

31 December 2007

Dear Family and Friends of the Wolfhounds,

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from Camp Beuhring, Kuwait! The 1st Stryker Battalion Wolfhounds have deployed in support of Operation IRAQI FREEDOM. We departed Schofield Barracks beginning on 7 December 2007, with the entire main body of this Task Force arriving in Kuwait by 10 December 2007. We spent two weeks in Kuwait before departing north into Iraq.



During our two weeks at Camp Beuhring, we received individual and group training in numerous areas. Our Soldiers received training in such areas as vehicle rollover, drivers training, improvised explosive device defeat, and various other tasks to prepare us for the challenges that lay ahead. The vehicle rollover training simulator was like riding on an amusement park ride. We were also able to head out to the ranges for several days in order to maintain our edge! At the conclusion of our training, our combat readiness was complete, and the men were anxious to head north.

In addition to the all the classes and training, we also had some down time where we could enjoy a good game of volleyball, basketball or hit the gym. The weather was really nice for the majority of the time there



making it enjoyable to be outside. Near the end of the two weeks as we prepared to move north, it began to get colder out and we actually had a white Christmas. This was exciting for some of our Wolfhounds, as they had never seen snow before. Can you believe this?

Some Wolfhounds moved north early to attend the Counter Insurgency (COIN) Academy. On Christmas Day 2007, the main body of the Task Force departed Kuwait and moved north to Camp Taji, Iraq. By the end of December, the entire Battalion was present at Camp Taji to begin our left seat/right seat ride with the 2nd Battalion, 8th Cavalry whom we would eventually replace.

We closed out the month and the year with a New Years Eve Party and concert put on at the Mayor's Cell. The concert was performed by folks from various organizations on the camp. The 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Choir sang for us. It was an enjoyable evening as we brought in the new year Wolfhound style.



We look forward to making a difference and completing our mission here in Iraq over the next 15 months.

See you next month!

**ONCE A WOLFHOUND, ALWAYS A WOLFHOUND!**

**RICH "FLIP" WILSON**  
LTC, IN  
Commander, Task Force Wolfhounds (TF 1-27)