

Providing the 'good life'  
Tent City mayor keeps living standards high  
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At the outskirts of Camp Walker is a small city of tents located in a motor pool that is home for hundreds of soldiers participating in the annual joint services combined exercise Reception, Staging, Onward Movement and Integration.

This city has a mayor and staff, just like any other city, who are there to see to the daily needs of its citizens.

The mayor of tent city is Staff Sgt. Daniel K. Crowell, a motor sergeant with Headquarters and Headquarters Company, Eighth United States Army.

It is Crowell's job to maintain the living conditions of the participants during their stay. He makes sure that everyone participating in the exercise has a cot to sleep on, a warm shower and a place to wind-down with entertainment and refreshments after a long day.

"These soldiers have gone through a lot just to get here. They have endured long flights and lay-overs coming from the United States and when they arrive, they are very tired," he said.

This can become a problem for him and his staff, but he understands and tries to see to everyone's needs.

"I thought the job was going to be pretty easy, but it isn't. I'll walk around the area and ask everyone I see if there are any problems that need to be fixed and schedule the repairs as best as I can," he said.

The camp has not reached its maximum capacity. Presently there are approximately 150 occupants and more are expected to arrive throughout the week.

Crowell said that he is ready to deal with any problems that may arise as the population of his city grows. He said his only satisfaction is the knowledge that he and his staff are able to help make the stay of his guests a little more comfortable.

"It's not easy trying to take care of everybody, but when you do, it's worth it," he said.