



# INSCOM INSIGHT



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## Many Different Contributions to Our National Defense

This past week the U.S. Army Intelligence and Security Command was represented at the Annual Meeting of the Association of the United States Army in Washington D.C. INSCOM staff provided information about our Command, our people, technology and our mission, and demonstrated several of our technology to a wide ranging audience. INSCOM and what we do were very well represented by the soldiers and civilians who manned our exhibit and demonstrations, and I thank each of them for their contributions. Although we cannot speak publicly about many of our operations and contributions to the defense of our Nation, this event gave us a forum to highlight some of them.

All of you make great contributions to this Nation. There is one more contribution I urge you to make vote on Nov. 5<sup>th</sup> in the General Elections. Hopefully you are all registered to vote and will participate in this civic right and responsibility. Whether you are a civilian or a soldier, I encourage you to take the time to exercise this right.

It has been a very busy time at INSCOM, and the pace will only quicken as world events evolve and we continue our mission and our support in the Global War on Terrorism. The beginning of the holiday season is only a few weeks away, and that will further impact the pace within the command. I urge each of you to find time for family and self during these challenging times. Thanks to all for your dedicated support and outstanding contributions to our national defense.



*Maj. Gen. Keith B. Alexander*

### Fast Facts

- Intelligence Community Assignment Program (ICAP) vacancy announcements, which were originally scheduled to close on Oct. 31, have been extended until Nov. 7, 2002. For more information INSCOM personnel should visit <http://www.dami.army.pentagon.mil/pub/dami-cp/icapopen03a.doc> and contact Ms. Madelyn Windmiller in INSCOM Civilian Personnel Division at (703) 706-1393 or Ms. Doris Grosskopf at (703) 706-2503.
- Soldiers Radio and Television is now web casting music, live Department of Defense news briefings and Army radio news 24-hours-a-day at <http://www.army.mil/features/SoldiersRadioLive/>. Access to the new service will be available starting Oct. 21 through a "Soldiers Radio Live" button on the Army Homepage at [www.army.mil](http://www.army.mil).
- For information on what is happening in Department of Defense Homeland Security arena, visit their new web site at <http://www.defenselink.mil/specials/homeland/>
- Election Day is Tuesday, Nov. 5<sup>th</sup>. Don't forget to exercise your rights and responsibility as a citizen and vote.
- Of interest to intell:

**DoD Iraqi Denial and Deception Briefing Special Defense Department briefing on Iraqi deception and denial at**

[http://www.defenselink.mil/news/Oct2002/t10082002\\_t1008dia.html](http://www.defenselink.mil/news/Oct2002/t10082002_t1008dia.html)

**Intelligence Officials Warn Threat is as Great as Before Sept. 11<sup>th</sup> at**

[http://www.defenselink.mil/news/Oct2002/n10182002\\_200210182.html](http://www.defenselink.mil/news/Oct2002/n10182002_200210182.html)

## Task Force Smith battle has lessons for today

by Spc Jon Crease  
501st MI Battalion Public Affairs

**SUWON, Korea** – The first U.S.-led assault on North Korea in the summer of 1950 was disastrous. A 406-man element, Task Force Smith, led by LTC Smith, lacked experienced combat infantry soldiers, was poorly equipped, and trained. Many of the soldiers, who were mostly 20-years-old or younger, fled after hearing the first North Korean artillery rounds landing near their positions tucked away in the mountains South of Suwon where the battle occurred.

During a recent professional development/ battlefield terrain walk, officers and noncommissioned officers of the 501<sup>st</sup> Military Intelligence Brigade reflected on lessons learned from the Task Force Smith Battle. Some of those lessons learned can be applied to military operations today.

A brief the day prior and a video documentary of clashes shortly after the Suwon battle was shown during the one-hour bus trip from Yongsan and provided the group insight into the tense skirmishes during this period.

“This was a great run down of the battle,” said Maj. Bruce Stevens, brigade communications officer. “This shows how poor planning at the strategic level can lead to poor execution at the tactical level.”

Upon their arrival to the TF Smith Battle Site, the officers and NCOs viewed a large U.N. monument erected to commemorate those who fought and died during this fierce battle. They then crossed to the west side of Highway 1 to view the location of TF Smith’s western most elements, an infantry platoon from Baker Company supported by a recoilless rifle. A monument was later erected at this platoon’s location in honor of 24<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division (U.S.).

The soldiers of TF Smith came from 1<sup>st</sup> BN, 21<sup>st</sup> INF RGT of the 24<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division, Eighth U.S. Army which was headquartered in Japan at the time. At this site the participants viewed the platoon’s fighting positions and commanding terrain they occupied.

The group then made the trek over the mountain where most of the battle took place. At the top of the mountain the group viewed actual TF Smith fighting positions from Companies B and C and the battalion command post. From these positions TF Smith engaged heavily-armed, war-hardened North Koreans, many of whom fought with Mao during the Chinese Nationalists Uprising and fought against the Japanese during the Japanese invasion.

The first wave of tanks passed through TF Smith positions the morning of July 5. TF Smith only had a few hours of preparation time prior to the attack. The force was briefed prior to occupying its positions that they were facing North Korean soldiers who were nothing more than simple farmers who would turn and run after realizing they were facing U.S. soldiers. TF Smith represented Gen. MacArthur’s “arrogant display of strength.” Each man deployed from Japan with 120 rounds of ammo, two days of C-rations and no anti-personnel or anti-tank mines. Only a sixth of TF Smith’s men had combat experience.

“With all they were up against it’s a wonder TF Smith was not totally destroyed. They fought wonderfully under the given circumstances,” said Maj. Michael Garcia, brigade training officer.

They were no match for an entire tank regiment comprised of 33 tanks followed by an entire infantry division of 4,000 battle-hardened soldiers. Early morning of 5 July 1950 LTC Smith, the battalion commander, spotted tanks leaving the city of Suwon which was about 8 miles to the north. About an hour later his troops engaged the tanks and battled them with WWII era weapons that were not effective against the T-34 Russian Tanks.



ROK soldiers provide security on a hilltop near Suwon as officers from 501<sup>st</sup> MI BDE conduct OPD. (Photo by Spc Jon Crease)

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After the tank battle, TF Smith had damaged or destroyed 7 of the tanks. The remainder passed through their area of operations. TF Smith lost 20 soldiers, expended all of its high explosive anti-tank munitions (6 rounds) and had only low explosive rounds to fight the remainder of the battle. It had also lost communications with its artillery when a tactical telephone line was cut by tanks. About an hour after the tanks passed through, Smith spotted dismounted North Korean infantry soldiers on the road outside of Suwon moving south along highway 1. He estimated the combat caravan which consisted of tanks, trucks and soldiers to be six miles long.

Smith instructed his recoilless rifles and mortars not to fire until they were within a 700-meter range, then he said that he "threw the book at them." He later explained that he observed trucks bursting into flames and soldiers being blown up and thrown through the air. The North Korean Soldiers quickly went into an effective battle drill. The tanks continued south and began raking TF Smith's positions with machine gun fire. The infantry soldiers dismounted, emplaced mortars and machine guns, and about 1,000 of them assaulted Smith's positions. They continued along the east side of the road, appearing to rather fight their way around than attack the flanks. Within an hour, the platoon on the west side of the highway was crawling with North Koreans. Smith collapsed the platoon on the west side back into his main defensive belt. The enemy bombarded TS Smith with mortar, artillery and machine gun fire which were very effective due to a lack of head cover.

At approximately 2:30 p.m., Smith made an assessment and realized that he had no communications with his artillery, at least 26 tanks in his rear, 5,000 soldiers to his front with 1,000 in close combat and each of his soldiers was down to approximately one magazine of ammunition. He decided to withdraw. Company C made the initial retreat, followed by the medics, battalion headquarters and Company B. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Platoon did not receive a withdraw order, so they stayed put until they realized they were the only ones defending the stronghold. They began a withdraw leaving behind everything but small arms, including their dead and about 30 wounded soldiers.

TF Smith regrouped with their field artillery support and realized the artillery still had most of its ammunition and 4 of 5 guns intact. They proceeded on foot to the outskirts of Osan where they linked up with the artillery vehicles and began to drive south to Ansong.

Just north of Ansong they ran into the 26 tanks that had passed through their positions earlier and Smith was forced to backtrack back to the north of Osan and find an alternate route to Ansong. Along the way, they picked up about 100 TF Smith soldiers, many of which were missing helmets, boots, shirts, or pants. They continued on, arriving in Ansong unmolested at approximately midnight. Over the next couple of weeks, TF Smith soldiers continued to trickle in to various units. Some soldiers walked to the east and west coasts. One commandeered a Korean Sampan boat and sailed it South to Pusan, arriving two weeks later. A total of almost 250 soldiers of the original 540 survived the battle.

"I never did quite understand how important Task Force Smith's role was in the Korean War until going on this OPD," said Capt. Marty T. Butts, brigade training officer OPD guide. "I now understand how the war started, why the U.S. became involved, and how TF Smith's battle catapulted U.S. involvement forward."

### **Third Wave helps Army focus on mission**

The Secretary of the Army has directed a review of all functions performed by soldiers and Army civilians to determine which are not core competencies and the development of implementation plans for privatizing, divesting, competing using A-76, outsourcing using "alternatives to A-76," converting military spaces to civilian or contract, or transferring to other government agencies, those non-core functions.

This initiative, known as "The Third Wave," is being conducted to enable Army leaders to focus on the Army's core missions, to support the President's management agenda, and to free up resources for the Global War on Terrorism. Through this initiative, the Army is taking action to make its non-core operations more efficient and to conserve taxpayer dollars entrusted to the Army to perform its missions.

For more information, go to

<http://www.dtic.mil/armylink/news/Oct2002/r20021023transcript160ct02.html>

### Telling the INSCOM story

MSgt. Mark E. Covey, 1<sup>st</sup> Information Operations Command, briefs a visitor on INSCOM operations and technologies during the Association of the United States Army Annual Meeting Oct. 21-23 in Washington, D.C. INSCOM's exhibit included video presentations and demonstrations on language translation, the Army Computer Emergency Response Team and Starlight technologies, cyber warfare, and Simulated Infrared Earth Environment Lab (SIREEL). (U.S. Army Photo by Robert Bills)



### LIWA becomes 1st IO Command

The Land Information Warfare Activity became the 1st Information Operations Command (Land) on Oct. 16, 2002. Although the name has changed, it will continue to provide worldwide full-spectrum Information Operations (IO) support to land component and Army commanders.

The Land Information Warfare Activity (LIWA) was established in 1995 with the dual mission of providing support to facilitate planning and execution of Information Operations and enhancing worldwide force protection by carrying out a proactive defense of Army information and information systems. As a totally unique organization within the Army, LIWA provided an unrivaled knowledge base on the many facets of IO and its deployment to the real-world theater of operations.

The 1<sup>st</sup> Information Operations Command (Land) will remain a part of the U.S. Army Intelligence and Security Command and continue to receive operational taskings from the Director of Operations, Readiness and Mobilization, Headquarters, Department of the Army.



### DoD announces Fulcrum Shield award winners

The Defense Department announced the winners of the 1st Annual Fulcrum Shield Award for Excellence in Youth Anti-Drug Programs. This award is named in honor of the five military personnel from Fort Bliss, Texas who were killed in an airplane crash in 1999 while on a counter drug reconnaissance mission in Colombia. The award recognizes military-affiliated youth organizations around the world who have made concerted efforts at spreading the anti-drug message throughout their communities. The Award is being presented to two groups:

- The Young Marines National Headquarters, Washington, D.C.;
- The Idaho Drug Free Youth program, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho

For more information on the DoD Counterdrug Awards, go to

[http://www.defenselink.mil/news/Oct2001/b10242001\\_bt537-01.html](http://www.defenselink.mil/news/Oct2001/b10242001_bt537-01.html)

## ***E/MSS becomes myPay***

Effective Oct. 15, 2002, the Defense Finance and Accounting payroll tool formerly known as E/MSS changed its name to myPay. Although the system has a new look, the system remains the same in functionality and employees will not have to get a new personal identification number (PIN). The same PIN currently used for E/MSS will be able to access myPay. The biggest change is to the Home Page, which will make it faster and easier for customers to get to the actions they want to perform. Users will have the option of selecting what they want to do directly from the Home Page. In addition, if employees have the E/MSS address bookmarked in their favorites, they may continue to use it. Access to myPay is through <https://mypay.dfas.mil> or <https://emss.dfas.mil>. (Courtesy INSCOM Civilian Personnel Division)

## ***Mold remediation to be undertaken at HQ INSCOM Nolan Building***

During recent movement of personnel/workstations within the Nolan building and remodeling efforts, mold was discovered behind the walls of the northeast corner of the building and stairwell. The full extent of the damage is still being determined.

G4, in conjunction with Fort Belvoir, Director of Installation Services (DIS), is contracting to remove the mold from all of the affected areas.

G4 and the INSCOM Safety Office have taken mold samples and are awaiting test results of the type of spores. The results will be made known to the workforce after receipt. The Industrial Hygiene standard is to remediate and remove all molds that are found in government buildings regardless of the type. Remediation work began on the building's northeast corner stairway on Oct. 21. The stairway will be closed during remediation. The center or front stairways will be used for emergency evacuation.

Current research has shown that people react differently to mold. Some have no reaction, while others may have an allergic reaction. The G4, Fort Belvoir DIS, Preventative Medicine, and the INSCOM Safety Office are taking every precaution to contain the mold and prevent it from becoming airborne during remediation. The mold discovered in the G4 conference room has been sealed and the air vents shut to mitigate airborne particles. Furniture and blackboards moved to the hallway on 2F do not contain mold.

Additional information about the health effects of mold exposure may be found at <http://chppm-www.apgea.army.mil/mold/>.

Should you have any questions or further concerns, you may contact Mr. Lloyd Roberts or Ms. Linda Holland of the INSCOM Safety Office at (703) 706- 2515/2307.

***INSCOM Insight is published weekly as a Command Information e-publication for the men and women of the U.S. Army Intelligence and Security Command. Opinions expressed herein do not necessarily reflect the views of HQ INSCOM, the U.S. Army, or the Department of Defense. All photos are U.S. Army photos unless otherwise noted. Send inputs to INSCOM Public Affairs Office at [pao@inscom.army.mil](mailto:pao@inscom.army.mil)***

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