

# Humphreys Garrison opens only overseas Army Traffic Safety Training Facility

By Lori Yerdon  
USAG-Humphreys Public Affairs

**HUMPHREYS GARRISON** — The doors to Humphreys' Army Traffic Safety Training Facility opened here Monday making Humphreys the only overseas Army installation to have such a facility.

"What this (facility and Army Traffic Safety Training program) is going to do is augment driver's training programs that unit commanders currently have in place," said Randy Turnage, U.S. Army Garrison Humphreys safety manager.

The facility cost approximately \$500,000 and took almost three years to build. It is equipped with one motorcycle simulator and 25 driving station simulators, affording Soldiers with little or no experience driving, an opportunity to learn and hone their skills before getting behind the wheel of a car or on a motorcycle.

The driving stations allow students to practice driving a standard or automatic transmission vehicle and each simulator has three monitors that flash various traffic scenarios for the students to negotiate; various weather conditions such as fog, snow or rain may become factors for drivers as well.

The motorcycle simulator has a sports bike chassis and, like the driving stations, riders learn to operate a motorcycle under numerous weather and traffic driven



Pvt. Rand Burd, 4-58th Airfield Operations Battalion practices his skills at a driving station at the new USAG-Humphreys Army Traffic Safety Facility as Lt. Col. Joel Kain, commander 4-58th AOB looks on. The USAG-Humphreys facility opened Monday and is the only one of its kind at an Army installation overseas. The training facility features 25 driving station simulators and one motorcycle simulator. Download this and other high resolution photos at [www.flickr.com/photos/usaghumphreys/](http://www.flickr.com/photos/usaghumphreys/) — U.S. Army photo by Lori Yerdon

scenarios. A unique aspect of this simulator is its full-motion capability that gives riders a realistic riding experience.

During the opening ceremony several volunteers test-drove the simulators and were amazed.

After driving the motorcycle simulator, 20 year veteran rider Master Sgt. William Harris, 527th Military Intelligence Battalion, said the experience was different.

"I really had to go back to the basics on how to ride in order to keep upright,"

he said. "The simulator is good, especially for inexperienced riders so they can learn the basics."

The simulators are not just for beginner drivers – skilled motorcyclists and motorists can use the facility to brush up on their driving skills.

With the opening of the facility, students will complete a one hour training session on the motorcycle simulator before attending the Motorcycle Safety Foundation Basic Riders' Course. Using the simulator will help students learn the fundamentals of riding before hitting the highway.

The Motorcycle Safety Foundation rider's course is a requirement for all Soldiers wishing to ride their motorcycles on or off military installations.

"We (Humphreys Garrison) have been accident free in privately owned vehicles, non tactical vehicles, Army tactical vehicles and motorcycles over the last three years here at Humphreys," Turnage said. "Hopefully with the addition of this facility coupled with active safety programs, we'll be able to continue to provide a safe future for Humphreys' community members. We want to put this new traffic safety training facility to good use – give us a call," said Turnage.

For more information on motorcycle riding requirements or on class schedules at Humphreys' Army Traffic Safety Training Facility, contact the garrison safety office at 754-6000, 6001, or 6002.