

Year in review... looking toward the future  
By CSM Fourhman

As a new year unfolds, it is time for us to take a look back at last year's accomplishments as we continue to move forward into the future.

The men and women who proudly serve U.S. Army Central have been an example for other organizations to emulate. This starts with the most junior Soldier doing their job to the highest standards, all the way up to senior leaders making sure that the mission is accomplished and that the Soldiers in the command are taken care of properly.

This past year, we celebrated the 90th birthday of USARCENT. By taking a look back, we were able to see how important a role USARCENT has played over time and how we are continuing that tradition by being the premier Army Service Component Command in the U.S. Army.

During the past year, we conducted two Full-Spectrum Operation rotations, bringing members of the command from Atlanta to reorganize both the main and operational command posts, and exercise the early entry command post. These exercises continue to push us to our goal of being Joint Task Force certified in 2009.

In addition, USARCENT, by continually conducting these FSO rotations, provides the Army and U.S. Central Command with a headquarters that is forward deployed, the only one in the Army, as a dominant headquarters that it can lean on.

Besides the FSO rotations, we conducted numerous information exchanges with other nations, as we continue to build stronger relations across the region.

To give a few examples, we conducted an Army engineer information exchange in Turkmenistan, a public affairs information exchange in Kenya and a medical information exchange in Djibouti, among many others.

Also, Soldiers participated in various seminars, such as the explosive ordnance device seminar in Lebanon, the field artillery seminar in United Arab Emirates and the medical first responder seminar in Bahrain.

These examples are just a small glimpse of the work that Soldiers in USARCENT participate in across the globe as we continue to make a name for our great organization.

In Atlanta, our Family Readiness Group is stronger than ever with our great newsletter publication *The Yellow Ribbon*, and the great effort put forth by the leaders and volunteers of the FRG. In addition, our inaugural Army Family Action Plan conference was conducted, once again signifying the importance of Family to the command. Each year we will look to renew our Family Action Plan to continue to show the need for strong programs that enhance the very heart of our organization... our Families.

By continuing to address the issues and create solutions to enhance the quality of life for Family members and Soldiers, we will be doing one of the most important things we can... taking care of Soldiers.

The past year's accomplishments could not have been possible without the great work put forth by everyone in the command, Soldiers, civilians and Family members.

Everyone should feel a sense of pride for all the work that has been accomplished in our organization; you have been the reason for our success.

As we look toward the New Year, we must keep up the strong momentum and push forward, accepting any challenge that may lie ahead. We have never been stronger as an

organization and by doing the right thing everyday can continue to leave a legacy for others to follow.

I thank you, especially Familes, for all your hard work in making USARCENT an unsurpassed organization.

Patton's Own!