eye ON vi

Right Image Right Place Right Time

January 2018

INSIDE THIS ISSUE...

Home
Calendar
USAF ComCam Reunion
File Transfer to NARA
VI Updates
DINFOS Training
Photo Highlights

Army Combat Camera learns from Hurricane Maria mission

by U.S. Army Staff Sgt. Pablo N. Piedra
55th Signal Company (Combat Camera)

The U.S. Army's 55th Signal Company (Combat Camera), based at Fort Meade, Maryland, strives to maintain mission readiness by training Soldiers for all possible contingencies. In most cases, we have weeks to prepare for a deployment.

Occasionally, however, we receive an immediate tasking with no lead time. That was the case Sept. 24, 2017, when a five-Soldier Combat Camera team was sent to Puerto Rico to cover U.S. military relief efforts after Hurricane Maria devastated the island.

I was the noncommissioned officer in charge, with Sgt. Nelson Rodriguez as team leader. Both of us had just returned from another mission just the night before. We were assigned three Soldiers, Spc. Blue Maldonado, Pfc. Kyara Aguilar and Pfc. Caitlyn Cassidy, who were pulled from a field exercise.

The team was given five hours to create a packing list, prepare equipment and assess the mission. Four of our team members speak Spanish, which proved to be a huge asset in the coming weeks.

Without knowing the conditions on the island, the location where we would operate, or even power or communications capabilities, we had to prepare for any environment. We had to pack enough uniforms, batteries, memory cards, supplies and equipment to operate in austere conditions for as long as possible.

The team was attached to the 101st Combat Aviation Brigade

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2, "Lessons Learned"

U.S. Soldiers assigned to the 101st Combat Aviation Brigade (CAB), unload a HH-60M Black Hawk helicoptor from a C-5M-Super Galaxy aircraft at Ceiba, Puerto Rico, Sept. 27, 2017. The 101st CAB conducted medical evacuation and relief efforts to support FEMA in the recovery process of Puerto Rico after the devastation caused by Hurricane Maria. (U.S. Army photo by Staff Sgt. Pablo N. Piedra)

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2, "Lessons Learned"

(CAB), based at Fort Campbell, Kentucky. Our presence meant the 101st CAB had less room for their own supplies. Going in, we knew we would have to prove our worth to the host unit, not only in documenting the recovery efforts, but by actively assisting the 101st CAB's efforts. This included loading and unloading aircraft, setting up camp, moving equipment and other tasks associated with humanitarian operations.

By the end of the fourth day with the 101st CAB, our group was regarded as part of the larger 101st team, and we were given unrestricted latitude to complete our Combat Camera missions.

As is typical of contingency missions such as this, our orders changed on the sixth day of the mission.

The team was moved to San Juan to support the U.S. Army North Public Affairs team, which had been put in charge of documenting all recovery efforts. The five of us quickly established ourselves as the go-to resource for completing the numerous documentation missions. As the overall mission continued, it became clear there was one aspect we couldn't adequately prepare for: the emotional toll. In the aftermath of Maria, Puerto Rico suffered a lot: widespread homelessness, lack of food and potable water, injuries, illness and a lack of medical assistance. The suffering was indiscriminate, and people of all ages were subject to it.

We quickly learned to lean on each other in order to express our personal feelings about what we witnessed, and it helped us cope and continue the mission.

Once the team returned to Fort Meade in late October, an after-action review (AAR) served as a reminder Combat Camera needs to be ready to go at all times. Among the salient points from the AAR:

- Ensure all Soldiers' field equipment is packed and ready to go at all times.
- Check camera equipment – in cluding adequate memory cards and charged batteries – weekly.
- Ensure Soldiers can live in austere conditions for an indefinite time.
- Always be prepared to share the burdens of the host unit.
- Always be prepared for a change in mission or specific event.
- Provide team members with emotional support and down-time to maintain morale.

Hurricane Maria created havoc on the Island of Puerto Rico, and the opportunity to document the relief efforts, to help the people of the island, to work as translators and render aid in any way possible was a huge honor to our team, and it's an experience each one of us will always cherish. Eyes of the Army, Combat Focus.

To see more Hurricane Maria photos visit:

https://www.dvidshub.net/feature/HurricaneMaria

CALENDAR

TBD	DC Shoot-Off	TBD
March 20-21	Joint Combat Camera Planning Group	Charleston, SC
April 24	DVI Steering Committee & Defense Production Management Group	Ft. Meade, MD
April (TBD)	Visual Information Editorial Board	TBD
June 17 -23 (T)	Visual Storytelling Workshop	San Diego, CA

DIMOC wants to preserve your historical media!

If your unit, ship or organization has DoD-produced physical imagery taking up valuable space (i.e. prints, slides, films, tapes, negatives, discs, etc.), DIMOC can digitize it and make it available to you through the DIMOC.mil web portal at no cost!

Regardless of age, such imagery is still an official DoD record, and must be properly archived according to Federal law and DoD regulations. Please do not throw it away or attempt to send scanned items to DVIDS or DIMOC.

For more information on submitting imagery to DIMOC, go to: www.dimoc.mil/quick/physicalImagery.html . Once you have inventoried your physical imagery, contact our archivists at DIMOC-Archivists@mail.mil.

EYE ON VI SUBMISSIONS

If you have a story or idea you think should be included, please email us your content. All story submissions must follow these standards: 1) Typed in Microsoft Word; 2) All images must be in the original JPEG format, submitted separately from the Word document , with required caption, attribution and metadata; 3) No more than 350 words.

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DIMOC Facebook Page

www.facebook.com/DoD.Imagery

Home
Calendar
USAF ComCam Reunion
File Transfer to NARA
VI Updates
DINFOS Training
Photo Highlights

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Defense Media Awards

The Military Services are preparing for their media awards contests. Winners of the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force and Coast Guard competitions will compete in the DoD-level Defense Media Awards competition scheduled for April.

DoD civilian employees assigned to combatant commands, joint task forces, defense agencies and DoD field activities, including the Defense Media Activity, can compete in the Defense Media Merit Awards (DMMA) competition. Winners of the DMMA contest also compete in the Defense Media Awards competition.

Submissions for the contests should have been uploaded and published to the Defense Video and Imagery Distribution System (DVIDS) by Dec. 31, 2017, to be eligible; however, entrants have until the deadlines set by each Services' competition to submit entries. Public affairs and visual information professionals should contact their Service competition points of contact for more information. Detailed information on the Defense Media Awards may be found at: http://www.dma.mil/Services/Defense-Media-Awards/.

Active, veteran USAF ComCam Airmen share experiences

By Stephen Faulisi,
DIMOC-Joint Combat Camera Center

The U.S. Air Force Combat Camera Association held its 14th annual Combat Camera Reunion Oct. 12-15, 2017, in Colorado Springs, Colorado. The reunion is held each year at various locations across the U.S. for current and former Airmen who served in the 600th and 601st Photo Squadrons, the Aerospace Audiovisual Squadrons and Combat Camera units. Attendees reminisced, rekindled long-standing friendships and promoted camaraderie between active and retired members of the Combat Camera community.

Active-duty Airmen assigned to the 1st Combat Camera Squadron, based at Joint Base Charleston, S.C., hosted the 2nd Annual Combat Camera & Storytelling Workshop in conjunction with the reunion. While the active-duty Airmen demonstrated their skills, they had the opportunity to compare notes with and learn from the experiences of their predecessors.

Steve McGill and Dennis Martin, multimedia managers with the Defense Visual Information Records Center in Riverside, California, also briefed the reunion attendees on DIMOC's physical media digitization and archiving program. McGill and Martin also invited the retirees and veterans to contact DIMOC with relevant physical media, such as slides, films or prints, from their time in service. Such media can be brought into the archives for digitization and release to the public, making more of America's military history available to the coming generations.

For more on DIMOC's ongoing physical media preservation efforts and how to submit physical media for digitization, go to http://www.dimoc.mil/quick/physicalImagery.html.

U.S. Air Force Senior Airman Clayton Cupit, left, a photojournalist assigned to the 1st Combat Camera Squadron, and Paul Kennedy, a still photographer who served with the 601st Photo Squadron, Detachment 7, in Da Nang, Vietnam, enjoy a conversation during the 14th Annual Combat Camera Reunion Banquet held in Colorado Springs, Colorado, Oct. 14, 2017. (Courtesy photo)

Home
Calendar
USAF ComCam Reunion
File Transfer to NARA
VI Updates
DINFOS Training
Photo Highlights

DIMOC resumes film transfers to NARA

Staff Report

In October 2017, Defense Visual Information Records Center in Riverside, California, began the process of transferring more than 7,000 individual 16 mm and 35 mm motion picture films to the National Archives and Records Administration.

The films, mostly produced by the Army, Air Force and Navy, represent the first film transfer to NARA since 1998.

All of these films have been digitized and are available within Defense Visual Information Archive (DVIA), which can be found at http://www.dimoc.mil/quick/physicalImagery.html.

Only physical VI records determined permanent according to the DoD VI Records Schedule are digitized and provided digitally to the Department via the DVIA.

After digitization and curation, these permanent records are then scheduled for transfer to NARA. The digital file will also be transferred to the National Archives for greater access by the general public. The 7,000 films are in the process of being shipped to NARA. The first shipment, in November, was cause for celebration at Riverside (Figure A).

DIMOC's comprehensive workflow overhaul is successfully repairing the former reputation of being a "black hole" for VI records.

Over the next five years, DIMOC will continue to improve and streamline its processes, including full resumption of regular transfers to NARA.

Figure A.

DIMOC employees celebrate the completion of a transfer of physical media to NARA at the Defense Visual Information Records Center in Riverside, California. (DoD photo by Steve McGill)

National Archives and Records Administration transfer schedule

Transfer (ship) Date	Quantity	Format	Other Info
August 2017	2,613	Mixed	Classified Records
November 2017	7,122	16mm & 35mm Motion Pictures Film	2 shipments: Shipment 1: 6,130 items Shipment 2: 992 items
March 2018	~10k Videos ~5k still images ~2,100 motion films	Beta, 35mm slides, 16mm & 35mm motion films	18-22 pallets across four different transfer requests to NARA including the completion of the previous film transfer and the start of a new one
June 2018	~20k videos ~15k still images	Beta, 35mm slides, magazines	18-20 pallets planned across three transfer requests
August 2018	~20k videos ~20k still images	DV formats, UMatic, 35mm slides, magazines, prints	18-20 pallets planned across three transfer requests

Home
Calendar
USAF ComCam Reunion
File Transfer to NARA
VI Updates
DINFOS Training
Photo Highlights

eye ON vi

VI UPDATES

VI POLICY

First Quarter, Policy Actions

Change 1 to DoDI 5120.04, "DoD Newspapers, Magazines, Guides, and Installation Maps," dated November 20, 2017
–No substantive changes: Issuance brought into WHS compliance with corrections to various policy references

The Limitations for Public Use language can be viewed on the DIMOC website at: http://www.dimoc.mil/resources/limitations.html

Under Development

DoDI 5040.02 "Visual Information" The upcoming revision will add new policy on personal cameras, required VI documentation, VI as public information, and incorporates and cancels DoDI 5040.07 "VI Productions."

New Issuance Section Headings:

Section 1: General Issuance Information & Policy
Section 2: Responsibilities
Section 3: Governance, Committees & Working Groups
Section 4: Required VI Documentation
Section 5: Use of Personal Equipment to Capture Mission-Related Imagery
Section 6: VI as Public Information
Section 7: VI Attribution and Metadata
Section 8: Video Productions
Section 9: Combat Camera
Section 10: Prohibited Alteration of DoD Imagery

The most current version of DoDI 5410.20 "Public Affairs Relations with for Non-Profit Business and Business Industry Organizations" (Change 1) is available for download here: http://www.dtic.mil/whs/directives/corres/pdf/541020p.pdf

DoD VI Style Guide Updates

VI Style Guide
Work is starting on the next edition of the Visual Information Style Guide (VISG), set for release July 1. The Visual Information Editorial Board voted last year to set July as the standard release date for annual VISG updates.

If you have items you would like to see added, clarified or updated in the VISG, please contact DIMOC Lead Writer-Editor Thomas Ruyle at thomas.m.ruyle.civ@mail.mil, or call 301-222-6209.

VI Style Guide mobile app
After a number of technical issues, the app is in the final stages of development. We're working on a full review of the content and ironing out some last-minute problems.
We'll make an announcement via dimoc.mil and our Facebook page one to two weeks before we make the app available in early 2018.

DIMOC website migration
The dimoc.mil website is being migrated to the AFPIMS web hosting manager in early 2018.

The new site will incorporate new functionalities, such as a news blog, training videos and a user-friendly organization. After the site is built and field-tested, we hope to debut the new dimoc.mil by April 1.

Questions, comments or feedback? Email DIMOC at dma.dvi.dimoc@mail.mil.

ARTICLES OF INTEREST

How to Take a Picture of a Stealth Bomber Over the Rose Bowl
An aerial photographer explains precisely how he took an amazing photograph of a B-2 Spirit over the Rose Bowl game.
https://www.theatlantic.com/technology/archive/2018/01/how-to-take-a-picture-of-the-stealth-bomber-over-the-rose-bowl/549545/?utm_source=atlfb

DMA Drone Footage:
Drone shots of Coast Guard Response Boat-Medium at Curtis Bay MD.
https://www.dvidshub.net/video/576717/coast-guard-quick-response-vessel

Home
Calendar
USAF ComCam Reunion
File Transfer to NARA
VI Updates
DINFOS Training
Photo Highlights

DEFENSE MEDIA ACTIVITY
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

DINFOS TRAINING AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Home
Calendar
USAF ComCam Reunion
File Transfer to NARA
VI Updates
DINFOS Training
Photo Highlights

Broadcast Management Course
(2 weeks) 12 students
Class 020 - 11 Jul - 26 Jul 2018

Content Management Course
(4 weeks) 16 students
Class 020 - 16 Apr - 11 May 2018
Class 030 - 30 May - 27 Jun 2018

Visual Information Management Course
(2 weeks) 24 students
Class 020 - 22 Jan - 02 Feb 2018

Intermediate Photojournalism Course
(8 weeks) 18 students
Class 010 - 08 Jan - 06 Mar 2018
Class 020 - 12 Mar - 07 May 2018
Class 030 - 14 May - 18 Jul 2018

Digital Multimedia Course
(7 weeks) 24 students
Class 010 - 24 Jan - 14 Mar 2018
Class 020 - 17 Apr - 06 Jun 2018

Intermediate Videography Course
(3 weeks) 8 students
Class 030 - 26 Feb - 02 Apr 2018
Class 040 - 09 Apr - 11 May 2018

Advanced Electronic Journalism Course
(4 weeks) 12 students
Class 020 - 20 Feb - 20 Mar 2018
Class 030 - 26 Apr - 23 May 2018

Intermediate Public Affairs Specialist Course
(2 weeks) 24 students
Class 010 - 22 Jan - 02 Feb 2018
Class 020 - 19 Mar - 30 Mar 2018

Joint Contingency Public Affairs Course
(2 weeks) 16 students
Class 010 - 19 Mar - 30 Mar 2018
Class 020 - 04 Jun - 15 Jun 2018

Joint Intermediate Public Affairs Course
(5 weeks) 24 students
Class 020 - 09 Jul - 14 Aug 2018

Joint Senior Public Affairs Course
(2 weeks) 16 students
Class 010 - 05 Feb - 16 Feb 2018
Class 020 - 30 Apr - 11 May 2018

Public Affairs Qualification Course (PAQC)
(9 weeks) 60 students
Class 020 - 09 Jan - 14 Mar 2018
Class 030 - 29 Mar - 01 Jun 2018

Combat Camera Leadership Course
(2 weeks) 24 students
Class 010 - 04 Jun - 15 Jun 2018

Additional information available at:
http://www.dinfos.dma.mil/StudentInfo/CourseCatalog.aspx

eye ON vi

PHOTO HIGHLIGHTS

A U.S. Air Force B-2 Spirit aircraft taxis on the flightline at Andersen Air Force Base, Guam, Jan. 8, 2018. Three B-2 Spirits and about 200 airmen based at Whiteman Air Force Base, Misouri, deployed to Andersen to support U.S. Pacific Command's bomber assurance and deterrence mission. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Joshua Smoot)

U.S. Marine Corps Lance Cpl. Kwan Walker faces the cold during a conditioning hike as part of exercise Ullr Shield at Fort McCoy, Wisconsin, Jan. 13, 2018. The training aims to improve Marine capabilities in extreme cold weather environments. Walker is a networking administrator assigned to Marine Wing Communication Squadron 28. (U.S. Marine Corps photo by Lance Cpl. Cody Rowe)

U.S. Airmen hold up a 100-yard-long flag during a practice for the 2017 Las Vegas Bowl at Sam Boyd Stadium in Whitney, Nevada, Dec. 16, 2017. More than 150 Nevada-based Airmen volunteered to hold the flag during the national anthem before the game. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Kevin Tanenbaum)

U.S. Marine Corps Gunnery Sgt. Johnmondo Rotellini lifts weights during a fitness competition aboard the aircraft carrier USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71) in the Persian Gulf, Dec. 15, 2017. (U.S. Navy photo by Petty Officer 3rd Class Spencer Roberts)

DEFENSE MEDIA ACTIVITY
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE