



## Family going away party for Curtis celebrates his first deployment, in South Korea

On August 13 a large group of friends and family met at the Hartman home to see off Curtis on his first military assignment. In order to find out more about his future assignment RFNL interviewed Curtis and Susan, and the results are recorded, as follows.

Curtis Hartman interview by RFNL

Participants – Grandpa, Curtis, Susan, Birdy

Saturday, August 13, 2005

RFNL - *When and why did you become interested in a career as a Military Intelligence Agent?*

Well, I suppose that it was when I was looking at the different armed services I was speaking to about different possible careers that might



work for me based on what things I had enjoyed in school and what my interests were. He, (the recruiter) mentioned that he had seen my score on the ASDAT (I don't remember what it stands for ) but it is a general aptitude test that all armed services administer to potential candidates, and out of a 99 composite score I scored a 98. He really was happy with that and suggested MI to me. He showed me the different possible careers in MI. Three of the most common of these are 96 BRAVO, which is the counterintelligence analysis, 97 BRAVO, which is the counterintelligence agent, and 97 ECHO, which is the human intelligence collector or the interrogator (they changed the name recently). When I looked at the three options I really settled between the 96 and 97 BRAVO, which is the intelligence analyst and the counterintelligence agent. I selected the counterintelligence agent because it sounded like something a little more active, more interesting to me. It sounded like something that would be interesting to do for the short term, and it had a lot of career potential in terms of if I wanted to pursue it in something like the FBI or CIA later on.

RFNL – *What can you tell us about your basic training experience at*

*Fort Leonard Wood?*

Principally, it was cold – very cold. I thought initially that going to basic training in the winter would be a good idea because it wouldn't be hot. Having grown up in San Diego I didn't really realize how cold it actually could be. You know, snow fall was really neat the first time, but it got old really fast. They have changed basic training a lot over the years, and it is not as physically demanding as I would have thought it would be. I imagined it would be almost insane, and it was tough, certainly, but they definitely sort of build it up so that you know if you start off at a low level they work you up to prevent injuries. They have incorporated a lot of things that they had learned in Iraq. We did a lot of convey operations and checkpoint operations, which are good training for what is going on overseas in Iraq right now, and that part was very interesting. So, it was a lot of fun in some ways, and really the hardest part about it, I would have to say, was being away from the family and from Sue. That was definitely the hardest part.

RFNL – *What activity does the army have at Fort Huachuca?*

At Fort Huachuca there are two principal activities. They are (1) The Center for U.S. Army Intelligence and (2) The School for U.S. Army Intelligence. I didn't get to see much of the center for intelligence. The school itself, which is based in the center, is a lot of fun. It was a good school. You basically wake up in the morning, do PT and breakfast and then go off the class from about eight a.m. to about five p.m., breaking for lunch. You learn a lot at a lot of power point presentations. Unfortunately, they do get kind of old, but they really try to put together a good school. You do a lot of work with role players. You do interviews and interrogations - that was really cool and a lot of really interesting stuff. There was lots of homework that was not much fun. We did get issued a lap top which I got to play with a lot, so that was pretty cool.

RFNL – *We understand that your first assignment will be in South Korea. What can you tell us about your activity there?*

In South Korea I will be stationed at Camp Carroll in Weagwean, and what I will be doing is at what is called a field office. It will be me and another agent and a guy who is called a special agent in charge. He is a Staff Sergeant. The other agent will be a junior enlisted like me. I don't know much about him, but there will be the three of us. The attire will be business to business casual except on Thursdays, when we wear the camouflage BTU's. That's when we have sergeants time, which is like training. We do map reading, general stuff like that. What we will be

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doing there is called SEDA investigations. SEDA is an acronym that stands for "Subversion and Espionage Directed against the Army." Basically, that will amount to people walking in, interviewing them, and then doing follow up investigations on anything from security violations, like people leaving out classified documents or not properly handling classified material, to foreign intelligence service agents trying to collect information on U.S. Army activities, our training events, or the operation of the station area. It will run the full gamut and a lot of stuff in between. It should be pretty interesting. I've spoken by e-mail to the special agent in charge. He is my career sponsor. He says they will be running something like 2-3 side investigations every two weeks, which is quite a few. The normal pace for a field office located in the States would be like 2-3 cases a year, and I'll be running 2-3 cases every two weeks. It should be pretty hectic, but a lot of fun.

*RFNL – How long do you expect to be in South Korea, and what might your next assignment be?*

My deployment in South Korea lasts one year, that's the term of the deployment. Following that you sit down with basically a career counselor and they show you what slots are available for people that do your job. You essentially pick where you want to go next, out of the availabilities. The place I am most interested in transferring to is with the 902 MI Group, which is based at Fort Meade. They have offices in every post in the USA. So, if I could be stationed with the 902 group that would be pretty cool. Also, getting stationed back at the Fort Huachuca, either working in the school at the center of MI would be pretty cool. Probably my third choice would be at Fort Gordon, which is in Georgia, outside Savanna. They have two units, one is strategic so it's a lot of high level intelligence collection. The other unit sends tactical teams out for a six months deployment in Iraq and Serbia, and then they come back. It sounds like a pretty cool place to be. Those are the three places I most likely see myself in.

*RFNL – How long is your current enlistment, and as of now do you plan to reenlist?*

The enlistment I signed up for is five years, so my termination service date is January 11, 2010, and whether I plan to reenlist or not is an option, - I don't know. I've been in the training army; I haven't been in the real army yet. I don't really know how much I will like it, so I'm going to wait and see where it takes me at the end of five years. If I think I've had enough I'm ready to get off the ride, and that's fine. If I decide "no" I want to do more, then that option certainly is open to me. At this point I don't know.

*RFNL – (For Susan), – How long have you known Curtis and how and where did you first meet?*

I have known Curtis now, technically, since my sophomore year in high school, which was 1999 – 2000, about five years, maybe a little longer than that. We first met outside of a play that I had just finished. He showed up with our friend Greg and my sister and friend Crystal, and they were like – "this is Curtis" and I said "OK, Hi" but I never really hung out with him or talked to him or anything until probably my senior year in high school. Then we hung out with my sister and Greg again, and had like a fifteen minute conversation. Then we were all over at Greg's home one evening watching movies and then we kinda - all right, we like each

other, lets do this – it was all very unorthodox – it just happened.

*RFNL (For Susan) – Where will you be living while Curtis is in South Korea, and what activities have you planned?*

I will be staying at my school. I will be at the University of Redlands, at Redlands, California. We actually went up there yesterday, and I have an apartment now, right off the campus. I have a twelve months lease, so I will be living there from September to probably April or May – the end of the school year – and then I'll be going back and forth from Redlands to San Diego over the summer, and then back to school in the fall, September. When he gets back I probably will be at school again. It works out well, since he will be gone during the school year. (*What will you be studying?*) I am studying vocal music, and I will be studying math and physics as well.

*RFNL – (for Curtis) – Thus far is your army experience about what you expected it to be? Do you have any regrets so far?*

I really didn't know what to expect going in. I knew it would be hard, and I knew there would be a lot of time away from home. I would say that in a lot of ways it exceeded what I expected. There are certain things about it that are very frustrating, but that's just the army, the bureaucracy. Things like that can be incredibly frustrating, but a lot of it can be a lot of fun. A lot of the training can be fun, so that was interesting. Regrets – You know, some mornings when you are getting up at three a.m. to go on a rough march you think "Why did I do this, why did I join.?" I don't know if that ever goes away, you know, when you are away from home and feeling kinda lonely. Overall, I would say I don't regret joining, I think it was a good decision. I think it was something I needed to do.

Thanks, Curtis and Susan, for your time and thoughts. On behalf of the whole family we wish both of you the very best for the coming years. We hope you both will keep us informed on what you are doing, so we can include it in future RFNL issues.



During the party we were pleased to meet and talk with Susan's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Robert and Kathy Dalton, shown here with Curtis, Susan, and her sister Jenney. See next page for more going away party pictures.



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## Bob and Listy closing deal on manufactured home for Julian lot

As we reported some time ago, Bob and Listy have acquired a building lot in Julian, and plan on building a vacation house. After some research they have selected a manufactured house which will be built at a factory and trucked to the site in three sections. It will be assembled on site. Recently, we visited the factory show room, and saw a model home similar to the one they have selected. As you can see from the following pictures, it is very nice. As of now, they are arranging the financing, and hope to close the deal soon.



## Dinner with Bud, Margaret, Megan and Michael

Recently we were invited to have dinner with the Mehan family. There was no special occasion other than a rare chance to see both Michael and Megan on a home visit from busy schedules in graduate school. As we previously have reported, Michael is at USC and Megan is at UC Berkley. Both are doing well, and looking forward to PhDs in a few years. All of the remodeling work at home now is complete, and as you can see from the photos, it looks great. Also, Margaret and Bud have acquired two new pets, a pair of fully grown cats. They actually wanted only one, but the two came as a team, so they came together. The white and tan one is quite outgoing and well adjusted, but the other one is timid and not yet adjusted to the new surroundings. Hopefully, some TLC will take care of that problem. See next page for more pictures.





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## Surf and Turf at Old Del Mar

We enjoyed two racing days in the 2005 season, one with Carol and Jeff, and one with Bud and Margaret. With Carol and Jeff we lunched at the Fish House restaurant, and proceeded to the track for the entire program. Bud and Margaret were delayed, so we lunched alone, and they joined us half way through the program. We were lucky both times, with some good wins and mild profits for all but Bud. He had some good and profitably picks./ We enjoyed both days, and were sorry that we did not make more racing days. We got some pics with Carol and Jeff, but did not have the camera for the second visit.



No, Carol did not win a new car at the races, but she doe get the one shown below a few months ago, and it took us to the race track and back with ease. This is the first chance we have had to show it off, and it really is nice, and looking better and better as gasoline prices continue to rise.



When Grandma was in the hospital, recovering from back surgery, she received some special TLC from the nurse in the Recovery Room, and Francie sent her a thank-you note plus a small gift. After Grandma's release from the hospital we went back to see her and give her another small gift. She replied with the following note.

Dearest Francie & Family -  
This is a long overdue thank you for all the wonderful gift cards and words of appreciation from you all. I was very cozzinated and up to date on new movies as a result of your kindness & it was - however - not necessary because the best gift of all was seeing Mr and Mrs. Riel walk through the recovery room doors - together - smiling.  
I hope this note finds you all in  
**Crystal** good health.  
God Bless  
Crystal Rubin (PACU RN)

### Some travel news

**Bud** made a brief business trip to Philadelphia, recently. **Carol and Jeff** spent a week in Paris, on vacation. We understand they had a great time, and we hope to get a full report and pics for the next RFNL. **Ed and Jan** spent a long Labor Day week-end camping at the beach near Carlsbad. We understand they also had a great time, and we hope to get a report and pics from them too.