



Cadets get fired up over the M-16 rifle

see pages 4-5



Branch Orientation shows cadets career options

See page 6-7

WARRIOR LEADER

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July 26, 1999

Female officers show steady annual increase in numbers

2Lt. Ana Cutting

On December 20, 1989, during "Operation Just Cause," UH-60 Blackhawk helicopter pilots 1st Lt. Lisa Kutschera and Warrant Officer Debra Mann were transporting infantry troops near Howard Air Force Base in Panama. They unknowingly entered a "hot zone" and were attacked by the Panamanian Defense Forces. Skillfully avoiding enemy fire, they successfully completed their mission. Later, they were each awarded the Air Medal for their bravery. About the same time during the operation, Captain Linda Bray, commander of the 988th Military Police Company, seized a Panamanian military dog kennel following a full-blown firefight with security forces. She is considered the first female ever to lead troops into combat.

Some eight hundred female soldiers participated in the invasion of Panama, and about one hundred fifty were inside the combat zone throughout the deployment. The 1991 Persian Gulf War involved the largest number of female military personnel in history.

Today, the Department of Defense reports approximately 229,000 female service members on active duty. The Army has the largest number, totaling nearly 86,000. Fifteen percent of these are officers.

A new generation of future women officers are in training right now at the 1999 ROTC Advanced Camp. A total of 832 female cadets within the cadet population of nearly 3,900 are integrated into all 11 regiments. They too can expect to experience the same kinds of things Captain Bray, 1st Lt. Kutschera and Warrant Officer Debra Mann went through. With the number of female officers growing yearly, chances that women will face combat again are steadily increasing. The numbers are reflected clearly here at the 1999 ROTC Advanced Camp.

The mission remains the same for cadets of both sexes at the United States Military Academy and ROTC programs

everywhere - to encompass honor in each mission, lead United States soldiers, and most important, to defend the values which make this nation great.

When it comes to teaching basic skills, the Army has consistently incorporated the "equality" doctrine regarding the capabilities of women soldiers in comparison to the men during training. At Advanced Camp, most training is identical whatever the gender of a cadet might be.

"Leadership is leadership."

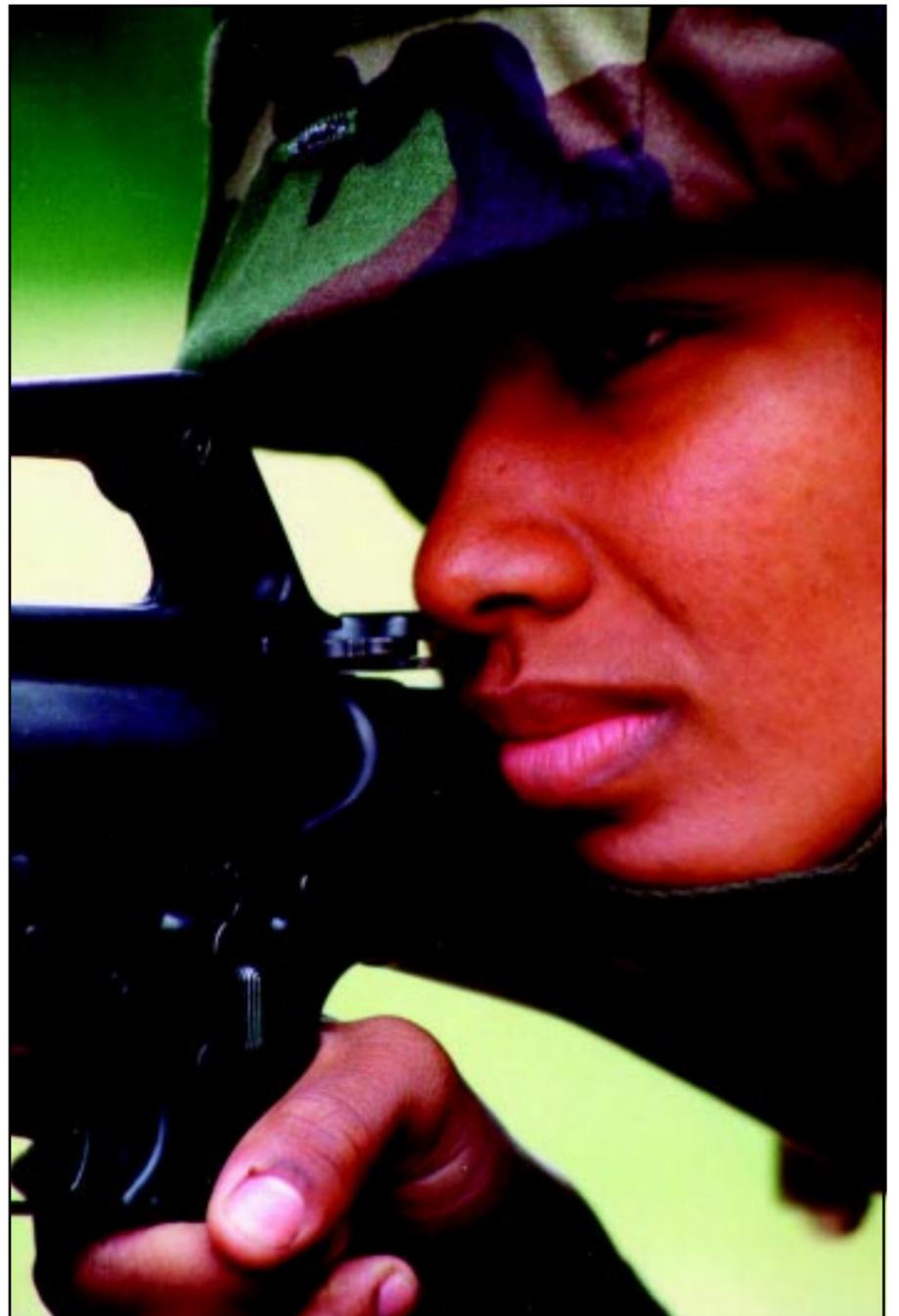
Capt. Angelia Holbrook

Although some areas, such as physical training, hold different numerical standards for women than for men, the established minimums and maximums were designed to reflect strength and endurance differences between men and women. Other than this, the cumulative camp score is the same for everyone, just as it was when ROTC first accepted women into its college programs in 1974.

All ROTC advanced courses follow the same curriculum, producing the levels of excellence reflected in above-standard performances at camp. Throughout camp, cadets are tested under conditions of little sleep, constant activity and thirty-one days of leadership stress and evaluations. Every female cadet follows the same regimen as the males and are evaluated with the same leadership dimensions reflected in the Leadership Development Program (LDP).

So far, there are no differences to speak of between the male and female cadets at camp.

"I think we are evaluated the same," said Cadet Trisha Bielski, from the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh. "I think the real difference is in prior service versus non-prior service." Not gender.



Al Zdzarsky

Cadet Laketha Hampton of Northwestern State University, Louisiana, draws a bead on her future as a United States Army officer. Growing numbers of women are following her lead and enrolling in ROTC.

"I haven't noticed any discrepancies," added Cadet Claire Mitchell, from Texas Christian University. Both are nursing cadets. Physically, they feel they are on

the same level with men in all the training they have completed. "There is nothing we have done so far here at

see "Women," page 3

Pursue realistic goals using good judgement

Chaplain (LTC) Dwight Riggs
ROTC Camp Chaplain

"He who works his land will have abundant food, but he who chases fantasies lacks judgment."
Proverbs 12:11

"What do you want to be when you grow up?" That question is faced by all of us in our childhood days, and into our college years. "I want to be a policeman or a fireman," is often a child's ambition. High school and college matures and sharpens our dreams into becoming a teacher, businessman, doctor, lawyer, military officer. Regardless of your career path, this proverb from King Solomon urges a dominating principle: "work your land," or work hard and energetically in your career.

Farming was a common occupation in Old Testament times and a farmer knew the importance of continual cultivation of the soil if he wanted an abundant harvest of food. All of us in Cadet Command are in the same occupation: serving as officers, NCOs, or preparing to become officers in the US Army. We wear the same uniform, speak the same language, salute the same, but vary in our specific branch assignments.

Whatever your branch, staff duty,

or training responsibility - "WORK YOUR LAND."

That simply means - throw your full energies, creative thinking, and dominant time into your job. If you do you will reap your reward: "abundant food" in the form of promotions in rank, increase in pay, higher supervisory roles, elevated status, and warranted respect.

The surprising contrast in this proverb catches us off guard in the last part of the verse with the words: "but he who chases fantasies lacks judgment." The contrast in this verse is not between diligence and laziness, but between right and wrong goals. Both men are energetic, diligent, and actively pursue their career, but their career goals are in sharp contrast. The wise farmer pursues an abundant harvest; the unwise man pursues "fantasies". Fantasy means pursuing a wild, unreal, foolish illusion, and when you seek these vacuous ideas you "lack judgment."

I personally know a man who refused to work to support his family, but actively entered all kinds of contests and sweepstakes trying to become rich overnight. He was diligent, creative, and persistent - but lacked judgment. He was a fool. His goals were wrong. What is your goal in



2nd Lt. Ana Cutting

Chap. (LTC) Dwight Riggs

your Army career? Is it to get promoted, to be recognized as a competent staff officer, to command a company, battalion, brigade or division? These goals are militarily admirable and socially acceptable, but without a personal relationship with God in your life, they are nothing more than a vacuous fantasy.

Yes, you may achieve your military goals and become a colonel, a brigade commander, a commanding general. "I have arrived; I have become successful," you may think. True success, however, in the Army or any other occupation, is not measured by position attained, but passion achieved. Jesus as the master teacher said it well: "What good will it be for a man

if he gains the whole world, yet forfeits his soul?" (Matthew 16:26)

What is most important to you: success in the Army or success in your soul? Actively pursue your military career; diligently perform your job; give attention to details in executing your mission; submit error-free staff correspondence; proudly wear your uniform. These elements are important; they are good goals, but without God in your life they are "fantasy" goals and reveal you "lack judgment." Pursue your career by placing God at the center of your goals. If you do, then you will reap "abundant food" or satisfying harvest in BOTH your military and spiritual success.



Chapel Services

Catholic Mass: Sunday, 1800, Chapel 13, Bldg. 11D47

Protestant: Sunday, 1800, Chapel 13, Bldg. 11D47

Jewish: Friday, 0900 or Saturday, 0930, Chapel 5, Bldg 2270

Cadet blood drive flowing smoothly from the start

by **2nd Lt. Georgette Romo**

The 1999 ROTC Advanced Camp blood drive has made an excellent start, averaging around 120 donations per cadet regiment. "The cadets have been very willing to donate so far. We hope this continues," said 2nd Lt. Lillian Close, one of the nurses conducting the blood drive.

As the cadets arrive by platoon, they are seated and given a briefing about why blood donation is important and what to expect during the procedure. Paper work is then be filled out as the cadets go through an initial screening process. Once vital signs have been taken, and the donors pass screening, each one's information is entered into a national data bank and they are ready for donation.

Cadet Mikhail Osterfeld from the University of Pittsburgh said he realizes the importance of blood donation.

"I plan to go infantry and might get shot someday. So, one of these days I might need it and I'm just returning the favor," said Osterfeld.

A significant amount of blood donors also became bone marrow donors.

"Finding a perfect bone marrow match must be pretty hard so I hope that, by becoming a marrow donor, I can help make finding that perfect match possible," explained Cadet Tyler Abercrombie from St. Bonaventure University.

Close said the blood drive has served as an excellent learning experience to begin her career as a nurse.

"I feel better prepared to go into my first unit because this experience has improved my IV skills," she said.

The blood drive is a tri-service event with the Army, Air Force and Navy coming together to "put the show on the road." The Army and Air Force personnel are from Fort Lewis' Madigan Army Medical Center and the Naval personnel are from the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard in Bremerton, Wash.

Aside from a relaxed atmosphere, free cookies and KoolAid, donors will find themselves in good company and good hands.



Staff Sgt. Patrick McDonald

Despite the minor discomfort of a needle, hundreds of cadets are volunteering to donate blood.

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ADVANCED CAMP COMMANDER
Col. Raymond E. Rasmussen II

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Cadets assault grenade course

by 2nd Lt. Georgette Romo

It was only as big as a hot potato, but the live M-67 fragmentation grenade delivered a concussive blast that amazed the watching cadets.

"It was so awesome, I wish that we could have thrown another one!" said Cadet Jason Sporer from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. The thrill of hearing the big boom was the final product of all the mandatory prerequisite training at the hand grenade committee.

Before cadets move to the live bay and "toss a frag," they must first rotate through a distance and accuracy course, the mock bay, and the hand grenade assault course. They also receive a thorough safety briefing and a class that identifies six major types of grenades and their characteristics. Cadets move through the course by platoon, each rotation lasting about 50 minutes.

At the distance and accuracy station, cadets learn the four hand grenade throwing positions; standing, kneeling, prone to kneeling, and alternate prone. They learn proper techniques to engage trench-like targets. Sgt. 1st Class Herbert Mackie, of the 108th Division from Fort Jackson, said "what the cadets learn at this station enables them to maximize proficiency at the hand grenade assault course."

According to the range noncommissioned officer in charge, Sgt. 1st Class Eric Mingo of the University of California at Berkeley, cadets throw as many as 18 practice grenades before entering the live bay. They all go through the concurrent training to reinforce skill in handling the grenade. In the mock bay, cadets learn what to do if they drop the grenade inside the bay or outside the bay, and how to react quickly.

"We really keep them focused in the mock bay because it mirrors the same thing cadets will do in the live bay," said Mingo. "In the live bay, there is no room for error," he added.

Finally, cadets put their skills to the test on the hand grenade assault course, another "Leaders Stakes"



Staff Sgt. Patrick McDonald

The hand grenade assault course challenges Cadet Sara Arsenault from Florida Institute of Technology as she prepares to toss a training fragmentation grenade into a bunker target.

event. There are two lanes, with six stations on each lane. The assault course is a graded and timed event. Out of 100 possible points, the maximum awarded for time is 40. The number of target kills determines the other 60 points, usage of cover and concealment and throwing techniques.

Each cadet is allowed to throw a maximum of two grenades at each station. If they score a kill with the first grenade, six points are awarded. If they miss,

they must re-engage the target. If they score a kill with the second grenade they earn three points. Failing to hit the target after throwing the second grenade means moving to the next station with no points.

"The assault course was really high-speed and had me sucking wind a little bit," admitted Cadet Craig Gary of Southern University A&M College. "However, I'm thankful I have done this in Ranger Challenge training at my school," he added. 

"Women." cont. from page 1



Al Zolarsky

Finishing a two-mile run at 11 minutes and 11 seconds, Cadet Donna Fidler of Penn State University sets a new camp record and demonstrates that outstanding physical fitness can be achieved by all.

camp that we couldn't keep up with," said Bielski. "We all help each other out," she added.

With the increase in females within platoons, the number of women cadets per squad goes up proportionally as well. Each squad in 2nd Regt., Bravo Co., 4th Platoon has three or more female cadets.

"I don't feel we are being treated nicer because we

are females or anything," Mitchell commented. "I mean, I haven't felt babied. I think most of the people who come to camp were taught to be team players...that's the drill at school."

"I feel great here," added Hillary Taylor. Taylor is a student at the University of Pittsburgh. "You come here wondering if the male cadets are going to have this sense of superiority- this 'I know more than you, there is nothing you can teach me' attitude, but I don't see that here at all."

It's taken a long time to get to that point, though. In 1942, when the Women's Army Corps (WAC) training center opened in Fort Lee, Va., women were required to undergo the same basic training as men, minus the combat instruction. They were trained to do administrative tasks, in military justice, first aid, drill and ceremony, customs and courtesy, map reading, and care and maintenance of equipment, along with a daily physical training regimen.

The WAC mission statement read: "to prepare the woman soldier for the job she will be assigned in the Army, to indoctrinate her into the elements of military life and customs and to imbue her with the high moral and ethical standards which the Army demands." Today, an equally high standard is incorporated within the Cadet Creed, proudly recited by both male and female cadets as they prepare to accept commissions as second lieutenants in the United States Army. Women are joining the officer ranks through ROTC for a variety of reasons. Some are initially attracted to scholarship benefits

and then get caught up in the excitement of leading soldiers in the Army.

"It was sort of a whim at first, when I joined ROTC," Taylor continued. "I just got a lot of encouragement from the cadre because I had good grades and they saw I could do PT. So I applied for a scholarship, and got one and here I am!" Asked if she had any regrets, she responded, "None."

Once out in the active or reserve forces, the female officer is finding the Advanced Camp experience to be a useful stepping stone, preparing her for commissioning, the Officer Basic Course and later, to lead her troops.

"Leadership is leadership," said Capt. Angelia Holbrook, Fourth Region personnel officer. "ROTC is a good baseline, learning reactive skills and how to be flexible while you develop as a young leader. That's what is going to carry you when you come on active duty."

Holbrook adds that as a young lieutenant, one must build confidence in their troops, regardless of whether the platoon leader is a female or not. "Male or female, a brand new lieutenant will not have their soldiers' trust and confidence until they prove that soldiers are your number one priority."

As the final camp scores are tabulated and graduation approaches, male and female cadets alike will move one step closer to earning their commissions. And, as the clock runs out on the 20th century, ever more women are looking to the Army for a future as career officers of the next millennium. 

Cadets get fired-up about the M-16

Story, art and photos by Bob Rosenburgh

Nearly 3,900 cadets will attend the 1999 ROTC Advanced Camp and everyone of them must qualify with the M-16 rifle if they are to graduate. It is so critical that basic rifle marksmanship is administered by an experienced cadre of professional trainers from both the Army Reserve and combat-ready



Nailing down her rifle sight zero, Cadet Heather McIntosh from the Missouri Western State College then moved on to record fire.

field troops of the active-duty Army. As the primary individual weapon of the United States Army, proficiency with the M-16 is an absolute requirement for every soldier, whether officer or enlisted and regardless of MOS, branch or assignment. Of all common soldier tasks, this is the single most important skill.

Supporting the BRM committee during phase-one of Advanced Camp was 1st Battalion, 24th Infantry Regiment, who were relieved by Charlie Company, 1st Battalion, 5th Infantry Regiment for phase-two. They supplied ammunition, range preparation and maintenance, range guards and other support. On-site medics came from the 62nd Medical Group.

Lt. Col. Thomas Blackerby, who served as chief of



Cadet Joshua P. Carlisle from the University of Wisconsin – Stevens Point draws a bead at the shadow-box station where sight-picture is taught.

the BRM committee during the first six weeks of Advanced Camp, says BRM is a big part of his own unit's business. For him, this task dovetails neatly with regular duties as commander of 2nd Battalion, 379th Regiment of 2nd Brigade, 95th Division (Institutional Training) from Arkadelphia, Ark. He and the soldiers in his battalion are fine-tuned instructors, teachers and mentors for soldiers and cadets alike.

"Our mission out here," Blackerby explained, "is to train cadets in basic rifle marksmanship." That includes teaching the four fundamentals - position, sight picture, breath control and trigger squeeze -

zeroing the weapon and, finally, record fire where they qualify with the weapon. And the 84th knows their business. "With the first group through the course, we had 100 percent qualification," he added. Equally qualified trainers from the 80th Division (IT) in Richmond, Va., replaced the 84th for the second phase of Advanced Camp BRM.

Each step through the entire course of instruction is carefully structured to prepare the cadets for the next level of tasks, progressively improving their rifle skills each time until the final scoring event.

"In the bleachers they are given the fundamentals, then move to the 'dime and washer'," he said. At that station, a dime or a bolt washer is balanced on the rifle's barrel as the shooter practices a steady trigger pull without dropping the dime. To qualify, the cadet must follow through on the trigger squeeze of a cocked rifle ten out of ten times without the dime or washer falling off. Blackerby said the trigger squeeze is the most important of all the fundamentals because it affects where the bullet goes at the time of firing.

"They then move to the 'shadow box' and practice getting a good sight picture every time until they are proficient with that," he noted.

Next comes the zero range, fired at 25 meters, where a cadet can adjust his or her sights using a minimum of nine rounds or a maximum of 18.

"They get two tries," Blackerby continued, "and if they still have problems with getting a zero, we send them to the Weaponeer." (see sidebar story) The Weaponeer is a computer-managed M-16 simulator and range that provides an opportunity for the cadet to practice firing with unlimited shots. Also, a skilled instructor is able to diagnose the cadet's shooting technique and recommend corrective measures before returning to the zero range.

"After they go through two tries and they still don't zero, we bring them back the next day." The same goes for qualification firing if a cadet makes it through the zero range but "bolos" at the record fire. Those cadets go through the entire course of instruction again and, as with the first group, most will finally succeed.

To qualify, 23 out of 40 pop-up targets at varying distances must be knocked down with accurate rifle fire. Twenty targets are presented singly and the other 20 pop up in groups of two or three. The first segment of firing is done from a prepared foxhole position and the second time is fired prone and unsupported. Depending on their score, each qualifying cadet can be authorized wear of the marksman, sharpshooter or expert badge on their Class A or B uniforms.

Blackerby said about 350 cadets are cycled through BRM each time.

"We break them down into two groups, which

works out as two companies," he continued. One group starts earlier than the other does. "They complete the stations, they zero and then they go down to the qualification range." The second company then begins their course of instruction at the zero range.

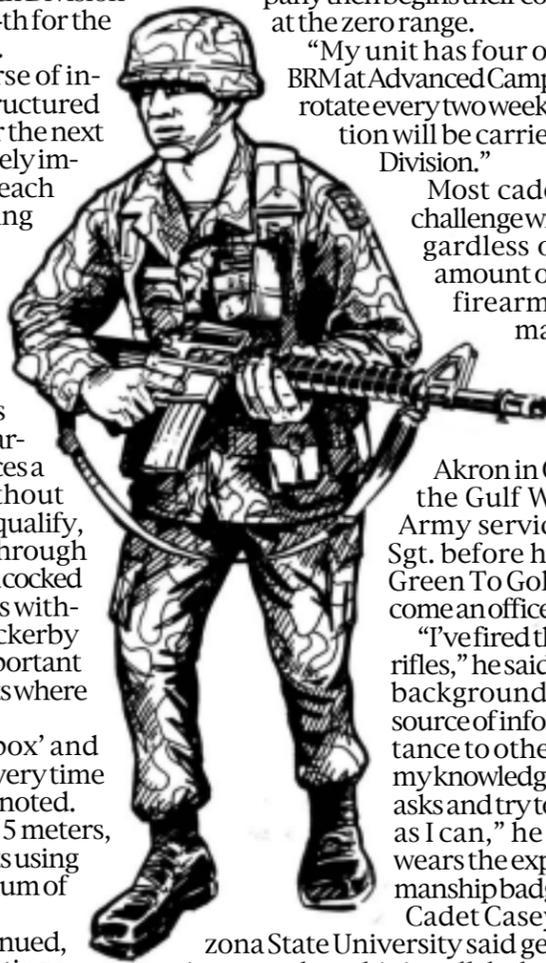
"My unit has four of the six weeks of BRM at Advanced Camp," he noted. "They rotate every two weeks and the last rotation will be carried out by the 80th Division."

Most cadets face the BRM challenge with enthusiasm, regardless of their previous amount of experience with firearms. Some are even masters of the M-16 already, like Cadet Dennis Marshall from the University of Akron in Ohio. A veteran of the Gulf War and 12 years Army service, he was a Staff Sgt. before he applied for the Green To Gold program to become an officer.

"I've fired the M-16A1 and A2 rifles," he said. With that kind of background, he is a valuable source of information and assistance to other cadets. "I share my knowledge with anyone who asks and try to help out as much as I can," he said. He already wears the expert badge marksmanship badge.

Cadet Casey Jones from Arizona State University said getting a good sight picture and combining all the basic factors at once was the most challenging for her.

"I'll remember one thing one time and the next



Cadet Stephen F. Hopkins of Southwest Missouri State University practices a steady trigger squeeze at the dime/washer station.

time I remember something else." She was confident that she'd have it all worked out by the time she had to zero her weapon. "I'll do alright. I know it," she said.

Cadet Dave Porter from the University of Illinois Champaign-Urbana was also confident. As a mem-



Cadets learn that SPORTS - Slap magazine/Pull charging handle/Observe chamber/Release charging handle/Tap forward-assist/Squeeze trigger - is the word for clearing a jammed rifle

ber of the National Guard in the simultaneous membership program, he has zeroed an M-16 at least nine times.

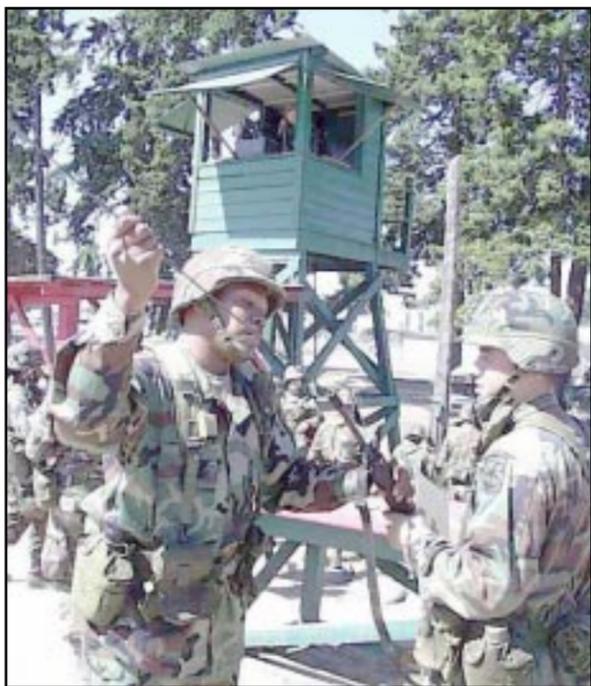
"This time was the fastest I've ever zeroed," he said after succeeding on the first try. But Porter was also assessing his next challenge at the qualification range. "Breath control is the one thing I don't perform as well as I'd have liked to," he explained. Despite his concerns, Porter went on the range and qualified on his first try.

Like other cadets, he was focused on the task at hand, refusing to be distracted from success. It was the same kind of focus found in Cadet Dominique Amantiad from the University of Hawaii. He qualified on the first try despite having a large deer running around behind his target lanes.

"It wasn't any distraction at all," he chuckled. "In fact it was a pretty nice sight to see running around out here in the wilderness." He said he never saw one in the wild before. Cadet Christy Prater from Moorehead State University, Ky., scored a 33, making her a sharpshooter. She, too, had a unique challenge.

"I can't close my left eye very well and I'm right-handed, so that makes it very difficult," she explained, "but I qualified. I zeroed the first time and qualified the first time because I just wanted to get it done."

Cadet Jessica Gundlach also scored as a sharpshooter after beating a case of nervous apprehension. She used 12 rounds to zero, but made it first time without the Weaponeer. 



Staff Sgt. Victor Smith, 80th Division (IT), clears cadets' weapons as they leave the firing range.

Weaponeer is a high-tech teaching tool

by Bob Rosenburgh

Soldiers and cadets in today's Army can make best use of modern technology in a variety of ways, with advanced weapons and communications and with training simulators almost as good as the real thing. One example is the multiple-indexed laser engagement system, known as MILES. Used in conjunction with pyrotechnics and blank ammunition, this suite of transmitters and sensors placed on soldiers, weapons and vehicles allows realistic hit/miss/kill scenarios in mock battles that approach the reality of actual combat.

But no weapon is any better than the soldiers using it, especially the venerable M-16 assault rifle. When used to augment marksmanship training using live ammunition at the firing range, the Weaponeer simulator offers a high-tech substitute that uses no ammunition and can be set up the range, the drill floor or the motor pool.

The Weaponeer allows shooters to gain added experience with their weapon and provides cadre with a unique computer tool to diagnose every aspect of the student's rifle technique.

"When a cadet fails at the zero range, they come to the Weaponeer for remedial training," said Sgt. 1st Class Janice Walker of the 95th Division (IT). She and Sgt. 1st Class Tanya Williams, from the same unit, managed Weaponeer training at Fort Lewis' Range-2 for the first two weeks of Advanced Camp. "What we do here is, first, talk them through the four fundamentals they learned at the other stations." She said the next step is for the cadet to take a firing stance and aim the specially configured M-16 built into the Weaponeer simulator. The target is either a computer-generated silhouette on a monitor or a small pop-up target diorama situated "down-range" at the far end of the firing table. "The cadet finds the target's center-of-mass and fires a three-round group of shots," Walker continued, "then, after they fire, we analyze the shot group recorded on the Weaponeer."

Behind the shooter and the firing table is another monitor and the control panel Walker uses to operate the system. A printed-out picture of the target group is produced to give cadets a visual reference of their progress.

"After analyzing the shot group, we tell them

what we think can improve their scoring. They go back and, if they can hit center-of-mass in the Weaponeer, they can do it on the range." She added that the Weaponeer is available for both zeroing and qualification ranges, wherever the student rifleman has trouble "getting a Go." "There is a possibility they can come to the Weaponeer two, no more than three, times by the time they qualify."

Physically, the Weaponeer is based around a replica weapon that looks and feels like an actual M-16A2 rifle,

linked to the simulator with a series of mechanical and electrically actuated sensors and solenoids. Operation of the rifle is identical to using one with live ammunition, but the Weaponeer fires coded infra-red light bursts instead of bullets. Accurate to the millimeter, the fall of simulated shot is digitally sensed at the target monitor or diorama, transmitted to the control station and

recorded for display at the instructor/operator's terminal for analysis and printout.

Analysis of the shot group includes the rifle's movements prior to squeezing the trigger, at the moment of firing and observing where the round strikes.

"What it shows me," said Williams, "is whether or not you have a tight shot group and why, how you are aiming and where, plus whether you are breathing and squeezing the trigger correctly." At the same time, the instructors observe the shooters firing position, including cheek and stock placement and if the rifle is positioned with a cant, or angle, that will affect the aiming point.

"You could have a tight shot group, but need to change your point of aim," Williams continued, "or if your shot group is loose, but on a line straight up and down, it shows us you are having a problem with breathing." A diagonal shot up to the right can indicate a sharp jerk on the trigger instead of an even squeeze - erratic shots might mean the shooter is shaking and nervous - low shots suggest a bad sight picture - and so on. Whatever the shooter's problem might be, the Weaponeer shows the kinds symptoms indicating bad habits that lead to inaccurate shots.

"Sometimes they come here and haven't even put a shot in the silhouette," said Williams. "Before they go back out on the range, we make sure all their shots are in the black." 



Bob Rosenburgh

Sgt. 1st Class Karen Henderson, left, and Master Sgt. Frank Persinger of the 80th Division (IT) demonstrate the Weaponeer, a simulator used to train marksmanship.



BRANCH ORIENTATION

Signal team demonstrates high-tech commo gear

2nd Lt. Ana Cutting

The Signal Regiment, one of the largest and most diverse branches in the Army, has a mission to provide worldwide information systems and networks for real-time command and control of the entire United States Army. Advanced Camp cadets had a chance to see and experience this space-age technology first-hand when troops from the 29th Signal Brigade at Fort Lewis and the 11th Signal Brigade at Fort Huachuca, Ariz. demonstrated video teleconferencing at their branch orientation site on July 14. They used the cutting-edge communications technology to better show cadets the mission of the Signal Corps both in the Army and the civilian world.

"The signal site is different from the others (at Branch Orientation) because it is not just a display, it's operational," said 1st Lt. Tim Moore, one of the lieutenants at the station. "We have a satellite team right here at Fort Lewis, shooting to Fort Huachuca, and we have a team at Fort Huachuca that is shooting to Fort Gordon (Georgia)." All three sites were linked through a satellite system, special encryption equipment and a network access server to a video display where conversations could take place face-to-face. "Every once in a while, we have to re-launch it, depending on the error rates that we get," added Moore. "But there is a captain on the other end who has been there all day, ready to answer questions from the cadets."

Captain Jay Chapman, on-site at Fort Gordon, discussed his experiences as a company commander in the signal corps with the cadets who were surrounding the screen, all anxious to talk 'online.'

"This is a great unit," he said. "The 11th Signal Brigade has a lot of this technology-insertion equipment, which puts us on right on par with the commercial industry. One of the questions many of the cadets have been asking is 'will this help me if and when I decide to enter the civilian workforce?' It definitely will." Chapman added that the Advanced Camp branch orientation mission pro-



29th Signal Battalion

The 29th Signal Battalion provided a mobile satellite communications system to facilitate a video teleconferencing system for visiting cadets.

vides excellent training for his unit. "This is a great opportunity for us to practice our 18-hour rapid deployment missions by jumping teams out to Fort Gordon and Fort Lewis to set this all up. We use a lot of this equipment for things like video teleconferencing, internet capabilities, and commercial telephone access. This is great training for our guys." Chapman commented that his team was ready to move out at midnight for Fort Stewart (Georgia) for an exercise with the 3rd Infantry Division.

"This mission is great," Chapman said. "It gives us a chance to talk to the cadets. I tell them what it's like to be a signal company commander and Lt. Moore tells them of his experiences as a signal platoon leader."

Several times during the day cadets also had a chance to participate in the video teleconferencing and speak with Maj. Gen. Peter M. CuvIELLO,

Chief of Signal. CuvIELLO answered questions about the Signal Corps, life as a signal officer and using the technology in civilian industry.

A Mobile Subscriber Radio Terminal (MSRT) was set up by the 29th Signal Brigade next to the teleconferencing tent, and a few lucky cadets were able to make long distance phone calls to their home. Cadet Brian Northup of Marquette University expressed his excitement regarding the signal branch.

"I am really interested in signal because I am a mechanical engineer and I like the technical aspects of the Signal Corps." Northup thought his interest in computers would be helpful if he chose Signal as a branch. "If I do go Signal, I will be able to further my career anywhere... I'll have a technical background in communications, and a mechanical engineering degree as well... the possibilities are endless." 

Chemical branch protects the force

by 2nd Lt. LaShaunda Jackson

The Chemical Corps branch is best known for operations and training in support of Nuclear, Biological and Chemical defense and employment and for flame munitions technology. With the increasing threat of facing such weapons on the future battlefield, chemical officers can be found in positions of increasing responsibility at all levels of the Army. Many of their duties involve leading chemical units, activities, and advising commanders on NBC operations. Some develop plans for employing and conducting NBC operations or analyzing and studying chemical compounds.

The Chemical Corps offers career patterns with leadership positions for both male and female officers, providing unique opportunities at military installations in the continental

United States, Europe, Korea, Alaska, and Hawaii.

Recent Department of the Army initiatives have greatly expanded the scope and mission of National Guard chemical units and operations to include a national network of emergency units able to defend against domestic acts of terrorism using weapons of mass destruction. These specialized units will also be able to mobilize and deploy for overseas contingencies. Newly commissioned officers can expect to serve as assistant chemical officers, platoon leaders, and chemical company executive officers.

MI finds facts

by 2nd Lt. LaShaunda Jackson

The Military Intelligence Corps offers a career filled with complex and exciting missions ranging from the collection of electronic information from foreign communications systems to verbal interrogation of prisoners and compilation of data from captured documents. The MI profession requires

training in a variety of diverse communication, language and technical skills. As an MI officer you will plan, supervise, and conduct collection and analysis of raw information.

With the growing complexity of international events, military intelligence tracks global and regional security issues using human intelligence gathering (HUMINT), signal intelligence gathering (SIGINT) and electronic intelligence gathering (ELINT). Working in unison, these primary missions are vital to maintaining readiness and prevailing on the battlefield.

In recent years, MI soldiers have provided support to worldwide operations in areas like in Kuwait, Somalia, Haiti, Bosnia and Kosovo. MI assignments are available throughout the Army, Department of Defense, and the National Security Agency.

As a lieutenant, an MI officer can expect to serve in many leadership and technical positions such as platoon leader or assistant S2 intelligence officer on a battalion-level staff.





BRANCH ORIENTATION

Top tanker talks about tomorrow

Story, art and photos by
Bob Rosenburgh

Only two separate days during the entire course of Advanced Camp are set aside for Branch Orientation and the U. S. Army Armor Center thought it important enough to send one of their two senior commanders to each of the two days. On June 29, Brig. Gen. R. Steven Whitcomb, the Deputy commanding general of the Armor Center and Fort Knox was on hand while the center and post commander, Maj. Gen. George H. Harmeyer, came August 14. Both talked about American armor and its future.

"We run the ROTC basic camp at Fort Knox," Harmeyer explained, "so I'm also here to compare what they're doing at the senior camp." He said the basic camp is more oriented to common soldier skills while Advanced Camp capitalizes on lessons learned after cadets have been in the program longer.

While at Fort Lewis, Harmeyer also paid an office call to Lt. Gen. George Crocker, commander of I Corps and Fort Luis. "We spent some time talking about training issues for the armor brigade here," he said, "and there were a few things for me to take back and work on for the armor force perspective."

He also explained how the Abrades tank will be



Maj. Gen. George H. Harmeyer, commander of the United States Army Armor Center and Fort Knox, Ky., presents a commander's coin of excellence to 2nd Lt. Ryan Kress while visiting the Fire Support committee. Kress will proceed to the Armor Officer Basic course following Advanced Camp.

improved to keep it viable into the next century.

"This month," he said, "the newest model of the M1A2, the system-enhanced package, is starting off the assembly line." The upgrades include a second-generation forward-looking infrared sighting system. "That gives us a great advantage, because the second-gen FLIR allows us to positively identify a target at the maximum effective ranges of the ammunition, out to four and five thousand meters. That will also greatly reduce fratricide," he said.

Harmeyer said the M1A2 package will keep the Abrades tank in its position as the most advanced tank in the world well into the 21st century. He said survivability is a top priority in the design process and more armor has been added as a result as well as additional vehicle-integrated defense and warning systems.

"As far as replacing the Abrades tank," he continued, "the mission needs statement for a future combat system isn't calling it a tank at this point because it will be a multi-functional vehicle." Harmeyer said some the science and technology they are projecting is only on the drawing board.



A tank of the future might be turbine powered, mount a major-caliber main gun and weigh under 25 tons for improved deployability. Digital communications are also important.

"What will the gun be," he postulated. "It could follow one of several different technologies, like a conventional gun, a hyper-velocity missile or an electro-magnetic gun. Or it could be a combination of several other things, like directed-energy or special munitions."

Harmeyer said the vehicle would need to be highly deployable as well, possibly in the range of 20 to 25 tons.

"But you also need to consider the laws of physics," he added. "If you want survivability, a 20-ton vehicle can't take a hit from a tank round and survive. Even if you don't penetrate it, the energy would severely damage the vehicle, so a lot of science and technology work needs to be done." He said some breakthrough discoveries are being sought to offset current design limitations.

"We anticipate that something should be available for production in the 2015 to 2020 time frame, so that means we'll have the Abrades for a while longer." With the M1A2 rebuild already underway, another upgrade won't be needed for a while. "The M1 system is already over 15 years old," he said, "and we need to keep it in operational condition. At 70 tons it is very survival, it is a big deterrent and we can get it around the world very quickly." With pre-positioning, a new generation of fast sea-lift ships and the amazing C-17 Globemaster III jet transport, the Abrades tank can be moved to an operational theater faster than any tank before. "That's one of the main reasons the C-17 was built," he added, "to haul the heavy forces." He said not many people know that a on June 2 a mech-heavy task force, including 14 Abrades tanks, was flown by C-17s from Germany to Albania and to Macedonia in 14 hours.

"The first tank that was on CNN going into Kosovo was in Germany the day before, so it is strategically deployable." 



Brig. Gen. R. Steven Whitcomb, Deputy commanding general at Fort Knox, was on hand to talk with cadets at Branch Orientation.

ADA launches cadets in the right direction

by 2nd Lt. Georgette Romo

Many cadets at Advanced Camp are as much relieved as they are excited when Branch Orientation is on the day's training schedule. It offers a brief recovery period from the field as well as an educational opportunity to find out where their interests lie and further help them determine the branch of their choice. As part of a two day series, Branch Orientation offers cadets an insight into their interests and qualifications.

Air Defense Artillery, always on hand for the event, is unique among the career fields. ADA is one of the newer members of the combat arms family and is one of the few combat arms branches with numerous career opportunities for both men and women.

At branch orientation, cadets were introduced to both the SHORAD (short range air defense) and HIMAD (high/medium altitude air defense) systems. Two platoon leaders from both systems gave the cadets an individual briefing of what their jobs entail. The lieutenants explained all of the air defense systems: the Avenger/Stinger, the "Linebacker" Bradley/Stinger fighting vehicle, Patriot and THAAD.

Spc. Matthew West from C company, 1-62nd ADA at Fort Lewis, introduced them to training devices that cadets had a chance to try out. The (STPT) Stinger Troop Proficiency Trainer simulates SHORAD employment. By using the STPT, cadets grasped a first hand feel on using SHORAD Manpads, the hand held stinger. Cadets also sampled one of the newer training devices, the Table Top Trainer, which is the Avenger combat simulator. "We have had the STPT for several years, but the Table top Trainer is brand new and this is the first year that we have used it at branch orientation. The cadets think it's pretty high speed," explained West.

After the cadets receive the brief overview on the different systems in ADA, they are encouraged to tour the ADA exhibit and talk to any of the Active Duty personnel, as well as take the free literature that goes further into depth of the different specialties in the ADA branch.

Cadet Liz Collura from Ohio University felt that "it was very beneficial to talk to the platoon leaders because they were cadets not so long ago and can still relate with what we are still going through. They could really answer a lot of my questions," she said. "If there were questions they couldn't answer, the literature they provided for us could. ADA did a great job on providing information for anyone interested," she added. CDT Collura will be going to an ADA unit for cadet troop leadership training (CTLT) upon completion of camp. 

Broken foot fails to stop determined NDSU cadet

by 2nd Lt. Georgette Romo

Things were going just fine during 1998 ROTC Advanced Camp for Cadet Angela Johnson from North Dakota State University. Johnson reported to 7th Regiment with good standings to complete her five weeks of adventure at camp. When it came time to go to individual tactical training, however, fate took harsh turn.

Johnson was on the Audie Murphey assault course when her team came to the suspended one-rope bridge. To get across, you must first get a boost to get up to the rope, then slide along the rope face down, while pulling yourself along by hand...balancing your M16 on your back. As a safety precaution two other cadets serve as safeties, one on each side to prevent falls.

Johnson was well on her way across the bridge when, suddenly, she lost couldn't kick herself back up.

"The evaluator just told me to drop and start over, so I dropped. The safeties had their hands on my sides but I just landed wrong. It was a freak accident," she said. Johnson landed on the ball of her foot instead of on her heel, resulting in three broken foot bones. "The funny thing was that it wasn't a hard landing at all, just a freak landing," she added.

Broken hearted and a bit discouraged, Cadet sent home. Now her fate was in her own hands. Would she continue with ROTC and come back for Advanced Camp the following summer, or would she just stay with her current National Guard Unit, C. Company, 134th Signal, in Moorhead Minn.?

"I have always been put in leadership positions," she said. "I was a team leader and squad leader in basic training and AIT, when I got back to my unit

I was an E-4 section leader," she explained.

Johnson was determined to reach her goal, as it became clear to her that she was a natural leader. "Besides," she added, "I have invested way too much time into ROTC to step out now and I ultimately enjoy the Army. Its really what I see myself doing. Coming back to camp this year was a huge decision for me," she said.

Most frustrating to Johnson was seeing her peers as 2nd Lts. when she knew she would come back as a cadet again.

But Johnson said returning to camp isn't as bad as she thought it would be.

"I'm glad I came back," she said. "I think I am actually enjoying the training more the second time around, because I understand it and I'm not as tense as I was last year."

This summer, Johnson is often approached by peers in her platoon for advice and guidance about what TACs look for in evaluations and what TAC's expectations are. "I'm trying to help them out as much as I can without giving anything away."

Johnson's platoon is extremely supportive and inspired by her determination to complete Advanced Camp despite her previous injury. "I'm so thankful that I have a good platoon," she added smiling. "I so was frightened to go back to Audie Murphey but my platoon was there for me, and I made it through just fine."

In preparation for this summer, she managed to make it through a really confusing school year. "I wasn't an MSIII and I wasn't an MSIV, I was really an MSIII and a half," she explained. "It was pretty difficult not knowing what my position was, and not knowing what I was allowed and wasn't allowed to



Staff Sgt. Patrick McDonald

Cadet Angela Johnson of North Dakota State Univ. do," she said.

Johnson served this past school year wearing MSIV rank but participated in MSIII exercises to prepare her for her return to camp. Although Johnson's official MSIII evaluations were officially complete, she was still given guidance by MSIVs and cadre. Johnson's academic standings will be calculated with the 1999 year group, while here camp score and overall assessment will be with the 2000 year group attaining her commission in May of 2000.

"I'm just anticipating completing camp and going back to my school so I can help next years MS IIIs," she explained. Johnson said that she has noticed many changes that took place over the course of a year and hopes to be able to use her experience as a tool to help her school calibrate their training.

Johnson hopes to branch Signal Corps, and upon completion of camp, will be going to Korea for CTLT where she will be in a Signal unit.

Camp NCO nabs crook

Compiled by PAO Staff

In today's military a true hero is someone who is not out to gain recognition for the good that he or she has done but someone who gives back to the community and represents the high standards and values of the Army. These characteristics were demonstrated by Sgt. 1st Class Robert K. Metz at the Seattle-Tacoma International Airport July 11 when he stopped a runaway fugitive from escaping the pursuit of law enforcement officials.

Metz, a member of the 167th Support Group, an Army Reserve unit from Londonderry, New Hampshire, has become a local hero at Advanced Camp and Fort Lewis. What began as the annual two week training with his reserve unit rapidly turned into a Hollywood movie-like chase last week. He was working at the SeaTac Airport as a member of the Personnel and Administration greeter team, Metz was on his way to the airport's lost and found department, when he heard a crowd of travellers yelling at someone to stop. Metz turned to suddenly see a frantic man running toward him. The fast-thinking sergeant quickly saw something about this man was very wrong.

"My initial thought was 'should I stop him?' I didn't want any innocent



2nd Lt. LaShaunda Jackson

Sgt. 1st Class Robert K. Metz

bystanders to get hurt," said Metz. Acting on pure instinct, he leaped at the man and brought him to an abrupt halt, restraining the struggling captive as best he could. Airport security police caught up to where Metz was holding his prisoner on the floor and from there, they carted the offender off. Metz had stopped a fleeing fugitive cold in his tracks. Without the fast reactions of this dedicated NCO, the perpetrator may have escaped the scene.

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