To the Families and Supporters of the Gunfighters: As I write to you today from the city of Ramadi, Iraq, the Gunfighters are still in the fight. The month of March has been a tough month for the company but we few, we happy few, we Band of Brothers continue to drive on. We Stand Alone… Together. We are strong in our resolve and despite the tough combat environment we persevere through every mission and every task to do our job. Every week the Gunfighters are out in the eastern city of Ramadi, called the Mala’ab, conducting mounted and dismounted patrols with fierce tenacity. The task is still tough, the job is hard, and the hours are long. But I have the distinct privilege of serving with a group of men who understand the importance of this job and they understand the importance of being there for each other when they are needed.

“Let every nation know, whether it wishes us well or ill, that we shall pay any price, bear any burden, meet any hardship, support any friend, oppose any foe, to assure the survival and success of liberty.”
John F. Kennedy
During combat operations in Ramadi on March 1st, an IED struck one of our armored humvees. The driver of the vehicle, Private Garry Duckett and the gunner of the truck, Private First Class Maxwell Ramsey were injured by shrapnel. PVT Duckett received shrapnel to his left elbow and PFC Ramsey had a significant injury to his left leg which would later result in its amputation above the knee. Despite his injuries, PFC Ramsey stayed optimistic and positive through his painful ordeal with PVT Duckett alongside of him all the way back to Germany. We are proud to have served with these men and we pray for their quick recovery. PVT Duckett has now returned to Fort Campbell and will undergo treatment to his arm and PFC Ramsey and his wife Ayako are at Walter Reed Medical Center where Maxwell will undergo months of treatment on his amputated leg and learn to walk again with his prosthetic limb. We are certain that we will see Maxwell recover and end up running a marathon later in his life.

Again, on March 13th, the company was once again struck by an IED injuring SSG Alexander Shaw from 1st Platoon. SSG Shaw would later lose his leg below the knee to the seriousness of his wounds. I am honored to know a leader who truly loved and lead his soldiers and he stands alone as the best squad leader in this company and his smile and laughter will be missed. Our prayers go out to him and his wife Sonya as they have many months to recover from his wounds.

During the same operation, SSG James Irby and PFC Reed received gunshot wounds to their legs and shoulder. Despite his wounds, PFC Jensen Reed declined medical attention so that he could continue to fight insurgents and protect the members of his squad. Though these soldiers have been taken away from us on the battlefield, they continue to be with us in spirit and in mind. We are thinking of you all and wish you could still be here to share in our successes.
Unfortunately, the Gunfighters have had to take care of 17 of our fellow comrades on the battlefield who have fallen with injuries. I am so proud of our three medics in this company and even though they are in HHC, we welcome them as brothers in the Gunfighters. I would like to give a special thanks and a great job to our combat medics who helped to save lives and minimize the injuries to some of our soldiers: Docs Collins (1st PLT), Harmon (2nd PLT), and Bernay (3rd PLT). In addition to these medics, a majority of the company got trained as Combat Lifesavers prior to leaving Fort Campbell and several of the soldiers in this company have had to utilize those skills in combat. This month, we recognized SGT Lloyd of 2nd Platoon for his immediate response and timely care to ISG Edwards with the Army Commendation Medal. Great job Gunfighters, we are all proud of you.

This month we must also say goodbye to two of our hardest workers in the company. Staff Sergeant Jeremy Davis, the mortar section sergeant from our Headquarters section, was promoted to Sergeant First Class and he will be moving up to assist the battalion staff section before taking the Battalion Mortar Section. SFC Davis stands as one of the smartest and most loyal NCO’s I have had the privilege to serve with and his wry sense of humor and diligent work ethic will be missed. I haven’t had to worry about too much knowing that he was there. In addition to SFC Davis, we say goodbye to 1LT Jason Adler, the Company Executive Officer, who is moving up to become the Battalion S1 Officer. LT Adler has been my right hand man through the successes and failures of my command and I can’t thank him enough for being there to keep me sane and to ensure that I don’t burn the world to the ground. Both of these men have been as close as brothers and I can’t begin to thank them for the job they did taking care of the men in this company. Even though I commanded, these two men ran the company. No matter where they go, they will always be apart of the Gunfighter spirit.

1SG KLUTTS’ CORNER: To the families of the Gunfighters back home, Thank You! Thank you for being strong, patient, and steadfast in your commitment to your loved ones. The past couple of days have been rough on everyone. I ask that you pray for the families that have suffered a loss and pray for a speedy recovery for the injured Soldiers, knowing that we will have our day… The Soldiers mentioned here this month have been making our daily living here on Camp Corregidor Cleaner, Safer, and, Healthier. Thanks for the hard work and dedication to a better tomorrow.

Soldier of the Month: PFC Daniel Smith. Daniel has been doing everything from driving a front end loader to turning wrenches at the maintenance shop. First off Daniel worked day and night filling hesco barriers with the front end loader and back hoe which was instrumental in building up our defenses here on Camp Corregidor. Now we can sleep a bit better knowing an RPG round will not bust through the perimeter wall and do any damage. For the past couple of weeks Daniel has been at the maintenance bay repairing our HMMWV’s ensuring we have the safest and most reliable set of wheels to roll in.

NCO of the Month: SGT Steven Lloyd. Steve can just about fix, repair, or build anything you need. We can all take showers now because Steve put it all together for us. He did all the plumbing and electrical work to make that thing run like a champ. Over at the Chicken Coup he has been installing air conditioning units and building an extra room so the boys can spread out and not be all over each other. If it wasn’t for Steve there would be AC units outside on the ground, still not hooked up, and us on the inside sweating our asses off wishing we could take a shower on a regular basis... God bless all the Soldiers and families of Charlie Company.

1SG Charles Klutts
Gunfighter 7
With the departure of LT Adler, we welcome 1LT Scott Jones as the new Company Executive Officer. LT Jones brings a level of knowledge and expertise to the company that will fully be exploited. He comes to us from being the Scout/Sniper Platoon Leader in HHC and his job as the logistical and supply officer in this company is a very tough job especially in an environment like Ramadi, Iraq and I know that he will excel at every task. Welcome to the Gunfighter Family to Scott, his wife Kathy and their 3 children Brooke 13, Matt 6, and Amanda 1.

For everyone who intently reads my newsletters and responds with the boxes of goodies and wish list items every month, the soldiers say thank you. However, we have been completely overwhelmed with baby wipes and junk food. As much as we love to get the little things from back home, we really miss the home cooked meals and the dinners at the local restaurant. Knowing that his wish is far from attainable, we would just like to ask that you also send us snacks that do NOT require us to spend two hours in the gym every day. Canned fruit, snack bars, and with the summer soon approaching the drink mixes for our water bottles will be critical to a good guard shift. There are still soldiers who would like a few sheets for their bed as we are finally getting to the point were every soldier has a pillow to sleep on. March also presented the month of Girl Scout cookies and to all of the supporters of the cases and boxes of Girl Scout cookies, THANK YOU.

So as the weather begins to creep past the upper 80’s we are all very aware of the coming months when the heat will reach up to 120 degrees. Luckily, the armored humvee’s we drive around on patrol all have a minimum air conditioning system. For the most part, the rainy season is over and though we don’t miss the mud any more, we have to deal with the weightless dust that blinds us while we drive and consumes everything as it blows past us. The summer months will bring sand storms so maybe the rain isn’t that bad of a thought after all. We were paid another visit by the mobile PX that brought some items for us to buy but within three days they were gone again. We will have another 30 days before we see the mini shoppette arrive again.

I have received the praises from parents and spouses alike about February’s newsletter and the number of photos of the men. So, keeping in the spirit of success with another newsletter, I will continue with this trend. Thank you all for your support to this company. I can’t begin to tell you how important it is for us to hear of your pride and your support every chance. This environment can be tough on the soul and knowing that there are so many prayers for us reassures us of our safety. Be proud of these men for the work that they are accomplishing. They work in the harshest of conditions despite other Army units being in built up Forward Operating Base’s and not seeing as much hostile action as this Battalion has seen.

I would like to end this month’s newsletter with a personal tribute to SGT Cory Dan (D Company) and SSG Marco Silva (Headquarters Company) who died in the line of duty coming to the assistance of Gunfighter elements that were in a fierce and hellacious fire fight with insurgent forces. These men will be missed and the Gunfighters send one final salute to these two warriors that sacrificed their lives to aid the men of this company. May they finally rest in peace.

CAPTAIN JOSEPH R. CLABURN
“GUNFIGHTER 6”
HQ PLATOON
1ST PLATOON