



Beyond the Horizon 2008

Partnership for the Americas Engagement Team – Caribbean

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO



USARSO Arrives in the Caribbean

CAMP MAUSICA, Trinidad and Tobago –

More than 300 hundred Soldiers, Airmen, Marines and Seabees have landed in Trinidad to take part in Operation Beyond the Horizon 2008; a joint nation, joint service humanitarian mission composed of elements from the Army, Army National Guard and Reserve, Air Force Reserve, Navy Seabees and Marines.

Working together with the Trinidad Defense Forces, the joint

service task force, the American Partnership for the Americas Engagement Team (PAET), is in the process of building two public schools and a medical clinic while providing free medical and dental screenings across the

country.

U.S. Army South arrived in Trinidad in February to supervise

operations through June when all proposed sites are expected to be completed.

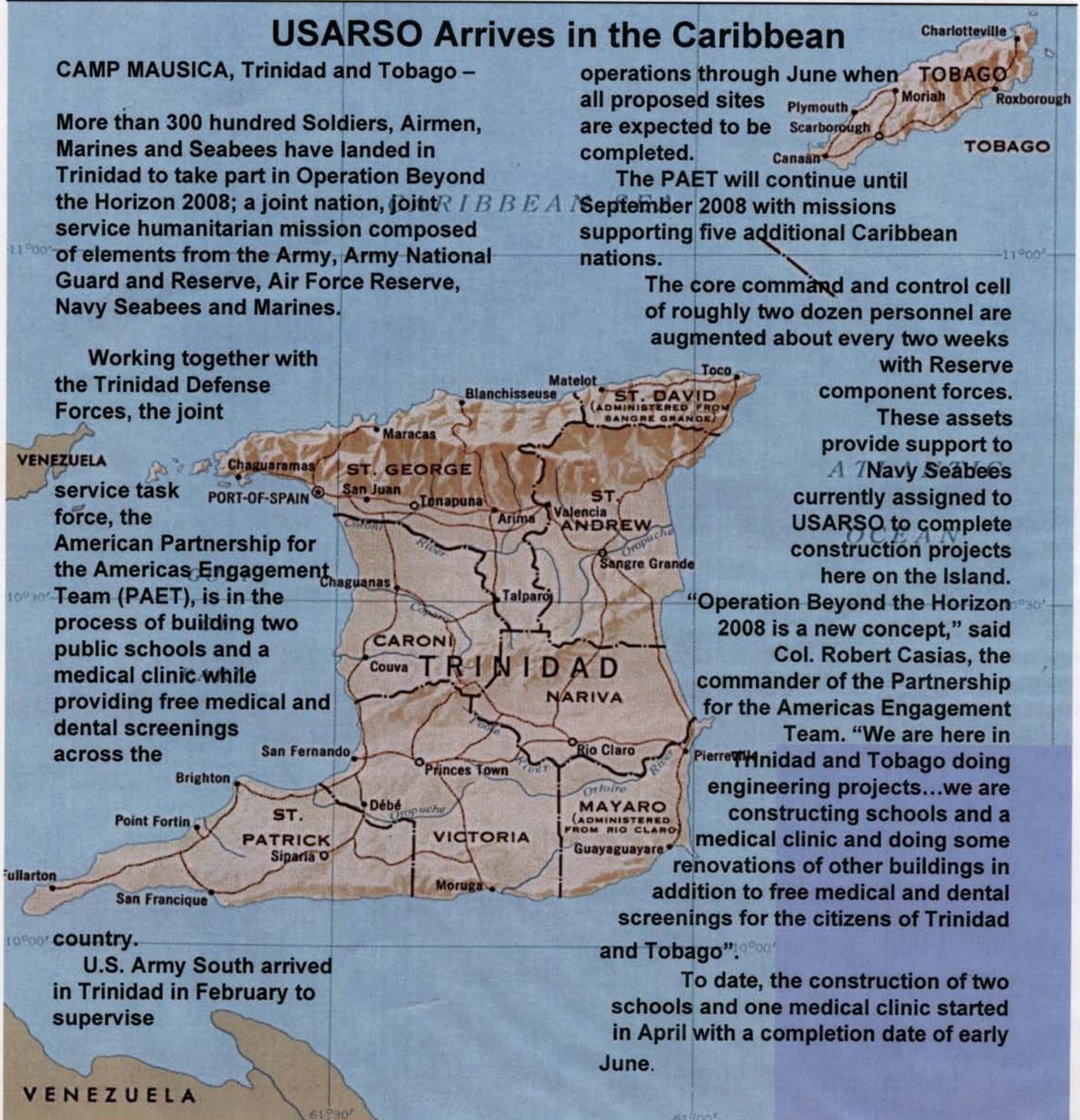
The PAET will continue until September 2008 with missions supporting five additional Caribbean nations.

The core command and control cell of roughly two dozen personnel are augmented about every two weeks with Reserve component forces.

These assets provide support to A7Navy Seabees currently assigned to USARSO to complete construction projects here on the Island.

“Operation Beyond the Horizon 2008 is a new concept,” said Col. Robert Casias, the commander of the Partnership for the Americas Engagement Team. “We are here in Trinidad and Tobago doing engineering projects...we are constructing schools and a medical clinic and doing some renovations of other buildings in addition to free medical and dental screenings for the citizens of Trinidad and Tobago”.

To date, the construction of two schools and one medical clinic started in April with a completion date of early June.



Beyond the Horizon 2008

Navy SeaBees Break Ground for Operation `Beyond the Horizon 08`

Story and photo by Sgt. 1st Class Peter K. Towse, 42nd Infantry Division

TACARIGUA, Trinidad and Tobago – Sailors of the SeaBee Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 74 take part in Operation Beyond the Horizon 2008.

Twenty SeaBees of the NMCB arrived in Trinidad in March, 2008 as part of a contingent force of the United States Army South (USARSO) established on the ground for a rotation of 4 months starting in February and ending in June. The Partnership for the Americas Engagement Team will continue until September 2008 with missions supporting five additional Caribbean nations.

To date, construction of two schools and one medical clinic has begun with a completion date of early June. The SeaBees, a naval unit from Gulfport, MS, are building a clinic and a school with the 1156th Engineers from the New York Army National Guard at the St. Mary's Children's Home in Tacarigua, Trinidad.

"Our mission is to support the facility here at St. Mary's Children's Home along with the joint task force. We are working with the [US] Army National Guard and the Trinidad engineers," said 2nd Class Petty Officer Christopher Schweitzer, project supervisor for the clinic project and resident of Orange Grove, MS.

"The clinic and school are a PVC structure, pre-engineered Royal Building System (RBS) from Canada. It has a concrete foundation with RBS panels placed together and pour-filled with concrete with a metal roof system."

Even though the projected school and clinic are scheduled for completion in early June, Schweitzer is confident that the project will be completed early with time to work on the landscaping of the grounds.

"I think it is great as far as the unity and the teamwork we are getting from the Army National Guard and the Trinidad engineers," Schweitzer added. "The manager of the home and all the kids and staff are really excited to see the end project and the benefits of the completed clinic".

"We are building a four-room medical clinic and some renovations to some of the current buildings of the home," said Lt. Cmdr Susan Wienrich, the officer in charge of the NMCB.

"This project is not only good for our technical skills, this is a really worth while project for us because we get to make a lasting impact on their lives and truly help out with humanitarian work...something that we do not normally get to do."

Also working along side the SeaBees for the duration of the project are the Trinidad Defense Force (TDF) Engineers. Working together with the TDF engineers,



Second Class Petty Officer Joey Biccum, a builder with the SeaBee Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 74, finishes a section of roof purlin connecting the trusses of the new medical clinic at St. Mary's Children's Home in Tacarigua, Trinidad May 2, 2008.

the Navy Seabees undertook the task at hand with a zealous motivation.

"We are assisting the SeaBees in building the clinic for the children," said Pvt. Nigl Peters a trade welder with the TDF engineers.

"They bring plenty of new ideas to us and we are enjoying our time with them. "This mission is a very good thing," Peters added. "This is something that should happen more regular...to share ideas and to share friendship."

"I wish we could do more," said 3rd Class Petty Officer Cassandra Owens, a builder at the site. "I am glad we came here to build the clinic, but there is still so much more we could do."

The SeaBees are having the opening ceremony for the clinic in early June and are scheduled to leave by June 15.

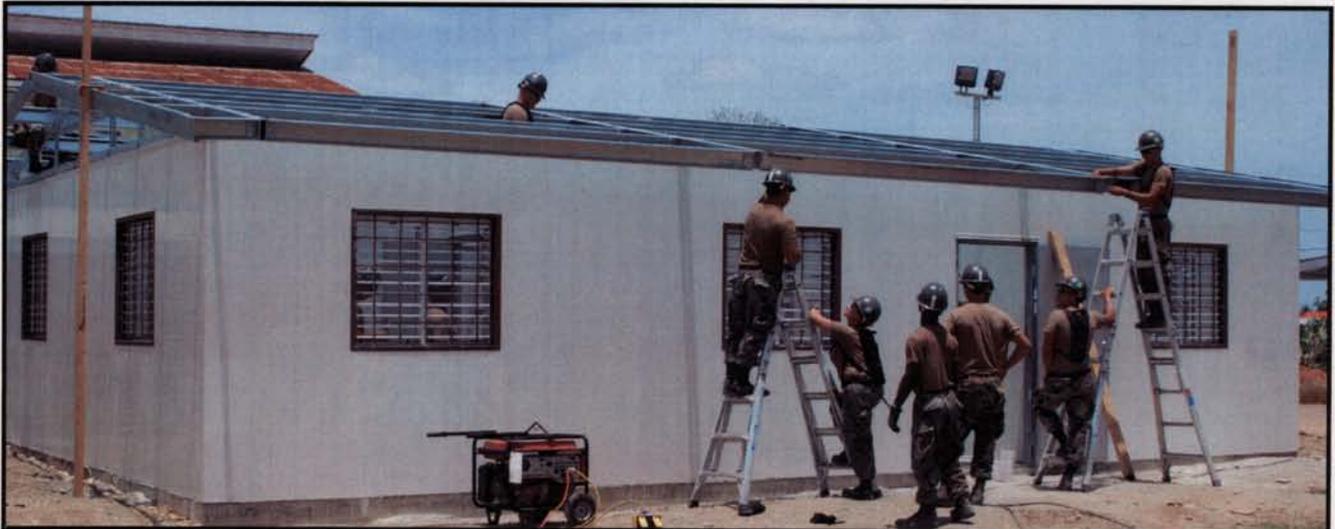
"This project will benefit not only the Home, but the community," said Therese Greenewey, the acting deputy manager of the 150-year-old St. Mary's Children's Home.

"We accepted the idea of the project readily and we appreciate the work that has happened so far. Everything that the SeaBees are doing is with precision and very professional. It is a nice feeling knowing that the United States is helping us with this need."

"We enjoy what we are doing here," said Wienrich. "The SeaBees see that it does really help someone."

Beyond the Horizon 2008

Navy SeaBees Break Ground
for Operation 'Beyond the Horizon 08'



**SeaBee Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 74
St. Mary's Children's Home, Tacarigua, Trinidad and Tobago**

Beyond the Horizon 2008

Caribbean Smiles

Texas Army Reserve Provides Dental Care



Lt. Col. Jocelyn Yu, the officer in charge of the 965th Dental Company and also a pediatric dentist from Lewisville, TX, performs a cleaning on a 15-year-old boy from Arima, Trinidad and Tabago during Operation Beyond the Horizon May 6, 2008.

Story and photo by Sgt. 1st Class Peter K. Towse,
42nd Infantry Division

ARIMA, Trinidad and Tobago – Soldiers of the 965th Dental Company, Texas Army Reserve take part in Operation Beyond the Horizon 2008.

The 965th dental company arrived in Trinidad in April, 2008 for two weeks as part of a contingent force of the United States Army South (USARSO) established on the ground for a rotation of 4 months starting in February and ending in June. The Partnership for the Americas Engagement Team will continue until September 2008 with missions supporting five additional Caribbean nations.

The 965th is a dental company that operates out of portable dental field equipment and provides care during humanitarian and support missions throughout the year, all over the world.

Over 30 personnel set up the clinic in the town of Arima at the local dental school and started providing free services to the local population right away.

"We are seeing both adults and children for fillings, root canals and extractions", said Lt. Col. Jocelyn Yu, the officer in charge of the 965th in Trinidad and also a pediatric dentist in Lewisville, TX. "We have pediatric orthodontists, oral surgeons and general practice dentists here seeing hundreds of people a day."

Even though the dental company only has two weeks in country, they project over 1,200 people will be seen and treated. With only 10 stations and limited space, the first day brought over 700 people from Arima and the surrounding area.

"We did not know what to expect on our first day," Yu said. "There was a long line of patients here and we were trying to get our equipment up and running. We had some equipment that was not functioning once we arrived here."

Working closely with the Ministry of Health and local volunteers from the dental school, the 965th undertook the task at hand, fixing their equipment and bringing the clinic to full operation.

"Obviously, there is a need here and we are trying our best to provide first class dentistry to these people," said Maj. Glenn Lance, a dentist with the 965th. "It is a lot of fun and you feel good when the day is over...you really feel like you helped somebody."

Dentists and dental assistants worked hour after hour as the stream of patients flowed into the clinic. The sounds of drills and suction machines resonated through the room as chairs were filled and patients were treated. As each patient left, another filled the chair and each service member started the treatment process over.

"We have more people than we can treat," said 2nd Lt. Jane Martin, the administrative officer from Ft. Worth TX. "We are hoping to get faster and treat more citizens as the week progresses."

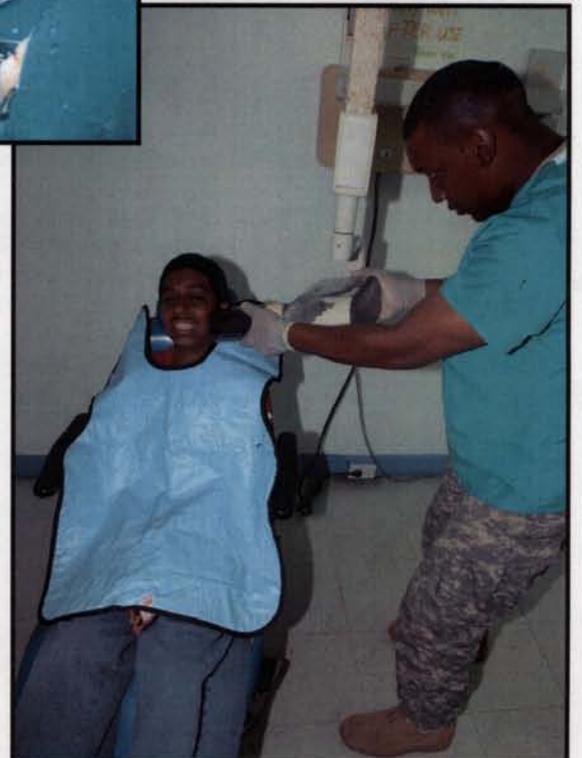
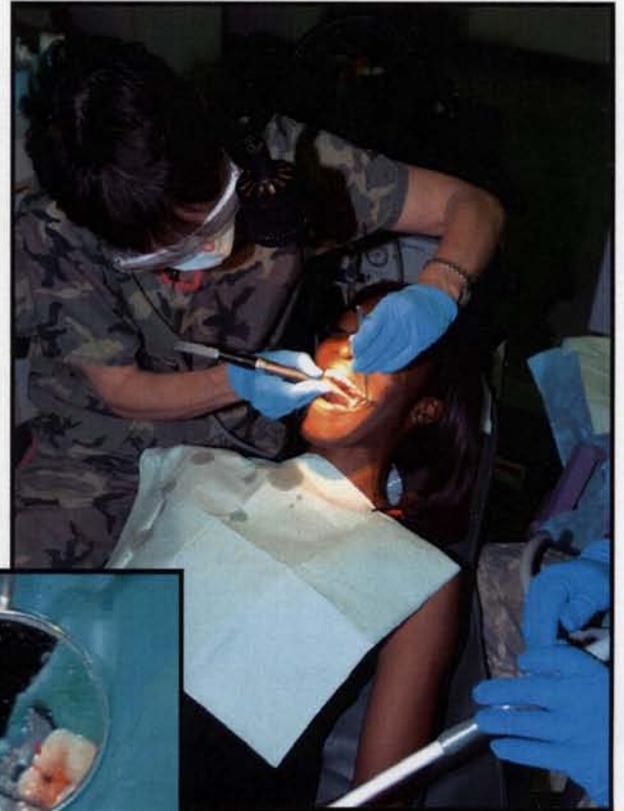
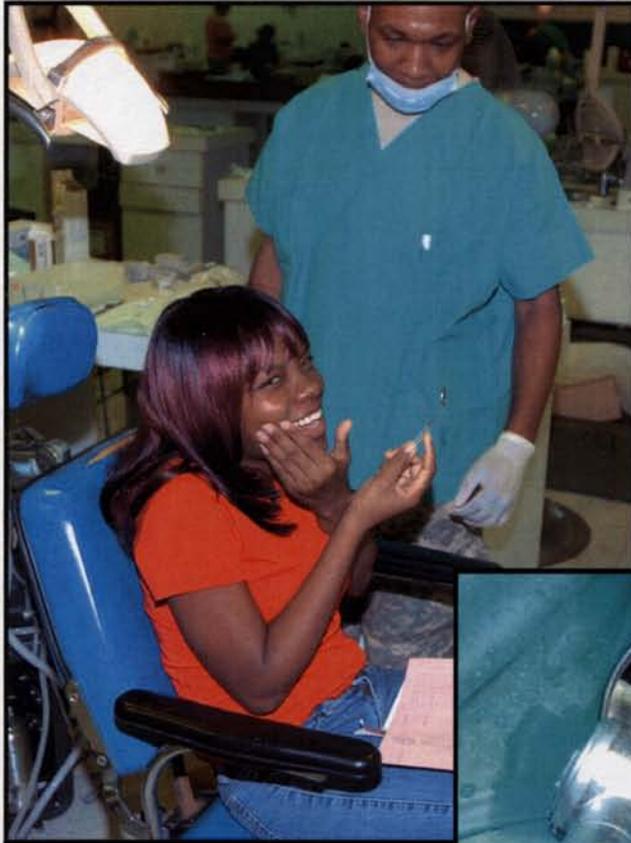
While dentists were busy in the clinic, workers from the Trinidad and Tobago Ministry of Health (MOH) made sure each patient was given the proper medication and dental hygienic products.

"I think what the Americans are doing is good for my country," said Lisa Ward, a worker with the surgeons department at the MOH. "The patients that come and see us otherwise could not get this kind of care. I am proud to be a part of this."

Beyond the Horizon 2008

Caribbean Smiles

Texas Army Reserve Provides Dental Care



**965th Dental Company, US Army Reserve
Arima Dental Clinic, Trinidad and Tabago**

Beyond the Horizon 2008

USARSO Prepares to Move On

Story and photo by Master Sgt. Corine Lombardo
42nd Infantry Division

CAMP MAUSICA, Trinidad and Tobago -- Long before the completion of the Trinidad and Tobago phase of Beyond the Horizon 2008, the Soldiers of US Army South's Partnership for the Americas Engagement Team-Caribbean (PAET) are planning their next move. This time to Suriname as Beyond the Horizon '08 continues.

That is exactly what the operation name implies.

"We are focusing on continued multinational, joint service component intergovernmental operations that include non-government and private volunteer organizations, with one primary focus . . . provide humanitarian and civic assistance through much needed construction projects and medical services," said Col. Robert Casias, Task Force Commander for the PAET.

For engagement team staff personnel working to improve living conditions in Trinidad and Tobago, this means incorporating an additional focus on "plans that will eventually get the right stuff in the right place", said Lt. Col. William Andino, operations officer assigned to US Army South.

In order to do this, the leadership conducted a redeployment planning conference in early May which included subject matter experts from US Army South, Army National Guard, the USDA, Port of Spain Port Authority and representatives from units joining the team to support the Suriname mission.

According to Col. Casias, the conference was geared toward redeployment operations that ensure the safe movement of personnel and equipment and the orderly removal of base camp facilities.

Conference attendees focused on restoring base camp areas used by U.S. forces while in Trinidad and Tobago, equipment preparation and staging for shipment back to the United States or onto Suriname for the next phase of Beyond the Horizon.

The redeployment goals and requirements discussed included the movement of roughly 300 personnel and preparing over 85 pieces of equipment for shipment to several locations, either back home or on to future mission sites.

"A major component of this preplanning is identifying the customs and agricultural inspections and clearance requirements and procedures," said Roberto Rubet, a United States Army South Logistics Management Specialist from Ft. Sam Houston, TX. "It is essential for all personnel to be familiar with the sea and airlift procedures prior to movement."

Of specific concern is hazardous materials and waste, such as lithium batteries, MRE heaters, unused flammable substances and fire extinguishers.

"We have an obligation to remove any of these items when we leave this country," said Rubet. "We are here to

do good things for the people of Trinidad. It is important for their health and safety that we leave nothing behind."

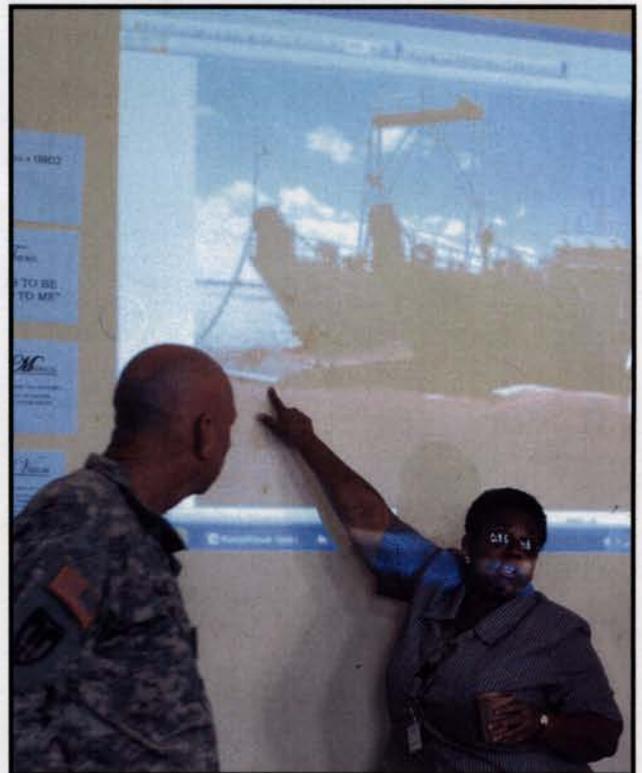
These items will be contained according to US standards and disposed of properly when they reach the United States.

The intent of this conference is to also identify possible shortfalls and issues that could arise.

"This allows us to eliminate problems we faced while moving hundreds of personnel in and out of Trinidad and Tobago and use the lessons learned from this experience to improve our operations in the future," Andino said.

"There are numerous moving pieces at all times," added Andino.

Although roughly a couple dozen Soldiers will continue on to Suriname, the majority of durational personnel, those who have been assigned to US Army South for the Trinidad and Tobago mission will return to their home states and units.



Ms. Erica McCollins from the Trinidad and Tobago Port Authority advises USARSO PAET-Caribbean Cmd. Sgt. Major, Master Sgt. Joseph Bryant and conference attendees on the proper procedures and safe handling of shipment operations. McCollins was instrumental in assisting USARSO personnel ensure they meet the proper procedures and host nation standards while preparing and loading equipment onto container ships in the Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago.

Beyond the Horizon 2008

Puerto Rico National Guard Soldiers Receive Recognition, visit from TAG in Caribbean

Story and photo by Master Sgt. Corine Lombardo,
42nd Infantry Division

CAMP MAUSICA, Trinidad and Tobago -- Brig. General Baralt Carrion, Adjutant General from the Puerto Rico National Guard presented awards and visited his Soldiers serving in Trinidad on May 6, 2008.

The Puerto Rico Army National Guard's 292nd Combat Sustainment Support Battalion arrived in Trinidad April 26, 2008, taking part in Operation Beyond the Horizon 2008.

Approximately two-dozen Citizen-Soldiers from Puerto Rico's 292nd CSSB headquarters are forward deployed for this rotation of troops where they are providing a wide variety of services to include logistics, maintenance, personnel support, fuel handling and food service.

Three personnel from the unit have been assigned to USARSO as part of the command cell in support of this mission and will remain in Trinidad and Tobago through June.

Recognized for their outstanding accomplishments were Sgt. First Class Artemio Lopez, who was awarded the Army Commendation Medal for performing duties and responsibilities of the Forward Operating Site 1st Sgt., which included accountability of over \$300,000 of equipment and overseeing force protection of all US forces assigned. Spec. Jose Rodriguez was awarded the Army Achievement Medal for admirable performance as a Food Service Specialist while assigned to the Forward Operating Site and Spec. Emelio Lopez was awarded the Army Achievement Medal for his outstanding performance as the Petroleum Supply Specialist assigned to Camp Mausica, Trinidad.

"I am extremely proud of all your accomplishments in support of the important work that is being done here," said Brig. Gen. Carrion. "You should also be proud knowing the job you are doing reflects so well on the Puerto Rico National Guard."



Brig. General Baralt Carrion, Puerto Rico Adjutant General and USASO PAET-Caribbean Task Force Commander, Col. Robert Casias present awards to Puerto Rico Army National Guard Soldiers for their outstanding accomplishments, May 6, 2008. Recognized (left to right) are Sgt. First Class Artemio Lopez, Spec. Jose Rodriguez and Spec. Emelio Lopez. All three are assigned to the 292nd Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, Puerto Rico Army National Guard.

BTH '08 Commander meets local business leaders



SANGRE GRANDE, Trinidad and Tobago -- In addition to working closely with the Trinidad and Tobago defense forces, the US Army South Partnership for the Americas Engagement Team is making every effort to reach out to local communities and business leaders.

One such visit occurred here on May 1, 2008, where Col. Robert Casias, Task Force commander met with approximately a dozen members of the local Lions Club.

"This has been very informative and we are very excited to learn about the U.S. military involvement in construction projects and the medical and dental screening opportunities," said Anne Marie Waldropt, President of the Sangre Grande Lions Club.

As business professionals, the Lions Club members were especially interested in the economic impact and employment opportunities for host nation citizens inherent with the arrival of US military personnel conducting humanitarian operations.

"Sharing information with prominent members of the Sangre Grande community enables them to communicate our mission with their residents," said Col. Casias.

Also discussed was the ongoing partnership and relationships being established between U.S. and Trinidad and Tobago defense forces.

Beyond the Horizon 2008

New York National Guard training brings Humanitarian Relief to Trinidad



Soldiers from the 1156th Engineer Company, New York Army National Guard place trusses weighing over 1200 pounds each on the roof of the new schoolhouse at St. Mary's Children's home in the town of Tacarigua, Trinidad.

Story and photo by Sgt. 1st Class Peter K. Towse,
42nd Infantry Division

CAMP MAUSICA, Trinidad and Tobago – Soldiers of the New York Army National Guard's 1156th Engineer Company arrived in Trinidad April 26, 2008 to take part in Operation Beyond the Horizon 2008.

Approximately 30 Citizen Soldiers from New York's 1156th Engineer Company worked alongside Navy Seabees and Trinidad Defense Force personnel to continue construction of a vocational rehabilitation and health clinic for St. Mary's Children's Home. The National Guard unit deployed for a two-week tour in Trinidad and Tobago to assist in the humanitarian mission.

"We are continuing from where the last rotation left off," said Sgt. Michael Quijano the site construction NCOIC at the St Mary's orphanage where a school and a medical clinic are in the early stages of development. Working together with the Navy Seabees Mobile Construction Battalion 74 from Gulfport Mississippi, the New York engineers undertook the task at hand.

"We hit the ground running since this is our first day on site," Quijano said. "We are highly motivated to get as much done in the two weeks we are here." Quijano is a resident of Staten Island and has been with the 1156th for four years. In his civilian occupation, he is a carpenter for the City of New York.

Even though the projected school and clinic are

scheduled for completion in early June and the 1156th has only 11 more days at the site, Quijano wants to complete the school and the clinic before the next National Guard engineer unit arrives.

"I don't want to leave anything for the next rotation at this site," Quijano said. "We want to finish this and see if we can move on to the next site before our time here is done."

The first order of business was for the engineers to unpack all the building's trusses from the shipping containers, dismantle them and put them back together while repositioning the truss bolts in preparation for next week's roof project.

"We also poured the concrete for the formed cavities that make up the walls of the structures," Quijano said.

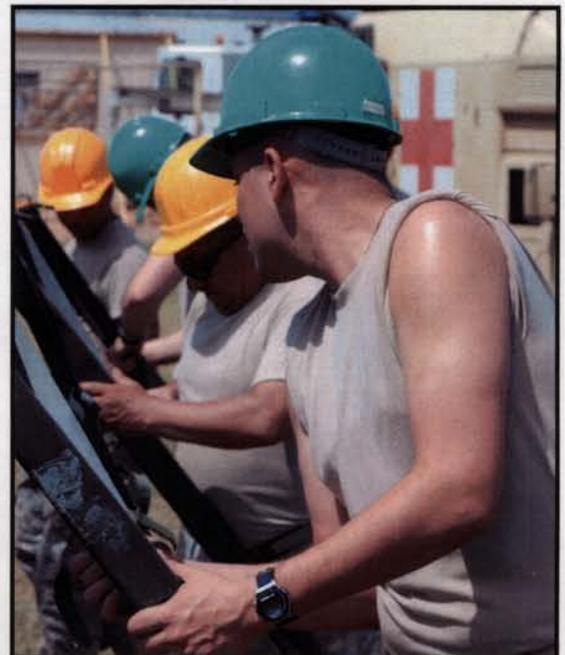
"We even had time to build a picnic table for the kids of the orphanage and plan to build more in the coming week".

"The Soldiers from the New York Army National Guard impressed me from day one with their unity and cohesiveness," said Lt. Thomas Loftis, Lead Engineer for US Army South. Loftis, a Texas Army National Guardsman, is responsible for all engineering construction projects and the living areas used by personnel supporting Operation Beyond the Horizon 2008.

"The professionalism of their senior enlisted leaders while taking on really tough assignments in austere conditions is admirable".

Beyond the Horizon 2008

*New York National Guard training brings
Humanitarian Relief to Trinidad*



**1156th Engineer Company, NY Army National Guard
St. Mary's Children's Home, Tacarigua, Trinidad and Tobago**

Beyond the Horizon 2008

The Marines have landed – In Trinidad

Children's Center receives new schoolhouse



Marine engineers with the 6th Marine Engineer Support Battalion fill the walls of the new schoolhouse at the Princess Elizabeth Center in Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago April 29, 2008.

Story and photo by Sgt. 1st Class Peter K. Towse, 42nd Infantry Division

PORT OF SPAIN, Trinidad and Tobago – Marines of the 6th Engineer Support Battalion (ESB) from Eugene, OR build a schoolhouse for physically handicapped children.

Thirty Marines of the ESB arrived in Trinidad in March, 2008 for two weeks as part of a contingent force supporting United States Army South (USARSO) efforts.

"Our mission is to support the facility here at the Center for Handicapped Children along with the joint task force," said, Master Sgt. Graham Hilson, the site commander for the project.

These Marines, working alongside Trinidad Defense Force (TDF) Engineers are building a school and washroom for the Princess Elizabeth Center, a home for physically handicapped children in Port of Spain, Trinidad.

"We are really enjoying working with the host nation's Defense Force engineers," Hilson added. "We are working side by side with them, which has been a learning experience...building that cohesion. I think it is a win-win for everyone."

"It has been a pleasure and an honor working along side the US Marines," said Cpl. Shamee Ramdeen, a TDF engineer. "We are able to interact in a unique manner. It is great what they are doing...it will not only impact the community, but I think it will have a global impact. I am very thankful for what they are doing."

With the school building project keeping the Marines busy for up to 14 hours a day, they decided to also replace the handicapped playground. The playground is scheduled to open when the school house is completed.

"I know the children will be full of glee when this project is complete," said Sister Patricia Shanklin, a registered nurse for the center. "This school is a blessing. I thank you all very much on behalf of the center."

The Marines are having the opening ceremony for the clinic in early June and are scheduled to leave by June 15.

Handicapped Confidence Course Constructed

Story and photo by Sgt. 1st Class Peter K. Towse, 42nd Infantry Division

PORT OF SPAIN, Trinidad and Tobago – Aside from building a new school for the physically handicapped children of the Princess Elizabeth Center here in Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, a small group of Marines of Alpha 6th Engineer Support Battalion from Eugene, Ore. are using what little free time they have to volunteer to build a handicapped confidence course during Operation Beyond the Horizon.

What used to be in shambles because of the years of use and rot to the wood, is now being transformed into a concrete recreational area with ramps, turn-around points and even a slide.

"We are building a wheelchair playground for the kids of the Center," said Sgt. Kevin Houser, a combat engineer with Alpha 6th Engineer Support Battalion and co-creator of the playground. "We call it a confidence course because if they can get up this, they can get up anything."

Once the base is complete, Houser plans on inserting a pole for the kids to use as a turn around point once they reach the top. There will be circular, triangular and square windows cut out of the cement walls and the slide will be covered in Plexiglas.

"We let our imagination run with it," Houser said. "We have let every increment of Marines put their own touches on it and use their imaginations. We all have been working really hard to complete this on time."

Beginning in March, the Marines worked on the playground with every intention of seeing it complete just as the school is finishing up.

"This is only a secondary project," Houser said. "When we have time and we are done with the school's assignments for the day, we can work on this."

The course will be completed in early June when Houser and his Marines will be able to see the kids of the center use it for the first time.

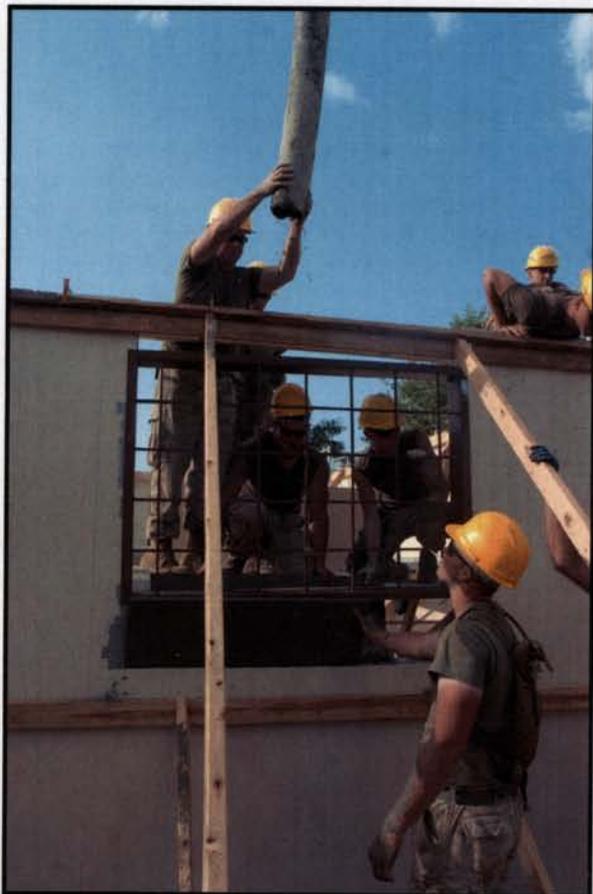
"This is such an awesome project to be able to help these kids," Houser said. "A few of the kids have seen it and there are nothing but big smiles on their faces. We are really excited that we will be able to open it up to them soon and be able to take them on it for the first time."



Marines with the 6th Marine ESB smooth the top ramp of the wheelchair confidence course at the Princess Elizabeth Center in Port of Spain Trinidad and Tobago April 29, 2008.

Beyond the Horizon 2008

The Marines have landed – In Trinidad



6th Marine Engineer Support Battalion
Princess Elizabeth Center in Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago

Beyond the Horizon 2008

Water, Water everywhere --- not a drop to drink

Story and photo by Master Sgt. Corine Lombardo,
42nd Infantry Division

MAYARO, Trinidad and Tobago – In certain areas of Trinidad and Tobago, going 4-5 days without water is a common problem. A problem US Army South is working to help remedy for nearly 2,000 residents surrounding the coastal town of Mayaro.

According to the Trinidad and Tobago Water and Sewage Authority (WASA), the problem stems from the limited water available in the local reservoir. In the city of Mayaro, water is turned on for two and a half hours and shut down for the next two hours each day until the water runs out. Once the roughly 3,000 gallons of water in the storage tanks is used, it takes up to 5 days to refill. The infrastructure has not kept up with the population growth in this coastal area.

For this reason, local WASA employees and members of the US Army South Partnership for the Americas Team (PAET) are working around-the-clock to setup a Reverse Osmosis Water Purification Unit (ROWPU). Pronounced ROW-PEW, the unit is a water treatment system that is easily transported to remote areas.

Although the ROWPU is only a temporary fix, it will provide a means for WASA to initially fill tanks with up to 10,000 gallons of clean drinking water. "This will allow continued use of water by the community while their own system is replenished," said Col. Robert Casias, PAET task force commander.

The ROWPU provides potable water from any water source, such as wells, lakes, seas, lagoons, rivers, oceans and ice holes. It employs a reverse osmosis separation process that uses intensified pressure to feed raw water, whether fresh, brackish or salt water through a self-cleaning filter and a cartridge filter providing a two-stage pre-treatment which separates impurities. The water is further treated by the ROWPU operators through chlorination to remove pollutants, contaminants and micro-organisms.

This filtration process purifies water which can then be stored for future use.

"It is our plan to continue purifying water as long as we are in Trinidad and Tobago," said Casias.

"We anticipate generating more than 200,000 gallons of fresh water for Mayaro and its surrounding towns.

The unit planned for Mayaro is operated by US Army National Guard Soldiers from the Virgin Islands. These soldiers will remain and operate the unit for as long as it is on loan to Trinidad and Tobago. The United States military routinely uses the ROWPU in combat, humanitarian and training operations. These purification units range from 1,500 to 150,000 gallons per day and bigger depending on the need. During a normal 24-hour period, one unit can produce anywhere from 12,000 to 60,000 gallons of water, with a required 4-hour maintenance window to check systems, pumps, the reverse osmosis elements and the engine generator. A single ROWPU can sustain roughly 1,000 to 6,000 Soldiers.



Sgt. Ortiz, a water purification specialist with the Virgin Island National Guard prepares the ROWPU in preparation of providing water to the citizens of Mayaro, Trinidad and Tobago May 2, 2008.

Currently more than 300 Soldiers, airmen, marines and Navy Seabees are in Trinidad and Tobago as part of Beyond the Horizon 2008. These personnel are serving as members of US Army South's Partnership for the Americas Engagement Team-Caribbean providing humanitarian and civic assistance through much needed construction projects and medical services. During a discussion with the PAET Task Force Commander, Col. Robert Casias and U.S. Ambassador Dr. Rory L. Austin, the water problem was identified.

Although this was not originally a scheduled project, the need prompted an immediate response from US Army South.

"I am looking to see how well this goes, and will hopefully be able to convince my government to invest in these units," said Brig. General Edmund Dillon, Chief of Defense Staff for the Trinidad and Tobago Defense Forces.

Beyond the Horizon 2008

Spirit of brotherhood created through sports



PORT OF SPAIN, Trinidad and Tobago -- Marines, Sailors and Soldiers supporting Beyond the Horizon 2008 took some of their limited time off to learn a new game. . . Cricket.

"We have been working alongside Trinidad and Tobago Defense Force soldiers throughout this mission and this game gave us a chance to interact in a different way," said Gunnery Sgt. Larry Trimmer, a Liaison from the 4th Civil Affairs Group, Washington, DC. Trimmer was instrumental in planning the match and coordinating host nation defense forces to instruct the US team of 11 on the rules of the game.

"It was exciting to learn a new game, but more importantly is the lasting friendships we made," said Trimmer.

In addition to sharing professional experiences and personal stories, the teams exchanged mementos and cultural cuisine during a picnic following the match. The friendly game ended with the Trinidad and Tobago team winning with a score of 58-57. "Although we lost the match, we gained a great deal in the camaraderie we created," said Trimmer.

A softball game is being scheduled for the immediate future, in which US forces will provide instruction prior to the game.

Mother's Day Surprise from the Caribbean



Camp Mausica, Trinidad and Tobago – For US forces assigned to US Army South for Beyond the Horizon 2008, not being home for Mother's Day didn't mean they couldn't send home a surprise.

Nearly 35 Soldiers took advantage of the Army's Digital Video Imagery Distribution System or DVIDS to send video taped messages home to their mom's or wives.

"This was a great thing to do," said Sgt. First Class Rick Wolfert, who is assigned to the 413th Civil Affairs Bn, Lubbock, TX who sent messages to both his mom and his wife.

Wolfert has been assigned to BTH 08 since arriving in Trinidad in March. He will remain with the deployment until June 2008.

Once the video messages are delivered to DVIDS, they will be distributed to Soldiers hometown TV stations with the hope that they will be aired on Mother's Day.

Beyond the Horizon 2008

New York MP's Remain on Guard

Story and photo by
Sgt. 1st Class Peter K. Towse,
42nd Infantry Division

CAMP MAUSICA, Trinidad and Tobago – Soldiers of the New York Army National Guard's 222nd Military Police Company remain on guard during Operation Beyond the Horizon 2008

"Our mission was to provide security for the various humanitarian sites and the base camps during operation Beyond the Horizon," said Sgt. 1st Class Eric Gillman, the staff NCO for force protection and anti-terrorism and resident of Brockport, NY.

"Our mission is going exceptionally well here in Trinidad. The personnel from New York came down here ready to work."

"It is a straightforward mission for the MPs," Gillman said. "It is exactly what we are trained to do."

"We control the entry point that leads into Camp Mausica," said Staff Sgt. Jim Hoyle, the squad leader for the MPs and a resident of Rochester, NY with the 222nd Military Police Company from Hornell, NY.

"We also have personnel at the two dental clinics ensuring order and we provide security escort."

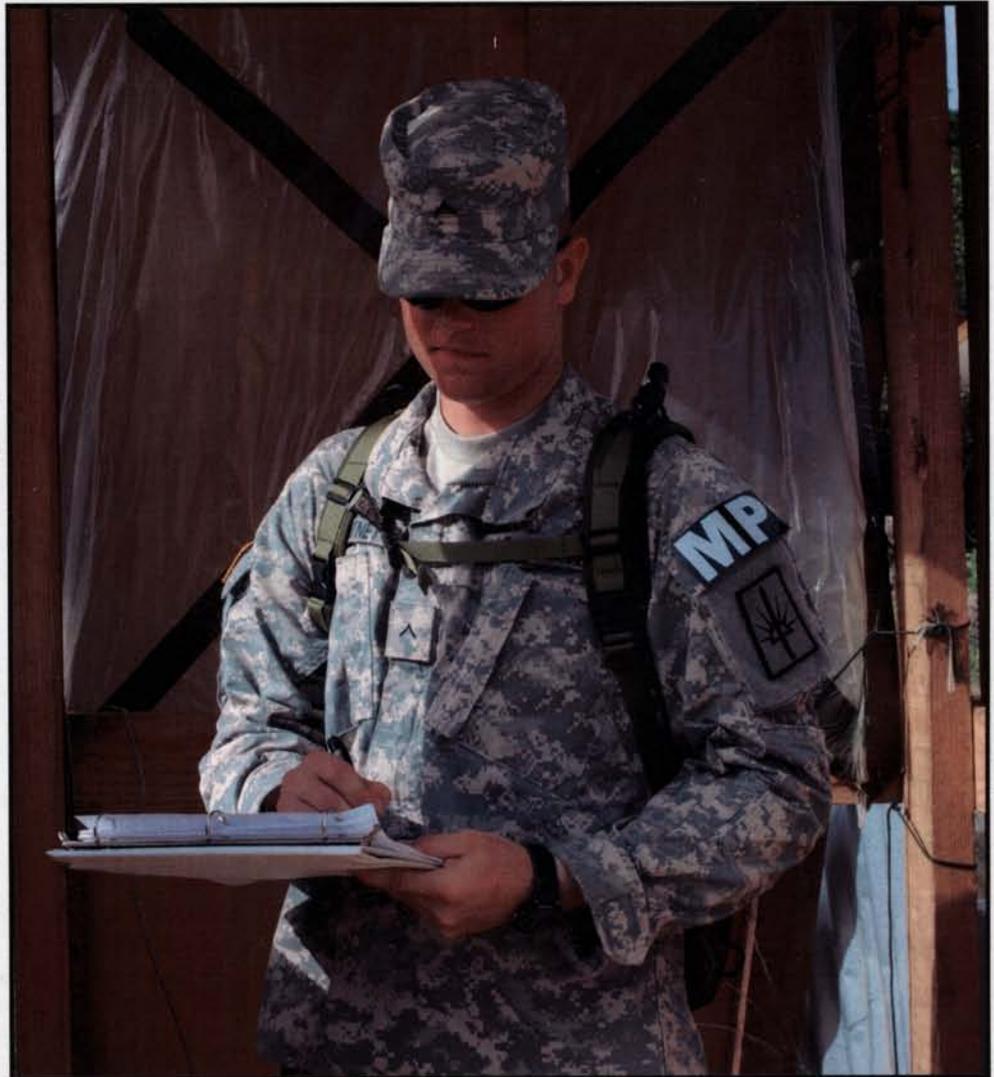
The Military Police are working closely with the Trinidad

Defense Force (TDF) in guarding all sites that are related to the operation.

"The TDF is motivated, they know what they are doing," Hoyle said. "It is a welcome training experience."

Controlling all traffic coming in and leaving Camp Mausica and providing security at all the project sites is sometimes a thankless job, but the responsibility the MPs are handling did not go unnoticed by Sgt. Major John Thomas of the 184th Expeditionary Sustainment Command, Mississippi Army National Guard, who presented a coin of excellence to Pvt. Seth Whitney.

"We have observed this young Soldier on many occasions and every time he exemplifies the highest standards of performance," said Thomas. "His



Pvt. Seth Whitney, of the 222nd MP Company, NY Army National Guard works the access control point at Camp Mausica, Trinidad and Tobago. His unit deployed forward for two weeks in support of Operation Beyond the Horizon 2008.

courtesy, respect and attention to detail are attributes I hope every Soldier emulates."

"I was given a coin of excellence by Sgt. Major Thomas," said Pvt. Seth Whitney a gate guard and resident of Rochester, NY.

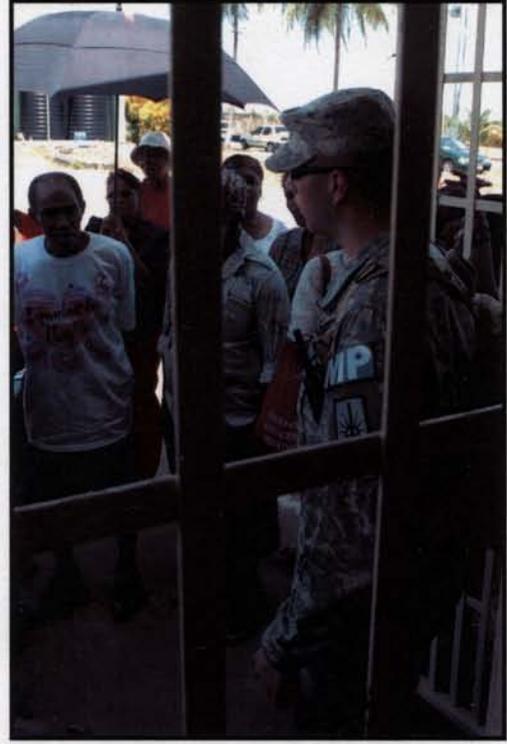
"I was surprised, but it felt good." This is Whitney's first deployment with the 222nd.

"This mission is a good thing to happen," said Sgt. Hosea Velez, the team leader for the 222nd. "If people need help, they should get it."

Aside from working long hours and making sure all the project sites are secured at all times, the MPs had a chance to play soccer with a group of 9-12 year-old girls.

"The soccer game went well," Gillman said with a smile. "They thoroughly crushed the US Army."

Beyond the Horizon 2008



**New York MP's Remain on Guard
Trinidad and Tobago**