

accelerated rate, issues with the fielding and implementation of that equipment remained. The lack of a structured FP cell at the battalion/squadron and brigade levels severely hindered the unit's ability to conduct operations. Thus, a structured cell containing preexisting elements in modular units is required for an exemplary FP program.

The current modular division contains four protection cells that operate from the tactical command post—the protection/provost marshal, protection/engineer operations, protection/air defense, and protection/CBRN cells. Combined Joint Task Force 82 was CBRN-based, while its predecessor (Combined Joint Task Force 101) was air defense artillery-based. The protection/engineer operations cell continues to be used in counterinsurgency fights and peacekeeping operations. The provost marshal is engaged with detainee operations. This division model can be used at subordinate level commands with the same effectiveness.

Personnel with experience in the realm of FP are familiar with the maxim “everything is force protection.” However, focusing on “everything” results in a focus on nothing. Under those circumstances, FP becomes ineffective—and the mission and lives are placed at risk. The Chemical Corps has the organization and structure necessary to support FP at all levels, from the battalion/squadron to the corps. As a branch, we should seize the opportunity to make an impact at the highest levels by embracing the FP role. We should focus on training our young officers and noncommissioned officers to be FP experts. ●●●

#### Endnotes:

<sup>1</sup>Ian Kemp, “Securing the Base,” *Armada International*, Issue 5, October/November 2008, <[http://www.armada.ch/08-5/article-full\\_08-5.pdf](http://www.armada.ch/08-5/article-full_08-5.pdf)>, accessed on 27 October 2009.

<sup>2</sup>DODD 2000.12, *DOD Antiterrorism (AT) Program*, 18 August 2003, <<http://www.dtic.mil/whs/directives/corres/pdf/200012p.pdf>>, accessed on 23 October 2009.

<sup>3</sup>“Statement by Major General Robert Lennox, Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff, G-3/5/7; Brigadier General Peter N. Fuller, Program Executive Officer Soldier; Mr. Kevin M. Fahey, Program Executive Officer, Combat Support and Combat Service Support, Before the Air and Land Forces Subcommittee and Seapower and Expeditionary Forces Subcommittee, House Armed Services Committee, U.S. House of Representatives, on the Army Force Protection Programs,” First Session, 111th Congress, 4 February 2009, <[http://armedservices.house.gov/pdfs/ALSPEF020409/Lennox\\_Fuller\\_Fahey\\_Testimony020409.pdf](http://armedservices.house.gov/pdfs/ALSPEF020409/Lennox_Fuller_Fahey_Testimony020409.pdf)>, accessed on 23 October 2009.

<sup>4</sup>Army Regulation (AR) 525-13, *Antiterrorism*, 11 September 2008.

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## ALABAMA UNITS ACTIVATE

On 15 April 2009, two more Alabama Army National Guard units entered active duty in support of the War on Terrorism.

Departure ceremonies were held on 21 April for the 1343d Chemical Company at the Fort Payne Army National Guard Readiness Center, Fort Payne, Alabama, and for the 151st Chemical Battalion at the Army National Guard Readiness Center in Gadsden, Alabama.

City, county, and state officials joined senior National Guard personnel at the brief ceremonies. Following the ceremonies, both units departed for Fort Hood, Texas, to begin an intensive train-up period.

The 1343d Chemical Company now performs in-theater security missions, and the 151st Chemical Battalion serves as a command and control headquarters for units that provide support services to Soldiers and civilians in Kuwait and Iraq.

With the mobilization of these two chemical units, more than 14,000 Alabama Army and Air National Guard members have been called to active duty in the War on Terrorism since 11 September 2001.