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## V CORPS MEDIC GOES THE EXTRA MILE LOOKING OUT FOR ATTENDEES AT D-DAY ANNIVERSARY

By Sgt. Rosalyn Peterkin

30<sup>th</sup> Medical Brigade Public Affairs Office

**NORMANDY AMERICAN CEMETERY, COLLEVILLE-SUR-MER, France** — At 2 a.m.

June 6, while others were sound asleep or anticipating events later in the day honoring the 60th anniversary of the D-Day invasion here, Staff Sgt. Scott Adkins was making certain he would be ready to provide the best medical support possible to the guests at the Bi-National ceremony here.

With more than 6,000 attendees expected, Adkins, an emergency medical technician from the 212th Mobile Army Surgical Hospital, would have a busy day. The 212th, a V Corps unit headquartered at the Miesau (Germany) Army Depot that falls under the corps' 30th Medical Brigade, provided primary medical support for the ceremonies.



**SGT ROSALYN PETERKIN**

*Staff Sgt. Scott Adkins, emergency medical technician for V Corps' 212th Mobile Army Surgical Hospital, rests for a moment after helping visitors at the D-Day 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary Bi-National ceremony at Normandy American Cemetery, France June 6.*

Adkins began his morning assisting other medics in the unit by hauling equipment, medical supplies and bottled water, and mapping out the best locations to place emergency vehicles around the cemetery. He then set up a first aid station in a convenient location to serve the veterans and visitors at the cemetery.

"By 5:30 a.m., I had opened up sick call to care for the troops. My job is to make sure that everyone is taken care of -- the Soldiers- and our guests -- and I love doing (my job) even if it means getting started at 'oh-dark-30,'" he said.

Adkins then made sure the 212th's static display tent -- chronicling the mission of the Army's last MASH unit -- was ready for beach tourists, and the hospital was ready to receive any incoming patients.

His long list of duties for the day included roving the beach on foot to check for anyone in need of a medic and providing water, seating and a comfortable resting place for those who had been standing too long or become overheated.

Adkins checked on several hundred attendees, brought water to veterans' children and family members, and applied sunscreen to those who needed it. He administered treatment to more than 70 patients during the day.

Hours after the ceremony ended, Adkins said he was "exhausted, hot, and thirsty." He placed his head in his hand and added, "But, if necessary, I would do this all over again.

"I'll do anything to help someone -- that one thing I do may be what was needed to save their life. It doesn't matter if it's a Soldier, veteran, other servicemember. I've made helping people my goal.

"After my mission is accomplished, then I'll rest," he said.

