

COMMUNITY CORNER

Sexual assault has no place in Army or at Fort Riley, commander says

By Col. William Clark
GARRISON COMMANDER

Secretary of Defense Leon E. Panetta recently announced two new sexual assault policies and four initiatives designed to aid victims and strengthen prosecution of military sexual assault cases. Panetta has made decreasing sexual assault cases a priority in his administration, and so have we at Fort Riley.

It is the duty of every person on and off of Fort Riley to help prevent sexual assault at all times. The Army's sexual assault prevention campaign—

I AM Strong
—encourages everyone to

intervene, act and motivate others to put a stop to sexual assault. The campaign encourages Soldiers to uphold the following:

Intervene—When I recognize a threat to my fellow Soldiers, I will have the personal courage to intervene and prevent sexual assault. I am a warrior and a member of a team. I will intervene.



Col. Clark

Act—You are my brother, my sister, my fellow Soldier. It is my duty to stand up for you, no matter the time or place. I will take action. I will do what's right. I will prevent sexual assault. I will act.

Motivate—We are American Soldiers, motivated to engage and keep our fellow Soldiers safe. It is our mission to prevent sexual assault. As Soldiers, we are all motivated to take action.

While it is our goal to eliminate sexual assault all together, there are resources available if it happens. Victims have two options to report

sexual assault—restricted and unrestricted reporting. A sexual assault coordinator can walk you through the benefits of each option. Both options, however, do allow victims the support they need to take control of their situation and start healing.

Information needed to report an assault crime often includes:

- Date, time and location of incident
- Name of individual making report and relationship to incident or victim
- Victim's name and location

- Victim's injuries and medical needs
- Who, if anyone, is there to assist the victim

• Identity, description and location of alleged perpetrator

To report a sexual assault, you can reach a sexual assault response coordinator at 785-239-2991, 785-239-6086 or call the 24-hour victim advocate line at 785-307-1373.

As Soldiers in the U.S. Army, it is our duty to stand beside each other and never leave a fallen comrade. It is our duty to intervene when we see a threat to a member of the Army Family. It is our

responsibility to act to prevent sexual assault, and it is our job to motivate those around us to uphold the Army values. To find out more about how you can help prevent sexual assault, visit www.preventsexualassault.army.mil.

To read more about the new DoD sexual assault prevention policies and initiatives, see page 7 of this week's post newspaper.

If you would like to comment on this article, or suggest a topic to be covered in the Community Corner, e-mail rile.pat.newspaper@conus.army.mil.

Military spouse to launch CD guiding couples to stronger marriage

SPECIAL TO THE POST

HERNDON, Va. — Jacy Eckhart, award-winning speaker and military life columnist, is launching her new CD on military relationships Feb. 1. In the two-disc CD, "I Married a Spartan: The Care and Feeding of Your Military Marriage," Eckhart advises couples on how to strengthen their relationships in the post-war period. Eckhart calls the five strengthening tools, "Spartan skills."

Eckhart's concept of a "Spartan" Family does not aim to bring back ancient Spartan customs such as brides with shaved heads.

"When we talk about a Spartan Family today, we refer to the people who are creating a kind

of Family culture able to support and sustain their warrior," Eckhart said. "So often during the war, military Families were portrayed as besieged and struggling. That happens in every Family from time to time, military or not. To me, the riveting story is how these Spartan Families are able to harness their resources and overcome the demands of military life."

The demands of military life are expected to continue. The release of "I Married a Spartan" follows the announcement of a \$480-billion cut in defense spending. The spending cuts are expected to result in an increased reliance on a smaller force, maintaining a frequent schedule of deployment. The Department of Defense also an-

nounced Dec. 13 that military divorce rates are the highest they have been since 1999.

"Marrying a military member means that your life is bound to have features that are both confounding and compelling at the same time," Eckhart said. "The secret is that you can set yourself up for success by developing a particular set of tools that work for military couples."

Eckhart's previous CD, "These Boots: A Spouse's Guide To Stepping Up and Standing Tall During Deployment," focused on survival tips for military spouses while their spouses were on deployment. "These Boots" explained how military spouses could help children cope with deployment, use resources effectively and build a

supportive community, she said. The CD won an award from the League of American Communications Professionals LLC in 2006. Military OneSource continues to distribute the CD. Anyone interested in learning more about "I Married a

Spartan" can contact contracting agent Terry Grady. She can be reached by email at terry@jaceyeckhart.com or by phone at 540-207-5266.

ABOUT ECKHART

Eckhart is a nationally syn-

dicated military columnist. Her book, "The Homefront Club: The Hardheaded Woman's Guide to Raising a Military Family," has led to speaking engagements around the world. Eckhart is the author of the CD, "These Boots."

Captain America's, 'First Avenger' now at exchanges worldwide

AAFES PUBLIC AFFAIRS

DALLAS — In 1941, Joe Simon and Jack Kirby created a symbol of the American spirit which instilled both patriotism and pride in the military and American citizens. He fought alongside troops in the trenches, and they called him Captain America.

Marvel Comics — through their Marvel Customs Solutions division — and the Army and Air Force Exchange Service are teaming up once again to publish an all-new, 22-page

story starring Captain America: The First Avenger.

The 12th installment of the free comic book, written by William Harms, drawn by Michael Avon Oeming and colored by Nick Filardi, is currently available at Exchange stores worldwide.

"Everyone at Marvel Entertainment is so appreciative of all that the military does to ensure our freedom. It was an honor to work with the top talents that brought this thrilling Captain America adventure to life in the mighty Marvel man-

ner," said Marvel Editor Bill Rosemann.

The book, which features a cover by Butch Guice and Bettie Breitweiser, tells the tale of a young recruit struggling through boot camp and how he beats the odds with a little help from Captain America.

"In this issue, we see Cap dig deep to persevere against great odds," said Rosemann. "That story in turn inspires a Soldier to push past boundaries he thought he couldn't overcome and achieve success."



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love story?

Send a photo of you and your significant other, where
and when you met, and a few sentences about your
love story to:
fightingfirstdivision@gmail.com

Submit your stories and photos by Jan. 27 for a
chance to be featured in the Valentine's Day edition
of the 1st Infantry Division Post.

For more information, visit the 1st Infantry Division
Facebook or contact Mollie Miller at 239-6821.