



EL HEMISFERICO

Fall 2003

The Official Newsletter of the Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation

Fifth Edition



***Festival* proves to be an example of brotherhood and camaraderie**

By Captain (N) Jorge Nuñez

Public Affairs Deputy Officer

The traditional *Festival of the Americas*, sponsored by the Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation (WHINSEC), was held within a joyful atmosphere of brotherhood and camaraderie.

The *Festival*, an annual event considered by many to be a "one-of-a-kind" event in the area, is estimated to have had more than 2000 individuals participate in this year's festivities.

The *Festival* consists of four different events. The *Parade of Nations and Cena Típica* ("Traditional Meal"), held in one of the new banquet halls at the Columbus Ironworks on Sept. 12. This celebration included an impressive exhibition marked by the colorfulness and diversity of the traditional garments worn by individuals from the different countries represented at the Institute and the various original dances and songs from their homelands.

After the *Parade of Nations*, the guests enjoyed a traditional meal including a variety of Latin American dishes. Finally, the guests danced well into the night to typical music from the region, which included types such as Salsa, Merengue, and Bachata.

The third event of the *Festival* was held Sept. 19 at the WHINSEC campus, where there was an opportunity for guests to sample traditional dishes exquisitely prepared by representatives from the different countries.

The fourth event, the *Annual Open House*, was held on

Sept. 26 at Faith Middle School, located on the Fort Benning Military Installation. During the *Open House*, each country sets up and decorates a booth where they exhibit different items and posters and show cultural and tourist video presentations. This exhibition was open to students from Faith School and other schools as well as guests from the community.



Photo by Spc. Bertha Whipkey

This festival represents a very important opportunity for a cordial and enlightening exchange between the members of different cultural groups. The cultural mosaic of our hemisphere was clearly evident during this significant event.

During one of his presentations, Col. Richard D. Downie, WHINSEC Commandant, stressed that "we are going to hold this festival annually in an effort to maintain and strengthen the bonds of friendship between all the nations of our hemisphere."

The diversity of the nineteen countries represented at WHINSEC was apparent in each of the activities conducted throughout the Festival. The Fort Benning, Columbus, and Phenix City communities really seemed to enjoy themselves as they participated in this noteworthy celebration.

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Quality Champion Award



Ms. Raquel Etzler
Secretary,
CMDGRP

Soldier of the Quarter



SPC (P) David McQueen
Audio & Visual
Specialist, EDTEC

Civilian of the Quarter



Mr. Leroy Stinson
Maintenance
Mechanic, DOL
(Photo Not Available)

Commandant's Comments

By Colonel Richard Downie

WHINSEC Commandant



Our Command and General Staff Course has almost completed its first quarter, with 75 fine military and police officers learning the essential skills to succeed at battalion and brigade level. This class is unusual for two reasons. One, this is our first CGSC to begin in July and end in June; and two, more than half the students are U.S. Major Mike Dempsey, the course director, is doing a superb job with this large class.

Other Institute activities continue to advance at a fast pace. We host many visitors, from elementary school children to members of Congress, from military veterans to all ranks of active duty. Other courses also continue. A Counterdrug Course is in session now, and the Drug Enforcement Agency agents who came to teach portions of the course were outstanding.

Our new web site is a great tool for letting the world know about us, and our ability to keep it current enables visitors to feel the openness of the Institute. One of the best features is the photo and story on the home page. That, too, must be changed often to be kept up-to-date. If you have ideas for the Home page, please tell the PAO. As with any new undertaking, there may still be glitches. If you find any problems, tell that to the PAO as well.

We have an Intranet that can be used to coordinate and communicate better, as long as your computer is hooked up to Ft. Benning—you won't be able to use it off post or with an unconnected laptop. I want each of you to set the Intranet as your home page. If you look at it right now, you will see it has announcements; so when you go to this page, you will be learning key information you need to know. One feature you may like on this site is weather information; the little marquee is on there, just down in the lower right quarter.

We are also celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month, so I hope you will join us for our very enjoyable Festival of the Hemisphere events. They are a wonderful way for us to share the diversity of cultures represented at the Institute with the Fort Benning, Columbus and Phenix City Communities.

Libertad, Paz y Fraternidad

LaPlante becomes WHINSEC's new liasion at the Pentagon

Old friend comes 'home'

By Mr. Lee Rials

Public Affairs Officer

Taking his oath of office in the Gallery of Liberators at the Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation, (Ret.) Army Col. Kenneth LaPlante once again became a federal employee Sept. 22.

Laplante's official title is Executive Liasion Officer (Bilingual), but here all refer to him as the 'WHINSEC Liaison'. As the ELO, he will coordinate the WHINSEC's activities with the Army, the Department of Defense, and other agencies in the Washington, DC, area.

Working with the Institute is not new to LaPlante. For the past three years, he has been working at the Pentagon on primarily Institute issues, but as a civilian under contract to the Army.

Because the Institute has significant requirements that merit attention at the DOD and HQ, Army, level, WHINSEC's structure called for a liaison officer to handle the tasks. As a result, LaPlante competed and was selected for the job. Not only has he worked with the Institute already, his military



Photo by Spc. Bertha Whipkey

Lt. Col. Thomas J. Kee III swears in Kenneth LaPlante, as his wife, Norma, looks on during the ceremony in the Gallery of Liberators.

career involved many assignments in this hemisphere.

One of LaPlante's most crucial activities will be coordinating the sessions for the Board of Visitors, WHINSEC, a federal advisory committee, who are required by law to meet annually, but have chosen to meet twice per year. The next meeting will be at the Institute, Dec. 11-12.

Colonel Richard D. Downie
Commandant

Mr. Lee A. Rials,
Public Affairs Officer, Editor

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The New Democracy and Human Rights Program

By Donald Harrington

Dean of Academics

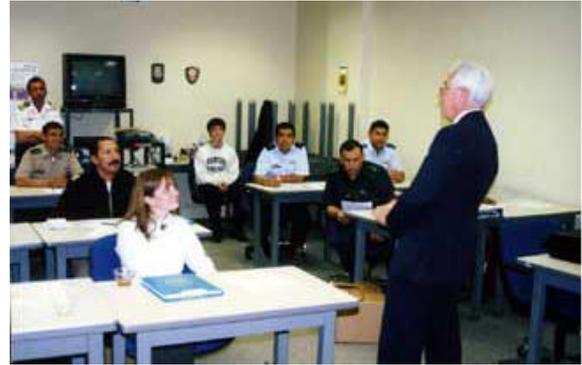
At the recommendation of WHINSEC's distinguished Board of Visitors, the Institute in early 2003 undertook a detailed analysis of the material on democracy being taught in order to raise it to the same high level as the successful Human Rights Program. Full integration of the existing human rights, democracy and informational programs into a single unified program was the goal.

Change began with a new description of the unified Democracy and Human Rights Program for the Institute catalog and website. The close ties between democracy, human rights and the informational programs were emphasized.

Next, the Armed Forces and Democracy block of instruction, mandatory for all Institute classes, was expanded from two to three hours and increased emphasis was placed on how civilian control of the military grew out of the democratic, constitutional roots of U.S. society and history. Initial response to the enhanced class, taught by the Department of State Chair, has been enthusiastic with student questions often carrying the class well beyond the planned three hours.

The linkage of democracy and human rights to the Informational Program was strengthened by the preparation of 21 guide sheets containing learning objectives, historical background and suggested questions for discussion for all sites visited primarily in Columbus and Atlanta. The goal is to have clear learning objectives for each site visited, together with sufficient background and suggested questions, so that students have a clear idea of what they see and hear and why it is important.

In addition, two one-hour blocks of class time (normally the day before and the day after each trip) were set aside to prepare students on what they should look for during the trip and then to review the lessons learned at each site. The integrated Democracy and Human Rights Program with guide sheets and the preparatory and



Dr. Russell Ramsey, Troy State University visiting professor, teaches a block of instruction earlier this year.

review classroom hours for the Informational Program were first implemented in July with the arrival of the 2003-04 Command and General Staff Course.

The new program requires that a U.S. instructor accompany each trip. To "train the trainers," a one-hour briefing by the Department of State Chair on all of the IP stops was added to the Instructor Training Course required of all personnel before they begin teaching at WHINSEC. In addition, each Course Director and/or U.S. instructor accompanying the trips is required to meet with the Chair to plan in advance which of the 21 sites best met the overall objectives of the course and to discuss the learning objectives for the selected sites.

Scenarios were developed using the democratic principles set forth in the U.S. Bill of Rights for incorporation into practical exercises embedded in most classes at the Institute. Students are required to consider how best to protect these constitutional rights during actual operations.

The final step is to include questions on democratic values in the first exam given to each class to test student understanding of the principles taught in the classroom about state and federal institutions and subsequently practiced in planning exercises. Questions were also developed for the student evaluations given at the end of each course to learn student reaction to the integrated program.

To underscore the importance of the enhance program, the Commandant briefed the assembled Institute faculty and staff at the End-of-Month meeting in June and the Department of State Chair conducted a professional development session (OPD/NCOPD) before the final kick-off of the program. The new Democracy and Human Rights Program is off to a rousing start and is expected to further enhance learning of the U.S. constitutional and universal human rights.



Mr. Anthony Interlandi, Department of State Representative at WHINSEC, teaches a portion of the Human Rights instruction to the CMS-1 students in early August.

Command & General Staff Officer Course Begins

By Major Michael Dempsey

CGSC Course Director

On 14 July, 2003 the WHINSEC CGSOC started with 75 students. The course is composed of students from Argentina, Bolivia, Canada, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Peru, the United States, and Venezuela. With this mix of countries the course also has a mix of Army, Air Force, Marine, Navy, and Police, as well as U.S. Army Reserve and National Guardsmen. This creates a joint/combined environment that exists in very few locations outside of WHINSEC. This dynamic mix of countries and specialties and experiences is sure to produce an outstanding year for the WHINSEC CGSOC.

Thus far the students participated in a week of Human Rights training that included a seminar with guest speakers; three days with an International Red Cross representative, and a trip to the U.S. Civil War confederate prison in Andersonville, Georgia. This training was the lead block of instruction so that the students could integrate this training in all their upcoming instruction. After the new year one of the electives for the course will be International Law taught by MAJ Raimondo which will further review the training they received in the first week of class. The class then moved on to a brief two week

Strategy session prior to starting the Tactics block of instruction. During the tactics block of instruction, the course has been broken into four groups for instruction with each group further broken into groups of five or six for practical exercises. The small group dynamics are critical in developing working relationships among the students and are later evident in the lifelong friendships that develop from these small group exercises. LTC Barinowski, the Tactics Division Chief, stated that "This is when the instructors and students really get to know each other and appreciate the experiences that each brings to the table".

This block of instruction will continue until December and will conclude with a six hour written test prior to the Christmas break. A great start to a great year.



Students of the 2004 GSOC class listen to a briefing during the tour of Andersonville.

CGSOC Students Travel and Learn

Major Michael Dempsey

CGSC Course Director

This years CGSOC has started strong with Informational Program trips to Columbus, Atlanta, and Washington D.C. The trips expose our International Students to the customs and culture of the United States. The trip planners and coordinators are Mrs. Cecilia Alexander and Mr. Jose Recio from the International Student Division. The students received a preparatory class from our resident State Department Representative, Mr. Interlandi, prior to the first trip. He explained the local government and how it interacted with the other State and Federal institutions here in Columbus.

The first trip was to Columbus on 18 July. The class visited the Columbus Government building and received briefings from the Mayor, Assistant City Manager, Director of Public Works, and the Police Chief. This one-day trip included lunch in a restaurant on Broadway, and was a great way of showing our students the heart of downtown Columbus.

The second trip was to Atlanta on 1 August and was an overnight trip. The students stayed in a hotel near Centennial Park. They were able to enjoy Atlanta nightlife for a few hours. The next morning the class went to the Martin Luther King Museum, the Coca Cola Museum, CNN, and the Georgia Capitol. The highlight of this trip was a class photo with the Georgia Governor.

The final trip consisted of only international students. They visited the Washington D.C. area during the week of 10 to 16 August. The trip started with a tour of the Gettysburg Battlefield in Pennsylvania and included visits to the U.S. Capitol, the monuments on the Mall, the DEA training area in Quantico, the holocaust museum, and Arlington Cemetery. The highlight of the trip was a wreath laying by four CGSOC students at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in the Arlington Cemetery. Just two months into the course and our class is well traveled and has been exposed to their adopted city, state, and federal governments for the next academic year.



Robert S. Poydasheff, Columbus City Mayor gives Maj. Francisco Velez Honorary Citizenship during the visit to City Hall.

Internship Review

Ms. Frances G. Tilney

WHINSEC Intern



Upon arrival to Fort Benning to start my summer internship, I was completely ignorant of army life. My childhood in downtown Boston did not include on-post experience, nor, for that matter, everyday encounters with people in

BDUs. My parents raised a collective eyebrow when I announced that I would be living in the WHINSEC company barracks, but I discovered that my new housing arrangements scored me bragging points with my grad school friends. Not only was I greeted upon arrival by an entire room of Chilean NCOs debating the merits of pisco, but a large contingent of Colombian police ceased playing pool to stand up straight and utter, “buenas tardes.”

Rather than a mundane work experience, my internship at WHINSEC gave me insight into such sundries as: scratchy Army-issued blankets, eight-five pages of in-processing documents, weekly lunches at Millie’s (and sojourns to the *taqueria* on Victory Drive), ten years of essays from Democratic Sustainment and Resources Management, explanations on how to break down an M-16, and, perhaps most importantly, daily encounters with people from Colombia, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Chile, and the like. As a result, I am now well-versed in curse words from myriad nations, increasing my potential for legitimate diplomatic discourse whence abroad.

Alexandra Mateo, a junior at the University of Oklahoma and a newly-minted Air Force ROTC member, and I were assigned a project by Dr. Ramsey in the beginning of July that looked, to say the least, daunting. Two gigantic piles of unorganized essays from almost ten years of classes awaited us in a file cabinet in the Amos Library. Cataloguing the essays by year and country, rank and subject, was a task fit for somebody who manipulates Excel better than either of us can. However, as a result of the Herculean task, student reports from ten years of the Democratic Sustainment and Resource Management courses now exists in fifty gigabytes of spread sheets. As a result, Drs. Ramsey and Harrington can study the emerging thinking of the Latin American military sector on financial and political control issues and draw earth-shattering conclusions about what, for example, the Salvadorian army thought about democratization during and after the Esquipulas peace accords. Besides sifting through essays, many without names or dates, MAJ Negrón and Mr. Roldán were kind enough to let Alex and I tag along to the various class field trips.

Alexandra G. Mateo is a junior at the University of Oklahoma, majoring in International Relations of Europe. She will begin Air Force ROTC this autumn and plans to visit her family in Hohenfels, Germany, where they are soon to be posted.

Frances G. Tilney graduated from Harvard University in 2002 with a degree in History and Literature. She will begin the second year of her master’s degree in International Relations and Latin American Studies at Oxford University in the autumn; her master’s thesis focuses on the relationship between the militaries of the U.S. and Colombia.

With the Democratic Sustainment class, we went to Atlanta to see the MLK center, the state house, and Ted Turner’s fortune-maker, CNN. During another eventful morning, we all poured into Columbus’ City Hall to scare the city manager half to death with our dramatic renditions of citizens’ complaints. Hopefully, now that a classroom of soldiers and civilians have practiced complaining to the City, they can all return to Managua, Buenos Aires, and San Salvador to attempt some new managerial techniques in the light of representative democracy. At Warner-Robbins AFB, the Resources Management students were able to see how the AF fixes its F-15s and spends vast amounts of money on their sumptuous officers’ club.

Most striking, however, was our trip to the Marine Logistics Command in Albany. Not only do Marines have funny, computer-generated BDUs, but they have some incredible ways of trying to keep the military’s equipment rolling well into the next decade. Happily, Alex and I now know how to shrink-wrap an armored vehicle and we have seen the next generation of semi-automatic and automatic weapons about to overtake the time-honored M-16. While at LOGCOM, all of us packed into an amphibious Light Assault Vehicle (LAV) and raced around the track as fast as the soldier could drive us—even the Colombian civilians, in skirts and blouses, managed to mount the vehicle and feign attack mode.

Internships, in my experience, tend to revolve around fetching coffee and executing hundreds of mundane copies. At the risk of sounding prematurely nostalgic, my WHINSEC internship provided the opportunity to meet countless fascinating people—people who worked at SouthCom in Panama, ran training missions with the Lanceros in Colombia, and lived through the Central American conflicts. Not only the instructors and employees of WHINSEC, but the students themselves, offered us insight into Latin America’s culture and history that would never be written on the pages of a history book. Perhaps if I hadn’t lived in the barracks and been forced to listen to Elvis Crespo, I might never have learned the *merengue*. Indeed, if I hadn’t come to work every day trying to remember military terms in Spanish, I might never have been able to complete interviews for my master’s thesis. So many of the discussions that occur everyday at WHINSEC—though ordinary to fulltime employees—were the most fulfilling aspects of my internship, and without doubt contributed greatly to my academic growth.





Canadian Maj. Jacques O'keefe toasts Canada on the independence day celebration during the Institute's first Brindis for the country.



Major General Godofredo Jesús Correa, Brazil Attaché, and COL Richard Downie, WHINSEC Commandant, unveil the portrait of Dom Pedro I., Brazil's patron, during a brief ceremony in the Institute's Gallery of Liberators.



Major General Alfred A. Valenzuela, USARSO Commander, speaks with the CGSC class during a brief visit to the Institute.



Lt. Col. Maximo Muñoz of the Dominican Republic and Maj. Maribel Ortiz, CGSOC students refresh their weapons knowledge at Red Cloud Range.



WHINSEC celebrates the first of many Hail and Farewell luncheons, after the August end of month ceremony at Fort Benning's Officers Club.



Command and General Staff Officer Course team (Army PT Uniform), referees Mrs. Angie Ramos and Mr. Mario Tenorio (yellow jerseys), pose with Commandant COL Richard Downie and Sub-Commandant COL Jorge Rosales (center) along with the rest of the WHINSEC Faculty and Staff team (white and black uniform) before the first soccer game of three, to win the Commandant's Cup

Upcoming Events

October

- 1 Celebrate Antigua-Barbuda Independence Day
- 3 Celebrate Panama Independence Day
- 10 Training Holiday
- 13 Columbus Day
- 31 Halloween



November

- 10 Training Holiday
- 11 Veterans Day
- 22 Open House
- 27 Thanksgiving
- 28 Training Holiday



A Forest Reservation, a Friendly Environment and a Place for Meditation Fort Benning is more than a military unit!

Ms. Margarita Castillo Villarreal

WHINSEC Fellow

While fearful about coming to a U.S. Infantry School, surprisingly, my life at Fort Benning has been not only an interesting academic experience but also a pleasant episode in the chapters of my life.

I came to Fort Benning after spending the past Christmas holidays in my home country Nicaragua. I was invited to come to the U.S. as a Research Fellow at WHINSEC. Before coming to WHINSEC I spent a year at Harvard University as a Visiting Scholar at the David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies and a semester at the Virginia Foundation for the Humanities' Institute on Violence and Survival at the University of Virginia where I was a Rockefeller Humanities Fellow.

Living at Fort Benning has taught me to succeed in a completely different setting: The sophisticated and exuberant atmosphere of Harvard Square in Cambridge, for example, for example, is quite different from that at Fort Benning. For about five months I have lived at Olson Hall. Here I have learned to live simply: a room has been all that I have had! In spite of the inconveniences, while at Olson Hall, I have taken pleasure in developing nice friendships with my housekeepers. Those ladies, surely, have a special place in my heart.

One of my major pleasures while at Fort Benning has been taking rides on Highway I-185. It is so beautiful to see the pine trees surrounding me. The grass is so well kept that it seems like if it is inviting you to lie down and take a nap. There are nice shopping centers around the Columbus area. It has been great to have almost anything one needs close by. I haven't had the necessity to go to Atlanta and experience the hazards of that cosmopolitan city! That has been a complete luxury!

Fort Benning is more than a military installation. It is a complete city located in the countryside of South Georgia. One of the benefits I have enjoyed most while here is the fact that I haven't needed to trouble myself with the fear of crime. One can go jogging early in the morning or late in the evening without apprehension. As a scholar with the condition of being a woman in a place surrounded, mainly, by men, I have never experienced a mistreatment based on my gender. I truly celebrate that!

While at WHINSEC I have been engaged in a scholastic endeavor aimed at preparing an article for publication in either the *Military Review* or *Parameters* – both periodicals of the U.S. Army. The article will present the main arguments of the classical theoretical model to civil-military relations

developed by S.P. Huntington, which are relevant to the study of contemporary civil-military relations in Nicaragua. These theses will be rebutted and a new approach for the understanding of the civil-military interface will be presented. The new paradigm builds on the theoretical innovations and practical lessons that can be learned through the exploration of Nicaragua's advance toward democracy, and how to gradually promote the accountability of the military to civilian authorities.

To my surprise, WHINSEC has let me work with academic independence and intellectual freedom. At first, I was afraid that the Institute was going to impose upon me a certain framework of mind. My academic mentor, although may not be completely in agreement with my thesis, has been extremely respectful when it comes to my scholastic work. If my article is published in *Military Review* or *Parameters*, WHINSEC will, definitely, be making a contribution by supporting the research of an independent scholar.

Through my tour at WHINSEC, I have learned how important the role it is playing in fostering human rights and a democratic pattern of civil-military relations in Latin America. The Institute brings, everyday, military, police officers and civilians from the region to partici-

pate in courses dealing with such relevant subjects as civil military operations, democratic sustainment, international law and humanitarian and peace keeping operations. Through its curriculum, WHINSEC, is providing "...professional education and training to eligible personnel of nations of the Western Hemisphere within the context of the democratic principles set forth in the Charter of the Organization of American States... while fostering mutual knowledge, transparency, confidence, and cooperation among the participating nations and promoting democratic values, respect for human rights, and knowledge and understanding of United States customs and traditions."

I am pretty much aware that WHINSEC's predecessor, the School of the Americas (SOA), had been under a storm of criticisms, as it trained military personnel from Latin America during the time of the cold war. The years of the national security doctrine, however, are over and it is important, today, to look at the future and give WHINSEC the opportunity to demonstrate its current commitment with the promotion of democracy and human rights in Latin America. In this regard, it is important to mention that military officers from countries such as Nicaragua, which in the past, were in open confrontation with the United States, are being trained under the auspices of WHINSEC – a policy that demonstrates the openness that characterizes the Institute nowadays.



COL Richard Downie presents Ms. Margarita Castillo with a Certificate of Appreciation, with Dr. Donald Harrington.



Over 1,000 children between the ages of 5 and 14 are killed annually as the result of pedestrian-motor vehicle accidents. Stay alert for children going to and coming from school this fall:

- * Obey the speed limit (15 MPH) in school zones.
- * Watch for children walking, skating, or cycling.
- * Stop for buses loading and unloading children.

VISION

The premier institute preparing leaders to solve hemispheric challenges and foster regional friendships

MISSION

To provide professional education and training to military, law-enforcement, and civilian personnel of the Western Hemisphere within the context of the democratic principles of the OAS...

To foster mutual knowledge, confidence, and cooperation among the participating nations...

To promote democratic values, respect for human rights, and knowledge and understanding of U.S. customs and traditions...

(USC 10, para.2166)

WHINSEC Fall Birthdays

September:

- 02 MAJ Drew Bayliss
- 07 MAJ Mario Cacho
- 11 Mr. Jermaine Pichardo
- 10 SFC Leroy Coronado
- 12 CSM Rafael Colondres
- 12 SFC Christopher King
- 12 Mrs. Joyce Livingston
- 14 SFC Jose Munoz
- 17 MAJ Charles Samaris
- 17 CPT George Mitschke
- 18 CPT Javier Garcia
- 18 MAJ Eric D'India
- 18 1SG Jesse Lowman
- 20 Ms. Maria O'Malley
- 26 Mrs. Youwonna Saffold
- 28 CPT Jose Contreras
- 28 SSG Russell Smith



October:

- 02 Ms. Sonia Andrae
- 03 Mr. Alfredo (JR) Gonzalez
- 03 CPT Steven Espinoza
- 03 CPT Esequiel Espinoza
- 04 SPC Jose Alfaro
- 04 LTC Robert Barinoski
- 04 PFC Carlene Johnson
- 04 SSG Frank DeJanon
- 08 LTC Jose Pizarro
- 09 Ms. Rosa Medina
- 09 MSG Pedro Vazquez
- 10 CPT Maurico Ordonez
- 10 MSG Dejaci DaSilva
- 12 MAJ Eric Heberlig
- 12 SGM Juan Elias
- 15 CPT Eva Clements
- 17 SPC Bertha Whipkey
- 18 Ms. Magda Mino
- 20 SSG Nestor Nieves
- 25 CPT Miguel Gonzalez
- 26 MSG Richard DeAndrade

November:

- 06 MSG Jorge Orderique
- 08 MAJ Jorge Ruzzante
- 10 Mrs. Anna Brewington
- 10 Mr. Luis Abella
- 11 Mrs. Angie Mayoral
- 12 SSG Angel Rivera
- 12 COL Richard Downie
- 14 Mr. Jose Cardona
- 14 Mrs. Cecilia Alexander
- 14 Mr. Yamill Collazo
- 17 SGT Heddy Ortiz
- 17 LTC Walter Pjetraj
- 18 Mr. Thomas Bennett
- 18 Ms. Katherine Gillette
- 19 CPT Tiffney Dimery
- 22 COL Jorge Rosales
- 23 SPC Rodolfo Beckford
- 24 SFC Hector Nieves
- 24 Mrs. Mayra Hernandez
- 25 SSG Jose Roman
- 26 SSG Miguel Lewis