

Tributes to Fallen Comrades

By Lieutenant Colonel Alex Conyers

Master Sergeant Wilberto Sabalu, Jr., and Colonel James W. Harrison, Jr., made the ultimate sacrifice for their nation on 6 May 2007 in support of the War on Terrorism and Operation Enduring Freedom, while assigned to the Detention Capability Directorate of the Combined Security Transition Command–Afghanistan (CSTC-A). An errant Afghan soldier shot and killed them as they departed the Afghan National Detention Facility, where they trained Afghan military police corrections specialists. Master Sergeant Sabalu and Colonel Harrison were proud to be a part of the Military Police Corps Regiment, and they will always be remembered.

Master Sergeant Wilberto Sabalu, Jr.

Master Sergeant Sabalu was a career Soldier and had been a part of the Military Police Regiment since 1989, demonstrating professional expertise and leadership at every level. Before his deployment to Afghanistan, he was assigned to Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri—the home of the Regiment. There, he trained future internment/resettlement specialists (military occupational specialty 31E). He also developed and executed training for noncommissioned officers who, in turn, trained Soldiers on the intricacies of detainee operations in support of the War on Terrorism.



A Soldier’s Soldier, Master Sergeant Sabalu lived and endured with the Afghan soldiers, dutifully mentoring them on the standards for detention operations and the proper care and custody of detainees. He led by example as he taught the Afghan soldiers what it meant to be a Soldier proudly serving his country. He lived by the philosophy of “Mission first and Soldiers always.”

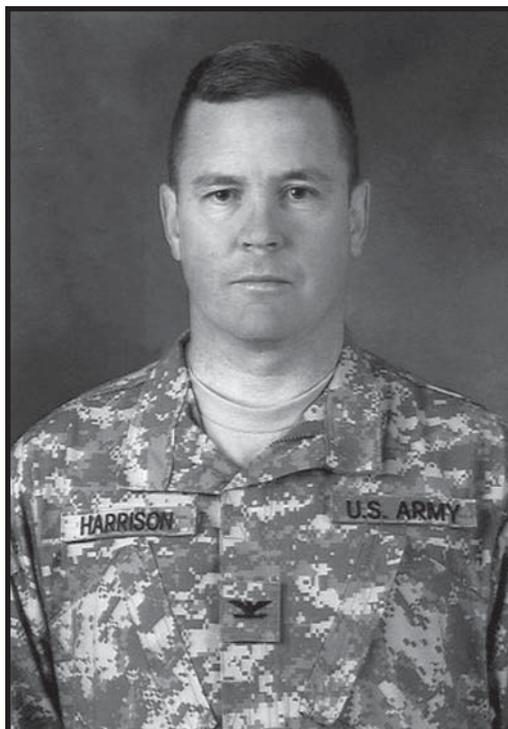
On 26 September 2007, the CSTC-A honored Master Sergeant Sabalu by dedicating the Sabalu House in his honor. The Soldiers, sailors, airmen, and marines who occupy these barracks will forever be reminded of the ultimate sacrifice made by Master Sergeant Sabalu—the Soldier, noncommissioned officer, and military policeman.

Colonel James W. Harrison, Jr.

Colonel Harrison was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the Military Police Corps at the U.S. Military Academy, West Point, New York, in 1981. He demonstrated exemplary leadership at every level, including his service as the Director, School for Command Preparation, Command and General Staff College, Fort Leavenworth, Kansas; Commandant, U.S. Disciplinary Barracks, Fort Leavenworth, Kansas; and Commander, 5th Military Police Battalion (Criminal Investigation Division), Kaiserslautern, Germany.

Colonel Harrison epitomized the characteristics of duty, honor, and country as defined by General Douglas MacArthur. He rescinded his request for retirement so that he could deploy in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. His dedication to mission and duty is evident through the accomplishments of the government of Afghanistan, which established a fully functional detention facility for enemy combatants. The facility was erected in support of the strategic plans of the United States and is in compliance with international standards.

On 26 September 2007, the CSTC-A honored Colonel Harrison by dedicating the Harrison House in his honor. The Soldiers, sailors, airmen, and marines who occupy these barracks will forever be reminded of the ultimate sacrifice made by Colonel Harrison—the Soldier and military police officer.



Lieutenant Colonel Conyers is assigned to the Combined Security Transition Command–Afghanistan.

Letter to the Editor



A rousing “Hurrah!” to Lieutenant Colonel Wayne Larry Dandridge (Retired) for his outstanding, comprehensive, and practical article “Army Leadership: A Personal View” in the Spring 2008 edition of *Military Police*.

From day one back in '43, all we heard about in the Navy and, later, Army was “leadership” through each and every course or school—Basic Infantry, Basic Military Police, Field Grade Military Police, Industrial College of the Armed Forces, and the War College—but nowhere has anyone so eloquently and in such practical terms covered the subject of leadership.

As a provost marshal for twelve years in an Infantry Division (the 26th Yankee Infantry Division), I like to think that I used some of Dandridge’s recommendations.

Congratulations on bringing to the “professionals” a great and informative journal.

—Colonel Stanley W. Wisnioski, Jr. (Retired)
U.S. Army Reserve