



Commanders Corner: **CPT Ryan Kramer**

December was another great month for the 600th Transportation Company. Our reputation of putting the most well equipped vehicles on the road trickled all the way to the top of the battalion, and our maintenance section was tasked with upgrading the 142d CSSB Battalion Commander and Sergeant Major's guntrucks with extra lights, ventilation, sirens, police bars and wiring. Next up is upgrading the Brigade Commanders Personal Security Team's vehicles.

To date, the Soldiers of the 600th TC have executed 78 missions and over 185,000 miles throughout Southern Iraq. In addition to the fantastic performance of our soldiers on the road, many of our troops have been challenged by some different missions. 3 soldiers, SGT Aaron Rowe, SSG Marcus Schmidt, and PFC Patrick Williams, were tasked with developing an ASV Certification Course for the units of the 142d CSSB. To date, they have conducted 8 courses, training 48 Soldiers to operate the M1117 ASV. Recently, the 600th was fielded with a new thermal imaging system called the Driver Vision Enhancer. SGT Joseph Busing and SPC Andrew Rowley were asked to create a training course for the battalion that trained 16 soldiers on the use of the system.

Currently the unit leadership is continuing to write and rewrite end of tour awards, which will have proved to be a big task over the past 30 days. The unit continues to be very proactive with training, conducting another M9/M4 Small Arms Qualification in January, as well as an M2 Qualification. Unit CLS Recertification is in full swing, as many of our soldiers are nearing 1 year since their last class. Additionally, the 600th will continue the ASV Operators Certification through the month of January.

With the outstanding performance of the Gun Crews and support personnel of the 600th TC, I am sure the unit will continue to set the example in the Battalion. The majority of the Soldiers in the 600th were able to enjoy a day off and a great meal on Christmas Day, as the leadership of the 142d CSSB worked with their units to keep its soldiers off the road. The company did have a small get together and formation on Christmas morning to promote 9 Soldiers and hand out some awards. After the formation the company 1SG, CO, and XO handed out wrapped presents, donated by Grace/Mayer Insurance Agency in Omaha, to all the Soldiers.

Thanks again for all the support, I hope you all had a joyous Christmas Season and a Happy New Year.