



Fall 2019

MPRA

The Dragoon



2019 Military Police Competitive Challenge

MPRA
The Dragoon

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Mission

Promote the history and preserve the traditions of the Military Police Corps Regiment while supporting Military Police Leadership, Soldiers and Families Army wide.

Vision

The premier Military Police professional organization which is fully aligned with the Army and Military Police Corps current and future visions and recognized as relevant by Military Police Leaders, Soldiers and Families throughout the Regiment.

Values

Serve Military Police Leaders, Soldiers, and Families with dignity, respect, responsibility and stewardship of our resources with integrity, transparency and accountability.

A NOTE FROM THE

BUSINESS MANAGER

The MPRA Dragoon features information from the MPRA Community, news from the Home of the Regiment at Fort Leonard Wood, historical accounts, and stories from all components (Active Duty, National Guard and Reserve), as well as Retired Military Police from around the world. The overall goal of the Dragoon is to be current on the HOOAH events taking place within our ranks and, in turn, be a direct reflection of the Regiment as a whole. We encourage articles and photographs by and about Soldiers of all ranks, Military Spouses and Families, DA Civilians, and other Friends of the Regiment. Articles and photograph submissions should be Military Police-related and may include human interest, military operations and exercises, history, personal viewpoints and other areas of general interest. All articles accepted for publication are subject to editing. We welcome your ideas and suggestions for future publications and we look forward to hearing from you!



Respectfully,

Beth Bellerby

MPRABeth@gmail.com

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SUBMIT NEWS & PHOTOS

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From the
Executive Director

On behalf of our members, families and friends I would like to welcome you to this edition of the Dragoon. This year's anniversary week activities are passed, but they were very impressive. The week started off with the Memorial Tribute. Our Gold Star families are always in our minds but even more so on this special day. Some of the week's other events included a Bass Tournament, Golf Tournament, Trap Shoot, Hall of Fame Induction and the Regimental Run. The week culminated with the Anniversary Ball and the presentation of the Gold Marechausee award to CSM (Retired) Mark Farley. The 78th Anniversary celebrations made for a truly an amazing week.

It has been an exciting few months as I had the opportunity to visit the 192 MP BN in Niantic, Connecticut and spent a few days with a remarkable group of professionals. I was able to see an MP graduation, tour the facilities, attend a Marechausee awards ceremony and connect with a group of civilian law enforcement officials from across the state at a job fair. Ms. Beth Bellerby then went on the road for a few days visiting Fort Riley and was able to attend many events and was even made an honorary NCO! Fort Riley's Flint Hills Chapter of the MPRA was recognized as the chapter of the year for 2019. The purpose of these visits is simple, to tell everyone our Mission, Vision and Values and further the MPRA's organizational goals.

We are looking forward to a great 2020 with many things already planned. The Board of Directors recently approved to place our fourth statue in Memorial Grove. This statue will be that of a Military Working Dog. The tremendous work has already begun on what will be a great addition to an already impressive place. The unveiling of this statue will be in September 2020. We will keep our members updated as we progress.

We would like you to help promote some upcoming events. These include the opening of our annual scholarship window in January,



➔ **Rick Harne**

First Sergeant (Retired)
MPRA Executive Director

the awarding of the first ever OPMG/ MPRA scholarship and our annual giving campaign. Please stay connected with us on our social media for details of these and other great opportunities.

I would be remiss if I didn't thank our Board of Directors, ALL who are volunteers who give their time and effort to make this the premier organization. A special thanks to the hardest working staff anywhere. Mrs. Corina O'Barr and our Gift Shop staff and Ms. Beth Bellerby work tirelessly to ensure we stay on course. Their professionalism, foresight and passion for Military Police Soldiers, families and friends is unmatched.

In closing, I want to say, "We need you." We need you to tell our story, visit our website and social media, be an active member in your area and communicate with us on what we can do better.

Happy Holidays!

From the Commandant

Team — I want to take my time in this edition of the Dragoon to do what so many other Commandants of the past have done and personally thank the entire Military Police Regimental Association (MPRA). Arguably, it is during the full time of the year that our MPRA and all of its relentless pursuit of excellence is on full display at the home of the Regiment and that was no exception this year. The success of another great Anniversary and Regimental Week, the combined USAMPS and OPMG Senior Leader Forum and the annual Military Police Industry EXPO was in no small part due to the sponsoring, support and enabling efforts of your professional organization.

The MPRA continues to evolve as an association with creative and innovative ideas to support the men and women of our Regiment and their families. The MPRA approved the newest award to the Marechausee program, the Steel Award. This award was specifically designed for Military Police Soldiers with less than 10 years of service, past and present. The first three awards were presented in front of the leadership from across the Regiment at the first ever combined Senior Leader Forum co-hosted by PMG and the USAMPS Commandant in August of this year. Since those first three awards, 11 Steel Awards have been presented across the Regiment. The Steel closes a gap to identify and recognize a degree of professionalism, high standards of integrity and morality and excellence across our Regiment and compliments the already strong Regimental Awards program which includes the Order of the Vivandieres, Friend of the Regiment, and



➔ BG Brian R. Bisacre
50th Commandant
and Chief of the Military Police
Corps Regiment

Bronze, Silver and Gold levels of the Order of the Marechausee.

With sponsorship from the Office of the Provost Marshal General, the MPRA approved the addition of a new scholarship program, the Military Police Corps Excellence in Education MPRA Scholarship. This scholarship will award a monetary scholarship to a Military Police Non-Commissioned Officer who best exemplifies the Army's vision and influences others in shaping future leaders within the MP Corps. This new scholarship compliments the existing scholarship program for family members of current MPRA members to off-set the cost of college education. Over the past year, the Association has awarded over \$276,000 in scholarship funds.

Additionally, the MPRA sponsored and completed the first ever Regimental History Book, dedicated significant funds to replace worn sections of the brick walkway at our Memorial Grove and provided over \$162,000 to Military Police Soldiers and family members through the MPRA Benevolent Fund program. The MPRA also has approved a Military Working Dog Statue for placement in our Memorial Grove to honor MP MWDs that have been killed in action over our history. The statue will be completed and dedicated prior to Regimental Week 2020.

What is great about our association and what I truly believes separates the MPRA from other associations is they, for years, have stuck to executing their core mission to promote the history and preserve the traditions of the Military Police Corps while supporting and enabling Military Police Soldiers, Families and Leaders World Wide. They keep it pretty simple; if it helps Leaders, Soldiers, and family members of the Regiment, is consistent with our history and core values and enables the Regiment to be the best it can possibly be, they execute.

On behalf of the entire Regiment, I pass along my thanks to our Executive Director, 1SG (R) Ricky Harne, the current MPRA President, CSM (R) Dorsey Newcomb, the National Board of Directors, Senior Advisory Council and all the Local Chapters around the world – Thank you! Giddy up! Assist, Protect, Defend! Brigadier General Brian R. Bisacre

GIDDY UP MY FRIEND!



From the Regimental Command Sergeant Major

Greetings from Fort Leonard Wood. It's really hard to believe that Regimental week was almost two months ago. Having been a part of the activities during previous assignments to the 14th MP BDE I had an idea of just how crazy things were at different levels but nothing compared to what I experienced as the Command Sergeant Major. I want to thank everyone who traveled to Fort Leonard Wood to be a part of the activities and a special thanks to all the reunion groups who traveled from all over the world to spend time at the Home of the Regiment. The reunion groups were an extremely rewarding time for me to not only hear the stories of their service but to share with them what the newest generation of Soldier is going through to earn the title of Soldier. In addition, I need to thank all to Officers, Noncommissioned Officers, Soldiers, and DA Civilians who worked tirelessly behind the scenes to ensure that each event during the 78th Anniversary went off as planned. During the weeks following the event we heard numerous positive comments on how professional and expertly represented each of the events were from leaders outside of the Military Police Corps. Just so that we can start early I really look forward to next year's Trap Shoot competition, just because it's cold out doesn't mean you can't practice.

It's hard to believe that we are closing on another year and the installations is quickly preparing to send thousands of young men and women home for Holiday Block Leave here at Fort Leonard Wood. It feels like Regimental week was just last week, time sure if flying by. Things are changing so quickly, at times it is hard to keep up. One thing that is changing for



➔ CSM Michael P. Bennett

Military Police School Command
Sergeant Major

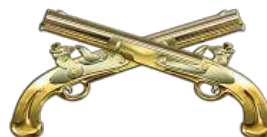
all the right reasons is that "People" are the number one priority for the Chief of Staff of the Army and the Sergeant Major of the Army is driving "This is my Squad" approach to how all leaders should be caring for their formations.

The assignment process for Officers and Warrant Officers is changing to give the Soldier more of vote in the process and that system is likely to transfer over to the enlisted side in the near future at the Senior grades. This is one of the many examples of where the Senior Army leaders are listening to the formations

on things that they desire while they serve our nation. Another example is that Human Resource Command is looking to give Staff Sergeants the same interaction in the assignment process as Captains. Though still the most sought after pay grade in the Army the Staff Sergeants are mandated to have an active role in their assignment process with a talent manager. This is defined as either a telephone call that involves the NCO and the Talent Manager from HRC or a multiple response email between the NCO and HRC. Failure to respond to calls or emails will require HRC to action your next assignment on needs of the Army. I recommend not waiting and being a part of that process. In addition, NCOs should ensure that they are familiar with DA PAM 600-25 so that they are continuous developing their portfolio so that they are competitive for the next rank.

Every single day that I walk out my door, I am humbled and excited when meeting the members of this amazing Regiment. From the windy Ft Riley to overcast JBLM and everywhere else that Military Police Soldiers are serving I am proud to be a part of such a great organization. Keep up the good work and from Team Bennett we are all so proud of each and every one of you!

ASSIST, PROTECT, DEFEND



From the Regimental Chief Warrant Officer

Cheryl and I were truly excited to have been selected to serve at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri and I am humbled and honored to assume duties as the 6th Regimental Chief Warrant Officer of the United States Army Military Police School. I absolutely look forward to serving with the extraordinary Leaders, Soldiers and Civilians of the Maneuver Support Center of Excellence. Since our arrival, both Cheryl and I have had the honor and pleasure of attending numerous Rite of Passage and Graduations for Officer, Warrant Officer and MP One Station Unit Training. These ceremonies are proof of the professionalism exhibited by all the men and women of the Military Police Corps Regiment. We also joined in numerous events of Regimental Week



➔ **CW5 Mark W. Arnold**
Regimental Chief Warrant Officer

celebrating the 78th Anniversary of our Regiment...the Military Police Ball was amazing! Cheryl and I are humbled and feel very blessed to be a part of this awesome team. I am honored to serve in this great Regiment and will echo the words of our Commandant in saying, "Our Regiment is strong because of our people – the dedicated men and women across all our formations, posts, camps and stations – it is you who we thank, along with your families for your commitment, dedication and service to our nation and our Corps". Lastly, I want to offer our personal thanks to CW5 Joel Fitz for ensuring we enjoyed a smooth transition to the Home of the Regiment.

**PRESERVE THE FORCE
ASSIST, PROTECT, DEFEND**

Letter to the Editor

CSM Roland Gaddy – Afterthoughts

I read disturbing and sorrowful news in the Summer 2019 edition of *The Dragoon*, beautifully written by Todd Mitchell as he described the untimely passing of one of the Regiment's best senior NCO's I had ever been associated with, CSM Roland Gaddy.

When I was assigned to USAMPS as the Director, Organization, Evaluation and Standardization or DOES in 1987, I knew that one of my duties was to visit military police units around CONUS, to gauge their esprit, standards, mission readiness and overall effectiveness. In this endeavor, I asked CSM Gaddy if he would accompany me and he didn't hesitate to give me the answer I was looking for, YES SIR! BG David Stem was the Commandant and readily approved that the team of Daxe and Gaddy would go on the road together.

I can't remember all the units we visited but I know they included Ft. Hood, Ft. Bragg, Ft. Carson, West Point, Panama, Ft. Knox and quite a few others. I visited the post HQ to discuss the role and performance of the MPs. However, this was only a small part of the "evaluation" process. The critical component was to speak with and visit the non-commissioned officers and enlisted soldiers and gauge their opinions, their training, and their understanding of their mission to protect and serve. CSM Gaddy was turned loose and told to stir the pot and assure the troops that he wasn't there to "inspect" them but to see if the training at USAMPS was sufficient. He kept a spiral notebook during these visits and after a long day, we got together, compared notes and prepared for the next visit elsewhere.

To say that I was impressed with his knowledge, his demeanor, his troop understanding and his wartime experiences would be an understatement. CSM Gaddy was the ultimate Soldier-Statesman (today troops would call him the real deal!) and brought an incalculable esprit-de-corps and military presence to these visits and enabled me to really assess whether the officers and non-commissioned officers were doing their job. Over these few years together, we became a wonderful team and I regarded him as the ultimate and gifted Soldier and a friend for life. May he rest in peace and I offer my prayers to his devoted family.

*Arnold Daxe, Jr.
Col, USA Ret*

*Keeping the Army
Regiment Strong*

MILITARY POLICE REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION

BENEVOLENT FUND



The **Military Police Regimental Association Benevolent Fund** is dedicated to provide financial relief to members and retirees of the Military Police Corps Regiment and Soldiers or civilians working in support of the Military Police Corps Regiment in times of need. The Benevolent Fund is one of the many ways that MPRA supports Soldiers around the globe every day.

**FOR INFORMATION, QUESTIONS ON HOW TO REQUEST RELIEF
OR TO DONATE TO THE FUND, PLEASE CALL 573-329-6772
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TESTIMONIAL by PFC Oberlander

PFC Oberlander assigned to the 194th Military Police Company as gunner fell on some hard times when his newborn son was admitted into the NICU forcing the Oberlander family to stay in Nashville, TN for an extended period of time instead of commuting daily for over an hour one way. This allowed PFC Oberlander and his spouse to be there daily for the continuous care of their child.

His platoon, company, and battalion leadership all being a part of the Military

Police Regimental Association know that they could possibly get some assistance for this Soldier and his family. Through the swift action and flexibility of his leadership, they were able to reach out to the Military Police Regimental Association and present the Oberlander family a check to help offset the cost of his expenses for their stay and meals.

The Oberlanders are extremely appreciative of the MPRA for this unexpected donation of the benevolent fund. Through teamwork and true stewardship of the MPRA this family was able to focus on the need of their little one, "Thank you to the men and women of the MPRA who assisted my family and I in a tough place."



CPT Goner and ISG Mattingly presenting PFC Oberlander the check to support his family.

CMF 31 – ALL TOGETHER IN

BY CAPTAIN MELIA BROCIOS

Joint Task Force Parwan (JTF Parwan) conducted Operation CUJO II, in support of the Afghan National Army (ANA) Military Police Guard Command (MPGC) near Bagram, Afghanistan. This operation enabled Afghan partners in searching life support areas for contraband. These areas are housed within the National Security Justice Center (NSJC) surrounding the Afghan National Detention Facility and Prison- Parwan (ANDFP-P). The life support areas of the NSJC are home to approximately 4,500 ANA Soldiers that constitute the guard force for the ANDFP-P as well as the ANA Soldiers that supplement coalition forces with security of the Bagram Ground Defense Area (BGDA).

A truly unique part of this operation was the team's Military Police composition. The team had a moment of reflection after the operation's first day and realized that throughout Joint Task Force Parwan members and the addition of the Military Working Dog (MWD) teams, the entire Military Police Corps skill sets were represented all in one place— with one task at hand.

Five Military Police Military Occupational Specialties (MOS), all 31 series; A, B, D, E, K working alongside Polish land forces to support the ANA Military Police. There were four 31A Military Police Officers, one 31B Military Police Soldier, one 31D Criminal Investigations Command Special Agent, one 311D Criminal Investigations Command Warrant Officer, one 31E Internment /



Members of Joint Task Force Parwan, Afghan National Army's Contraband Interdiction Team, Polish Land Forces, and Military Working Dog Teams conduct joint Operation CUJO II.

Resettlement Specialist, and eight 31K Working Dog Handlers as well as fourteen Polish Soldiers. Most of these MOSs support Joint Task Force Parwan's primary mission to Train, Advise, and Assist (TAA) the MPGC leadership that operate the only Ministry of Defense (MOD) counter-terror prison. They focus on detention operations, investigations, and sustainment advisement. The advisor capabilities of the Joint Task Force Parwan encompasses over 100 years of operational military experience and service to the Military Police Corps.

Operation CUJO II consisted of six teams comprised of Polish Land Forces, JTF Parwan members, linguists, and Military Working Dog teams. The operation was on rotational shifts to ensure Military Working Dog capabilities were not diminished. Each team



Linguist Obaid, MA2 Olsen, and MWD Bongo.

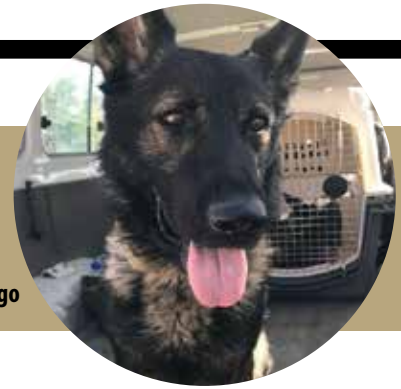
was given the opportunity to rest and cool off during Afghanistan's less than ideal July conditions of one hundred degree temperatures, high winds, and dust. The teams searched over 632 rooms, gardens, and outer perimeter areas in a span of three days with Military Working dogs eager to work.

The operation was spearheaded by Joint Task Force Parwan and the ANA MPGC Contraband Interdiction Team (CIT). ANA CIT advisory partners took the lead on room searches and ensured all religious materials were removed prior to U.S. personnel, Polish forces, or dogs entered any rooms. Polish Land Forces provided exterior security during the operation while U.S. forces utilized



SGT Fox, Polish PRV Wiesiolek, MAJ Krepel, MWD Bravo and ANA CIT member.

ONE OPERATION



MWD Bongo

their military working dog capabilities. The mission objective was to search for contraband such as cellphones, SIM cards, batteries, weapons, explosives, or any unauthorized items for ANA soldiers to possess. These searches not only seize or counter any direct threats, but also help mitigate the passing of contraband into the prison facility while simultaneously reducing the risk of green on blue threats to JTFP advisors who TAA alongside the Afghan leadership within the prison facility. The execution of this operation displayed partnership between the Afghan National Army and U.S. TAA partners while empowering the MPGC commander with tools to aid in deterring contraband and corruption within the area and the MPGC guard force.

While conducting the operation, Master Sergeant Nicholas Blevins, stated that in his 20+ years serving as a Military Police Soldier, he never had the opportunity to conduct a real world operation with all components of the MP Corps. This operation highlighted all Military Police abilities, expertise and skill sets unlike any other in the U.S. Army. The tremendous effort put forth by the Military Police Soldiers, Criminal Investigators, Corrections Specialists, Dog Handlers, and MP Officers was essential to the success of Operation CUJO II. This was also a unique experience for a USACIDC Special Agent to work as an advisor, and not just as a Criminal Investigator. "Being a member of Joint Task Force-Parwan is special in and of itself, but when given the opportunity to conduct an operation which includes all the different Military Police as well as our Afghan and Polish counterparts it is an eye opening

experience. Military Police can get so inundated with their daily mission set, it is humbling to see the hard work and cooperation across all echelons of the MP Corps. A multi-national operation which included every group of the MP Corps will be an event I will never forget", said Special Agent Eric Claire. 311D Criminal Investigations Command Warrant Officer WO2 Andrew Sherbo stated, "I've worked with each MP discipline separately; in CID we end up relying a lot on 31Bs and 31Ks in investigations and we work with 31As regarding community law enforcement efforts. Even so, I'd never seen them working all together at once - not before this operation. Now that I have, I find it odd it doesn't happen more often. There is a lot we bring from our areas of expertise that can help enhance one another's missions."

Upon the successful completion of Operation CUJO II, all members of the mission were bound together as one entity, a force that validated similar yet different

specialties, are the reason why the Military Police Corps is considered the Force of Choice. The Military Police Corps has long proven itself as a functional and disciplined branch that can be tasked with any mission and be successful. This mission demonstrated that utilizing and uniting all parts of the Corps can be more efficient and effective as a whole. Not exclusively building bridges within specific MOS but also laterally, with other 31 series confidantes. Operation CUJO II was an overall huge success and team members gained experience and knowledge, shared stories and laughter all while strengthening relationships with our sister services to include our multinational partners. JTF Parwan forged a team of professionals, leading their partners on a mission critical to the safety and security of the Afghan National Detention Facility and Prison – Parwan and Bagram Airfield in Afghanistan.



All MPs, one mission, of the troops and for the troops.

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Connecticut National Guard Military Police

Making a Difference

BY LTC SANTO PIZZO, ANTITERRORISM PROGRAM MANAGER, CONNECTICUT NATIONAL GUARD

3rd Battalion/169th Regiment, located within the Connecticut Army National Guard's Regional Training Institute (RTI), conducts Total Army Training System (TATS) Military Police Courses in support of Reserve and Active Component Soldiers re-classifying into MOS 31B and also conducts the Military Police (MP) Advanced Leaders Course for reserve component MP Sergeants. The battalion works in conjunction with the National Guard Bureau, Training and Doctrine Command, United States Army Military Police School, and the Military Police SME Cell.

Non-Commissioned Officer Professional Education has not been a part of the 169th Regiment (Regional Training Institute) since 2009, until now. Third Battalion, 169 Regiment (Military Police Training) is facilitating a pilot 31B (Military Police) Advanced Leaders Course for nearly 50 junior non-commissioned officers as part of their professional development. The two-phase, 28-day course, began March 11, 2019 at Camp Nett at Niantic and is comprised of National Guard sergeants and staff-sergeants representing twenty-five different states.

Last August, U.S Army Training and Doctrine Command temporarily authorized



31B Basic Military Police Course (BMPC) Graduation.



CSM John Sampa, Command Sergeant Major for the Army National Guard, addresses Military Police Advanced Leaders Course Class 19-301. Proud day for these Soldiers, our Regiment, the CTARNG, and the Army. Of the Troops, For the Troops!

the Regiment, specifically 3/169 Regiment, to teach 31B ALC. The overwhelming number of Soldiers requiring the next level of Military Police Soldier development started to create a backlog and permitting the National Guard to run the course is expected to greatly reduce the current queue and qualify more Soldiers to fill vital unit leadership vacancies.

The 31B ALC training includes a combination of general military and military police-specific topics. Military Police History, biometrics, criminal psychology, domestic disturbance, crisis incident response and many other topics are instructed during the focused 250-hour course. The course is conducted in small groups, with one facilitator for every 16 students. Many of the topics are student led, giving students some of their first interactive, as opposed to directed, learning experiences. The course includes a one-week field exercise

where students apply their classroom lessons and experience tactical operations from the tactical operations center, or TOC, perspective for the first time.

Rapidly preparing to teach the new course material was challenging for the unit and required a synchronized effort from many stakeholders. The unit was up to the task and quickly developed a plan to execute the course just seven months after receiving the mission.

The most important course preparation component was building a team of certified instructors. Four motivated and experienced NCOs, MSG Phillip Maldonado, SFC Gabriel Rosario, SFC Class Kevin Arrojado and SSG Patrick Passantino, spearheaded the mission. Over the next four months, they received over six-weeks of additional instructor training required to teach the course and became proponent certified in February



2019. Their certification was completed while preparing all other aspects of the course, to include scheduling, facilities requests, support staff selection and a myriad of administrative requirements.

The instructors' enthusiasm to properly set the conditions for the ALC course was reinforced by many members of the Regimental Headquarters, JFHQ-CT, National Guard Bureau, United States Army Military Police School and even other CTARNG units. Schedules were adjusted, accommodations were made, resources were provided and processes were expedited to ensure the first ALC course taught in over a decade exceeded the standard.

SGT Amber Turner, one of two Soldiers in attendance hailing from the Mississippi Army National Guard, said the course was amazing, highlighting how much she was learning. Her feedback was echoed by other students during the course and is the exact experience everyone at the 3/169th Regiment strives to deliver to every attending student. The students graduated on April 9, 2019, at a ceremony held inside Nett Hall, located on Camp Nett, Niantic, CT.

The Regiment was honored to welcome CSM John F. Sampa, the 12th Command Sergeant Major of the Army National Guard, as the keynote graduation speaker. During his visit, CSM Sampa spoke with the graduating class, observed training, and received first-hand accounts of the quality and value of training conducted within Connecticut's RTI. The 3/169th Regiment provided proof of concept and more importantly delivered a powerful and professional NCOES experience for a diverse group of future leaders.



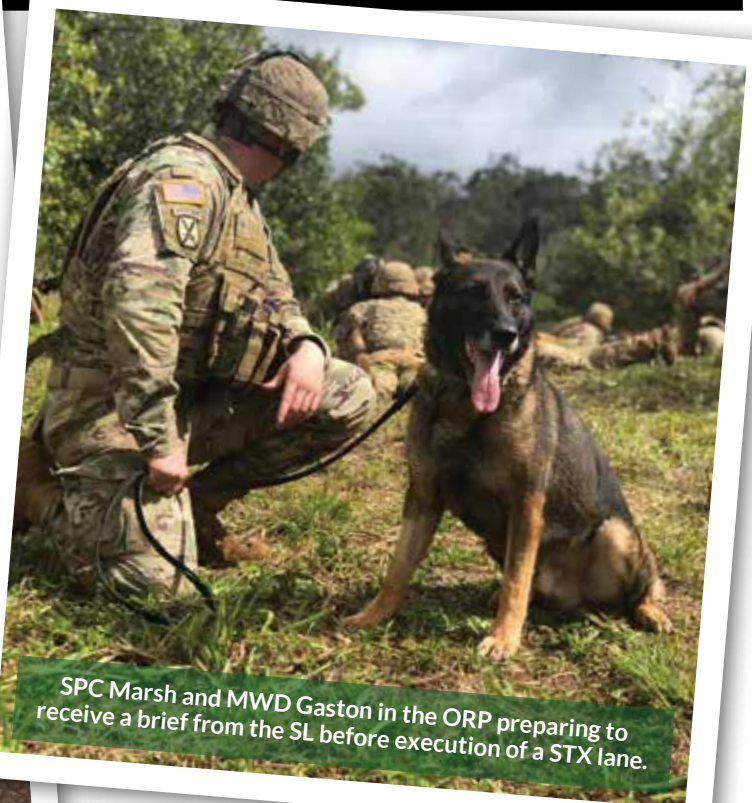
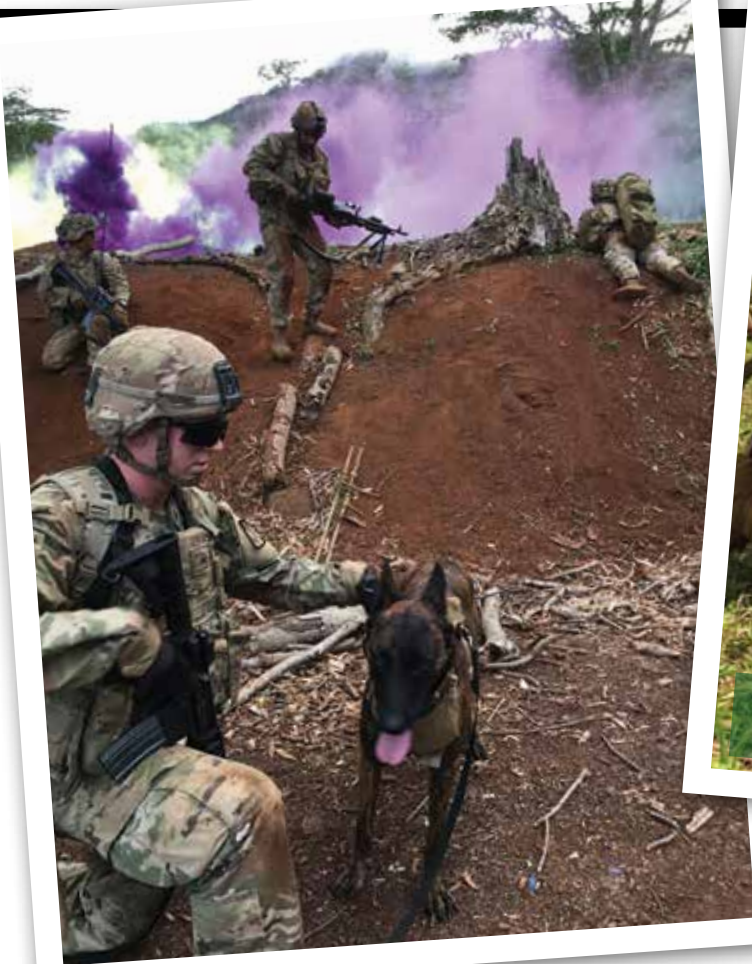
3/169th Regiment has completed two additional 31B ALC mobile training team courses, with the Missouri and Tennessee Army National Guard, graduating 146 Soldiers. The battalion started FY 20 with an MP ALC course in Connecticut and is expected to conduct three more courses throughout the year. The battalion is also preparing to conduct two 31B Basic Military Police Courses during this FY 20.

The Battalion has partnered with respective states to facilitate the course while expanding 31B ALC teaching capacity. The pilot 31B ALC course was established to operate for a minimum of three years, but the Regiment expects to retain the mission for the foreseeable future.

Of special note, MPRRA Executive Director Rick Harne was able to travel to the Regional Training Institute in Connecticut and visit with MPs that were graduating from the 31B Basic Military Police Course. He was also an integral part of the presentation of the Order of the Marechausee, in bronze, to five MP's assigned to the Connecticut Army National Guard!



Top to bottom: ALC Field Pic of First NG Driven MP ALC course 10 April 19. BPMC Platoon Picture. 3/169th Regiment (MPT) hosted 31B Advanced Leaders Course - the first NCOES course taught at Camp Nett in over 10 years and the first ever military police ALC course taught by a National Guard schoolhouse. In all, Camp Nett hosted students from 24 different states. 31B Basic Military Police Course (BMPC) Graduation and Regimental Crest Ceremony.



LESSONS LEARNED

OF MWD BCT INTEGRATION

By 1LT Megan E. Capobianco,
520th Military Police Working Dog
Detachment

In March 2019, the 520th Military Police Working Dog (MWD) Detachment, 728th Military Police Battalion, conducted integrated combined arms training with Charlie “Cobalt” Company, 1-27 Infantry Regiment, a light infantry company under the 3d Infantry Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii. MWD teams comprised of Specialized Search Dog (SSD) and Patrol Explosives and Detector Dogs (PEDD) performed as enablers for light infantry elements. The teams provided patrol and detection capabilities during situational training exercise (STX) lanes that culminated in a

squad live fire exercise (LFX). The objective was to integrate MWD teams into maneuver (MNVR) formations, similar to the units they are attached to during combat deployments. This type of training was the first ever for the 520th MWD DET, and significant because of doctrinal gaps within MWD training program, as they are primarily geared toward basic handler tasks and Department of the Army MWD certification requirements. This article will generate discussion on the overall lessons learned, gaps in MWD training caused by doctrinal and regulatory limitations, and conclude with recommendations on combat training and pre-deployment considerations across Army MWD formations.

To understand the significance of this integrated combined arms training, it helps to understand the history of the 31K program, and lack of structured guidance in both maneuver

and enabler doctrine. These limitations create gaps in the integration and employment of MWD enablers particularly at the tactical level. The MOS of MWD handler, 31K, was established just 5 years ago in 2014. Military Police (MPs) in the ranks of private through non-promotable specialist who possessed the additional skill identifier Z6 Military Working Dog Handler, were automatically transferred to 31K Military Working Dog Handler, while MPs in the ranks of promotable specialist through sergeant major with the ASI Z6 had to request reclassification into MOS 31K and was not guaranteed. This left significant gaps in senior NCOs that possessed general Army knowledge and discipline within the 31K MOS, which is not conducive for the discipline and leadership overall. To agitate the lack of leader experience in the 31K MOS even more, there is an inadequate C2

structure with an expansive span of control. These variables only further highlight the lack of NCO experience issues and adds additional stress on the parent organization headquarters element.

Army Regulation 190-12, DA PAM 190-12, and Army Technical Publication 3-39.34 are the Army's primary MWD publications that outlines the challenges in this paragraph. These directives dictate and shape all of the daily training schedules. Combine the day-to-day MWD law enforcement requirement, a limited MTOE for personnel with the infancy of the 31K occupational specialty, the robust handler training hour requirements, and regular Army operations and taskings such as CMD Maintenance and NCOES', there is limited time to focus on combat-focused integrated training. Due to the fact that K9 doctrine traditionally is not nested with large-scale ground combat operations, most 31K Soldiers are at greater risk and lack the understanding on enabling the supported element. This is further exacerbated by the fact that the MWD programs HQDA-Standardized METL tasks as a whole are limited in scope. 31K Soldiers rarely get to train on combat support with 31Bs, let alone MNVR formations, and CTC and JRCT rotations are even more infrequent than deployments. The first time a 31K Soldier is likely to be exposed to the additional variables of MNVR integration is when they are deployed for the first time. Exposure to MWDs for joint and combined formations are also uncommon and infrequent. This drastically reduces leaders' ability to anticipate for the increase in planning factors that need to be incorporated into mission plans and operational orders.

The overall concept of the operations was to conduct a deliberate attack through dismounted light infantry squads executing movement to contact while rehearsing Battle Drill 2a (React to Contact) and Battle Drill 5 (Knock out Bunker). Over the two weeks of training from 05-15 March 2019, SSG Ashabrenner from the 520th MWD DET instructed an introductory class to C Co, 1-27th IN on the MWD capabilities

and employment on the battlefield, as well as basic MWD behaviors to set conditions for the integrated LFX. Patrol Explosive Detector Dog (PEDD) teams SPC Marsh with MWD Gaston and PV2 Sheriff with MWD Ddagmar each augmented a rifle squad and were fully integrated into their SQD MNVR. The MWDs team's actions on the OBJ consisted of explosive sweeps of bunkers, search and securing of high value targets, and weapons caches as the squad established defensive positions and prepared for enemy counterattacks. Overall, this historic training was the first of its kind for the 520th MWD Detachment, and well received by all parties. C Co., 1-27th IN Soldiers thoroughly enjoyed the MWDs presence and Leaders

first time the MWDs were exposed to MG fire, as crew served weapons are not organically authorized for a detachment, providing another major opportunity for handlers to see in real time the limitations their MWDs displayed, including limited physical stamina. A limitation identified during the first week of training was that MWDs could not maintain movement with IN SQDs, however stamina issues noticeably improved from first week to second week. This is the type of feedback handlers cannot replicate in their own individual training plans, however in the future, leaders can integrate the kennels into the 728th MP BN's annual LFX rotation to the Pohakuloa Training Area (PTA). Lastly, this training provided invaluable feedback on the training assessment of participat-

ing MWD teams to the USARPAC Program Manager. This sharing of information has the potential to improve certification rates, highlight their value to MNVR commanders, and sharpen the MWD capabilities across the force.

In conclusion, increasing the frequency of these joint and integrated training exercises with maneuver units is critical to filling the breaks in understanding on integrating MWD enablers in joint/combined arms environments. It also exposes the need for this form of combined training among the 31B MOS and operational units.

Integrated training facilitates force modernization and prevents the regiment from becoming obsolete, where neither Military Police Leaders know how to support BCTs, nor do maneuver commanders understand how to properly utilize us to preserve their combat power. Units must be multifaceted and conduct multi-domain operations to win future wars. In only two weeks, MWD integrated training with rifle squads revealed the possibility of covering gaps in K9 tactical doctrine through the utilization of mobile training teams (MTTs) and non-standard training opportunities, and will continue to build upon the relationships formed for future training plans.



PFC Sheriff and MWD Ddagmar advance with "Cobolt" Teams to secure the OBJ during SQD maneuver.

learned the benefits of MWD patrols for combat operations first hand and requested more integrated training in the future. The unit learned four important lessons. First, integrated combined arms training provided a notable opportunity for the unit to close the tactical deployment training gaps. Secondly, the integration of MWD enablers into Infantry SQDs did not disrupt C Company's LFX and squad evaluations. Offering an easy and feasible means to increase exposure to MWD teams from the MNVR side as well as increase tactical training in the unit's deployment training plans. Third, the handlers were able to increase familiarity and understanding of their MWDs' behaviors in a high-stress, tactical environment; it was the

MP UNITS EARN BEST IN FORSCOM HONOR

BY SCOTT PRATER

Fort Carson's 759th Military Police Battalion has good cause to celebrate this month as two of its units earned top level excellence awards.

U.S. Army Forces Command (FORSCOM) recently announced that the 110th Military Police Company and the 759th MP Bn. Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment both earned the coveted FORSCOM Eagle Award for fiscal 2019.

The award signifies a unit as the best military police unit in all of FORSCOM. The 110th MP Company, 759th MP Bn., 89th MP Brigade, commanded by Capt. Alexis Marione, earned the Eagle Award as best company and the 759th Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, commanded by Capt. John Horner, took home the Eagle Award as best detachment.

"Winning the FORSCOM Eagle Award is an outstanding symbol of the hard work and dedication by the amazing Soldiers across the Lone Sentinel Battalion," said Lt. Col. Ryan C. Cagle, commander, 759th MP Bn. "Competing in competitions such as the Eagle Award helps to make us a better organization and is a great opportunity to represent the Griffin Brigade, Mountain Post and 'Ivy' Division."

To be considered for the honor, military police units develop packages detailing their experiences and accomplishments throughout the year, then submit those packages to FORSCOM for review.

A board of officers and sergeants major then comb through packages and form a consensus about the best units. They then compare the best and determine a winner. There is no award for second place.

"It really boils down to taking ownership of your achievements and your failures," Horner said. "Being able to find a positive in those things and then being able to inspire our formations. If Capt. Marione and myself can't inspire the formations, the Soldiers are not going to be motivated (to) go out and accomplish the things they're being recognized for."

Besides rating units in a variety of categories, including readiness and deployability, military police focus, innovation, training and community activities, board members consider units' excellence and accomplishments throughout the year.

"They really want to see how a unit is proactive as opposed to reactive, in a policing sense," Marione said. "That's us going out and forming and bettering our community relationships."

110th MP Company Soldiers, for instance, visited child development centers on post, where they invited children to inspect police cruisers and learn their capabilities. They also developed a toy drive



for the Colorado Springs Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA), an organization that supports local children.

"The toy drive was not led by command teams," Marione said. "The 110th Soldiers took it upon themselves to organize and execute the event. They collected the toys during our holiday festivities and took them down to CASA themselves."

During fiscal 2019, the combat support company rotated through the National Training Center at Fort Irwin, California, performing its law enforcement road mission and worked the entry gates at Fort Carson, all while experiencing 60 percent turnover.

"The turnover we experienced provided a fresh perspective, but I think the willingness of our junior leaders to take initiative and make this unit the best it can be is what really set us apart," Marione said.

Both units now move on to compete at the Department of the Army level, with the winners earning the Maj. Gen. Harry Hill Bandholtz Award.

"It is great to see the units being recognized for the FORSCOM Eagle Award: The Soldiers train hard and protect the best hometown in the Army each day," said Command Sgt. Maj. Matthew Thompson, senior enlisted leader, 759th MP Bn. "They are an example of the great Soldiers and leaders we have throughout Fort Carson and 4th Inf. Div."



The 110th Soldiers took it upon themselves to organize and execute the event. They collected the toys during our holiday festivities and took them down to CASA themselves.





Soldiers of the 6th Military Police Detachment train on responding to an emergency situation. Training and Doctrine Command recently named the unit its best MP detachment for fiscal year 2019. (Photo Credit: Army photo)

TRADOC names 6th MP Det. best in command for fiscal year 2019

By Jim Hughes, Fort Rucker Public Affairs

Fort Rucker's 6th Military Police Detachment is the best military police detachment in the U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command for fiscal year 2019.

TRADOC announced the unit as the winner of the Brig. Gen. David H. Stem Award Oct. 15, and Capt. Robert Berchild, detachment commander, said it's something all of the unit's Soldiers can take great pride in.

"I told the Soldiers this morning that this is not my award and it's not the first sergeant's award — it's their award," he said. "They're the ones, day in and day out, working the long hours, working all over southern Alabama — whether at the stagefields or pulling patrols — doing the daily things that I just had the chance to highlight to TRADOC. My gratitude for what they do every day is huge, and this just really highlights how lucky I am as a commander to have such a great set of Soldiers."

Lt. Col. Juan-Carlos Segura, commander of the 1st Battalion, 13th Aviation Regiment that oversees the 6th MP Det., said the command made the right call.

"The battalion is extremely proud of the 6th MP Detachment's accomplishment in winning the award," he said. "These Soldiers have completely embraced the unique challenges that come with being the largest MP detachment in TRADOC and continue to set the standard in professionalism that Fort Rucker expects of their first responders.

"Their ability to execute a diverse mission set in providing critical site security, fire protection services, military working dog support and law enforcement at five airfields, five stagefields and hundreds of square miles

of patrol area is deserving of this recognition," Segura added.

While the Soldiers deservedly bask in the success of being the best in TRADOC, Berchild said there's no time for the unit to rest on its laurels.

"We can't be complacent," he said. "We won the award, but there is always room for us to improve and things we can get better at. We can still enjoy winning the award and the recognition that comes with it, but we also need to stay grounded and keep focused on getting better at what we do every day — this award is further motivation to do just that."

The 6th MP Det. will now compete at the Army level, Berchild said, adding that, as far as he's aware, this is the first time the unit has won the award.

The captain said he is confident in the unit's ability to compete on the "big Army" stage, thanks to the professionalism and skills of the unit's Soldiers, the unit's "aggressive" training regimen, strong community outreach efforts and its diverse mission at Fort Rucker.

That diverse mission includes supporting the Fort Rucker Directorate of Public Safety with law enforcement, security at the post's airfields and fire protection services at its stagefields, along with 906th MP Military Working Dog Detachment support missions locally, and also worldwide for U.S. Central Command and the U.S. Secret Service, Berchild said.

Like many operations at Fort Rucker, the successful accomplishment of the 6th MP's

mission is a team effort that crosses organizational lines, with the unit's Soldiers working closely with their garrison civilian counterparts in DPS while still getting world-class support from the 1-13th Avn. Regt., the captain said.

That teamwork is a big reason for the unit's success, said Staff Sgt. Samantha Melanson, 6th MP operations NCO in charge who put the majority of the award package together.

"A line has always stuck out to me in the NCO Creed: 'I will be loyal to those with whom I serve; seniors, peers, and subordinates alike.' That really describes this unit," she said. "NCOs work for their Soldiers, they work together, they work to the left and to the right of them, they work for above and below them, and we work great with our battalion and with our civilian counterparts at DPS. I think working as a team is what makes this unit so great and that's ultimately why we won this award."

Lt. Col. Phillip Lenz, director of the Directorate of Public Safety and a beneficiary of the 6th MP's support, agreed with that assessment.

"The 6th MP Detachment is critical to the success of the Fort Rucker Directorate of Public Safety mission," Lenz said. "These dedicated military police, firefighters and military working dog handlers greatly enhance the overall safety and security of the installation and the entire community. Being recognized as the best MP company in TRADOC is an incredible accomplishment, and demonstrates the excellence that this entire team brings to the mission each and every day — we couldn't accomplish the mission without them!"

FORT STEWART MPS EARN COVETED EIC BADGE

STORY & PHOTO BY SPC. JASON GREAVES

Soldiers with the 549th Military Police Company, 385th Military Police Battalion, conducted an Excellence in Competition match on Fort Stewart, Oct. 3.

The Army's EiC provides individuals a chance to win a marksmanship competition that is more than just a typical qualification. The competition also affords Soldiers a chance to better familiarize themselves with their primary weapons.

"This is the first time the EiC has been brought to Fort Stewart," said 2nd Lt. Alexa Hernandez, a platoon leader with the 549th MP Co., who served as the officer-in-charge on the first day of the competition. "This competition not only highlights the Soldiers' natural abilities in weapons handling, but grants them the opportunity for enhanced weapon proficiency."

Hernandez explained that military police officers routinely train with and carry their assigned weapons, but do not often get a lot of additional time to further proficiency.

"It allows the Soldiers to re-familiarize themselves with their weapon and gives them a chance to fire their weapons in a way they don't typically; enhancing and challenging their skills," said Staff Sgt. Stephenie Fleming, a squad leader with the 549th MP Co.

According to one participant, the competition helped boost morale as well as competency.

"As MPs, we carry our M9 every day. That is our lifeline right then and there. If something goes down, we need to be a good shot," said Pfc. Iliana Ruiz, an MP with 549th MP Co. "I feel the best way to ensure that is with a competition. It's also a more fun way to get the training in."

The EiC consisted of two main days of training: an M9 pistol range consisting of four tables - three in a standing position, and one using both prone and kneeling positions;



Military police officers with the 549th MP Co., 385th MP Bn., 16th MP Bde., compete in the M9 pistol portion of an Excellence in Competition match on Fort Stewart, Oct. 3.

and an M4 carbine range with several tables with different positions and distances.

"This gives the Soldier a chance to compete for more than just what they have to," said Hernandez. "As MPs we have to qualify on our duty weapons, but do not get a chance to go out and practice shooting or do fun events like this."

Competitors in the top 10 percent were awarded with the coveted EiC badge and they were not all just military police officers.

"Right now one of the ten percent is actually our medic. He is not assigned an M9 as his duty weapon. He comes to work, but does not usually get a chance to shoot like this. Now he gets an opportunity to have fun and get promotion points," said Hernandez.



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MP CORPS CELEBRATES 78 YEARS

*By Master Sgt. Andy Yoshimura
200th Military Police Command, Public Affairs*

The air was cool and crisp on a peaceful autumn morning at the Military Police Corps' Regimental Memorial Grove Sept. 23. Service members and families sat silently, and some wept as a wreath was laid in front of the monument to pay tribute to MP Soldiers who gave the ultimate sacrifice during battle.

The Memorial Grove is a sanctuary for fallen heroes and has a walkway made of thousands of bricks honoring individuals of the MP Corps and entire units. During the tribute, Gold Star families visited their loved ones' bricks, whose names are etched in black along with a black

star signifying that the Soldiers were killed in-action. Families and friends stayed up to 45 minutes reflecting and sharing stories of the Soldiers.

Brig. Gen. Brian Bisacre, U.S. Military Police School commandant, said the Gold Star families were incredibly grateful, and that seeing them come back to the memorial grove was emotional.

"The families are thankful that we commit to ensure that their loved one is never forgotten," Bisacre said.

The wreath-laying ceremony was just the

beginning of a week-long remembrance and celebration of the MP Corps Regiment's 78th anniversary. It is one of the youngest branches in the U.S. Army, having been officially established Sept. 26, 1941.

It was founded by Maj. Gen. Harry Bandholtz, who served between World War I and World War II. He established the Military Police school and advocated for a Military Police Corps following World War I.

Approximately 20 years later, the MP Corps was born. Every year since then, Soldiers, retirees, families and friends gather here to spend the week remembering those who

Left: Brig. Gen. Brian Bisacre, Military Police School commandant, leads his troops during the Military Police Regimental Run. Approximately 2,000 service members and family members participated in the three-mile event. Photo by Master Sgt. Andy Yoshimura.

Right: Sgt. 1st Class Christopher Ollis, 701st Military Police Battalion Operations noncommissioned officer in charge, folds the flag at a retreat ceremony to close the MP Regimental Week here. Photo by Brian Hill. 2. The Gold Star family visits their son Pvt. Kenneth Nalley's brick during the U.S. Army Military Police Memorial Tribute at the Military Police Memorial Grove. Nalley was killed May 26, 2003 during Operation Iraqi Freedom. Photo by 2nd Lt. Aaron Lipp.



bravely served, as well as to celebrate those who contribute to the corps to keep the traditions alive.

"It is important to understand Regimental Week so that we never forget where it all started," Regimental Command Sgt. Maj. Michael Bennett said. "Our mission to protect the force dates all the way back to the Revolutionary War. Soldiers should take the time to understand our history as the story of the past guides us to our future."

The celebration not only brought together MP Soldiers, but Soldiers from other branches, as well. Family members, retired Soldiers and veterans participated in many activities, and some were recognized for their hard work and accomplishments. Some of the events included a regimental motorcycle ride, trap-shoot contest and the regimental golf tournament at Piney Valley Golf Course.

On day two, approximately 50 spouses experienced a day in the life of an MP Soldier as they rappelled down a 40-foot tower, performed defensive tactics and made a trip to the Criminal Investigation Command School, where they had an opportunity to learn how to dust for fingerprints and examine blood splatter at a crime scene.

Early Wednesday morning, sounds of cadences echoed across the post as approximately 2,000 Soldiers, Marines, and Airmen participated in the Regimental Run led by Bisacre. Family members of the troops also ran the three-mile route.

On Thursday, four retired Soldiers were inducted into the MP Regimental Hall of Fame. Retired Col. Wade Dennis, retired Col. Joel Leson, retired Col. Daniel Quinn and retired 1st Sgt. Ricky Harne will forever be enshrined on the walls of the U.S. Military Police Corps Regimental Museum.

"I am truly honored and humbled," Harne said.

"To be selected to such a prestigious group of men and women who have served our corps is beyond words."

Harne is also the executive director of the Military Police Regimental Association, which promotes the history and preserves the traditions of the Military Police Corps Regiment while also supporting military police leadership, Soldiers and families Army-wide.

"Realizing there are less than 100 in the Hall of Fame is what makes me realize how much of an honor it is," Harne added.

Throughout the week, Soldiers, retired and present, were recognized with a prestigious award. The Order of the Marechausee award distinguishes exceptional dedication, competence, and contribution to the Military Police Corps Regiment over an extended period.

The MPRA officially established the award in 2000. It comes in four levels of accomplishments: Gold, Silver, Bronze, and Steel.

While all the awards are hard to earn, the gold level is only awarded once a year. A total of six awards were handed out during the week.

Among the six recipients was Peter Shantz, a World War II veteran who served with the 793rd MP Battalion in the European Theater. He received the Steel Marechausee for his actions during the war. The Steel Marechausee is awarded to those with less than 10 years of service with exemplary service to the corps.

On the final day of Regimental Week, as Soldiers, spouses and veterans dressed formally in their evening attire for the Regimental Ball, the Order of the Marechausee - Gold was

announced. The gold award was presented to Mark Farley, the deputy commandant of the U.S. Army Military Police School.

"It is a tremendous honor," Farley said. "I am honored to receive it. I have been with the regiment for 42 years and I have been part of a large part of the 78 years [of the Corps]. I am honored and thankful that God has blessed me with a lifetime of service to the nation and the Army."

Soldiers gathered around the Maneuver Support Center of Excellence Plaza for a final memorial dedication - the Regimental Retreat "flowers."

"We got regimental week right," Bisacre said. "We should stay committed to get invites out to our Gold Star family members and stay committed to our veterans."

"The last thing is to honor the regiment during regimental week," he said. "Pause, take some time, and honor the past, the current and what we know about our future."

The flag was lowered for the last time during the week, symbolizing and remembering those the nation has lost on the battlefield.

Bisacre, Bennett and Regimental Chief Warrant Officer 5 Mark Arnold all placed the wreath.

STORY & PHOTOS BY SGT. AUDREY HAYES, 200TH MILITARY POLICE COMMAND

LARGEST POLICE FORCE IN DOD CHANGES LEADERSHIP →

FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, MD — After three years of commanding the largest police force in the DoD, Maj. Gen. Marion Garcia handed the reigns of the 200th Military Police Command to Maj. Gen. John F. Hussey, in a change of command ceremony Nov. 1 on Fort George G. Meade, Maryland.

The command, headquartered at Fort Meade, has approximately 14,000 Soldiers in 118 units across 33 states, making it the second largest command in the Army Reserve.

Keeping the 200th's Soldiers trained and ready to deploy globally and defeat the threats of tomorrow, in support of the Army Reserve's Ready Force X initiative, has been the a main goal for the command. While the last three years under Garcia's leadership have been aggressively packed with rigorous training, her commitment to the troops has paid off.

The command conducted brigade-level mounted gunnery before the initiation of Operation Cold Steel, the largest live-fire exercise in Army Reserve history. The command established courses for senior noncommissioned officers who needed military education in order to stay relevant and get promoted. The command's cooks won the Philip A. Connelly Award, the 94th MP Co. won the Supply Excellence Award, as well as her public affairs office winning a slew of awards, to include top honors for the entire Army in the areas of photography, journalism and storytelling. Also, Maj. James Balutowski, the operations officer for the 304th MP Battalion, won the General Douglas MacArthur Leadership Award.

Garcia said she is 100% confident that the command will continue to grow under Hussey, and that he is a devoted Soldier, knowledgeable mentor and true teammate.

"I was a battalion commander... and my unit was just put on orders to go to Iraq and run a detention facility," said Garcia. "I reached out to a mentor for advice, who told me 'Listen, if you want to know how to run a detention facility, you need to call this... Lieutenant Colonel, who'd been an incredibly successful commander of a deployed detention battalion in Iraq.'"

Garcia made the call. She drove to New Jersey with her operations officer and met with the Lieutenant Colonel after work, in his office.

"We were there for hours running down an incredible list of questions," said Garcia. "He stayed as long as we wanted. He offered insight. He offered knowledge. He offered wisdom. I credit my success in theater to that afternoon in New Jersey, where I learned from Lieutenant Colonel John Hussey."

Experience in the MP field is not something that lacks when it comes to Hussey.

He's commanded multiple detention facilities in a deployed environment, to include battalion, Task Force, Joint Task Force, as well as Combined Joint Interagency Task Force capacities. His most recent assignment was the deputy commanding general of Guantanamo Bay.

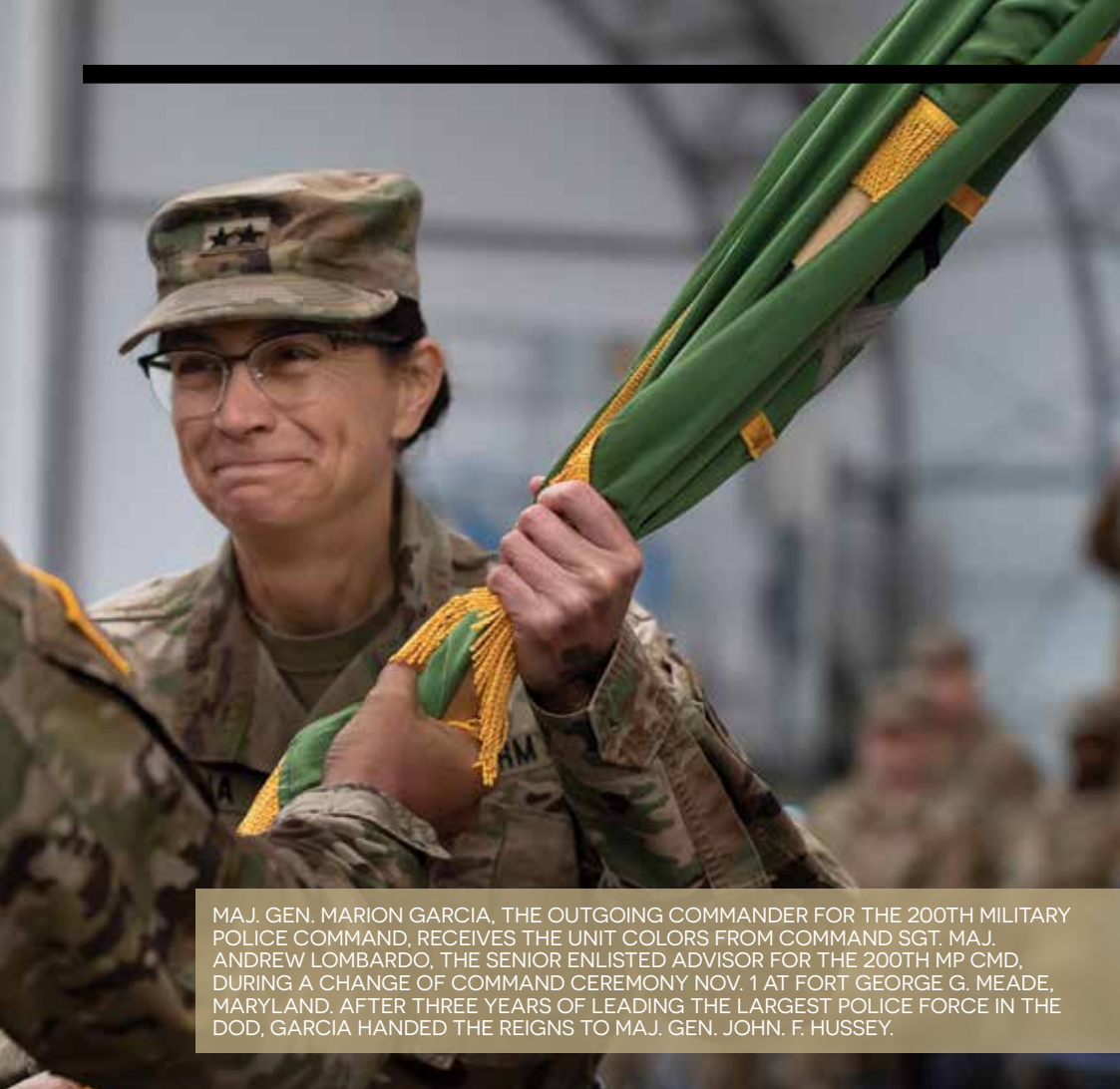
One thing you'll get from me is no messing around, said Hussey.

"Right now, I'm thinking how am I going to do this? General Garcia, you've set a very high bar, but as I look around at this command and our partnerships and mentorships, I know we can do it."



SOLDIERS ASSIGNED TO THE 200TH MILITARY POLICE COMMAND PARTICIPATE IN THE UNIT'S CHANGE OF COMMAND CEREMONY NOV. 1 AT FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, MARYLAND. AFTER THREE YEARS OF LEADING THE LARGEST POLICE FORCE IN THE DOD, MAJ. GEN. MARION GARCIA HANDED THE REIGNS TO MAJ. GEN. JOHN F. HUSSEY.

"We live in a very dangerous and volatile world," said Hussey. "We've got to be ready to work with our partners on active duty and in the National Guard and we've got to be ready to respond to our nation's call. And I know, collectively, we will. I look forward to working with all of you."



MAJ. GEN. MARION GARCIA, THE OUTGOING COMMANDER FOR THE 200TH MILITARY POLICE COMMAND, RECEIVES THE UNIT COLORS FROM COMMAND SGT. MAJ. ANDREW LOMBARDO, THE SENIOR ENLISTED ADVISOR FOR THE 200TH MP CMD, DURING A CHANGE OF COMMAND CEREMONY NOV. 1 AT FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, MARYLAND. AFTER THREE YEARS OF LEADING THE LARGEST POLICE FORCE IN THE DOD, GARCIA HANDED THE REIGNS TO MAJ. GEN. JOHN F. HUSSEY.



MAJ. GEN. JOHN F. HUSSEY, COMMANDING GENERAL, 200TH MILITARY POLICE COMMAND, PASSES THE UNIT COLORS TO COMMAND SGT. MAJ. ANDREW LOMBARDO, THE SENIOR ENLISTED ADVISOR FOR THE 200TH.



TOP TO BOTTOM: COL. KELLY JONES, COMMANDER OF THE 300TH MILITARY POLICE BRIGADE HEADQUARTERED IN INKSTER, MICHIGAN, PARTICIPATES IN THE 200TH MILITARY POLICE COMMAND'S CHANGE OF COMMAND CEREMONY NOV. 1 AT FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, MARYLAND.

MAJ. GEN. MARION GARCIA (LEFT), THE FORMER COMMANDER OF THE 200TH MILITARY POLICE COMMAND, AND MAJ. GEN. A.C. ROPER (RIGHT), THE DEPUTY COMMANDING GENERAL, U.S. ARMY RESERVE, CHAT BEFORE THE 200TH'S CHANGE OF COMMAND CEREMONY.

Patching ceremony unites WVARNG Military Police units under 111th Brigade

BY MAJ. HOLLI NELSON, WEST VIRGINIA NATIONAL GUARD

Soldiers from the West Virginia Army National Guard's 863rd, 156th and 157th Military Police took part in a patching ceremony held Oct. 20, 2019, at the Glen Jean Armory in Glen Jean, W.Va.

The Soldiers, who formerly fell under the command of the 77th Brigade Troop Command, will now unite under the 111th Engineer Brigade, 771st Troop Command Battalion commanded by Lt. Col. Jamie Bowen.

Leaders from the WVARNG including Brig. Gen. Russel Crane, Assistant Adjutant General - Army, Command Sgt. Maj. Dusty Jones, State Command Sgt. Maj., Lt. Col. Tonya McGonegal, commander of the 77th Brigade, Col. Murray Holt, commander of the 111th Engineer Brigade, and senior enlisted advisors from both the 77th and 111th Brigades took part in the patching ceremony.

McGonegal lauded the impact that the military police companies have made for the 77th Brigade during their time under that command. She specifically noted recent successful deployments to Afghanistan and the significant accomplishments these units have made during various state active duty missions for natural disaster response and recovery.

The 111th Engineer Brigade, which is headquartered in Eleanor, West Virginia, is the largest brigade in the WVARNG and has oversight of three battalions - the 1092nd Engineer Battalion, the 771st Troop Command Battalion and the 772nd Aviation Troop Command Battalion.

The 111th Engineer Brigade is known as the "Black Diamond" brigade and their patch is red and white, which are the colors traditionally used by engineer units. The tower signifies the brigade's engineer mission while the black diamond signifies military consistency to the nation, in times of war and peace, and the rich coal resources of the state. The powder horn signifies the 111th Engineer's heritage as "minutemen for freedom."

Holt, who oversees the Brigade, welcomed the military police Soldiers to the Black Diamond brigade and reminded them of the unique force structure capability that they bring to the unit.

"You all will bring the ability to enhance the domestic response capabilities of the 771st Troop Command Battalion for state active duty missions and CERFP operations," he said. "You will also help enhance the force structure capabilities of the 111th. One of the key things we are planning for the future are combined arms training. By bringing together elements of the MPs, engineers, aviation, EOD, and possibly other units, we'll be able to enhance training and interoperability as an organization."

The 156th Military Police Law and Order Detachment and the 863rd Military Police Company (Maneuver Support) previously fell under the 1st Squadron, 150th Cavalry Regiment. The 156th MP Co.'s mission is to provide technical supervision, planning,



Soldiers from the West Virginia Army National Guard's 863rd, 156th and 157th Military Police took part in a patching ceremony held Oct. 20, 2019, at the Glen Jean Armory in Glen Jean, W.Va. The Soldiers, who formerly fell under the command of the 77th Brigade Troop Command, will now unite under the 111th Engineer Brigade, 771st Troop Command Battalion. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Maj. Holli Nelson)

employment and support coordination for police operations. The mission of the 863rd MP Co. is to provide military police support to an assigned area of operation and be able to execute all of the military police functions in support of a combatant commander.

The 157th Military Police Company (Maneuver Support) previously fell under the command responsibility of the 1st Battalion, 201st Field Artillery Regiment. Their missions is similar to that of the 863rd MP Co.

The three military police units will now make up the largest contingent of the 771st Troop Command Battalion.

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MPs Join Class 70 of the United States Army Sergeants Major Academy

By MSG Scott L. Tate

Every year the United States Army Sergeants Major Academy (USASMA) welcomes a new class of students. This year is the 70th iteration of the resident Sergeants Major Course (SMC). The SMC accepts students from all branches of the military as well as our international partners. This year, Class 70 includes students from the Marine Corps, Air Force, and Coast Guard. Another welcome addition to Class 70 is the 62 international students, from over 45 countries.

Class 70 of the Sergeants Major Course has a strong presence of the Military Police (MP) Career Management Field (CMF). There are a total of 25 Military Police CMF in attendance in the resident course. There are 18 31Bs, three 31Es, three 31Ds, and one 31K. The MPs are represented well amongst the leadership of the class. MSG Prewitt, Taneisha is the Class 70 Vice President, MSG Killea, Fred is the class narrator, MSG Vincent, Jeffrey is a Group Leader, and there are five MPs and classroom leaders.

The SMC is broke down into five different groups. These groups each have approximately 145 students in each pod. Throughout the academic year, the groups will rotate and continue to build relationships. The MPs in Class 70 are finding ways to develop relationships with each other and have social events outside of the classroom. It is imperative to take initiative and put forth effort to become comfortable with the future senior leaders of the MP Corps. MSG Jesus Goytia spoke about breaking down barriers, “it is important that we break down barriers that may exist across the various MOSs in our regiment and we ensure the leaders being born today will carry this regiment through the Army of 2028 and beyond.”

The common perception of attendance at the SMC is to develop relationships and network. The MPs attending the SMC have a unique opportunity to develop lasting relationships as the future SGM/CSMs of the MP Corps. Once the students graduate the SMC they will become 31Zs. The recently instituted 31Z position means any SGM/CSM from the MP CMF can have responsibility for any



Top left to right: MSG Killea, MSG Reese, MSG Regur, MSG Goytia, MSG Royals, MSG Rutherford, MSG Anderson, MSG Kreiner, MSG Waterhouse, MSG Vincent, MSG Legault. Bottom left to right: MSG Frizzell, MSG Grimsey, MSG Reagin, MSG Watts, MSG Prewitt, MSG Woody, MSG Johnson, MSG Lowrance, MSG Tate. Not Pictured: MSG Caprio, MSG Lavalle, MSG Martinez, MSG May, and MSG Shaw. Photo by Jen Waterhouse.

organization within the MP CMF. A former 31B can be the CSM for an Internment/Resettlement Specialist organization and conversely a former 31E can be responsible for a traditional 31B organization. This is just one of the reasons why networking and developing relationships while at the academy are so important. MSG Jeff Vincent, a 31E, said, “USASMA can bring a bit of fear to anyone who first arrives, it is our peers who help us find our place and get us to the finish line.”

Learning and gaining knowledge are essential and necessary to be a graduate of the SMC. The MP CMF graduates of the SMC will become the SGMs/CSMs of the Military Police Corps. Education and knowledge are vital traits to be the senior enlisted advisor of an organization. MSG Tate spoke about his feeling when he arrived at the academy, “I am excited and humbled to be here. I look forward to learning new tactics, techniques, and procedures from my peers. It is our job to be the Subject Matter Experts (SME) of our organizations. We have to learn and grow together to achieve the ultimate goal of accomplishing the mission and taking care of Soldiers and their families.”

Over the course of the year, the 31 CMF personnel will continue to bond and share experiences. “I came to the Academy worried that I wouldn’t measure up; it’s the downfall of

having great CSMs. It’s always good to be able to link up with my peers from the MP Corps to bring it back into perspective,” said MSG Jon Waterhouse. One of those experiences is becoming certified for the new Army Combat Fitness Test (ACFT). The SMC is making a big push this year to ensure all the graduates are familiarized with the ACFT. The students will take two diagnostic ACFTs throughout the year with numerous training iterations in between.

Another opportunity for Sergeants Major Course, Class 70, will be the ability to earn a college degree from the academy. “With the academy now credentialed by CGSC, attendance has multiple rewards. Not only do you receive strategic insight on how the Joint Force operates, but you also have the opportunity to earn a Bachelor of Arts in Leadership Workforce Development” MSG Eric Woody. The Noncommissioned Officer Leadership Center of Excellence (NCOL CoE) was recently accredited and can now provide willing students with degree options.

The Military Police Soldiers in attendance at the Sergeants Major Course are taking advantage of every opportunity afforded them. They will continue to learn and grow individually, and as a cohesive group. Social interactions and problem solving as a group will build lasting relationships.

Top Dog

MPs Compete in Annual K9 Competition

BY SFC DAVID HARRISON (DES OPS NCO)

From 18-19 September 2019, the 8th Military Working Dog (MWD) Detachment hosted fellow canine professionals from northern New York and the Connecticut National Guard to exchange training ideas, experiences, and to compete in the 2nd Annual "Top Dog Competition" at Fort Drum, New York.

It was important for CPT Michael Hileman and SSG(P) Robert Citrullo, the unit's Command Team, to build upon last year's event after witnessing a highly successful inaugural competition in May of 2018. CPT Hileman spoke about the value of events like this by saying, "The intent of the Top Dog Competition [is] to build comradery with the civilian agencies that so often support us, both at the handler level and with senior law enforcement officials on and off post. Additionally, we got a view into the Active National Guard kennels and saw how competitive their MWDs are as well."

This makes opportunities to network and come together as canine professionals invaluable as the field continues to expand and develop as a response to advances in foreign and domestic terrorism. While it is serious business, it is important to still have a good time.

This is the aim of Fort Drum's annual competition. To have fun while pushing team's limits, exchanging ideas and developing further goals for the future of participating organizations. Participating in this year's competition were canine teams from Fort Drum, the 928th MWD Detachment (Connecticut National Guard), Jefferson County Sheriff's Office, and New York State Police.

The competition consisted of four events on day one, and two on the second day. Day one consisted of a timed obedience course, a timed scout event, a timed building search event and a scored session of controlled aggression. SGT Donofrio and MWD Schurkje finished in first place after day one, followed by SPC Santiago and MWD Condor in second and PFC Smith with MWD Dzony (returning competitor) in third. Judges for day one were SFC David Harrison and CPT Hileman.



Participants from the Fort Drum 2019 Top Dog Competition. Photo by 2LT William Forsyth.

For day two, the focus was detection and deciding an overall winner of the event. The first detection event was run as a scavenger hunt, with teams receiving clues such as, "I let you know when you are late.", with an assigned answer giving the teams an idea of where the odors were hidden inside of a barracks building. In this case, teams would be wise to hone in on clocks in the building, as the target odor was hidden in close proximity of the items the hints were about. Five of these clues were given with five corresponding odors planted throughout the twenty-two rooms in the barracks.

For SGT Giovanna Donofrio, this is her second year competing, but with a newly assigned MWD since the first time this event was held. In 2018, she competed and finished second overall as a member of Fort Drum's 8th MWD Detachment with MWD Dzony, with whom she was assigned at the time.

SGT Donofrio is not competing just for the accolades. For her, the biggest benefit is the opportunity to train and showcase her team's skills, "The biggest thing I can take away from this event is interacting and observing different agencies, (like) State Police and other Kennels, we can learn different training techniques and methodology pertaining to our MOS. This provides handlers with new tools to increase skills and readiness, as well as fostering inter-agency relationships."

Asked about being able to represent her guard unit in this competition, SGT Donofrio stated, "During my time as an Active Duty Handler I did not have much knowledge of the CTNG Kennels (MWD Program for the

National Guard). It wasn't till I was getting ready to ETS that I learned about the CTNG Kennels. I think it is a great thing allowing the CTNG Kennels to be involved in these events and networking with other kennels and K9 teams."

The second detection event of the day was titled, "Find That Odor", and was a speed detection lane. Five odors were placed in the search area, and whichever team found all of them the fastest, got the most points with penalties assessed for missed odors (teams were not allowed to go back to rooms once searched and departed in the 'Find That Odor' event) and false responses.

In the end, it was Fort Drum's SPC Kassin Santiago and MWD Condor who came away as the top overall team from the event. Competing in his first working dog competition, some might be surprised about SPC Santiago's victory over more seasoned handlers and teams but not the Soldier, who told me, "Coming into the event I was prepared. I came out of certification and training every single day for the event. You just can't beat that. After completing the detection events, I knew we were winning. My MWD did an outstanding job."

In the future, competitors and leaders hope to expand the competition with additional teams in attendance and more events to build upon the networking opportunities and competitive environment.

Plans are already underway for the 3rd Annual Top Dog Competition with a FY20 goal set to make the next iteration an even bigger success than the two that came before it.

TENNESSEE GRADUATES ITS FIRST MILITARY POLICE ALC CLASS

STORY BY LTC DARRIN HAAS | PHOTOS BY SGT. ROBERT MERCADO

NASHVILLE, Tenn. – Military Policemen from across the United States graduated from the Tennessee National Guard’s first ever Military Police Advanced Leaders Course on August 5. Forty-eight Soldiers from 29 different states completed an intensive four-week training program focused on advanced military police techniques and leadership.

From July 8 to August 5, the Soldiers from as far away as the state of Alaska trained with the 117th Regional Training Institute at Smyrna’s Volunteer Training Site. The students took courses covering areas like tactical patrolling, command post operations, traffic accident investigation, evidence collection, and anti-terrorism.

“The training the students conducted greatly enhanced their tactical and garrison policing skills, but the main focus was on leadership,” said Master Sgt. Danta James, the Chief Instructor for the Military Police Advanced Leaders Course. “Each student was given multiple opportunities to lead their classmates in various drills as well as participate in classes and training that prepares them for challenging roles as squad leaders and platoon sergeants.”

Many of the graduates will return to their units and lead military policemen at the company and battalion level.

“We’re very proud of all the students that graduated and the fact that they were the first graduating class from Tennessee,” said James. “This is the first time we were able to offer the course at the 117th RTI and it was wildly successful.”

Currently, there are only three locations where Military Police Soldiers can attend this course within the National Guard: Connecticut, Tennessee, and Missouri. The Army National Guard was recently authorized to host the training. Connecticut’s 169th Regional Training Institute took the lead and sponsored Mobile Training Teams in Tennessee and Missouri that run the classes.

The 117th RTI has 18 certified Military Police instructors teaching multiple courses, including the Military Police Reclassification Class which trains new Soldiers to become certified military policemen. Of those, five instructors were recently selected and certified to teach the Advance Leaders Course.

“We have some of the most experienced and best trained instructors and they were all excited for the opportunity to teach,” said James. “They are all combat veterans and hand-picked to become instructors from the more than 1,200 MPs currently serving across the state.”

During the ceremony, many of the graduates received special awards for their performance during training. Sgt. Matthew Scarlett from the New York National Guard was the Distinguished Honor Graduate and Staff Sgt. Amanda Fox from the Tennessee National Guard was the Distinguished Leadership Graduate. Sgt. Rachel Bakke-Church with the North Dakota National Guard and Sgt. Trent Marnell with the Alaska National Guard were presented the “Iron Soldier” Award for physical fitness.



Tennessee’s first Military Police Advanced Leaders Course holds a final formation and inspection before graduating at the 117th Regional Training Institute in Smyrna on August 5, 2019.



A student with Tennessee’s first Military Police Advanced Leaders Course practices evidence collection techniques during a battlefield forensics class.



A student with Tennessee’s first Military Police Advanced Leaders Course prepares his working area to take footprint molds during a battlefield forensics class.



Sgt. Matthew Scarlett from the New York National Guard is awarded a Distinguished Honor Graduate plaque from Lt. Col. Tommie Stephens and Command Sgt. Maj. Stephen Sarten.



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"FIGHTIN' DOUBLE SIX"

BY SSG MICHAEL G. SPEARMAN

The 66TH Military Police Company, 504TH Military Police Battalion, 42D Military Police Brigade located at Joint Base Lewis-McChord led by Captain Angel L. Mendoza and First Sergeant Shawn T. Bruner, has a rich and profound history within the Military Police Corps. From the front lines of War World II to fighting the War on Terrorism, the "Fightin' Double Six" has never backed down from an opportunity to protect the Families and Civilians of this grateful nation. Its latest mission is one that is unique in several aspects and unlike anything most of our formation has experienced before. The 66TH MP CO deployed CONUS in support of Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to assist in protecting the country from the illegal migration. Late October 2018 the "Fightin' Double Six" received orders to deploy to the Arizona-Mexico border within 96 hours. Without delay or hesitation, the "Fightin' Double Six" immediately began to pack containers and prepare vehicles and families this unique mission.

Equipped with three MP Platoons and a Headquarters (HQs) element, the unit established its footprint at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base (AFB), AZ. The AFB is located outside Tucson and was the center of all operations for the company. The company was assigned to provide force protection for three Army engineer companies that worked untiringly to string over 24,000 meters of concertina wire obstacles across the AZ-Mexico border wall. Each MP platoon was assigned a Port of Entry (POE) and within

only 48 hours of landing in AZ Soldiers of the 66TH MP CO quickly began providing force protection as engineers initiated to reinforce border obstacles and the POEs. For most Soldiers, this was their first time laying eyes on the US-Mexico border and it was obvious everyone's tone immediately changed. Due to the magnitude of the situation, along with seeing the wall separating the two countries, it draped a feeling of awe and reverence across the Soldiers that will never be forgotten.

1st Platoon (Avengers) led by 1st Lieutenant Gabriel C. Saade and SSG Michael G. Spearman established their platoon's footprint in Nogales, AZ. Nogales is hilly and the first image of the area the platoon had was a small group of possible cartel spotters settled on the side of a large hill. Those faded silhouettes never left that hill, perched there 24/7 watching every movement the Border Patrol made waiting for their opportunity to give the go ahead for migrants to scale the 30 foot wall and run for freedom. Nogales has two POEs, Diconcini and Mariposa, both processing hundreds of vehicles each day. The Mariposa POE processes over 60% of the produce entering the United States from South America and felt like it never slept. The port, constantly watched and always full of traffic, added additional challenges for the MPs guarding the engineers laying wired obstacles. The platoon worked for over 20 days providing around-the-clock security for over 100 engineers, conducting 65 missions and driving over 1,500 miles. During this time, the Avengers witnessed multiple people scaling the wall and attempting to overcome the newly

placed obstacles. Over a dozen people were deterred from entering the country illegally during the 20-day mission in Nogales. After 4,000 meters of concertina wire were laid in Nogales, the Avengers returned to Davis-Monthan for refit.

2nd Platoon (Havoc), led by 2nd Lieutenant Sam C. Koch and SFC Sean T. Ambriz, was located about two hours east of Nogales at Fort Huachuca and traveled daily to Douglas and Naco, AZ. Similar to 1st Platoon's experience, many Soldiers of the Havoc platoon were instantly overcome by what was in front of them. Douglas, AZ is a small town with flat terrain and little vegetation but once again a bare wall divided the two countries. Daily, Havoc made the three-hour round trip to Douglas and Naco to guard a Sapper company that operated at a pace that impressed leadership at all echelons of the Task Force. The leaders and Soldiers of Havoc constantly had to reassess their terrain and threat analysis to ensure maximum security was maintained for the Sappers. One night in Douglas, about a mile away from the POE multiple shots were heard across the border. Because of the low visibility, the target was unknown. However, without hesitation Havoc immediately reacted and secured the Sappers and called CBP for support. Due to their prompt actions, within minutes all Sappers were accounted for, injury free, and evacuated from the immediate area. Naco, AZ was a very small port but was watched by a lone house on the Mexico side. During the initial meet and greet, the CBP agents brought this home to everyone's attention. It was two



66 Military Police Company unit photo while deployed in support of Operation Border Support, HQ Platoon Night Hawks, 1st Platoon Avengers, 2nd Platoon Havoc, 3rd Platoon Viking (Right to Left)

stories, made of brick, and always was occupied with someone looking out the windows at the port. Nothing illicit ever came from this home; to the contrary the community of Naco welcomed our Soldiers. A small shop boosted morale by keeping its doors open late to ensure all the troops were fed. Through countless hours of force protection, Havoc ensured that the Sappers were able to maneuver freely while enhancing border security.

3rd Platoon (Vikings), led by 1st Lieutenant Erica G. Bienlien and SSG Matthew W. Elam, was assigned to Lukeville, AZ. This POE, west of Davis-Monthan AFB, was the Viking's new home. Although isolated, it was still a priority to ensure Army engineers could emplace wired obstacles along the top edge of the existing border wall without worrying about being left unprotected. Because of the Vikings remote location the command team began to call the Vikings the "Lukeville-Lunkers". It was a name that stuck with them the entirety of their stay, and is one that Soldiers will hear many years down the road. The wall was short and the terrain was flat making this mission less challenging for the engineers who quickly laid wire obstacles. The Lukeville-Lunkers stood on the dry desert ground every day, scanning for threats and wondering what SSG Elam was going to cook for them that day. SSG Elam, equipped with a Beretta M9 and a spatula, brought smiles to his platoon, 60 engineers and over 20 CBP personnel with his culinary abilities. Lukeville's mission might have been less dramatic than the others, but the memories and bonds that were made to last a lifetime.

Headquarters Platoon (Night Hawks), led by 1st Lieutenant (Company Executive Officer) Nicholas R. Schields and SSG Eric M. Pasman managed all the behind the scenes work. HQs Platoon focused on the company's medical readiness, vehicle maintenance, ensured all administrative actions continued, and guaranteed each platoon spread across the border had all the necessary resources and supplies needed for their sustainability. Their roles seemed typical of a HQs platoon but their efforts were nothing short of superlative. Working nonstop, they are the backbone of the "Fightin' Double Six" and without them the functionality of the organization would have been greatly reduced. Some of the Night Hawks pushed forward to each POE attached to a platoon and ensured heaters, generators, vehicles, food, and medical needs were met while the MPs were protecting the engineers. Other Soldiers of the HQ PLT maintained their presence at Davis-Monthan and always ensured logistical demands were met.

The 66TH MP CO was recognized for having the most capable and ready organization out of the deployed task force. Because of their hard work and high level of company readiness they were selected to forward deploy to TX-Mexico border from AZ. Within 12 hours of being notified the "Fightin' Double Six" was in TX with all their equipment and ready for their next journey. The 66TH MP CO landed in TX and once again built a unified operation with the local and federal employees as in AZ. While in TX the company continued to work and train beside local and federal agencies on

civil disturbance and riot control operations until the mission was complete. After a month in TX the 66TH MP CO redeployed to JBLM but left a lasting impression on the newly built partnerships in TX.

Back home now at JBLM the 66TH MP CO added a new chapter to their rich and profound legacy. Each MP Soldier across the "Fightin' Double Six" formation has had a once in a lifetime opportunity to train with the Department of Homeland Security and expand their experience while working beside other government organizations. Not only that, Soldiers have shown that they are the most ready and capable MP Unit in the MP Regiment. This is due primarily to the many sacrifices each Soldier, leader, and Family Member make daily, while at Home Station, to ensure that the unit always maintains a 100% mission ready posture. Each Soldier is consistently engaged in MP functions and operations, and attending to their medial readiness. The success of this mission depends in part on the guidance and mentorship of the 503D MP BN (ABN), 504TH MP BN, 16TH MP BDE, and 42D MP BDE senior leaders. I want to thank each one of them for trusting in the "Fightin' Double Six", and most importantly for supporting the Families of this organization. Lastly, I want to thank each person who made a home cooked meal for the Soldiers, and thanked and shook the hands of each one of them deployed in support of this mission. This experience is one that will be added to the "Fightin' Double Six" legacy.

CAMP ARIFJAN, KUWAIT

GET BACK!

U.S. AND KUWAITI MILITARY POLICE COMPLETE RIOT SUPPRESSION TRAINING

Alaska Army National Guard Soldiers with the 297th Military Police Company; Army Reserve Soldiers with 1st Detachment, 160th Military Police Battalion; along with the Kuwait Army's 54th Military Police Battalion, joined forces in a riot control exercise November 3-6, 2019, at Camp Arifjan.

Kuwait Army soldiers with the 54th Military Police Battalion band together during a joint-training exercise. (U.S. Army photos by Cpl. Joseph Black)

The hands-on experience allowed Soldiers to refine job-related skills and react to events, said U.S. Army Sgt. Scott Sandoval, a military police officer assigned to the 297th.

"Anytime we are training in this capacity, it helps us learn better," Sandoval said.

The four-day exercise allowed the MPs to work together, discuss best practices and build relationships with their host nation counterparts, said U.S. Army Maj. Gabriel Araujo, Area Support Group – Kuwait Director of Emergency Services.

"The Kuwait and U.S. forces worked together to quell a simulated riot and use a special reaction team to assist in 'hostage' recovery," said Araujo. "This strengthens the Defense Cooperation Agreement and our relationship with our host nation partners."

This is not the first time that the Kuwaitis and Americans have worked together to better both forces, said Kuwait Army Col. Mohamad H. Alhaddad, 54th Military Police Battalion. Nor will it be the last.

"Having the experience to learn from the U.S. Soldiers and them learning from us is important," said Alhaddad. "We will continue to work with this unit and the next, because everything is updating; we want to always be prepared."

The Defense Cooperation Agreement partners U.S. and Kuwaiti forces to create mission-ready Soldiers and enduring relationships while providing defense support for the country of Kuwait.





Top: Kuwait Army Pvt. Dahi Mohammed Oshil, 54th Military Police Battalion; Alaska Army National Guard Soldier, 2nd Lt. Kenneth Mccoy; and Sgt. Scott Sandoval, 297th Military Police Detachment, pull security during a joint-force exercise Nov. 06, 2019, at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait.



Left: Area Support Group – Kuwait Director of Emergency Services Maj. Gabriel Araujo and Kuwait Army Col. Mohamad H. Alhaddad, 54th Military Police Battalion, observe training during a joint-force exercise.

By Cpl. Joseph Black,
U.S. Army Central

PASSION

FOR CANINES MAKES FOR SUCCESSFUL MWD TEAMS

By Spc. Noelle Wiehe, 50th Public Affairs Detachment



Canines assigned to the 93rd Military Working Dog Detachment, 385th Military Police Battalion, 16th Military Police Brigade, have several duties on Fort Stewart, Georgia, and in theater while deployed. It is through the drive and special care by their handlers they are capable of fulfilling those duties.

“Military Working Dogs are one of the greatest psychological deterrents in the war on terror and protect our military and civilian population on a daily basis,” said Staff Sgt. Ryan Borjas, kennel master, 93d MWD Det.

A spotlight is being shone on military working dogs, following the Belgian Malinois involved in the raid that targeted, and ultimately led to the capture of the Islamic State leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi. The leader, Baghdadi, was one of the world’s most wanted men, but died during a U.S. operation in the Syrian province of Idlib.

Canines assigned to the 93d MWD Det., such as Sgt. Laco and Sgt. Riki, are capable of performing their duties thanks to Spc. Anthony Jordan and Spc. Connor Pszenny, who are just two of several handlers who come to work every day with

passion for what they do.

“I feel truly, the Soldiers here at the Fort Stewart kennels do come to work every day, work hard, have a passion for the job and are good Soldiers,” Borjas said.

Several military working dogs call the kennel at Fort Stewart, a U.S. Army Forces Command medium-sized kennel, home.

The MWDs, typically Belgian Malinois, come from a puppy program, from which they are fostered from birth until they are old enough to begin training for their jobs as MWDs.

They receive their names at birth and start initial training between 1 and 1-and-a-half-years old, Borjas said. The dogs come from Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland Air Force Base, or occasionally are bought by MWD handlers from other vendors, typically Czech, Dutch or German shepherds. All Fort Stewart MWDs are trained at JBSA-LAK on basic obedience, basic detection, and basic patrol work (bite work), Borjas said.

Service members from the U.S. Navy, Marine Corps, Army and Air Force conduct training with



👉 Spc. Brady Stanger, 93rd Military Working Dog Detachment, 385th Military Police Battalion, 16th Military Police Brigade, works on obedience training with an MWD.

👈 A canine with the 93rd Military Working Dog Detachment, 385th Military Police Battalion, 16th Military Police Brigade, awaits his next command while working with his handler, Spc. Brady Stanger.

these dogs destined for military careers, and Borjas said these trainers are chosen based on a recommendation from their kennel masters.

"We typically have all of the better dog trainers from all of the branches there at Lackland Air Force Base," Borjas said.

They begin training on capabilities of finding any and all explosives, narcotics and patrol work, including scouting, finding people injured or hiding in buildings, at JBSA-LAK, Borjas said. Then, they are progressed at their duty station.

Each dog is seen regularly by the Fort Stewart Veterinary Clinic on post and treated accordingly for their medical issues. They are fed and exercised daily as well as worked five days a week on the duties required of them.

MWDs assigned to work on Fort Stewart will remain on Fort Stewart for the duration of their military careers, with the exception of special missions and deployments. The dogs do not change duty stations with their handlers, Borjas said. Instead, the dogs adapt and learn to bond with new handlers as permanent change of duty station situations occur. In addition, each MWD outranks their handler by one rank.

Dogs trained through the Patrol Explosive Detection Dog-Enhanced have advanced capabilities and are taught at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri. Borjas said these dogs do PCS with their handlers, except for in rare cases.

Spc. Brady Stanger, MWD handler, 93d MWD Det., has been working with Sgt. Bundas, a 7-year-old, longhaired German Shepherd, for three-and-a-half years, and said training the MWD is all about consistency. Stanger said it took about six months for Bundas to bond with him.

"He is super loyal; he'll do

anything to protect his handler," Stanger said. "He was a little bit more stubborn until he realized I was (his handler) now."

Stanger said he grew up training hunting dogs with his father in Minnesota. He said he always wanted to work as a policeman, but knew when he joined the military that he wanted his career to involve dogs.

"When I trained dogs with my dad, we trained the dog and they went out and did their own thing based on their training," Stanger said. "With the training here, it is very much the handler and working dog working as a team. Me and Bundas go through literally every day together; from sunup to sundown, we're together."

Bundas got protective of Stanger as he approached a belligerent person on post, and that was the moment Stanger knew they had bonded as handler and MWD.

"That was when I thought, 'Okay, this is actually real now; he actually cares,'" Stanger said.

Every dog team that is certified could possibly deploy, Borjas said. He has personally deployed twice as a MWD handler, and the detachment currently has several dog teams deployed.

Borjas said one of the most important things in the military occupation specialty 31K is to have passion for the job, to be consistent with that passion and to consistently come to work every day with that passion.

Pzenny was seeking a unique job within the military when he decided on 31K. He has been working with 2-year-old Sgt. Riki for approximately four months.

"Riki is an extremely high-intensity, high-strung dog, and I've had to adapt to him because I'm not as high strung," Pzenny said. "You have to work with the dog to get him to like you."



» Spc. Anthony Jordan, 93rd Military Working Dog Detachment, 385th Military Police Battalion, 16th Military Police Brigade, serves as a decoy as an MWD trains on patrol work (bite work).

Passion for animals and the work those animals do is key, but just as important is the bond the handler has with the MWD to ultimately form a MWD team, Borjas said. That bond can be strengthened in many ways, depending on the individual dog, Borjas said just grooming, walks and being positive builds rapport within the team.

"It always goes back to the MWD team factor," Borjas said.

Those teams, once that bond is formed, can accomplish tasks and military missions, whether that be keeping Dogface Soldiers drug free before they even enter post or being part of a raid to capture a U.S. enemy in theater.

There is no strict age for a MWD to retire from his duties, but Borjas said when the vet deems them unfit for service they are able to retire. The MWD is first offered to their most recent handler for adoption, and if they can't take the dog, a good home is found with another handler or someone who has worked closely with the dogs, so the dog can live out the remainder of its years.

» A canine with the 93rd Military Working Dog Detachment, 385th Military Police Battalion, 16th Military Police Brigade, walks away with his reward from doing patrol work (bite work).



401st MP Company Supports 3rd ABCT Operations in Korea

Story and Photos by Staff Sgt. Jacob Kohrs, 3rd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division

CAMP HUMPHREYS, REPUBLIC OF KOREA — The U.S. Army military police are known to take care of base security and internment operations. Yet, their job, when they are deployed, is a lot more intricate.

The 401st Military Police Co. focus shifts to support to security and mobility operations from base security while they are attached to 3rd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division on their rotation in the Republic of Korea.

“In the rear, we have many competing requirements that plague a lot of units in garrison,” said 1st Sgt. Nicholas Barnum, 401st MP Co. 1st Sgt. “Here in Korea we can support the Brigade fully without any of the same distractions.” Units like the engineers and field artillery rely on the MPs to provide security while they are creating or repairing supply routes or engaging enemy target. This also entails security for the supply routes and making sure that the traffic on those routes don’t bunch up and become artillery targets.

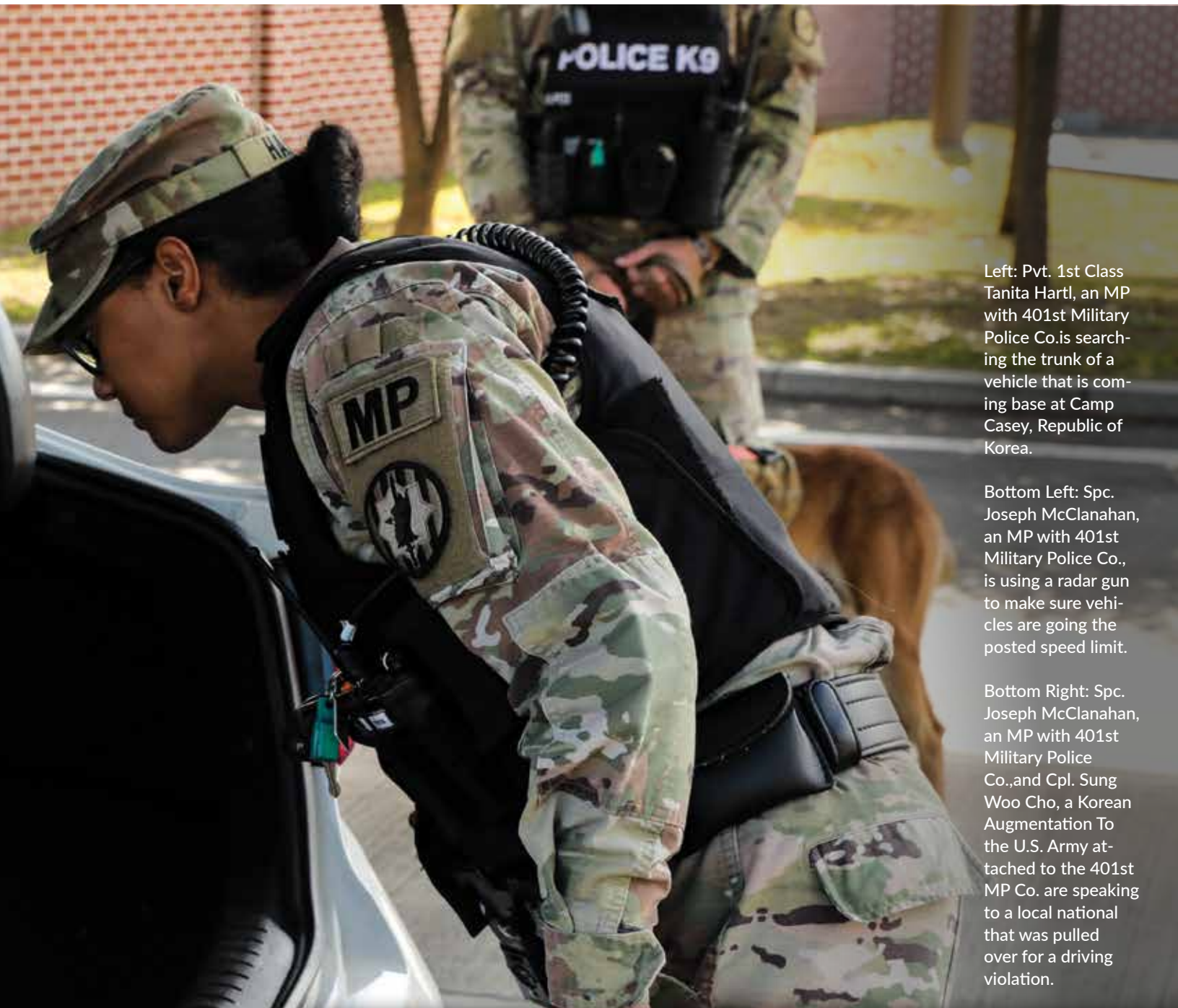
“Over here, another part of our job is dislocated civilian control,” said Ravenscraft. “If anything ever happened, we expect hundreds of thousands of dislocated civilians would start flooding south. And our job is to keep them off of the routes that we are using so that we can speed up the maneuver forces through the movement corridors.”

Being attached to a BCT has some advantages when it comes to training.

“In the rear, we are under the control of a battalion that can say, ‘hey, we need you to do this,’” said 1st Sgt. Nicholas Barnum, 401st MP Co. 1st Sgt. “Yet, being under the engineer battalion we can support them fully without any kind of distractions.”

This is allowing the battalions to learn and know the capabilities of the 401st, so that they can request the mission support that is needed to help enhance the training objectives.

“Besides this being a great experience, this needs to happen more,” said Barnum. “People don’t understand the capabilities of an MP company and with us working with them, they are learning more and more. Now they are knowing where and how to plug us in to support their mission.”



Left: Pvt. 1st Class Tanita Hartl, an MP with 401st Military Police Co. is searching the trunk of a vehicle that is coming base at Camp Casey, Republic of Korea.

Bottom Left: Spc. Joseph McClanahan, an MP with 401st Military Police Co., is using a radar gun to make sure vehicles are going the posted speed limit.

Bottom Right: Spc. Joseph McClanahan, an MP with 401st Military Police Co., and Cpl. Sung Woo Cho, a Korean Augmentation To the U.S. Army attached to the 401st MP Co. are speaking to a local national that was pulled over for a driving violation.



Leaning Forward in the Foxhole

716th Military Police Battalion launches ground-breaking Field Training Exercise

BY STAFF SGT. CAITLYN BYRNE,
101ST AIRBORNE DIVISION
(AA) SUSTAINMENT BRIGADE
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Soldiers assigned to 716th Military Police Battalion were hard at work setting up perimeters, pulling security and conducting training drills during their field exercise at Range 65 on Fort Campbell, Ky., Nov. 6.

"We are jointly deploying both the 510th Military Police Detachment and the 163rd Military Police Detachment for this field exercise," said Capt. Anthony Fisher, 163rd MP

Det. and 510th MP Det. company commander. The 163rd MP Det. is establishing a provost marshal office in a simulated deployed environment and conducting stability operations. "Meanwhile, 510th MP Det. is establishing a military working dog kennel."

Establishing a provost marshal office made it possible for the 716th MP Bn. to simulate the host nation training aspect, which enables them to conduct better, more immersive and realistic training, explained.

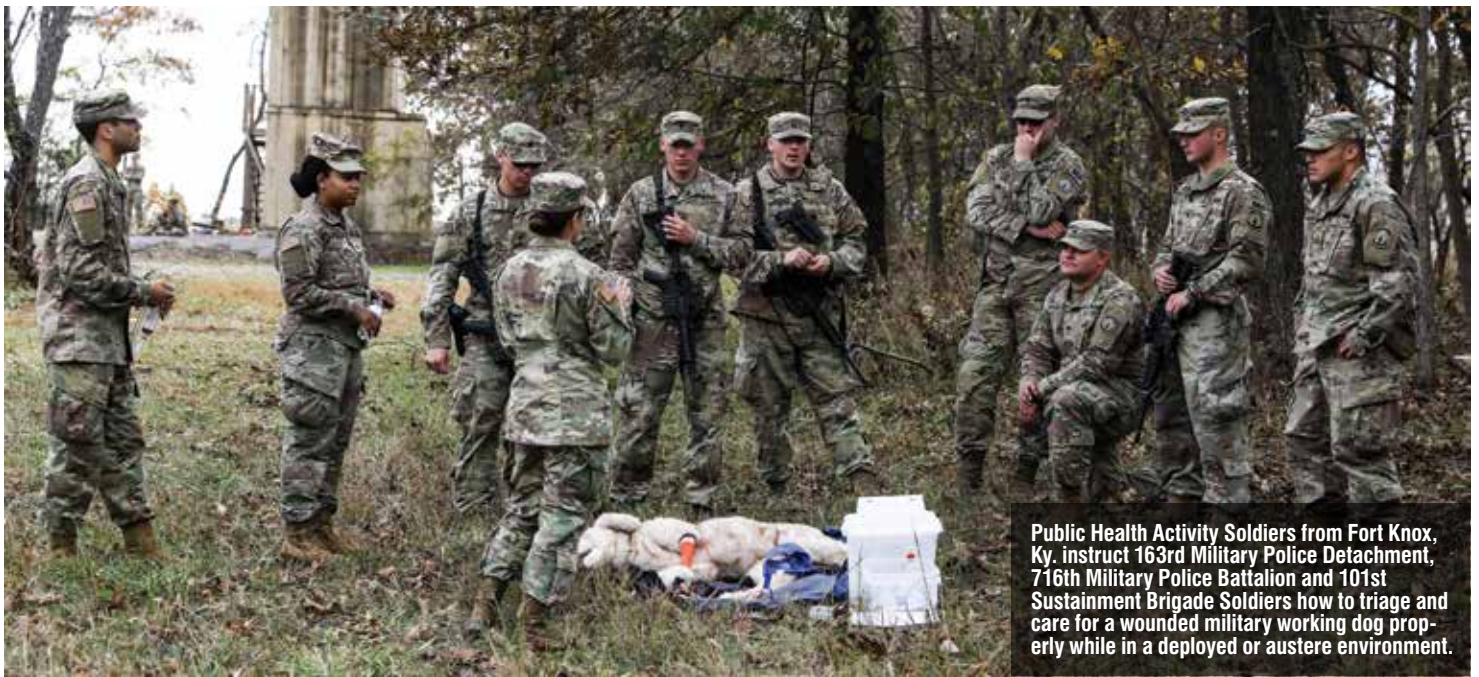
"During this particular operation, I have assumed the role of provost marshal; and I, along with my section leaders, can be responsible for running the entire provost marshal cell autonomously using only the assets and resources available to the unit," Fisher said. "So we're exercising all of our assets, utilizing all of our personnel and challenging them to conduct their tasks using analog products to sharpen their skills; so that if we did need to deploy, (then) we would be ready."

Fisher commended his team's efforts and their ability to lead the way in this new and innovative training opportunity.

"There are a lot of different moving pieces, and everyone has their specific section and area of responsibility," said Fisher. "The challenge is for us to command, control and track everything, and so far it's been a great success."



Spc. Steven Johnson, Sandusky, Ohio native and military working dog handler for the 510th Military Police Detachment, 716th Military Police Battalion, 101st Sustainment Brigade, stands with his military working dog, Aida, while other 716th MP Bn.



Public Health Activity Soldiers from Fort Knox, Ky. instruct 163rd Military Police Detachment, 716th Military Police Battalion and 101st Sustainment Brigade Soldiers how to triage and care for a wounded military working dog properly while in a deployed or austere environment.

Fisher proudly claimed the 716th MP Bn. is the first of its kind, this fiscal year, to conduct this type of training.

“We finalized the concept for this training last November, and since then we’ve been escalating the planning and making this training exercise better and better,” said Fisher. “As for our kennels, this is the first time that I know of where we’ve been able to utilize and simulate deploying the working dog kennels in a field environment.

“This will be a new mission essential task that will be coming out in the next fiscal year; so technically, we aren’t even tasked by Forces Command to execute this type of training,” continued Fisher. “But, we really want to lean forward in the foxhole and pave the way for other MP units to follow,” he emphasized.

Sgt. 1st Class Floyd Bengston, kennel master for the 510th MP Det., spoke more about the particular exercises and training the joint readiness exercise involved, to include what the military working dog kennel to stay prepared.

“A lot of our training out here in the field has been simulating key leader engagement training, react to contact (and) react to indirect contact,” Bengston said “And much of the training for our team has been to train the military working dog handlers how to brief a

military police team in a deployed or forward environment, helping them learn how a dog handler can support them and what capabilities that they can be able to bring to the fight.”

Being the kennel master, Bengston emphasized the importance that communication has on how dog handlers can operate successfully, especially while deployed.

Bengston wants his Soldiers to understand how to best support the teams and units to which they will be attached, so that more people can see how much of an asset having a military working dog team is to a unit and its tactical operations.

“This is the first joint training exercise with the 510th MP Det. and the 163rd MP Det.; and like with all first steps, it’s going to be a bit rocky,” Bengston said. “But, like with all good training, the Soldiers are learning from their mistakes, they’re pushing forward and they’re not making the same mistakes twice. As far as the dogs, they’re learning just as much as we’re learning.”

Spc. Steven Johnson, a military working dog handler for the 510th MP Det., spoke about his experience as a military working dog handler during this training exercise.

“This training exercise is going to prepare all of our handlers for their next deployment,

conducting route patrols and making sure we’re ready for any challenges that can hit us as a handler,” Johnson said.

Johnson recently redeployed from Iraq in support of Operation Inherent Resolve.

The training 510th MP Det. conducted in the field on Fort Campbell matched what he experienced while in a combat environment, Johnson said.

“This training mirrors the battlefield, a lot of the time your initial plan doesn’t work out, so you need to be prepared to have contingency plans, react to adversity; and this training is preparing us for that - making sure that we can communicate with people we don’t know,” Johnson said.

The 510th MP Det. also recently received the Eagle Award, an award FORSCOM presents at the end of every fiscal year that determines the unit within FORSCOM that has the best military working dog kennels.

“We won it last year, and we conducted a lot of training, put in a lot of hours,” said Bengston. “I told my team that hard work always pays off, and they definitely worked pretty hard and won; and I would vouch that they are hands down one of the best kennels in the United States Army.”

“CHARLIE MIKE”

BY CHARLES DAHLINGER

“CHARLIE MIKE” A PHRASE FROM THE MILITARY THAT HAS A MEANING OF “CONTINUE MISSION”, SOMETHING POLICE CAN BE REMINDED OF AS THEY CONTINUE POLICING THE STREETS OF AMERICA.

Despite turmoil at times and negativity with comments in media there is still the solid constant of law enforcement for their community. Citizens know when they call for assistance by police, there will be a response. This core mission has not changed, nor will it for next generations to come. United States Army Military Police units have combat zone responsibilities in addition to their law enforcement duties. These responsibilities include mounted and dismounted patrols, response force operations, area damage control, route reconnaissance, cordon and search operations, critical site security, and convoy and personnel escorts.

As in with the military, difficulties arise. They “continue (the) mission” based on training, teamwork, education and goals. This is not different then what law enforcement can apply to their work as well. Law Enforcement know what their goals are and what needs to be accomplished as well. Police stand ready to face all the challenges they face. Law enforcement also shares ideas, intelligence and suggestions to aid in dealing with what they may face. Police often feel unappreciated, but in reality, law enforcement is still respected and revered.

Job dissatisfaction and apathy can wreck an experience attitude. However, soldiers or officers can reignite their passion for the job. There is a realization of “burn out” is often caused due to over-commitment to the career. And there can be an overcoming the feeling of being burn-out. Reality is 80% of civilian law enforcement officers will never be promoted, which as years of work go on, this fact becomes a tough realization. No one graduates from a police academy with the thought of “I hope I can work nights,

weekends and holidays for the rest of my career. However, with military there is an opportunity of advancement, which is an optimistic feature.

Soldiers must remember certain factors can help with this dissatisfying feeling. Develop solid, positive interests outside your military law enforcement career. This about it, this career is 20 to 30 years long, but you live to be eighty years plus. What else have you done with your time positively. Choose friends outside the profession, allowing you to gather certain perspectives of opinions in which to learn from, and making for more rounded soldier in viewing dilemmas.

We must realize, citizens expect more out of those in law enforcement, and we exceed their expectations daily. Same can be shared about soldiers who rise above the fray, and “solider on” doing what needs to be done and doing it with a high level of efficiency. With patrolling a city, garrison or in a battlefield, the mission is core to what needs to be accomplished. And those who work within this profession understand that and can perform duties of the mission a times without having to be ordered too. It goes without saying, commanders of troops and law enforcement personnel, must continue to monitor personnel, ensuring proper knowledge and orders are clearly known and comprehended. The support level is far greater then so many other occupations.

An advantage in this profession is we are not alone. We have each other to rely on and support us on our missions. This is a benefit many in civilian professions would not have or understand. We all know what our missions either in military or civilian law enforcement. Many in society do not understand the functions within their organization, whereas from all levels of our institute, there is a positive and clear understanding of the mission before us. Army personnel train to know only understand what they need to do,

but what others are doing around us as well. Communication is a key issue with personnel addressing issues as they arise, and decisions made sometimes quickly.

Exercise is critical to a soldier’s mental and physical health. This example is now being followed on regular basis by civilian law enforcement. Keeping the body and mind in great shape, aids when called to “battle” at a moment notice within this career. Exercise is a form of discipline that stays with law enforcement personnel most of their lives.

With military law enforcement, there is always an active process of reviewing all options and tactics available to them when confronted with potentially dangerous situations. Tactical thinking is doing the very things that an officer has been trained to do both efficiently and safely. The concept of tactical thinking is “officer based”. One must not think of the options the suspect has, but options the officer/solider must use in a life and death situation. As with the majority of military, attitude and positive mental process can be applied. There is no amount of training time is going override the instinct to survive. Development preparedness is something the military has always excelled at.

The United States Army’s Military Police provide an important function in the full spectrum of Army operations as a member of the Maneuver, Fires, and Effects division. The Military Police Corps provides expertise in policing, detainment, and stability operations in order to enhance security and enable mobility. Military Police are actively utilized in direct combat and during peacetime. This “Charlie Mike” will remain the same, which is a great thing for all in this country.

Charles Dahlinger is a former active duty US Army, and thirty-year veteran of law enforcement, providing training across the United States.

New Decontamination System Tested by Chemical, MP Soldiers

Story and photo by Clarence White, USAOTC

Purpose Decontaminate for Hardened Military Equipment (JGPD-HME) during operational testing at Fort Hood.



Military Police joined chemical Soldiers to conduct operational testing of a new decontamination system for vehicles and other ground-based platforms.

Using their currently fielded decontamination applicators, the 411th Military Police Company, 720th Military Police Battalion, 89th Military Police Brigade, joined 3rd Platoon, 181st Chemical Biological Radiological and Nuclear Company, 2nd Chemical Battalion, 48th Chemical Brigade, used the Joint General Purpose Decontaminate for Hardened Military Equipment under simulated conditions in which they would fight.

JGPD-HME consists of three packets containing different powders that are mixed with water to create a solution designed for use against chemical and biological agents.

First use of JGPD-HME by Soldiers from 3rd Platoon, 181st CBRN Co. occurred at West Fort Hood on a hot afternoon.

“Using JGPD was a sweaty experience. JGPD was as easy as one, two, B,” Spc. Ameer Dave said, with a play on words.

Working with U.S. Army Operational Test Command, the Soldiers were part of data collection efforts provided to the Army Evaluation Center, to inform senior Army leaders on how effective and suitable JGPD-HME will be during training and in real-world operations.

“JGPD-HME provides Warfighters a decontaminant that is compatible with fielded and future applicators and should significantly reduce the logistics footprint,” Sgt. 1st Class Crystal Wright, JGPD-HME Test NCOIC with OTC’s Maneuver Support and Sustainment Test Directorate, said.

JGPD-HME provides decontamination for tactical vehicles, shipboard surfaces, crew-served weapons and individual weapons that have been exposed to chemical or biological contamination.

JGPD-HME is a possible decontaminant Soldiers can use in a wider range of environments.

HORSE PLATOON: 287th MILITARY POLICE COMPANY

BY RONNEY Z. MILLER, MPCR/USAMPS HISTORIAN

The horse holds a special place in US military history and horses have played a prominent role in US military campaigns from the Revolutionary War all the way into the Second World War. National Horse Day, recognized each year on 13 December, is a day to acknowledge the significant contributions and role that the horse has had in establishing, sustaining and developing our great nation. The last horse-mounted cavalry units to serve in the United States Army were the 127th and 129th Cavalry Squadrons – activated late in World War II and inactivated in 1947. By 1947, all Army equine training and educational programs for mounted troops were discontinued; thus, the Cavalry School at Fort Riley, Kansas, was inactivated on 31 October 1946. The last mule outfits to serve in the US Army were the 4th Field Artillery Battalion (Pack) and the 35th Quartermaster Company (Pack), which were mustered out of service in February 1957. This left only one operational equine unit in the entire US Army – the Mounted Horse Platoon, 287th Military Police Company, of the Berlin Brigade. Subsequently, members of the Mounted Horse Platoon played a distinctive and colorful part in the immediate post-World War II history of the 287th Military Police Company – “Law East of the Elbe.”

Established in Berlin on 1 October 1945 with men and horses drawn from the 78th Cavalry Reconnaissance Troop, 78th



Infantry (Lightning) Division, the horses had been confiscated from a Hungarian cavalry unit captured by US paratroopers at Mecklenburg, Germany, in 1945. The Mounted Horse Platoon was later integrated into the 16th Constabulary Squadron (Separate) in May 1946 and assigned the primary mission of border patrol and training for possible emergency use in crowd dispersal and riot control; it also served as an honor guard, escort platoon, and as a ceremonial element in parades, reviews and other military events.

When the 16th Constabulary was deactivated in November 1950, the platoon was reassigned to the 759th Military Police Battalion. On 15 October 1953, the 759th Military Police Battalion was deactivated and the Horse Platoon was concurrently assigned to the newly-activated 287th Military Police Company that same day. The unit was quartered at Duppel Stables in the southern part of the American Sector. The stables, which once



housed elements of Hitler's mounted SS troops, provided excellent training facilities (to include an indoor arena) and served as a convenient base for border patrol operations. Veterinary services and horse-shoeing were provided by contract with Berlin's *Frei Universtat*. Along with the 272nd Military Police Company, the 287th assumed the law enforcement mission in occupied Berlin. More than twenty-five Soviet and East German divisions surrounded the US Army in Berlin.

This 34-man organization patrolled an 8.2 mile sector that separated the American and Soviet zones of occupation. While patrolling the border between East and West Berlin, many members of the Horse Platoon found that their mounts made good ambassadors. Hugh Trabandt, who served with this unit from 1954 to 1956, remarked, "Everybody loves a horse." Indeed, many of the horses enjoyed celebrity status among the West Berliners and the Horse Platoon represented a visible and popular American presence and a US military commitment to Berlin that reassured the local citizenry. Not surprisingly, this unit was personally commended by Secretary of State John Foster Dulles during one of his many visits to Germany.

An aggressive mounted training program and a rigid regime for both men and horses were enforced throughout the entirety of the unit's existence. In addition to routine training with dismounted troops, unit members practiced bareback riding, jumping obstacles, and using special weapons such as tear gas grenades and 29-inch riot batons together with carbines and pistols. The horses were subjected to the various types of noise that might be encountered during a riot. Considerable attention was devoted to reconnaissance patrol training in the Grunewald – a forested area near the border that separated the American Sector of Berlin and the Soviet-occupied zone. Additionally, the Horse Platoon frequently participated in inter-Allied military horse shows and competitions. Of special note, Thomas Lee of Shreveport, Louisiana, the platoon's former First Sergeant and instructor, won more than one hundred trophies competing against the best equestrians of the French and British Armies.

All the soldiers assigned to the unit were volunteers and most of them had previous experience as rodeo performers and/or ranch hands. The average age of the horses was ten years and all additional mounts had been selected from choice German stock – with one exception. Two of the horses were of American origin; they arrived in Europe with the 1948 US Olympic equestrian team. Of further interest, the US Army adopted the McClellan saddle in 1859 and it has remained as the standard issue to the present day. The saddle was simple and less expensive than most. It was light enough not to weigh down the horse, yet it was sturdy and gave good support to the rider and his gear. The saddle was placed on top of a saddlecloth – a shabrack, or saddle blanket. But make no mistake, the McClellan saddle was designed for the horse's comfort – not the rider!

On 31 March 1958, the Horse Platoon, 287th Military Police Company – the last horse-mounted unit in the US Army – was deactivated in Berlin. During a retreat ceremony held on 1 April 1958, twenty-six of the platoon's thirty-one horses formed on one side of the quadrangle at the Berlin Brigade Headquarters while a bugler from the 298th Band sounded the traditional cavalry



call – "Boots and Saddles." A brief history of the platoon from its inception in 1945 and instructions for suspending the unit's official activities were read. The bugler then sounded "Stables" after which Lieutenant Jeff G. Roberts led the platoon smartly in review for the last time. The Horse Platoon then marched down the drive from the headquarters building for the return trip to Duppel Stables and a place in history.

Most of the thirty-one horses were transferred to the Special Services Division for recreational use; the remainder were turned over to the German Occupation Costs Office. Today, the Caisson Section of the 3rd Infantry Regiment ("The Old Guard") continues to maintain a stable of horses for ceremonial purposes in support of military activities held at Arlington National Cemetery. However, it's important to note that the "oldest and grayest mare" of the last operational horse-mounted unit in the US Army did not belong to a cavalry formation. She belonged to a Military Police unit!



BEHIND THE SCENES AT MILITARY POLICE MUSEUM

THE 287TH MILITARY POLICE COMPANY IN BERLIN

The 713th MP Battalion occupied the American Sector of Berlin immediately following World War Two. On September 30, 1945 the 759th MP Battalion replaced the 713th MPs. On 2 November 1953 the 759th inactivated and the 272nd and 287th MP Companies assumed the military police mission in Berlin. The 272nd MP Company was deactivated 1 June 1958.

In addition to performing general military police functions, the 287th MP manned Checkpoints Bravo and Charlie, had a horse platoon and operated patrol boats. In 1968 the 287th commenced water patrols on Wannsee Lake and the Havel River. In addition to being qualified life guards with training in first aid and water safety, MPs assigned to the patrol also handled border incidents.

On 24 November 1950, the horse platoon, previously attached to the 16th Constabulary Squadron, was deactivated and personnel and all equipment were transferred to the 759th Military Police Battalion. The personnel remained intact as a Provisional Horse Platoon with authorization for one officer, thirty-seven Soldiers and fifty-two horses. The platoon remained in service until 31 March 1958.

Nine days after the commencement of sealing the border along the Soviet sector in Berlin on 13 August 1961, the Soviets limited all Allied military operations into East Berlin to the Friedrichstrasse crossing. There on 23 August, a detachment of the 287th MP Company began constant checkpoint operations. Later, when radio operations were initiated at the checkpoint desk facility, it was designated as "Charlie", following the naming convention for the existing checkpoints Alpha and Bravo on the autobahn access through East Germany to Berlin. With occasional augmentation from the 385th MP Battalion, the 287th continued operations at Checkpoint Charlie until its closing on 23 June 1990. Beginning in September 1961, the 287th also provided a 3-man detachment to support the barricaded village of Stein-tuecken within Berlin, continuing until 1976.

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- 1** M1 helmet liner worn by 287th MP Company commander, CPT Harold Schneeweis from 1965-1967
- 2** Whistle hanger from the 287th MP Company. Worn on the left chest pocket to secure the MP's duty whistle
- 3** The distinctive insignia for the 287th horse platoon
- 4** The Berlin Brigade shoulder sleeve insignia was the U.S. Army Europe patch incorporating the BERLIN tab
- 5** Berlin Brigade insignia on hot weather field cap, SP4 Thomas E. Schneider, 287th MP Company, circa 1970. The unit motto is "SERVES THE SELECT"
- 6** MP brassard worn by SP4 Thomas E. Schneider, 287th MP Company, circa 1970
- 7** Distinctive unit insignia on a coat style service shirt worn by Robert Chenoweth,



287th MP Company, circa 1980. The insignia represents the 6th Infantry Regiment, the parent unit for the 287th in Berlin. The unit motto is "UNITY IS STRENGTH".



8 The original Checkpoint Charlie structure, 14 September 1961. At left is SGT W. Lewis, the checkpoint NCOIC. The German caption on back of the photo is translated as: "American soldiers take the night vigil at the Friedrichstrasse diplomatic service. Unprotected against storm and rain, the soldiers have set up this mobile shelter for themselves."



9

A security program poster published by the US Command Berlin, circa 1970

10 Berlin Wall Relic, collected by the 287th in recognition of the fall of the Berlin Wall on 9 November 1989



10

11 Stirrups, spurs and horse bit from the 287th horse platoon



11

287TH MILITARY POLICE COMPANY

East German National People's Army (Nationale Volksarmee) service cap, coat, belt, canteen, boots and PPSH-41 submachine gun.

The donation to the museum was reported in the July 1965 Military Police Journal.



Museum Adds East German Uniform

Capt David Epstein models a uniform of the East German Peoples Army for Capt Thomas C. Jones who donated the uniform and submachinegun to the Military Police Corps Museum this spring. The uniform and weapon were taken from a defecting East German enlisted man who was taken into custody by members of the 287th Military Police Company in West Berlin. Captain Jones, then commanding officer of the 287th, felt that the items would be most appropriate for the Corps Museum and brought them back to the US upon his rotation. The complete outfit was donated to the museum in the name of the 287th Military Police Company, the unit responsible for border operations in the divided city. Both Captains Epstein and Jones attended the Military Police Officer Career Course at Fort Gordon and graduated last May.



JULY, 1965

MILITARY POLICE JOURNAL



MPRA

Military Police Regimental Association

2020 MPRA Scholarship Recipients

Each year the MPRA offers scholarship opportunities to family members of our Standard Membership. Below we would like to introduce 6 of the 32 overall selected recipients. Throughout the year, we will be introducing our additional recipients.



Allison Baier OH
Psychology
Case Western Reserve University
\$1,000



Travis Barrow PA
Mechanical Engineering
Penn State University
\$1,000



Danielle Carlin HI
Criminal Justice
Chaminade University of Honolulu
\$1,000



Abigail Hiipakka MI
Movement Science
University of Michigan
\$1,000



Regan Mertz
Convergence Journalism
University Of Missouri
\$2,000



Isabelle Willingham VA
Exploring Life Science
Treasurer of Virginia Tech
\$1,000

On behalf of our members, our Board of Directors, and our Senior Advisory Council, the MPRA would like to congratulate this year's scholarship recipients. We wish them well as they continue pursuing their academic and professional goals.

2019 Military Police Competitive Challenge

Sgt. Robelto Rose (RT) and Spc. Antonio Argueta (LT), both with the 289th Military Police Company out of Fort Myer, Virginia were awarded the winning NCO and Soldier for the 2019 MPCC.



Dear Mr. Rick Harne and members of the MPRA team, I would first like to thank you all for the gifts and congratulating wishes. I was asked to submit a brief review on my experience during the 2019 MPCC.

This was my first time participating in such an honorable competition and I am thankful my leadership of the 289th MP CO and the members of the MDW team chose me to represent them.

At first, I was nervous going into the competition it being that I was a newly promoted Sergeant and I knew I would be going against others with vast amount of knowledge and experience. The MPCC was very different compared to other competitions, the cadres did a great job keeping every event on a need to know basis. They gave us a task and we were expected to execute it to the best of our ability. We didn't know how far we were going, how fast to go, what was next, when to eat, who was in the lead, etc... throughout the entire competition the one thing that made me keep going was a quote by David Goggins he said If you have ANY mental toughness, if you have any fraction of self-discipline, the ability to not want to do it, but still do it, If you can get through to doing things that you hate to do: on the other side is Greatness,

To all the competitors I wish you good luck in your careers and field of work and for the future competitors I look forwards to seeing you in the 2020 Military Police Competitive Challenge.

Sincerely,
SGT Robelto Rose



Military Police Spouse Named Recipient of University of Phoenix Scholarship

By Erin Younkin

For the past four years, Jessica Wolford has done what thousands of other military spouses do every day: continue to find a way to pursue her professional goals despite the unique situations experienced by military family members. Her determination and dedication to these dreams led her to apply earlier this year for the 2019 University of Phoenix full tuition scholarship offered to one MPRA member's dependent. In October of 2019, she was notified that she was the winner.

In 2015, Jessica completed her Bachelor of Arts in Business and Accounting at Western Oregon University. Upon graduation, she immediately moved to Fairbanks, Alaska where her husband Bryce was stationed. Despite being new to the Fairbanks area, Jessica started her career immediately and was working as an accounting associate before Bryce's career led them to San Antonio, Texas.

Since the birth of their almost 2-year old son Jason, Jessica decided to work part-time; however, she never took her eyes off her long-term goal and dream job of being a financial analyst. Knowing his wife was looking to pursue advanced education, Bryce immediately thought of Jessica when he was at Fort Leonard Wood for training and happened to learn about the University of Phoenix's MPRA Scholarship.

After doing some research about the scholarship, Jessica clearly understood the time she would need to commit to the program and that completing her master's degree with the University of Phoenix could open the right doors for her to achieve her professional goals.

“This opportunity will allow me to obtain my Master of Business Administration and a certificate in accounting from the University of Phoenix in about two years. I’ve found a part-time babysitter for our son and I’m making sure to dedicate that time for reading and studying,” said Jessica.

Upon being notified that she had won the scholarship, Jessica jumped in quickly. She is already in the middle of her first University of Phoenix course: Masters Introduction to Management. Each of her classes will last about eight weeks and she's scheduled to complete one class at a time.

Though Bryce's schedule can be unpredictable, he has always been a constant source of support as Jessica set her sights on obtaining the additional education and training to pursue her professional ambitions. When they were stationed in Alaska, he helped her find a grant to complete an accounting certificate. Though the certificate program wasn't as challenging as she hoped, she is confident that the University of Phoenix program will be just what she needs to keep chasing her dreams.

“I've been really impressed with the quality of the coursework and the interaction between other students and my professor,” said Jessica.

Please join us in congratulating Jessica on being selected as the recipient of this scholarship. We wish her the best of luck and we are excited to follow her progress in the program. We'll continue to provide updates on her accomplishments and growth through future articles for the Dragoon and our MPRA blog.



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The University's Criminal Justice programs are educational degree programs. For those interested in pursuing a career in law enforcement, corrections or as a peace officer with any particular local, state, federal or international agency, there are numerous additional qualifications (and often disqualifications) depending on the position. Before enrolling in a Criminal Justice program, potential students are **highly encouraged** to check with the relevant agency for a complete list of position requirements. **The University makes no representations regarding whether any particular University program will qualify a graduate for any such position.**

While widely available, not all programs are available in all locations or in both online and on-campus formats. Please check with a University Enrollment Representative.

The University's Central Administration is located at 4025 S. Riverpoint Parkway, Phoenix, AZ 85040

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