



“WRAIR Forward”

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COMMANDER’S CORNER

I’ve thought long and hard about what to say in my last commander’s corner, and I finally realized there is really no way to convey what a pleasure it has been to lead this fantastic team. So the best I can do is to say that it has been an honor commanding USAMRU-E,



and I thank each staff member for their hard work, dedication, and unwavering focus on promoting the well-being and performance of Soldiers.

-LTC Paul D. Bliese

Congressional Committee Focuses on USAMRU-E Research

The unit’s research program on the transition from combat to home was the focus of a briefing provided to Ms. Young, staff member, House Appropriations Committee, Military Quality of Life and Veterans Affairs Subcommittee, Armed Services Committee, and BG Rubenstein, Commander, Europe Regional Medical Command (ERMC).

The presentation, “Soldier Transition Research: Health Assessment and Battlemind Training Post-Deployment”, was briefed by LTC Bliese (with support from Drs Wright and Adler; Heidelberg, 2 APR 07).

NATO Group Details Research Plan



Follow-on work to the NATO HFM-081 Research Task Group “Stress and Psychological Support in Modern Military Operations” included detailing plans for three new NATO projects:

- A Research and Technology Organization lecture series (RLS) to communicate findings about leadership and operational stress (the Group’s NATO Leader’s Guide can be downloaded from USAMRU-E’s web-site);
- An Advanced Research Workshop proposal; and
- A Task Group proposal for international research on military mental health training (Brussels; LTC Bliese & Dr. Adler, 14-15 JUN 2007).

Senior Leader Spouses Briefed

Following a request from BG Rubenstein, Commander, ERMC, USAMRU-E developed a brief for Senior Leader Spouses on WRAIR’s Battlemind Training program. LTC Bliese delivered the brief via VTC (1 JUN 07).

Communicating Science

This quarter, several new publications and conference presentations to military and scientific audiences emphasized the unit’s commitment to communicating results to a broad audience and ensuring quality through scientific peer review.

Introducing New Multi-Level Statistics



Journal of Statistical Software

April 2007, Volume 20, Issue 2. <http://www.jstatsoft.org/>

Doran, H., Bates, D., Bliese, P. & Dowling, M. (2007). Estimating the multilevel Rash Model: With the lme4 package. *Journal of Statistical Software*, 20 (2). Retrieved June 6, 2007, from <http://www.jstatsoft.org>

Homeland Defense and Reservists

Bliese, P.D., & Stetz, M.C. (2007). Modeling the effects of efficacy, justice, and conflict among reservists activated for Homeland Defense. *Military Psychology*, 19, 27-43.

Distinguishing Morale from Depression

Britt, T.W., Dickinson, J.M., Moore, D. Castro, C.A., & Adler, A.B. (2007). Correlates and consequences of morale versus depression under stressful conditions. *Journal of Occupational Health Psychology*, 12, 34-47.

Predicting Cadet Job Performance

Lang, J., Thomas, J. L., Bliese, P. D., & Adler, A. B. (2007). Job Demands and Job Performance: The Mediating Effect of Psychological and Physical Strain and the Moderating Effect of Role Clarity. *Journal of Occupational Health Psychology*, 12, 116–124.

1AD Leadership Briefed

At the request of the 1st Armored Division (1AD), unit research related to preventing combat stress reactions was briefed to MG Hertling, Commander, 1AD.

LTC Bliese and Dr. Adler discussed Battlemind training and other research products in terms of targeting prevention and early intervention efforts with units that will come under 1AD leadership during an upcoming rotation to Iraq.

LTC Buller, Division Surgeon, 1AD, and LTC Doyle, Commander, Wiesbaden Health Clinic, were also briefed (Wiesbaden, 18 JUN 07).



Unit Needs Assessment Training

The unit supported the Europe Regional Medical Command (ERMC)'s assessment of selected US Army, Europe units using the WRAIR's Unit Needs Assessment program (available on www.battlemind.org).

The Unit Needs Assessment program provides:

- Surveys items
- Survey norms
- Detailed instructions for conducting needs assessments
- Briefing template

This program is designed to facilitate mental health assessment of military units. SSG Abrahamson, NCOIC, and Ms. Salvi provided support to ERMC's Soldier and Family Support Services, Kaiserslautern (4 MAY 07).

Stigma and Military Mental Health



Dr. Thomas Britt, Professor, Clemson University, visited the unit to discuss on-going writing projects and studies assessing the role of stigma associated with mental health problems in the military (4-6 JUN 2007).

Developing Advanced Battlemind

In the third meeting dedicated to the emerging Advanced Battlemind Training curriculum, COL Hoge, COL Milliken and COL Castro of the Division of Psychiatry and Neuroscience (WRAIR) and Dr. Adler and Dr. Wright (USAMRU-E) met to develop intensive Battlemind training for post-deployment. This intervention will be tested for efficacy as part of a new research protocol (Heidelberg; 21-24 MAY 07).

West Point Leadership Experts Visit

MAJ Lester, Assistant Professor, Behavioral Science and Leadership (BS&L),



LTC Hannah, Director, Leadership and Management Studies, BS&L, and three West Point cadets (CDTs Simpson, Brennan, and Carlos) visited the unit to discuss research and Battlemind training (1 JUN 07). The visitors were briefed on the unit's research program (LTC Bliese, CPT Cabrera, Dr. Wright, Dr. Adler).

SIOP Conference Presentations

Several unit products were included in this year's Society for Industrial Organizational Psychology (SIOP) meeting held in New York and attended by LTC Bliese (27-29 APR 07).



Symposium Discussant: Bliese, P.D. (2007, April). New Developments in Social Support Research. Terry A. Beehr (Chair).

Poster: Vancouver, J. B., Gullekson, N., & Bliese, P. D. (2007, April). Monte Carlo Analyses of Possible Artifacts in Lagged Regression.

Presentation: Britt, T.W., Castro, C.A., & Adler, A.B. (2007, April). Positive Psychological States and Organizational Stressors as Predictors of Outcomes.

In T.W. Britt (Chair). Positive Psychology and Organizational Stress: Theoretical and Empirical Connections.

USAMRU-E Invited to Sweden

LTC Bliese and Dr. Adler presented a series of invited talks to the Swedish Defence Force in Stockholm. The talks included:

- Post-Deployment Psychological Assessment
- The Efficacy of Post-Deployment Early Interventions: Debriefing and Battlemind Training



These presentations were also part of the annual Scandinavian Military Psychology meeting (7-8 MAY 07).

EUCOM Conference: Plenary Talk

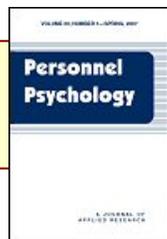
LTC Bliese spoke at the plenary session of the US European Command's Deployment and Community Counseling Support Conference. His talk was entitled "Soldier Transitions: Health Assessment and Battlemind Training Research" (Garmisch-Partenkirchen; 4 JUN 07)

USAREUR Trainers Request Support

Army Community Service Mobilization-Deployment Readiness Managers were briefed on Battlemind training at their in-process review to prepare for the launch of spouse Battlemind Training in the US Army, Europe (Dr. Adler; Schwetzingen; 29 JUN 07).

New Appointment

LTC Bliese has been appointed to the editorial board of *Personnel Psychology*.



Academic Consultations

- Ms. Merritt, an Air Force spouse and graduate student, visited the unit to discuss research ideas regarding Air Force families as part of her dissertation plans (LTC Bliese, Dr. Wright, Dr. Adler; 2 APR 07).
- LTC Bliese served on the dissertation committee for Dr. Jonas Lang ("*General Mental Ability and Two Types of Adaptation to Unforeseen Change*") at the Rheinisch-Westfälisch-Technische Hochschule (RWTH) Aachen University (16 JUN 07).

Personnel Updates

- CPT Cabrera completed the AMEDD Captains' Career Course (Ft. Sam Houston, TX; 18 MAR 07 – 18 MAY 07)
- SSG Abrahamson attended the WRAIR Senior NCO/Detachment NCO Conference, Silver Spring, MD (16-18 APR 07)
- Ms. Salvi (CACI research assistant at USAMRU-E) received a Master's Degree in Management Information Systems from the University of Maryland University College Europe - Bowie State University (27 MAY 07).
- Ms. (Prayner) Eckford (CACI research assistant at USAMRU-E) received a Master's Degree in Human Relations from the University of Oklahoma (10 JUN 07).

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