role of Puerto Rican soldiers in the major US wars and conflicts, to include the War Against Terrorism in

Afghanistan and Iraq.

Ramos died May 31, 2005 in Baghdad, Iraq when an enemy rocket impacted near his position.

#### "the Army Reserve was his second family" Yolanda Más, Ramos' widow.

"I feel very emotional. This is something very nice and emotive. This exhibition is something that will be here forever and Miguel's name will be here for years to come," said Yolanda Más Rodriguez, Ramos' widow.

"He (Ramos) always said that the Army Reserve was his second family", added Más.

Major General Joseph Anderson, rector of Operations, Mobilization Readiness at the Pentagon was also present at the event. "We owe Sgt. Ramos and his family a debt of gratitude for making the ultimate sacrifice in behalf of our country. He is a hero not only to Puerto Ricans, but to all Americans. Miguel represents the soul of what our nation is all about", said Anderson.

The 1st MSC has mobilized around 5,000 reservists since 2001, in support of the War on Terrorism.

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Staff Sgt. Luis Dávila, 346th TC Bn answers questions from Command Sgt. Majs. René Berlingeri, Orlando Santiago, Josué Maldonado and Sgt. Maj. Francisco Mari

These soldiers had to be screened at boards conducted by their units. After that examination, those who were preselected were ordered to appear before the final board. 1st MSC Command Sergeant Major, Command Sgt. Maj. René Rivera was the Chairman of the board. Other members of the board were Command Sgt. Majs. René Berlingeri, Orlando Santiago, Josué Maldonado and Harry Muñoz, Command Sergeant Majors for the 166th RSG, 210th RSG, 346th TC BN, and 448th EN BN respectively. Master Sgt. Daniel Lai, from the 166th Regional Support Group was also present as a recorder.

After a rigorous scrutiny, which included questions about Sgt. Audie Murphy's life, NCO's skills and duties, leadership and others, Sgt. Babilonia, Staff Sgt. Dávila and Sgt. 1st Class González, W. emerged as the first 1st MSC soldiers to be recommended for induction into the privileged club.

These selections once again prove the high level of professionalism and skills of the Army Reserve soldiers in Puerto Rico.





The 1st MSC SAMC candidates appear before the unit level board, before apperaing before the 1st MSC final selection board.

## U.S. Army Reserve investing big in Puerto Rico

Naval Activity, Ceiba – The United States Reserve in Puerto Rico inaugurated the modern Armed Forces Center on the premises of the former Roosevelt Roads Naval Station, 10 Sep.

Among the units that will occupy the new facilities in Ceiba is the 973rd Quartermaster Company from the Army Reserve, which needs to be near bodies of water in order to execute their mission effectively.

"This inauguration is of great significance for the 973rd Quartermaster Company, since we will have a place to train with our water purification systems", said Capt. Jason Gonzalez, commander of the 1st MSC subordinate unit.

The acting commander for the 393rd Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, Maj. Gilberto Soto, also expressed the significance of these facilities: "This inauguration

represents an unique opportunity to complete the mission of the 973rd", said Soto.

Major General Joseph Anderson, Director of Operations, Mobilization and Training at the Pentagon was also present at the activity. "We need to have the best facilities for all our soldiers in order to train and prepare for mobilizations and to support our families", Anderson said.

The construction of this new Reserve Center is the result



The Armed Forces Reserve Center is one of the four new combined centers to be constructed around Puerto Rico.

of the Federal Congress effort known as the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission (BRAC 2005).

Presently, there are other Armed Forces Reserve Centers being constructed, Mayagüez, with an investment of over 18 million, at Ft. Buchanan with an investment of over 21 million, and the center in Juana Diaz which was inaugurated a couple of months ago, with an investment of over 14 million dollars. The total infrastructure investments of the Reserve Armed Forces on the island reach over 78 mi-llion dollars. In addition, there will be an upcoming construction of a center in Puerto Nuevo for

which the auction has not yetbeen published.

The new facilities in Ceiba, are 78,350 square feet and include an area for vehicles and equipment maintenance, parking and an area for storage. The total investment of this project is of \$24,082,787.00.

This construction is eco friendly or "environmentally friendly" with a classification of silver in "Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design", an international system that classifies the environmentally friendly measures in new constructions. The certification evaluates the efficient use of

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water, materials, and the air quality in the building, among other parameters.

The investment of \$24,082,787 created 837 temporary jobs. 795 wokers were from Puerto Rico.

As part of the construction of these facilities there were 837 temporary jobs created for the duration of the construction. 795 workers were from Puerto Rico.

The new facilities of the Reserve will be utilized to provide administrative and training support for the Reservists.

#### 166th RSG trains

Camp Santiago, Salinas The 390th and 432nd Transportation Companies, both from the 346th Transportation Batta lion, under the 166th Regional Support Group, provided weapon qualification training to over 480 1st MSC soldiers. The training took place during their Battle Assembly, 19-21 Aug.

The range Officer In Charge (OIC) Sgt. 1st Class Samuel Watson and the range Non Commission Officer in Charge (NCOIC) Staff Sgt. Ivette Marrero, who serve with 390th Seaport Company, effectively managed the training event by providing quality Preliminary



Marksmanship Instruction, weapons handling techniques and target practice.

Watson and his team arrived at Camp Santiago's weapons range ready to execute the mission and to serve the soldiers of the 1st MSC. The units trained included the 393rd, 346th Ba ttalions and HQ's 166th. The weapons qualification was carefully planned, organized and executed until all soldiers fired their weapons.

The days were long and hot but this fact did not deter the soldiers from accomplishing their mission. There were 3 medic vehicles on standby for emergencies, 20 safety officers working with the firers. The tower was operated by Sgt.1st Class Sammy Santiago who mastered the art of managing personnel with the highest degree of expertise and safety. The training event was conducted successfully with zero accidents.

Staff Sgt. Edgardo Perez of the 432nd Transportation Company described the training as great when asked how he felt about the range using 25 meter paper targets versus pop up targets. At the end, it was a great Army training day at Camp Santiago, Salinas.



1st MSC soldiers check their targets after shooting in the M16 range.

### First PR Army Reserve General is laid to rest



The hearse drove through the old 65th RRC headquarters, in remembrance of Rodriguez-Baliñas' service.

Fort Buchanan, PR- The first Puerto Rican to be promoted to the rank of Brigadier General in the Army Reserve was laid to rest, 23 Sep. at the Puerto Rico National Cemetery.

Family members, friends, representatives of the Government of Puerto Rico, members of the 65th Infantry Regiment Association, the US Army Reserve Puerto Rico and other armed forces representatives, honored Brig. Gen. (Ret) Antonio Rodriguez-Baliñas during the military funeral ceremony.

"On behalf of all the Puerto Rican soldiers from all the



The Fort Buchanan's students lined up at the streets to pay their respects.

### First PR Army Reserve General is laid to rest

services and components, and specially from the Reservists in the island, we want to say thanks to Brig. Gen. (Ret) Rodriguez-Baliñas, for his leadership during the over 30 years of service to the Nation", said Brig. Gen. Fernando Fernández, senior US Army Reserve Officer in Puerto Rico and the Caribbean and commander of the 1st Mission Support Command.

"Rodriguez-Baliñas reports today to his last duty station, going next to the Lord and his wife Hilda," said Fernández. On its way to the National Cemetery, the funeral motorcade drove through the Fort Buchanan's streets, the only US Army installation in the Caribbean. There, soldiers, civilian employees and the children from the installation's school system lined up in the streets to honor the first Puerto Rican General in the US Army Reserve.

"It was very touching to see the children at Buchanan with American flags and saluting my dad," said Wilson Rodriguez Manzano, one of Rodriguez-Baliñas' sons.

Rodriguez-Baliñas represents the great capabilities of Puerto Ricans. An Adjuntas, Puerto Rico native, the General was able to achieve positions of great responsibility within the US Armed Forces.

The officer was a strong defender of the service of Puerto Rican service members in the Armed Forces. Many times, Rodriguez-Baliñas highlighted the importance of the service provided by the islanders in the defense of the Nation.

"It was very touching to see the children at Buchanan with American flags, saluting my dad."

Wilson Rodriguez, Rodriguez-Baliñas' son

According to Fernández, Rodriguez-Baliñas' courageous performance under enemy fire and his over 30 year military career opened the door for many other Hispanics across the nation to serve well our country. "This man was a true leader and a role model for future Hispanic generations. With his determination he became a war hero, showing the world that Hispanics are able and willing to defend our Nation with our lives, if necessary. Rodriguez-Baliñas is not only a Puerto Rican hero, he is a hero for all Hispanics around the world" said Fernández.



Brig. Gen. Fernández presents the U.S. Flag to 1st Sgt. (Ret) Rodriguez-Manzano, one of Rodriguez-Baliñas' sons.

# 1st MSC recognizes its members

Fort Buchanan, PR – With the intent of recognizing the hard work, dedication and readiness of its soldiers during fiscal year 2011, the US Army Reserve, 1st Mission Support Command celebrated its Annual Awards Banquet at the installation's Community Club, 24 Sep.

The Keynote speaker for the event was Maj. Gen. Anthony Cucolo III, Director Force Development at the Pentagon, who during his speech praised the courage and valor of the Puerto Rican soldiers.

"I grew up listening stories about the great fighting skills and courage of the Puerto Rican soldiers, because my dad served with the legendary 65th Infantry Regiment in Korea. Once I became part of the 3rd Infantry Division and served in Iraq, I confirmed all the stories I heard as a child. The Puerto Rican soldier has an excellent reputation across the Nation and probably across the world," said Cucolo.

Many awards were presented that night. The 471st and 475th Eng. Companies were presented with the USARC Maintenance Excellence Award for the medium category. The 346th Transportation Bn. received the USARC Maintenance Excellence Award for the large category. HHD, 1st Mission Support Command received the Supply Excellence Award



From left to right, Brig. Gen. Fernando Fernández, Maj. Gen. Anthony Cucolo III, Sgt. Luis A. Navedo- 1st MSC Best Warrior and Command Sgt. Maj. René Rivera.

for property book operations.

The Command also presented safety streamers to 10 selected units. The awardees were the 273rd Transportation Det., the 432nd Transportation Co., the 471st Eng. Co., the 512th Transportation Co., the 597th Quartermaster Co., the 603rd Eng. Det., HHD 346th Transportation Bn., the 166th Regional Support Group, the 210th Regional Support Group and the HHD 1st MSC.

"The Puerto Rican soldier has an excellent reputation."
-Maj. Gen. Cucolo

Other awards presented were the Best Unit in Supply operations to A/Co., 35th Signal Bn., the Best Battalion in Supply Operations to the 448th Eng. Bn., the Best Unit in Maintenance Operations to the 268th Transportation Co. and the Best Battalion in maintenance Operations to the 77th CSSB. The overall best units recognized were the 273rd Transportation Det., the 471st Eng. Co. and the 448th Eng. Bn.

During the event, three 1st MSC Noncommissioned Officers were inducted in the local Audie Murphy Chapter. Sgt. José Babilonia (448th Eng. Bn.), Staff Sgt. Luis Dávila

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1ST MSC from previous page (346th Transportation Bn.) and Sgt. 1st Class William González (346th Transportation Bn.) made history as the first members of the Caribbean Audie Murphy Chapter.

"The Puerto Rican Soldier is highly reliable and always completes the mission with excellence. There are no words to express how proud I feel to serve along with Puerto Rican soldiers. They have an incredible fighting spirit and are very proud of their service. Thanks to the 1st Mission Support Command soldiers for everything they do for the Nation and for this beautiful and special island", said Cucolo.



Brig. Gen. Fernando Fernández (left) and Maj. Gen. Anthony Cucolo III (2nd from the left) present an award to Sgt. Karen L. Ruiz- 1st MSC Best Warrior NCO, along with Command Sgt. Maj. René Rivera (right).



Maj. Gen. Anthony Cucolo III (left) and Brig. Gen. Fernando Fernández (right) present a recognition to Master Sgt. Cartagena (center) for her performance at the Force Modernization Office.

The awards banquet is conducted to recognize the hard work, dedication and readiness of the 1stMSC soldiers.

## 1st MSC Soldiers at Dover AFB

Dover Air Force Base, Del.—Working as a Mortuary Affairs Specialist has never been easy. It's a job that needs to be done with the highest level of dignity, honor and respect.

It is a job where all senses get sharpened, where everything stops for a moment and all kinds of thoughts go through your mind: your childhood memories, your old friends, even your dreams.

Then you realize that it could be you... No other experience in life can get you closer to life than death itself. Then you start thinking of that fallen soldier, about his family, his friends and all of a sudden you realize that this is it; they will no longer have him/her physically and that is really when you have to do your best to immortalize his/her presence through his/her belongings.

That is what the 246th and the 311th Quartermaster companies' soldiers have been doing for years. Out of Aguadilla, Puerto Rico, they do the very best to bring to the fallen Soldier's families their last memory and make it last forever.

The Air Force Mortuary Affairs Operations (AFMAO) at the Charles C. Carson Center for Mortuary Affairs and the Joint Personal Effects Depot



Staff Sgt. Franklyn Seda, 311th QM Co., inspects the uniforms to be worn by fallen Soldiers in their last journey.

(JPED) are the two facilities that work directly and deal with the fallen soldiers remains and personal effects at Dover AFB.

The AFMAO mission is to fulfill the nation's sacred commitment of ensuring dignity, honor and respect to the fallen and care, service and support to their families. A solemn dignified transfer of remains is conducted upon arrival at Dover AFB, from the aircraft to a transfer vehicle to honor those who have given their lives in the service of their country.

The vehicle then moves the fallen to the Port Mortuary at the Charles C. Carson Center. Once positively identified,

the fallen service members are prepared for transport to their final destination, as determined by the family.

"This is a nice job, but it is a toughjob also, mentally tough... you have to deal with dead bodies...the person in the body bag could be your friend, could be your brother, your cousin, or it could be one of your family [members]", said Staff Sgt. Franklyn Seda, a member of the 311th QM CO with 22 years of service, who has been working here for the last three months.

Staff Sgt. Seda is part of the uniform team, one of the four teams integrated by 1st MSC Soldiers.
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This group of soldiers is in charge of putting together the last uniform, including ribbons, medals, badges, etc., that the fallen soldier will wear until his/her last stop. They make sure everything is according to military standards.

The other teams on this facility are family, case manager and driver teams, which are the ones responsible for coordination, support, transportation and movement of the family members of the fallen soldier.

On the other hand, Staff Sgt. Jeysha Alarcón, a 10 years veteran expressed: "I love what I'm doing...I think I make a difference... you are doing something for someone who gave his life for this Country".

Staff Sgt. Alarcón works with the case manager's team. "We put everything to send these soldiers back to their families" she pointed out, meaning that they do their very best on this job.

The Joint Personal Effects Depot (JPED), one of the facilities that our soldiers support, has the mission of receive, safeguard, inventory, store, process and determine final disposition of Personal Effects (PE) of deceased, injured or missing DoD personnel in support of current Overseas Contingency Operations.

"We take so much care of their personal effects, we have great people in here, including civi lians... they make sure that everything get the most detail, the most care possible, so when the families open that foot locker they see everything is folded, everything is nice, everything got taken care of, so they don't think that the military is not taking care of soldiers even after they are dead", said Capt. Efrain Irizarry, a member of the 246th QM CO who works as a Summary Court Martial Officer for the JPED.

Both, Col. Tom Joyce, AFMAO Commander and Lt. Col. Kelly

Kyburz, JPED Commander, expressed their satisfaction of having the 1st MSC soldiers working on their respective facilities. Lt. Col. Kyburz also informed her intent to keep employing 1st MSC soldiers and added that they are in need of more troops like the ones from the 246th and the 311th Quartermaster companies.

"...you are doing something for someone who gave his life for this Country."

-Staff Sgt. Alarcón



Above, the team from the 246th and the 311th Quartermaster companies, who are currently performing duty at Dover Airforce Base, Delaware.

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## 1st MSC present at the 2011 Army ten-miler

Washington, DC- The 1st Mission Support Command was very well represented at the 2011 Army-ten miler race, 9 Oct.

Lt. Col. Samuel Licorish, 1st MSC Operations Officer in Charge, Sgt. 1st Class Saby Calo, Headquarters and headquarters 1st MSC Personnel Administration NCO and Sgt. 1st Class Sammy Santiago, 268th Transportation Company represented the 1st MSC, while being part of the Fort Buchanan's team.

"I love to run. This is the third year that I represent the 1st MSC at this important race," said Calo.

The US Army ten-miler is America's largest ten-mile race, held every October in Washington, DC. The race draws a large number of civilian and military running teams from around the world. This year more than 30,000 runners participated in the race.

Calo stated that there is a process to select the team members. There is a local try out event every year and during that process the best six runners are selected to represent the local team.

"It is a great experience. In part I did it for fun, but I also did it to stay in shape. The Army pays the travel expenses to participate and you get to know many people from around the Army. I like it very much," said Calo.

Sgt. 1st Class Santiago completed the run in one hour, seven minutes and 57 seconds, achieving the best time for the team. Lt. Col. Licorish finished the run in one hour, 17 minutes and 39 seconds and Sgt. 1st Class Calo finished the run in one hour, 30 minutes and 18 seconds. Overall the local team arrived in the 24th position, out of 48 teams.

"I love to run. This is the third year that I represent the 1st MSC at this important race."

-Sgt. 1st Class Calo HHD 1st MSC The other members of the Fort Buchanan team were Sgt. 1st Class Francisco Bermúdez, Sgt. 1st Class Francisco Pumarejo and Sgt. Andre Dejesús.

To those individuals interested to represent the 1st MSC next year, Calo recommended to start practicing as soon as possible. She also stated that the groups should practice together, five days a week, in order to improve their pace and speed.

The 1st MSC soldiers interested in participate next year can contact Lt. Col Samuel Licorish @ Samuel.licorishjr@us.army. mil . The 2012 Army ten-miler is scheduled for Oct. 21st 2012.



In the picture (right to left) the 1st MSC team consisted of Sgt. 1st Class Sammy Santiago,Lt. Col. Samuel Licorish and Sgt. 1st Class Saby Calo, The other members of the Ft. Buchanan team were Sgts. 1st Class Francisco Bermudez, Francisco Pumarejo and Sgt.Andre Dejesus.

# Civilians receive awards

Fort Buchanan, PR- The hard work and dedication of the civilians assigned to the 1st Mission Support Command, US Army Reserve Puerto Rico, was formally recognized in a ceremony conducted at the command's headquarters, 29 Sept.

The employees were commended for their years of service in the federal government to include 5, 10, 15, 20 and 25 years awards. Selected team members also received the Performance Award and the Achievement Medal for Civilian Service award.

Mr. José Acevedo received the Just Do It Award.

"The Just Do It Award is a new recognition established by the 1st MSC Soldier Readiness Processing Center (SRPC).

The award recognizes an employee who takes the initiative to do something that benefits the whole organization," said Mr. José R. Ruiz, 1st MSC SRPC supervisor.

Mr. Christopher Routenberg, who retired after 46 years of service, received the Presidential Letter.

In this case, Mr. Acevedo received the Just Do It Award because he coordinated with a print shop in order to have

shirts with the SRPC logo. These shirts will now be part of the SRPC uniform.

Other team members were also recognized. For example, Mr. Kenneth McConnell was selected as the 1st MSC Outstanding Employee of the Year.

One of the most remarkable moments of the ceremony was the presentation of the Presidential Letter to Mr. Christopher Routenberg who retired after 46 years of federal service.



Mr. Monserrate Vergara, 1st MSC Management Service Specialist (left) and Mr. José R. Ruiz, SRPC supervisor, (right) present the Presidential Letter and Certificate of Retirement to Mr. Christopher Routenberg (center).

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### Mission accomplished for the 471st EN CO



Spc. Roberto Del Valle works hard during the 471st mission at Maricao.

Maricao, PR- In the Army, not everything is about weapons, sometimes we have to lav aside our arms and work with our hands on a different scenario. This was the case of a squad of 13 Soldiers from the 471st Engineer Company (471st EN CO), a company under the 448th Engineer Battalion, that from May 31st to June 18th, 2011 had the mission to construct a concrete handicap bathroom with wooden roof in the Centro Vacacional del Monte del Estado in Maricao, PR., a resort under the Puerto Rico National Park Company.

These facilities are in the vicinities of the Maricao Forest, a crucial part of our ecosystem. This unique forest hosts 1,141 plants species and is the home of 60 birds species, including the Puerto Rican Sharp-shinned Hawk, (Accipiter stiatus venator), a distinct sub-species that has been placed on the United States Fish and Wildlife Ser-

vice list of endangered species.

With 24 cabins, these facilities were in much need of a handicap service room to comply with federal and local regulations and to offer adequate services to all visitors.

The soldiers, lead by a young Army Cadet as their Officer in Charge (OIC), Cadet Johnnie Lopez, and an experienced Sgt., as their Non-Commissioned Officer in Charge (NCOIC), Sgt. 1st Class Victor Misla, went to Monte Del Estado facilities, and overcoming some obstacles, accomplished their mission.

Once the squad received its orders, they quickly moved to their area of work and started the construction process. The team consisted of interior electricians, carpenters and plumbers and they all applied their military occupational specialty and did a little of cross training as well. It was a team effort, while gaining new skills

that will be helpful for future projects.

There were some delays on the project, especially on the delivery of the construction materials, but both leaders developed and modified the working plan to adjust it during the progress of the mission.

Soldiers executed this modification to perfection. With hard work, they completed a job well done, not only on time, but up to standards.

The work of our soldiers at Monte del Estado will facilitate that individuals with physical limitations can now enjoy the park.

The OIC, Cadet Lopez described this project as the most important experience of his young military career. "This [project] was very important for me, it was a request from Monte del Estado [referring to the National Park resort] and from the People with Disabilities Affairs Office" he said.

"That was my first experience as an OIC in a project", he said. Then he added "they [referring to the soldiers] did exactly what we planned. They executed well, it was a success".

### The families of the 475th are resilient

Ponce, PR- Family members of the 475th Engineer Company, currently deployed, conducted their Family Readiness Group meeting, 18 Sept. at the unit's facilities in Ponce, PR.

Personnel from the Children's Integral Care and Development Administration (ACU-DEN by its acronym in Spanish) took care of the children during the meeting. ACUDEN personnel were in charge of the children between the ages of 0-12.

Mrs. Barbara Rodriguez and 1st Sgt. Ariel Feliciano Torres, from the 1st MSC, provided assistance taking care of the teenagers. 1st Sgt. Feliciano had the opportunity to share his mobilization experiences with the children. He also asked the youth questions about the deployment of their parents.

The Children's Integral Care Administration or ACUDEN (Spanish acronym) regularly assists 1stMSC families.

The children also shared some time with Mr. Ramon Balsa, Military Family Life Consultant. The youth had an opportunity to know how a Mandala can help them during stress time to reach relaxation. A mandala is a geometric pattern or chart, typically circular or square, that symbolically represents the cosmos and is used for meditation purposes. The Mandala Work Plan for youth was taken from Operation Military Kids manual for youth of deployed Soldiers.

The families had a great time sharing with each other. This is a great example of the resilience of our families.

The 1st MSC Family Programs Office was relocated to Building 353, Wilson Road, Fort Buchanan. If you need services call Ms. Elsa Cortés @ 787-707-4082. Contact their office to find out more information about family asistance and the Yellow Ribbon phases.



Mrs. Bárbara Rodriguez and 1st Sgt. Ariel Feliciano from the 1st MSC listened to teenagers during the 475th Eng. Company Family Readiness Group Meeting, 18 Sep.

Strong Bonds Mega Event is scheduled 27 - 29 January 2012.

For information call ofic. 787-707-4953 cell. 787-948-1434

