

Regiment on the Move: CID Battalion Is No Exception

By Colonel Anthony Cruz



For most in the Regiment, 14 November 2008 was probably just another uneventful day—but it wasn't for the Soldiers of the 19th Military Police Battalion (U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Division [USACIDC], commonly referred to as the "CID").

During a calm, cool, clear morning in Yongsan, Korea, the battalion cased its colors. Just another deployment ceremony? No. The casing of the battalion colors marked the official start of the unit's transition from the Republic of Korea to Hawaii—a move required to keep pace with a transforming Army and one that is part of the "Grow the Army" initiative. When the 19th Military Police Battalion uncases its colors on 1 May 2009, the final chapter of its long, illustrious, 37-year history in Korea will be closed and a new chapter will open in Hawaii.

Another simple ceremony took place concurrently with casing the battalion colors—the activation of the Korea Field Office. The Korea Field Office is a smaller command and control element designed to provide immediate leadership and support to the two CID detachments stationed in Korea. When the 19th Military Police Battalion resumes command and control in Hawaii, the Hawaii Field Office will be deactivated.

The Army has long been reposturing units around the globe. After the move to Hawaii, the 19th will begin gearing up for deployment in support of the Army forensic mission in Iraq. That deployment will be the unit's first deployment to a combat area since the Korean War. It took a long time to get the 19th Military Police Battalion added to the pool of military police combat multipliers, but the addition could not have happened at a better time. The 19th is proud to be part of the Military Police Regiment and to fight side by side with military police combat support and internment/resettlement units.

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