‘The Long Road Home’ tells a unit’s powerful story

A Soldier with ‘Task Force Lancer’ maintains security in the Sadr City area of Baghdad, Iraq in April 2004. The story of the April 4, 2004, battle and the Soldiers who fought their way through Sadr City is the subject of the National Geographic miniseries, “The Long Road Home,” filmed in and around Fort Hood, Texas. (Courtesy photo U.S. Army)

By Heather Graham-Ashley,
Fort Hood Public Affairs

FORT HOOD, Texas – Thirteen years later, the Soldiers of Task Force Lancer and the events of April 4, 2004, in Sadr City, Iraq, remain a legacy. National Geographic will soon share those events with the world through an eight-part mini-series, “The Long Road Home,” currently being filmed here.

“The Long Road Home,” based on the book of the same name by ABC News Chief Global Affairs Correspondent Martha Raddatz, recounts the story of a platoon of 1st “Ironhorse” Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division Soldiers who were ambushed during a routine escort mission and patrol through Sadr City and the emboldened attempts to rescue the pinned down men.


Raddatz returned to Fort Hood April 3-5 to visit the sets and meet with the Soldiers whose story she shared with the world.

She said the people involved and the political climate of the world made the story compelling. When the 1st Cav. Div. deployed in 2004, the world was so focused on policy and how the war should be run, that the fact that we were already at war was lost, Raddatz said.

The Soldiers of Task Force Lancer left Fort Hood for what was then-considered a peacekeeping mission, only to find themselves ambushed and outnumbered in the Baghdad slum of Sadr City, mere days into their arrival in Iraq.

The Chief, Army Reserve and commanding general, U.S. Army Reserve Command, recently visited Wake Forest University to speak to cadets and students.

The Army recently formed Security Force Assistance Brigade’s whose core mission is conducting security cooperation activities to combatant commander’s.

Soldiers of 3rd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, were recently visited by the Sergeant Major of the Army in Adazi, Latvia.

The 226th Military Police Detachment (Military Working Dog), was recently awarded the Eagle Award as the best working dog detachment in FORSCOM.

The “Demon Brigade”, 1st Combat Aviation Brigade, 1st Infantry Division, recently returned from an eight month deployment to Afghanistan.

Platoon live fire in Latvia

7th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment - Soldiers from C Company, 1st Battalion, 68th Armor Regiment, 3rd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, fire a M1A2 Abrams tank on a range in Adazi Military Base, Latvia, April 14, 2017. (U.S. Army photo by Sgt. Shiloh Capers)
TOP SHOTS
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Left A 308th Brigade Support Battalion, 17th Field Artillery Brigade Soldier provides suppressive fire during a platoon training evaluation at Yakima Training Center, Wash., April 8, 2017. (U.S. Army photo by Sgt. Jacob Kohrs)

Right Pfc. Samuel Siefken, a mortarman with C Troop, 6th Squadron, 8th Cavalry Regiment, 2nd Infantry Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division, provides security during a situational training exercise, April 6, 2017, on Fort Stewart, Ga. (U.S. Army photo by Sgt. Robert Harris)

Above A CH-47 Chinook helicopter from the 16th Combat Aviation Brigade, 7th Infantry Division, in support of Operation’s Freedom Sentinel and Resolute Support, flies near Jalalabad, Afghanistan, April 5, 2017. (U.S. Army photo by Capt. Brian Harris)

Left Pfc. Ryan Pope, an armor crewman with B Company, 3rd Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment, 3rd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division, mans the M249 Squad Automatic Weapon during joint training exercise Eagle Resolve, April 2, 2017, on Camp Buehring, Kuwait. (U.S. Army photo by Staff Sgt. Leah R. Kilpatrick)

Above A UH-72 Lakota Helicopter passes by an Opposing Force vehicle during a rotation at the National Training Center, April 9, 2017, on Fort Irwin, Calif. (U.S. Army photo by Pvt. Austin Anyzeski)

Above A 308th Brigade Support Battalion, 17th Field Artillery Brigade Soldier provides suppressive fire during a platoon training evaluation at Yakima Training Center, Wash., April 8, 2017. (U.S. Army photo by Sgt. Jacob Kohrs)

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