



Provider Press

194th Maintenance Battalion

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Skeletor's Message

Greetings to all warriors and family members of the most powerful and dynamic warfighting logistics Battalion on the Korean Peninsula. We've been busy over the last few months improving our warfighting skills and refining systems that will increase our efficiency and effectiveness. We're looking forward to a slight reduction in OPTEMPO and the great weather that comes along with spring in Korea. We are also looking forward to the 23rd Area Support Group Spring Ball on April 16th. It will be a great time and an excuse to put on our fancy clothes and let our hair down. To ensure that our Soldiers can attend this event, a hot dog and hamburger fundraiser was held near Freedom Field that raised \$1,200 to offset the cost of the ball for our Soldiers. Additionally, two of the Battalion's Companies, HHD and 520th Maintenance Company (DS), will be conducting inventories in anticipation of their change of commands in May. CPT David Normand will be taking command of the Raider Company and CPT Nancy Church will take the reigns of the Knights.

The Battalion has been busy executing a number of important Field Training Exercises (FTXs) and other readiness activities over the past few months. We successfully conducted our External Evaluation (EXEVAL) in January and a platoon live-fire exercise in February. The EXEVAL was a quality training event that served to hone the 194th Maintenance Battalion's warfighting skills. The goal of the exercise was to improve on our Mission Essential Task List (METL). To achieve this goal, we executed realistic, tough training in a cold and muddy environment; we also had a lot of fun while doing it. Due to vigilant Soldiering and leaderawareness, we conducted this exercise without any injuries to our Soldiers.

G Company, 52nd Aviation Regiment and C Company, 52

Aviation Regiment led the way as they spearheaded the overwhelmingly successful Aviation Retrograde Operation in February. The hard work and dedication of our aviation maintainers allowed us to shrink-wrap 27 aircraft safely for redeployment to the United States. It was an awesome operation.

We also served as the Observer / Controllers (OCs) for another Battalion, the 498th Corps Support Battalion (CSB). Additionally, many of our Soldiers recently participated in the RSOI readiness exercise at a variety of locations across the Korean Peninsula.

My congratulations to all for an awesome second quarter. I am so very proud of your accomplishments and achievements and look forward to our successes in the near future. Remember "Skeletor's Rules" and that every Provider is a safety officer.

Forward With Support!



HHD, 194th Maintenance Battalion

THE KNIGHTS

"War-fighting and Field Training" is the primary focus of our unit's Training.

Whenever any element in the Battalion goes to the field or participates in a major training event, it is the Knights job to provide the necessary command and control functions across the entire battle space. We literally protect the Battalion Commander and provide him with the infrastructure and Staff

elements necessary for “Skeleton” to lead his Battalion—the most dynamic combat logistics team on the Korean Peninsula—to ultimate victory.

During the Winter Training Cycle, External Evaluators were brought in to observe and assess our unit’s training proficiency. This two week exercise in January was called Operation “Vigilant Warrior” and is also referred to as the Battalion’s yearly EXEVAL.(External Evaluation).

Safety is always a primary concern we take very seriously in the HHD. I am happy to report that the HHD conducted the EXEVAL safely resulting in no accidents or injury to soldiers or equipment or loss of sensitive equipment. I attribute this to the level of discipline and high morale in the individual soldiers that make up the HHD!

Battle Tasks we placed primary focus on included our ability to Defend Assigned Area, Manage Civilians on the Battlefield, Treat and Evacuate Casualties, and Conduct Convoy Operations (with emphasis on React to Enemy Contact/ Ambush). The ability to operate and conduct all our Battle Tasks in an NBC Environment was also assessed during the EXEVAL.

Every aspect of the training incorporated our emphasis on ingraining “*The Warrior Ethos*” into each one of our soldiers.

Just as “every Marine is a Rifleman,” Every Soldier must first be an Infantryman. Every Soldier must be prepared to lead when called upon—to support this we routinely place our junior leaders into demanding leadership positions.

The Knights command Philosophy supports the *Warrior Ethos* with 5 tenants that every soldier is intimately familiar with and reminded of at each Friday morning Safety Briefing Conducted prior to morning Physical Fitness Training.

The 5 tenants of our Unit Command Philosophy

COMMON SENSE
TEAMWORK
INTEGRITY
DISCIPLINE
PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY.
(LEADERSHIP)



All the usual definitions apply to these principles, however special emphasis is placed on them as detailed below:

COMMON SENSE: If you don’t know why you are doing something...STOP! Understand the why and the commander’s intent behind the mission you are pursuing.

TEAMWORK: Be honest with your fellow team-members/family...what are your goals—let us all help you reach them together...share the knowledge, tactics, techniques, and procedures that are successful.

INTEGRITY: Be upfront on the thought processes that lead to a mistake. Share the information so others may avoid similar mistakes.

DISCIPLINE: Doing what is right even when the right

choice may be the more difficult course of action. Soldiers *doing what’s right even when no one else is present.*

PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY: Taking responsibility at the lowest level possible for identifying a problem and accepting responsibility to get the problem resolved...Cradle to Grave responsibility.

All of these are designed to help develop leaders at all levels and ranks both on and off duty in military or later civilian life.

--Our Company Motto

“EXECUTE, NO EXCUSE!”

-Article submitted by HHD CDR, CPT John Diggs

Accomplishments the Knights are Proud of!

 SAFETY Record - one complete Fiscal Year without a serious Accident or Injury

 Awarded USASA Area III S.A.B.E.R. Streamer for the 5th quarter in a row—only company within the battalion to achieve this. Means a focus on prevention of alcohol/drug related incidents

 Awarded Certificate of Achievement for meeting 100% of Combined Active and Reserve Component Retention Objectives.

 Maintained SINGARS (Secure Radio) communications across entire Battle Space thru communications relay teams during Battalion EXEVAL (over 100 KM distant)

 Military Decision Making Process (MDMP), Convoy Operations, Soldier Morale—all soldiers are competent and trained

 Community-relations activities with our Host-Nation included providing English Instructors to high-achieving elementary school children and sharing land and training with members of the ROKA 1st Division Artillery and foot-soldiers of the Homeland Reserve Division.

 *CPT Diggs radios in a “SALUTE” report (Size, Activity, Location, Unit, Time, Equipment) of spotted OPFOR (Opposing Forces) as PV2 Arnold, Reece rains down “hate and discontent”, on the enemy 1000 meters distant, in the form of .50CAL machine gun (blank) ammunition!*

**THE KNIGHTS STAND TRAINED AND
READY TO EXECUTE ALL WARTIME TASKS**

**OUR LOVED ONES ARE ALWAYS IN OUR
PRAYERS**



The view across "Freedom Bridge" as the Convoy passes North of the Imjin river (last major terrain feature) and forward to occupy our LSA just 5 miles from the North Korean Lines along the DMZ.

**THE KNIGHTS CONTINUE TO REMAIN
ALERT AND READY TO "FIGHT
TONIGHT".**



SPC William "Cookie" Cook; PFC Thomas "Bimbo" Bibbo; and SPC Christopher "Pops" Armstrong stay warm and motivated in single digit temperatures while manning their traffic roadblock/checkpoint/control point securing the LZ (Landing Zone) as an Army CH-47 "Chinook" helicopter delivers needed supplies to the Battalion LSA (Logistics Support Area)



"PROFESSIONALS"

WARRIOR ETHOS! DOYOU HAVE IT?

Soldier's Creed

I am an American Soldier.
I am a Warrior and a member of a team. I serve the people of the United States and live the Army Values.
I will always place the mission first.
I will never accept defeat.
I will never quit.
I will never leave a fallen comrade.
I am disciplined, physically and mentally tough, trained and proficient in my warrior tasks and drills. I always maintain my arms, my equipment and myself.
I am an expert and I am a professional.
I stand ready ready to deploy, engage, and destroy the enemies of the United States of America in close combat.
I am a guardian of freedom and the American way of life.
I am an American Soldier

HOLD THE COLORS HIGH!!! QM 'TIL I DIE!!

EXEVAL '04

There is no doubt that the 348TH Quartermaster Company embraces the "Warrior Ethos" as they not only competed in, what was thought to be an Infantrymen's stroll in the park, a 13.1 mile road march but this team of physically fit, warfighting logisticians brought home the "GOLD!" 348TH Quartermaster Company had three 5-man teams of soldiers compete in the 2004 Eighth U.S. Army Bataan Memorial Qualifier on 21 Feb 04 at Camp Casey, Korea. These soldiers have gone on to represent



Eight Army in The Bataan Memorial Marathon held in White Sands, New Mexico. Let there be "NO DOUBT" Quartermaster Soldiers have embraced the "Soldier's Creed" and have won this honor in the name of all LOGISTICIANS!



PARTICIPANTS

#1	#2	#3
1LT Johnson	SPC Mbata	SPC Ongiri
1SG Lopez	PFC Flores	PFC Welch
SSG Marquez	PFC Oswalt	PFC Rodriquez
SGT Denham	PFC Bibbo (HHD)	PV2 Davidson
PV2 Henandez	PVT Hernandez (HHD)	PFC Rodriquez



"TOUGH REALISTIC TRAINING" is the only way to describe the Battalion EXEVAL. Through it all the 348th Quartermaster Company was able to successfully execute its mission. During this challenging training event the company was able to train on three of its Mission Essential Task List Tasks: Transition to War, Defend Assigned Area and Provide Combat Service Support (CSS) which improved the unit's overall readiness. During this event the unit, transitioned to war and conducted convoy operations.



The unit defended the assigned area by providing optimum security depriving the enemy access to the perimeter and key logistics assets. And the unit provided CSS and conducted Fuel Operations via Fuel System Supply Point (FSSP) and Water Operations via Reverse Osmosis Water Purification Unit (ROWPU). All three METL Tasks were trained at two different sites where the "PROFESSIONALS" applied lessons learned at the previous site and improved operations in every aspect. The end state of any training event is to improve and this event gave the "PROFESSIONALS" the azimuth check needed to continue on the path to becoming "Tactically and Technically Proficient, Physically Fit, Warfighting Logisticians!"



WHO SAID IT WAS OVER????

From the EXEVAL straight into a Platoon Defensive Live Fire Exercise (DLFX) was the path taken by the Petroleum and Water Platoon, AKA “LOG DAWGS.” This platoon demonstrated tactical proficiency during the EXEVAL and consequently they were hand selected by the Battalion Commander to enhance these skills during the DLFX. Their Platoon Leader, 1LT Jessica Hart, was given a warning order (WARNO) and she and her platoon headed for Nightmare Range. Some of the soldiers literally thought it was a “NIGHTMARE” but in the face of mental and physical adversity this Team was able to muster the motivation, hone their warfighting skills and successfully complete a week long DLFX. The “crawl, walk, run” approach was taken to improve proficiency. During the crawl phase the soldiers were able to move into their defensive positions with the guidance and overwatch of LTC McRee. Moving into the walk phase, the best phase in their opinion, the soldiers were given blank rounds, MILES and allowed to engage the Opposing Forces (OPFOR). Although the LOG DAWGS sustained heavy casualties during the engagement they quickly regrouped, revised their plan and were ready to fight again. And finally the “run phase.” During this phase the soldiers were given FLAK Vest and live ammunition to engage pop-up targets. They detonated a live Claymore mine when the enemy reached their Final Protective Line (FPL). The culminating event was the AAR took place “down range” immediately after the engagement where the Soldiers were able to access the damage done based on the amount of bullet holes and blood (exploded ketchup packets) stains on the silhouettes’ white t-shirts. The AAR was led by LTC McRee. The incite and hands-on guidance given by the Battalion Commander was definitely one of the many valuable and cherished events of the DLFX. After this event the LOG DAWGS won’t claim to be snipers or rangers, but they can definitely say they are better warfighters because of this unique experience and just like “Fine Wine, They Get Better With Time And **More Training!**”

...And the Mission Keeps Rolling Along



“On the road again..Just can’t wait to get back on the road again.” I doubt if the soldiers of 348th QM are saying “just can’t wait” but they definitely are back on the road providing top-notch support to customers across Area III. From Camp Eagle to TAA Tom, the Soldiers of the famous LOG Platoon are out on the busy highways of Korea providing simultaneous water and fuel support to 5 customer all in different strategic areas: LSA PALAN, Marines; LSA YONGIN, XVIII ABN Corps; 52nd Med BN, 6 CAV BDE, and 17th AVN BDE. These missions are the logistical backbones of support to Marine Forces and 18th Airborne Corps personnel that have deployed to Korea for RSOI, a peninsula wide-training event which allows 8th U.S. Army to train on its wartime mission; 52nd Medical Brigade’s FTX, 6th Calvary Brigade’s EXEVAL, and the 17th Aviation Brigade’s FTX. Without the support of the “LOG DAWGS” many of these events would not be possible and because of this the soldiers of the 348th QM Company dedicated countless hours to ensure mission accomplishment.





The Petroleum and Water Platoon definitely plays a major role in the logistical support to customers throughout Area III but they aren't the only ones making daily sacrifices. The Supply Platoon also maintains a very challenging and high OPTEMPO as they provide relentless support to their 115 supported customers. This definitely wasn't an easy task to accomplish with 95% of the personnel away gone, fighting the Orangeland Forces, during the Battalion EXEVAL while commercial trucks continued to roll in. But because of the motivation and discipline of the soldiers in the Supply Platoon they were able to keep their heads above water for that timeframe and pick-up the slack when the forces were returned and at no time did the platoon fail to meet **ANY** of the DA Performance Standards. Because of this critical asset, Supply Platoon, customers were able to get CL II, IV, VII items to continue their missions. **"NOTHING FAILS DUE TO LOGISTICS!!!"**

Accomplishments the Professionals are Proud of!

The PROFESSIONALS have exceeded their retention goal the 2nd QTR!

PFC Rodriguez, Angel won the Area III Chess Tournament

PFC Menchaca won the 19th TSC Safety Coin Design Competition

SPC Hernandez successfully graduated from PLDC on 10 March.

348TH had 3 motivated leaders complete Equal Opportunity

School: 1LT Hart, SGT Munoz and CPL Jung. One received an award for best support in a group (SGT Munoz), and (LT Hart) received best presentation in the class.

Six personnel (listed below) participated in the Area III **Man For The Gold** on 5 Mar 03. SSG Marquez (1st Place), 1SG Lopez(2nd Place), CPT Hills (3rd Place), PV2 Hernandez(3rd Place), 1LT Johnson, SGT Denham



PROMOTIONS

SSG HILL
 SSG KNIGHT
 SGT COFFMAN
 SGT ERVING
 PV2 BEAK
 PV2 CALDWELL
 PFC DARDEN
 PFC DAVIDSON
 PV2 GILLIAM
 PFC HAMPTON
 PFC HILL
 PV2 JUNOD
 PFC MENCHACA
 PV2 REILLY
 PFC WALDEN
 PFC VANGELDEREN
 PFC MEZA
 PFC OSWALT

REENLISTMENTS

SGT JOHNSON
 SSG HESTER
 PFC WELCH
 SSG TRAFFORD

UPCOMING EVENTS

29 MAR – 2 APR SSA FTX
 18-22 APR ROWPU RODEO
 3-9 MAY CPX/SSA FTX
 1-11 JUN CO FTX



☀ 348TH WOULD LIKE TO CORDIALLY WELCOME ALL THE NEW SOLDIERS, THANK THOSE THAT HAVE CHOSEN TO EXTEND THEIR TOUR IN KOREA AND BID FAREWELL TO THOSE DEPARTING SOLDIER

☀ ALWAYS REMEMBER QUARTERMASTER LEADS THE WAY!!



G Force Leads the Way

G/52nd AVN Regt, 194th Maintenance Battalion (DS) has just returned from a fantastic performance as the lead element for Task Force Provider in Busan. TF Provider tore down, shrink wrapped, and loaded 21 AH-64A apaches and 6 CH-47 Chinooks during the largest retrograde operation in the theaters recent history. The First Squadron, Sixth U.S. Cavalry returned to Fort Hood, Texas for a planned upgrade to AH-64D Longbow helicopters. G Force has been assisting the Squadron in preparation for this move for approximately six months. During this time, G/52nd has performed many phase maintenance inspections and completed countless work orders in an attempt to prepare the AH-64A aircraft for

acceptance by the National Guard. G Force would like to thank all the other companies in the battalion that helped in this endeavor including C/52nd for their evaluation team for our exeval. In addition, a special thanks to CW4 Anderson and our own CPT Kopystianskyj for their efforts in the planning of the retrograde operation.

Golf Company continues to “full court press” our support to the 6th Cav Brigade. We will head to the field on the 15th of March for our Company field training exercise. A ten day exercise of all our METL tasks designed to test the company to our fullest extent. We look forward to the challenges of Viper and maintaining 3/6 Cav aircraft in a field environment.



General Campbell awards G/52nd SSA soldiers the Supply Excellence Award Trophy

G/52nd has officially taken the reigns of Camp Eagle. The day to day Airfield Duty Officer, NCO and Driver has added a new spice to life at Camp Eagle. From Quick Reaction Force and base defense to the flag detail each day, G Force soldiers are responsible for the day to day administration of the entire base. The transition has gone smoothly and we continue to find ways to improve the efficiency of our systems. In all, G Force is breaking new ground in AVIM support and Installation responsibility.

I am exceptionally proud to be a part of this G Force team. God Bless the Soldiers of this Company and our Army. May you all continue to serve your Nation proudly.

G Force!



*MAJ Orr
Company Commander*



Team Work!

Greetings to all friends and family members of the 520th Maintenance Company and 194th Maintenance Battalion. The last two months have been full of activity in the Raider Company. We completed our battalion External Evaluation (EXEVAL), the Observer Controller (O/C) mission for the 498th Corps Support Battalion, begun preparation and execution of the Reception, Staging, Onward Movement and Integration exercise, and are currently conducting pre-change of command inventories. We have received numerous new soldiers, NCOs, and officers and said goodbye to several members of our Raider family as they go off to their new assignments.

The 194th Maintenance Battalion EXEVAL was full of challenges and opportunities. Our soldiers drove over 500 miles in a seven day period, set up two support areas, successfully defended their area, and demonstrated their ability to perform their mission in the most extreme field conditions. The cold weather and never ending supply of mud made the EXEVAL a challenge, but our Soldiers rose to the occasion and completed their mission safely and to standard. Our objectives were met and redeployment and recovery went very well.

We sent a team of mechanics to the port at Pusan to support C/52nd and G/52nd Aviation Maintenance Companies in the 1/6 Calvary retrograde operations to Fort Hood. Our Soldiers performed duties as gate guard and internal security as well as their Direct Support mission. Their professionalism and willingness to assist others were instrumental in the safe and successful completion of this mission.

Our O/C mission for the 498th allowed us the opportunity to take a look at another battalion’s systems and compare them to ours. We were able to better assess ourselves by observing them and we all took away some great learning points. By offering observations and recommendations to the 498th, we were able to improve our own unit. The training and experience from this mission will have a great influence on the 520th and the 194th.

The Reception, Staging, Onward Movement, and Integration exercise brings units from all over the world to Korea to meet and train with their war trace units. Our officers, NCOs, and soldiers have been tasked to support

this mission. Our soldiers are performing their DS mission, serving as controllers, computer operators, escorts and drivers. Their dedication and acts of service will ensure success and a smooth and beneficial training event.

The cold months are almost behind us and the warmer months bring more challenges and opportunities. Our Soldiers are ready for the challenge and are ready to do their duty. While we are all eager to get home to our loved ones we take comfort in knowing our military family is with us here in Korea.



CPT Hughes
Commander
520th Maintenance Company



This modification will be completed at the Boeing Factory in the United States. This mission is in support of the Army Aviation Transformation initiative which requires numerous aircraft to be upgraded to a newer model.



Tiger Pride!



While the CH-47D's were being prepared for shipment the 6th CAV BDE was sending 1/6 CAV Squadron back to CONUS also. This unit will go through an upgrade to the AH-64D modification. The entire process for 1/6 CAV will take 8-10 months. G/52nd Aviation Regiment was responsible for the same shrink-wrap and loading tasks as C/52nd for 21 AH-64A aircraft.



C/52nd Aviation Regiment participated in on of the largest Port Operations in support of Task Force Provider in the 194th Maintenance Battalion this year. From 9 to 18 February, C/52nd Maintenance platoon augmented with soldiers from 2/52nd Aviation Battalion conducted shrink wrap and loading operations on 6 CH-47D aircraft that are to be deployed back to CONUS for aircraft upgrade modifications to the CH-47F model. This will require an entire rebuild of the airframe and introduction of a completely digital cockpit configuration.



The ship transporting the aircraft was called the “Hercules Leader”, a Japanese owned vessel flagged under the

Panama. The sea journey is expected to take over 2 weeks to complete.



*MAJ Rich Alonso Holtorf,
Commander,
C/52nd Aviation Regiment*



Take Courage, it is I; do not be afraid! says the Lord Jesus.

Jesus tells His disciples: "Take courage, it is I; do not be afraid." As their boat struggled against the wind and was being tossed about by the waves, the disciples were frightened. They were practically lost in the middle of the ocean and it seemed to be the end of their lives. They felt alone and helpless in the storm. They felt that God seemed to be far away from them. And at that very moment Jesus came, walking on the sea, to his disciples. When the disciples saw Him, they were terrified and cried out: "It is a ghost!" But Jesus reassured them by saying: "Take courage, it is I; do not be afraid."

This gospel story has a very personal meaning for all of us because we too would experience such dark moments in our lives. There will come a time when we would be frightened

because we would be alone and helpless in the midst of our trials. And God would seem to be far away. There will come a time when everything we believe in begins to fall apart. There will come a time when we will have hard questions about God and we have no clear answers!

Our faith in God becomes mature when we are confronted with our trials. We learn so much in the process of trying to figure out what is going on with our lives: the ups and downs, the light and darkness, the joys and pains, our hopes and disappointments, the sin and grace in our lives. There are times our trials would last for a long time. And then we keep asking God: how long will I still be in this kind of difficult situation? And there is no substitute to this experience. This is the only way our faith in God grows stronger and purer!

To go through our own trials is frightening but at the same time rewarding. It is frightening because our faith in God is at stake. Will God really help me or will God abandon me? Will God be with me or against me? And we question ourselves whether we would persevere or not!

To go through our own trials is also rewarding because God always overcomes everything. God comes to our help in the most unexpected moment. God shows Himself to us when we are at the point of giving up. In the gospel Peter was about to sink and in desperation he shouted: "Lord, please save me!" Peter was at the point of falling apart: he gave everything for God and it seemed Peter got nothing in return. There was nothing left for Peter except to pray: "Lord, please save me!" Peter had really no choice. And the Lord saved him. God responded to Peter. This was a rewarding experience for Peter: he discovered the presence of Jesus in the midst of a difficult and helpless situation. Peter would never forget this rewarding experience with God.

This gospel story challenges us to strengthen our faith in God, especially in the face of great difficulties in life. There would be times when we have to undergo trials alone, by ourselves. There is nobody on our side. There is nobody who would speak on our behalf. Nobody notices our acts of kindness and yet everybody knows our insignificant mistake.

God reminds us that these moments of darkness would surely happen to all of us. We would have doubts, questions and sufferings. And these are also powerful moments of our unity with God. Because it is precisely during this time that God appears to us and that God tells us: "It is I; do not be afraid!"

We all need someone who can tell us: "Do not be afraid!" And today in a very comforting way it is God who tells us: "Take courage, it is I; do not be afraid." It is God who is the Lord of life and death. It is God who cares for us and who is always on our side and tells us: "Do not be afraid!" It is God who is faithful to His word and to His promise. May we always experience God's presence in our lives so that we would never be alone and we would always hear God's voice. May our tested faith give us a new courage so that we can help others to be faithful to God forever and ever. Amen.



This one needs an introduction, so you won't be lost at the beginning. This man was in an accident at work, so he filled out an insurance claim. The insurance company contacted him and asked for more information. This was his response:

"I am writing in response to your request for additional information, for block number 3 of the accident reporting form. I put 'poor planning' as the cause of my accident. You said in your letter that I should explain more fully and I trust the following detail will be sufficient. I am an amateur radio operator and on the day of the accident, I was working alone on the top section of my new 80-foot tower. When I had completed my work, I discovered that I had, over the course of several trips up the tower, brought up about 300 pounds of tools and spare hardware. Rather than carry the now unneeded tools and material down by hand, I decided to lower the items down in a small barrel by using the pulley attached to the gin pole at the top of the tower. Securing the rope at ground level, I went to the top of the tower and loaded the tools and material into the barrel. Then I went back to the ground and untied the rope, holding it tightly to ensure a slow decent of the 300 pounds of tools."

"You will note in block number 11 of the accident reporting form that I weigh only 155 pounds. Due to my surprise of being jerked off the ground so suddenly, I lost my presence of mind and forgot to let go of the rope. Needless to say, I proceeded at a rather rapid rate of speed up the side of the tower. In the vicinity of the 40-foot level, I met the barrel coming down. This explains my fractured skull and broken collarbone. Slowed only slightly, I continued my rapid ascent, not stopping until the fingers of my right hand were two knuckles deep into the pulley. Fortunately, by this time, I had regained my presence of mind and was able to hold onto the rope in spite of my pain. At approximately the same time, however, the barrel of tools hit the ground and the bottom fell out of the barrel."

"Devoid of the weight of the tools, the barrel now weighed approximately 20 pounds. I refer you again to my weight in block number 11. As you might imagine, I began a rapid descent down the side of the tower. In the vicinity of the 40-foot level, I met the barrel coming up. This accounts for the two fractured ankles, and the lacerations of my legs and lower body. The encounter with the barrel slowed me enough to lessen my injuries when I fell onto the pile of tools and, fortunately, only three vertebrae were cracked. I am sorry to report, however, that as I lay there on the tools, in pain, unable to stand and watching the empty barrel 80 feet above me, I again lost my presence of mind. I let go of the rope..."

*For those of you who do not know what a "Darwin" is, it is simply the act of those that improve our gene pool... by removing themselves from it.



Quiz of the Month!!!
 Look carefully now...



Quote of the Month

