



MPRA

THE DRAGON | Fall 2022



MPs Train at New Heights

MPRA The Dragoon Contents

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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 Belleby
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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 have passed, and they were very impressive. The week started off with the Memorial Tribute on a beautiful morning. Our Gold Star families are forever on our minds but even more so on this special day as we honor their families' service. Some of the week's other events included a Bass Tournament, Golf Tournament, Hall of Fame Inductions, Regimental Run, and a maximum capacity MP Ball. A special thanks to our USAMPS command team for their vision and leadership in making the 81st anniversary week activities a huge success.

I would ask that you take the time to read each of the articles in this edition. The team works hard to bring you the most relevant, informative, and motivational stories in each edition. I was very impressed with this edition specifically and the great things our Military Police Soldiers are doing around the world! Beth works tirelessly to find these types of stories so if you have something that you would like us to share, please let her know. Janet and the Gift Shop team continue to work tirelessly to bring you the best products and services that you expect and deserve. These ladies are what makes this organization great, and nobody works harder!

This year the MPRA was able to host the Public Safety Cadet Academy with support from the 14th Military Police Brigade. This event saw young men and women from all over the U.S. converge on Fort Leonard Wood for a week of intense



➡ Rick Harne

First Sergeant (Retired)
MPRA Executive Director

training, leadership classes given by our group of Army professionals, and briefings from outside agencies like the Missouri State Highway Patrol and U.S. Customs and Border Protection. When they departed, I had a feeling some of them will be back here in the Army uniform.

In 2022 we saw many great supporters of our regiment move on to the next phase of their life. Although the MPRA has had a great relationship with the 200th Military Police Command, MG John Hussey took it to the next level. MG Hussey was always gracious and provided wise counsel on how we can all work together to better the team and to help our Military Police Soldiers and their families. Best of luck to him in all his future endeavors.

In closing, there are a few ladies I would like to thank. Erin Younkin and Stacie Marshall. Most of you don't know them but Erin is the MPRA's Marketing and Branding Representative and Stacie Marshall is our Creative Director. This magazine, social media posts, and so much more can be directly attributed to them and their professional work! We are fortunate to have them on our team.

Preparation is already beginning for next year which will be the 82nd anniversary of the Military Police Corps!

From the Commandant

Rob, Catherine, and I have settled into life here on Fort Leonard Wood and we have been delighted to discover the engaged and caring community here. Not only does Fort Leonard Wood have wonderful resources, but the efforts of our retired population and engaged civic leaders truly make the larger St. Robert and Waynesville communities incredibly welcoming for our families. The heart really does grow bigger here in the heart of America as demonstrated by everyone from the employees on the base to the local population that embraces our military so warmly.

This was all clearly on display during our recent 81st MP Anniversary celebration. I was filled with tremendous pride as I watched not only the top-notch events take place, but all the work and coordination that took place ahead of time to bring our community, our units, and our regiment together to honor the service and sacrifice of the MP Corps. Thank you to everyone who took part!

81 years of service demonstrates that the need for our Regiment has lasted through many turbulent times. Indeed, as you read this, Military Police Soldiers are proudly serving around the world on numerous critical missions. We will be asked hard questions about the purpose and value of these Soldiers in a future conflict but anyone who has served in our ranks has no problem with our answer. We serve where others have no wish to be. We have been called to witness and document the dark places of people's lives. Stood the posts during the hours others slept in their beds. Walked the checkpoints among the



➤ **COL Sarah Albrycht**
52nd Commandant
and Chief of the Military Police
Corps Regiment

confined who others have long forgotten. Fought the enemy where they were least expected and won. We have left our families to serve our communities even when danger came to our own doorstep. Yes, the Military Police may not be at the decisive point on the battlefield, but we will always be at the decisive point of moral authority.

The MP Soldier is the embodiment of an ideal that no Soldier is above the law no matter their rank or position, and that all will be held accountable, as we will not be deterred in our mission. Our MP Corps today is reflective of the Army's population: diverse, intelligent, and inspired men and women who desire to serve not only their Army, but to better their community. Our civilian security guards and police provide the MP force the flexibility to respond to missions beyond our bases, while our newly transformed CID is ever expanding the reach and capabilities of our Special

Agents in their mission to seek the truth. Together this incredibly agile and responsive force has power beyond its size and purpose beyond its mission, as demonstrated by the use of MP in every sudden crisis from combat to COVID response. Our Military Police Corps is always ready. We are present in every Army neighborhood, responsive in state and federal emergencies, and prepared for competition, crisis, or conflict. We will do our duty.

I have no doubt that our MP Soldiers and Civilians will continue to serve our communities with the professionalism our Army and our Nation has the right to expect. As a Regiment we are working hard to adapt our formations and key positions to align the MP Corps with the Army of 2030 and beyond. This does mean that there will be changes and hard decisions about what we are able to accomplish with a smaller and more focused force. Whatever the MP Corps adapts to over the next few years one thing will never change: our mission to Assist, Protect and Defend our own, no matter when or where.

"Of the Troops and For the Troops"



From the Regimental Command Sergeant Major

Military Police Corps Regiment: I want to start off by saying thanks to the entire team for the exceptional efforts by everyone. We have a small but dynamic Corps. Our accomplishments as a team keeps Army leaders informed and validates why we are the force of choice. The Commandant, Regimental Chief Warrant Officer, and I are extremely proud of you all. Please keep demonstrating the finest qualities of excellence as you Assist, Protect, and Defend all.

September was a busy month here at the home of the Regiment. In celebration of the Military Police Corps 81st Anniversary, we conducted a full complement of events of the past. We started the month by conducting the Military Police Competitive Challenge which included 18 officers and 19 teams. Next, we executed a senior leader forum, consisting of senior leaders from across the globe. The official anniversary week activities comprised of the Memorial Tribute, Bass Fishing Tournament, Motorcycle Mentorship Ride, the Inaugural Regimental Command Sergeant Major James W. Frye Award, the MPRA sponsored 5k Fun Run, Regimental Retreat, Hall of Fame Ceremony, and the Regimental Ball. From the beginning, events were standing room only, packed auditoriums, as well as a ball that consisted of almost 700 Soldiers, Leaders, Families, and guests. Our people showed up and showed out this year! I was proud to see so much support and look forward to starting the planning for next year.

Formations will soon start seeing Soldiers arriving to their organizations that are part of a Military Police "Battle Buddy" Pilot Program. This is different from the battle buddy system you are familiar with when they arrive to Fort Leonard Wood. This program allows Soldiers to list up to

three other Soldiers from their unit that goes to Human Resource Command for assignment consideration. If there are no disqualifying factors, Soldiers will be paired and PCS to their first duty station together and assigned to the same unit for a minimum period of six months. This program hopes to assist leaders with an additional resource as part of the Soldiers "golden triangle" and to provide those Soldiers with other resources to combat potential harmful behaviors. There will be a follow up survey for the Soldiers and their leaders to further refine the program.

In collaboration with the Director of Training, Noncommissioned Officer Academy, and feedback from the field, we are working to rejuvenate our Senior and Advance Leader Courses. The goal of these efforts is to ensure our leaders are being taught the most updated material and it compliments what our officers are learning in their course of instruction. We estimate that the process will take approximately 18 months to complete using priority lesson plan update modeling. As of October 1, 2022, we started 55-hours of distance learning (DL). We are working hard to ensure we capture all the lessons learned as we conduct the first interactions. I ask all leadership in the field to ensure that when a student is participating in DL it is their primary place of duty. The DL portion is a graduation requirement so treat it as if they are in the resident portion of school. As we continue to evolve the material we instruct, if asked to provide feedback, I urge the team to participate. We want to ensure we provide our leaders the best!

As we see changes in the Military Police Corps structure, we will be taking a close look at how that will affect the people within our formations. One thing the Proponency team and I will be focusing on is any necessary revisions to DA



➔ **CSM Shawn Klosterman**
Military Police School Command
Sergeant Major

PAM 600-25 to ensure our NCOs have clear promotion path guidance. In the meantime, please ensure we use the current PAM as a guide and keep the right leaders, in the key developmental positions, for the right amount of time. The future of our Corps is bright. Please continue to do your part to guide, mentor, and evaluate our people to give the selection boards a clear picture of their knowledge, skills, and behaviors.

Please continue look out for one another, thus exemplifying our MP Corps motto. I am humbled and extremely proud to be a member of this Corps and look forward to serving alongside you all. Remember it's not about you, but it always starts with you. Prove you care.

Assist, Protect, Defend! Winning Matters!
People First!



From the **Regimental Chief Warrant Officer**

Greetings from the Home of the Regiment! First and foremost, I would like to express my sincere gratitude for all you do for our Regiment. I witnessed your pride and professionalism firsthand during this year's Military Police Regimental week. This was the first year out of the COVID19 restricted environment that we were able to execute a full week of events and activities. I visited most of the events and actually participated in the Bass Tournament. I did not win anything of course, but I had a great time nonetheless. It was more about the camaraderie than anything else. The week concluded with a phenomenal Military Police Regimental Ball. I was totally amazed at the turnout; almost 700 people! It was an amazing event and I enjoyed every minute of it. We truly have the best Regiment in the Army!

I would like to shift gears for a minute and give you an update on the CID restructure. In the last edition, I wrote about the organizational name changes (Field Offices, Resident Agencies and Resident Units) which aligned with other federal investigative agencies. Field Offices are located and support the Corps and Division installations like Fort Bragg, Fort Drum, and Fort Campbell; Resident Agencies are located and support the Non-divisional installations like Fort Leonard Wood, Fort Lee, and Fort Belvoir; and Resident Units are located and support smaller installations like Fort Leavenworth, Fort McCoy, and Fort Dix. Those name changes took affect this past August. As I indicated before, there are more changes coming and I will keep you posted when more information becomes available.

**ASSIST, PROTECT, DEFEND
OF THE TROOPS AND FOR THE TROOPS**



➔ CW5 Mark W. Arnold
Regimental Chief Warrant Officer



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CASTANEDA NAMED AS MP CORPS NCO OF THE YEAR

STORY BY SGT. CONNOR DAVIS, 89TH MILITARY POLICE BRIGADE

The inaugural Regimental Command Sgt. Maj. James W. Frye NCO of the Year award, a new award recognizing the best MP NCO of the year, was presented to 1st Sgt. Roberto Castaneda Jr. by a representative of the United States Army Military Police School on Sept. 20 at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri.

Castaneda won the award for his exceptional leadership of 978th Military Police Company during their deployment to South Korea, his dedication to professional excellence and efforts to develop his Soldiers.

“Winning this award only validates what I have been preaching to these Soldiers since the day that I took responsibility of this unit, that we all can have a huge effect on one another, and proactive initiatives are what is going to drive transformation,” Castaneda said. “Though this is an individual award, I am receiving it because of the hard work and effort given by the Scorpions (Soldiers 978th Military Police Company).”

Castaneda has led the company as first sergeant for more than two years, and throughout the past year they completed a rotation at the National Training Center in Fort Irwin, California, an activation in support of Operation Allies Welcome, where they provided security and law enforcement expertise for more than 5,000 Afghanistan special immigrants at Dona Ana Base Camp, and their current rotation in support of 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division in Camp Humphreys, South Korea.

Throughout all these missions, Castaneda has focused on not letting the high operational tempo interfere with the growth of his Soldiers and the goals that they set out to accomplish. To support the professional and personal advancement of Soldiers,



Pictured from Left to Right: CSM(R) James W. Frye, 1SG(R) Rick Harne, 1SG Roberto Castaneda, RCSM Shawn Klosterman, CSM(R) James Breckinridge. Photo by Ryan Thompson, Fort Leonard Wood Public Affairs Office.

he created and implemented training initiatives to pursue awards, academics and additional skill training opportunities, including Expert Soldier Badge training, their Green Tab Academy for developing leadership, and the volunteer efforts that led to them being named the Fort Bliss Outstanding Volunteer Unit.

To further develop the Soldiers serving in his unit, Castaneda also created the Scorpion College Mentorship Program to help Soldiers interested in attending college while



Pictured are all the Non-Commissioned Officers present for the the award ceremony. Photo by Ryan Thompson, Fort Leonard Wood Public Affairs Office.

serving. He earned an associate, bachelor's and master's degree over 15 years of his service, yet he believes the hardest part is getting started.

"What initially inspired me to promote the Scorpion College Mentorship Program was understanding that as a young Soldier, I was thirsty and eager to start college, but intimidated by the process," Castaneda explained. "It took one great NCO to show me what I needed to do, and I wanted to ensure that my Soldiers had the same opportunity."

Castaneda started the program by identifying Soldiers who had received associates and bachelor's degrees while serving with the unit and getting them to mentor their peers in how best to handle going to college during service. Originally Castaneda was spearheading the program, but over time young Soldiers began to make the program their own.

"The most important thing to me was that Soldiers in the unit were the face of the program, and they tailored it to better fit those they serve with," Castaneda said.

"Upon taking responsibility of the 978th, I wanted to ensure that our Soldiers not only familiarized themselves with the legacy of the Military Police Corps Regiment, but also understood our unit's motto, 'The Original Company,' and our role as the premier law enforcement unit for Fort Bliss and the surrounding El Paso Communities - for over 45 years," Castaneda said.

Recognizing and remembering that history was one of Castaneda's highest priorities coming in as the new first sergeant shortly before the unit's 80th anniversary. He challenged his Soldiers to come up with initiatives to help the Scorpions remember their fallen. To facilitate this, they began dedicating numerous locations in the company footprint in honor of these fallen Soldiers.

"These include the Scorpion History and Lineage conference room, which was dedicated to Spc. Trevor Adkins; the Spc. Erica Alecksen Academic Cage and computer lab; the Staff Sgt. Ricardo Seija Platoon Office Area; the Spc. Cameron Stambaugh Company Fitness Cage; and finally the creation of the Spc. Alejandro Pardo Soldier of the Month Award," Castaneda said. "We have a strong tie with our veterans and alumni - for the 80th anniversary many reached out and told stories from their time in the unit. This made the Soldiers better understand how important it is to never forget those who came before us, and that one day, they will be in that position."

Castaneda believes the key to being the best NCO you can be is in what you do every day: 'don't be about the 'show,' but be about the 'Joe.' They should do things that impact Soldier's lives because that should be the focus as an NCO, and to be a servant leader rather than putting your personal image first. He believes that knowledge and experience should be shared, rather than compartmentalized.

"I challenge NCO's across our regiment to serve alongside their subordinates, and utilize the talent we already have in our formations right now," Castaneda said. "It is an honor to be the inaugural winner of the RCSM award and I will be forever grateful for this."



1st Sgt. Roberto Castaneda Jr. stands with 978th Military Police Company's leadership in front of a module bridge the unit assisted in protecting in support of a river-crossing operation in an undisclosed training area on the South Korean peninsula. Photo courtesy of 1st Sgt. Robert Castaneda Jr., 978th MP Co.



1st Sgt. Roberto Castaneda Jr. directs a Soldier from his unit as they complete a Low Belly Over, on an obstacle course. The obstacle course is used to familiarize Soldiers with the kind of tactical movement they will use in combat, as well as physical training, building teamwork and evaluating problem solving skills. Photo courtesy of 1st Sgt. Roberto Castaneda Jr., 978th MP CO.

200th MP Command Changes Leadership: Hussey to Cowan

STORY AND PHOTOS BY MAJ. OLUWOLE OSIBODU 200TH MILITARY POLICE COMMAND

Family, friends and distinguished guests were present on a hot Friday morning, August 26, as Maj. Gen. John F. Hussey relinquished duties as the commanding general of the 200th Military Police Command, located at Fort Meade, Maryland, to Brig. Gen. Cary “Joe” Cowan Jr. during a change of command ceremony held at Sharp Field.

The 200th Military Police Command is a division-level headquarters which commands 97% of the Army Reserve military police assets and soldiers. The command was activated on April 16, 2008, after being constituted two years earlier from the 220th Military Police Brigade. It is home to approximately 14,000 soldiers who make up 4 brigades, 22 battalions and 53 companies and detachments.

The ceremony commenced with the arrival of the reviewing party which conducted an inspection of the units formed and their colors while the 78th Army Band played the traditional numbers associated with this time-honored event.

Hussey took command of the 200th on November 2, 2019. He enlisted in the Marine Corps in June 1984. He then transferred to the Army National Guard in 1986, completed the Officer Candidate School in 1988 and branched as a Military Police Officer. It wasn’t until 1997 that Hussey joined the Army Reserve, where he continued his career which culminated with his taking command of the 200th.

“THE UNIT’S SUCCESS HAD A GREAT DEAL TO DO WITH HUSSEY’S LEADERSHIP AND HIS HIGH STANDARDS.”

Some of his most notable prior assignments include serving as commander of the 306th Military Police Battalion at the Abu Ghraib prison Iraq in 2005, commander of the 3rd Brigade Civil Affairs/Psychological Operations, and the deputy commander of Joint Task Force Guantanamo, which was his last assignment before assuming command of the 200th.



U.S. Army Brig. Gen. Cary Cowan Jr. assumes command of the 200th Military Police Command at a change of command ceremony on Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, N.J., Aug. 26, 2022. Cowan previously served as deputy commanding general for the 200th MP Command. As commander of the 200th MP Command, Cowan will oversee four brigades, 22 battalions, and 53 companies dispersed across the continental U.S.. Photo by Senior Airman Joseph Morales, Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst Public Affairs

Speaking in his usual off-the-cuff manner, Hussey began by thanking his wife Janice for all she did for him and his family, as he dealt with death in his family in the past year, while not slowing down on mission requirements. He asked the audience to give a round of applause in appreciation of all spouses for what they do. He then talked about his time in command and listed some of the missions and training events that units in the 200th are participating in here in the United States and abroad. “Anywhere you go, the 200th MP Command is on the map to go,” he said.

Hussey then talked about his vision for the command in the future, and how the staff accepted his challenge to envision the command’s role in future operations, developing plans, creating information products and executing training events for detention and dislocated civilian operations, the latter which was just concluded a few days ago.

“I have really tasked this staff, and I want to congratulate you for standing up to it,” Hussey said. “Sometimes you get that look like ‘Why-do-we-have-to-do-this,’ but I never got that from any of you.”

He also thanked some of the guests in the audience who had guided him as mentors, and others with whom he had worked in some key assignments during his Army Reserve career.

Finally, he welcomed Cowan and his family to his new assignment. “I leave you with a great enterprise, and you know that because you helped build it,” Hussey said. He expressed confidence in the incoming command team as well. Hussey signed off one last time with his signature “Justice Six, Out!”

Maj. Gen. Gregory Mosser, Deputy Commanding General United States Army Reserve Command, presided over the ceremony, accepting the colors from Hussey as he relinquished command and handed them to Cowan, symbolizing the transfer of authority. In his remarks, Mosser ran through the litany of Hussey’s academic and professional accomplishments in a career that spanned four decades, taking special note of his five master’s degrees, doctoral degree and numerous published papers and dissertations on detention operations.

“Saying that John is educated is like saying Wyatt Earp participated in a few law enforcement actions in the 1880s,” Mosser said. “The unit’s success had a great deal to do with Hussey’s leadership and his high standards.”

Mosser noted that all three of Hussey’s children had followed in their father’s footsteps by entering



U.S. Army Maj. Gen. John Hussey, outgoing 200th Military Police Command commander, Maj. Gen. Gregory Mosser, U.S. Army Reserve Command deputy commanding general, and Brig. Gen. Cary Cowan Jr., incoming 200th Military Police Command commander, prepare to inspect their command at a change of command ceremony on Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, N.J., Aug. 26, 2022. The purpose of the 200th Military Police Command is to train, command and deploy military police units across the United States. Photo by Senior Airman Joseph Morales-Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst Public Affairs.

service-oriented careers, with two currently serving in the military. He then thanked Mrs. Janice Hussey for excelling as a soldier’s spouse, noting that it was one of the most difficult assignments in the Army.

Mosser then welcomed Cowan and his family to his new role as the commander of the 200th. “With all your experience and this great group of boosters, we all you’ll continue to uphold the tenets of the 200th motto, commanding the best,” he added.

Mosser closed out his remarks by thanking Hussey for his service on behalf of a grateful Army and nation.

Last to speak was the new commander of the 200th. Cowan praised Hussey for pushing the command to new heights while also providing a vision for the command. “For myself, working for Maj. Gen. Hussey the last few years has afforded me a graduate-level learning opportunity, one anchored in the Army values and the desire to be better every day,” he said. To the soldiers now under his charge, Cowan said that the command will continue to train, prepare and continue to follow the vision laid out by Hussey.

Cowan has made successful careers out of law enforcement in both the military and civilian, as he serves in Jacksonville, Florida where he resides.

“TRAIN TO FIGHT! COMMANDING THE BEST!”



U.S. Army soldiers stand at parade rest during a change of command ceremony at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, N.J., Aug. 26, 2022. The change of command was for the 200th Military Police Command, the senior law enforcement unit within the U.S. Army Reserve. Photo by Senior Airman Joseph Morales-Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst Public Affairs.

COMMAND SGT. MAJ. SEEKS TREATMENT FOR ALCOHOLISM, ENCOURAGES OTHERS TO GET HELP

STORY BY CHARLOTTE RICHTER, U.S. ARMY GARRISON FORT LEAVENWORTH

On Jan. 17, 2022, Command Sgt. Maj. Justin Shad, 15th Military Police Brigade, voluntarily enrolled in Signature Psychiatric Hospital's month-long Valor veterans-focused inpatient program to treat alcoholism.

Despite his initial doubts, he completed rehabilitation and shared his decision with friends on social media. He now shares his experience to encourage others who may be struggling to find help.

ADDICTION PROGRESSION

Shad said before he joined the military in 1996, he drank socially. He clarified that while military service is not a cause of alcoholism, military culture occasionally promotes alcohol consumption.

"I slowly fell into a cycle where I relied on alcohol," he said. "It pretty much morphed throughout my career, but really the last five years, I was out of control."

Eleven criteria characterize Alcohol Use Disorder in the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, including the amount of alcohol consumed, interest in or abstaining from drinking, failure to fulfill obligations, alcohol use despite hazards, tolerance and withdrawal patterns.

"I knew for years that I had a drinking problem, but I was in denial," Shad said. "I was in denial because in my mind I was in control of my life. ... I had a successful career, I had a house... a beautiful, supportive wife and family."

He said he didn't view someone with an addiction as someone in his position because he believed he could control his addiction; he wasn't ready to admit he had a problem.

Shad said he gradually developed health problems, including stomach issues that accumulated into an overall feeling that he was tired of drinking. He said, although drinking affected his personal life, realizing the need for lifestyle changes at home catalyzed his interest in treatment.

"People talk about rock bottom or something happened where they knew they needed help. It is weird for me because nothing happened. I didn't get in any trouble. For me, it was a combination of years of (indicators)."

SEEKING TREATMENT

Shad explained he had visited Behavioral Health at Gentry Clinic regularly to manage his mental health, but he had not shared his drinking habits. He said he felt a voice inside him considering help despite his denial. Shad said he reached out to an old platoon sergeant, whom he knew had completed



Command Sgt. Maj. Justin Shad, 15th Military Police Brigade, shows his 24-hour chip from Alcoholics Anonymous, which serves as a reminder that sobriety is counted 24 hours at a time. He encourages others to seek resources for alcoholism and addiction.

a rehabilitation program in Kansas City, to ask about the treatment, and subsequently enrolled in the Valor inpatient program.

"I did it voluntarily, and to be quite honest ... I didn't know going into the program if it was going to work for one, and then secondly, I didn't know if I even wanted to really quit drinking."

Shad said the most challenging part of rehabilitation was understanding his own motivation for drinking. He said he feared returning to addictive behaviors after treatment.

Shad said the Valor program, designed for active-duty military, first responders and veterans, consists of 28 days of inpatient treatment and 14 days of outpatient care. He said the program teaches patients about alcoholism as a disorder and provides tools to cope with stressors without alcohol. He said the Valor program also demonstrates techniques against stressors from concurrent disorders, including Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder.

"They really teach you how to change your lifestyle in every aspect, as far as filling that time that you have with other activities. In all reality, when you start becoming sober, your mental health changes as well. The clarity in your head changes," Shad said. "It's hard to explain, but when you drink as much as I was drinking at the time, it was like coming out of a tunnel ... everything is clear in life."

GOING PUBLIC

Shad said another aspect of successfully treating alcohol addiction is building an external support system. He intentionally shared his enrollment in Valor on Facebook for his own accountability and for transparency about the importance of seeking treatment. Shad acknowledged that in his position as a brigade command sergeant major, he expected criticism. To his surprise, he said soldiers of all ranks reached out to him in reference to his initial post, sharing similar concerns with alcohol, asking questions and encouraging him through his experience.

He said the support encouraged him to continue to be open about seeking treatment on social media and in person as a means to invite more support for himself and those around him.

“People need to understand that reaching out for help is a strong thing to do, and it takes a lot of courage to do it, and at the same time it sets the example for the younger soldiers when they see their leaders,” Shad said.

“We’re all human beings in the Army right? A lot of times we forget that because we are so wrapped up in the mission or in the position we’re in. (When) our subordinates look at us in that position, we need to be able to say ‘I’ve got to take a knee,’ reach out and get help.”

BATTLING THE STIGMA

According to the results of the 2020 National Survey on Drug Use and Health by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, nearly seven in 10 adults with a substance use disorder struggled with alcohol use in 2020. The statistics carry over for service members, as more than 1.7 million of 2.4 million veterans with a substance use disorder struggle with alcoholism. For scale, more than half of veterans over the age of 18 reported drinking in June of 2020, or within a month of taking the survey.

It is common for those struggling with substance abuse disorders to experience concurrent mental illnesses such as anxiety, depression and PTSD. In 2020, 17 million adults — 1.1 million veterans — struggled with both a substance abuse disorder and a diagnosed mental illness. The study highlighted existing research that suggests those who struggle with mental illness are more likely to develop an alcohol use disorder, and separately those who struggle with substance abuse of any one substance risk developing a substance use disorder for another.

The survey results also note that of the 2.4 million veterans with a substance use disorder, those who sought treatment received care at an outpatient mental health center, outpatient rehabilitation center or a self-help group. The results highlighted a 2008 study suggesting minimized concerns over stigmatization increase the popularity of self-help groups.

“There’s still a stigma in the military. We’ve come a long way since I’ve been in; I’ve been in 26 years, and I’ve seen changes, but there’s still this stigma. Soldiers view it as ‘If I reach out for help, I’m weak’ or ‘If I reach out for help, my leadership is going to look at me in a negative light.’ That is what I’m trying to prevent, that stigma, and I’m trying to prevent other people from suffering with addiction for as long as I did without getting help.”

Shad said although there are situations similar to his own

in which there was no climatic moment that led to treatment, other service members reach out after receiving an Article 15 or being charged with Driving Under the Influence.

He said if leaders can understand how to look for signs in soldiers, regardless of their rank, they can help someone seek treatment before serious issues arise. Shad said peers had recognized habits of alcoholism in him before he realized them himself. He said he had conversations with two leaders about seeking help but explained he wasn’t ready to find resources at the time.

He said he sees this in others now. When someone reaches out to Shad to explain their suspected alcohol addiction, he offers advice but said they have to be ready to seek resources themselves. He said when someone gets help, their treatment sets a motivational example for others struggling.

Shad emphasized the role leaders play in this example. He said while leaders often remove their personal struggles from a conversation, sharing an experience — especially in reference to alcoholism, addiction and PTSD — creates an opportunity to identify a path for treatment. He said although the conversations are uncomfortable, they may benefit someone long-term and possibly save a life.

LOCAL RESOURCES

For those reflecting inward, Shad suggests reaching out to the professionals at Gentry Clinic’s Preventative Medicine and Behavioral Health and the Army Substance Abuse Program.

“They are the professionals that can point soldiers in the right direction if they’re struggling with alcohol,” Shad said.

“That’s what soldiers need to realize, too — everyone is going to face an issue that they can’t handle on their own, and they’re going to have to reach out to someone. Whether that be the chaplain, mental health, substance abuse or the ASAP program through Gentry. Everyone is going to face something, and too many times I think (with) soldiers, it’s that old school mentality where you suck it up or you bottle it up. It builds up over time, sometimes for years and before you know it, you’re going down this destructive road of, in my case and a lot of cases, I think, self-medicating through alcohol, because that’s what we do.

Since rehabilitation, Shad reminds himself that sobriety is counted 24 hours at a time, and he continues to offer advice to others considering help.

“I actually feel like I’ve started a whole new life. It’s hard to put into words because for so long, I lived in the chains of alcohol addiction,” Shad said. “I was living in a constant state of fear and I was not in control. I thought I was in control of my life, but I wasn’t and now that I’ve achieved sobriety, it’s not always easy but it’s do-able ... your whole world changes.”

He said although his alcohol intake physically damaged his body, sobriety feels inexplicably different. He said he feels free to do things he hadn’t previously experienced.

“For those who are suffering or think they’re suffering, or they’re suffering like I was but they don’t want to admit it yet, sobriety is achievable. You’ve got to want it, and living life sober is a hell of a lot better than living life battling addiction in any way, shape or form.”

USAMPS Leaders Announce Military Police Competitive Challenge Winners

STORY BY BRIAN HILL-FLW PAO

After three days of nearly non-stop competition by 59 Military Police Soldiers from as far away as Korea, Germany and Hawaii, U.S. Army MP School leaders named the winners of their 2022 MP Competitive Challenge on 13 September in Lincoln Hall Auditorium.

The competition featured categories for officers and teams of NCOs and junior enlisted Soldiers, and taking the overall officer category win was Fort Leonard Wood's 2nd Lt. Carlos Paiz, a platoon leader from Company E, 701st MP Battalion. In the overall team category, the winners were Staff Sgt. Adam Walter and Spc. Mikel Dillon, from the 91st MP Battalion, at Fort Drum, New York.

The goal of the competition, which began Friday, was to test military expertise, physical and mental abilities and enhance esprit de corps, said Staff Sgt. Kaylee Schrader, from Headquarters and Headquarters



2nd Lt. Carlos Paiz, a platoon leader from Company E, 701st Military Police Battalion (second from left), holds up his trophy Tuesday morning in Lincoln Hall Auditorium after being named the overall officer category winner of the 2022 MP Competitive Challenge. (Photo Credit: Photo by Fort Leonard Wood Public Affairs Office)



Staff Sgt. Adam Walter (center) and Spc. Mikel Dillon (second from left), from the 91st MP Battalion, at Fort Drum, New York, hold up their trophies Tuesday morning in Lincoln Hall Auditorium after being named the overall team category winners of the 2022 MP Competitive Challenge. (Photo Credit: Photo by Fort Leonard Wood Public Affairs Office)

Company, 14th MP Brigade, who narrated the awards ceremony.

Events included a physical fitness assessment, weapons qualifications, Expert Soldier Badge categories, an 18-mile foot march and written exams, including a 150-question test given just after midnight on day two, Schrader said.

In addition to the overall winners, USAMPS presented awards for some of the individual events.

The physical fitness assessment winners included Paiz, in the officer category, and Staff Sgt. Owen Gourd and Pfc. Shimels Shone, from the 709th MP Battalion, Rose Barracks, Germany, in the team category.

The marksmanship winners included 1st Lt. Bridget Wilby, from the 289th MP Company, Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall, Virginia, in the officer category, and Cpl. Justin King and Pfc. Michael Caban, from the 211th MP Battalion, a National Guard unit in Springfield, Massachusetts, in

the team category.

The 18-mile foot march winners included 1st Lt. Zackary Decosta, from the 728th MP Battalion, Schofield Barracks, Hawaii, in the officer category, and Sgt. Jose Galarza and Pfc. Hunter Carr, from the 94th MP Battalion, Camp Humphreys, Korea, in the team category.

Speaking at the ceremony was MP Regimental Command Sgt. Maj. Shawn Klosterman, who said he was proud of all the competitors and called the MPCC a symbol of dedication and excellence.

"All the heroes that paved our path would be just as proud of your



Competitors participate in what was called the "claymore lane" portion of the Expert Soldier Badge events Sunday at Training Area 247M. (Photo Credit: Photo by Staff Sgt. Kaylee Schrader, 14th Military Police Brigade)



Competitors complete hand-release push ups following a three-mile run Saturday. (Photo Credit: Photo by Staff Sgt. Kaylee Schrader, 14th Military Police Brigade)

exceptional performance over the last three days,” he said. “Your leaders selected the right competitors to represent their organizations.”

Klosterman said Soldiers are taught selfless service throughout our careers, “but today, I ask you to be selfish.”

“You earned a day to be all about you,” he added. “Be proud of your success and accept all the praise. Win or lose, what you accomplished is a big deal. It wasn’t easy, so take a little time to gloat. Inspire someone to follow in your footsteps. Use your expertise to teach, guide and mentor others to succeed. Don’t let what you’ve achieved go to waste. Our Soldiers, our Army and our nation depend on it. You often have a thankless job, but no one else can do it better than you.”

Paiz, who assists in his company’s One Station Unit Training mission here, said being stationed at Fort Leonard Wood — commonly called the home of the MP — doesn’t mean a homefield advantage.

“I just showed up on day one like everybody else, not knowing what was happening, and just executed every task at hand,” he said.

A former special forces enlisted Soldier, Paiz said the key to winning competitions like this is maintaining a mastery of the basics of being a



2nd Lt. Jacob Wakeley, from the 709th MP Battalion, Rose Barracks, Germany, participates in the M4 weapons qualification portion of the MP Competitive Challenge Saturday at Range 10N. (Photo Credit: Photo by Staff Sgt. Kaylee Schrader, 14th Military Police Brigade)

Soldier.

“It’s about being in shape, being able to run, being able to ruck, being able to swim — always refining your skill-level one tasks: land navigation, marksmanship, using the radio properly,” he said. “I think the biggest thing for me was just staying hydrated throughout the competition, so I could think more clearly.”

Dillon called the MPCC tough, “but the competitiveness made it a lot more fun.”

“We started training about a month and a half ago, and we were just going every single day as hard as we could and it paid off,” he said. “It made you dig deep. That 18-mile ruck march – I’ve never done anything like that before; the most I’d ever done was 12 miles, so I had to really dig down and just keep going.”

Walter added consistency was key to winning.

“For the whole competition, we were either first, second or third throughout every event,” he said.

The MPCC, last held in 2019, coincided with MP Regimental Week in celebrating 81 years of the MP Corps.

“All the heroes that paved our path would be just as proud of your *exceptional performance* over the last three days,” he said. “Your leaders selected the right competitors to represent their organizations.”

2022 Military Police Corps **HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES**

Each year the Military Police Corps Regiment solicits nominations for the U.S. Army Military Police Corps Regimental Hall of Fame. Commissioned Officers, Warrant Officers, Enlisted Soldiers, or Professional Civilians who have served in or supported an Active, National Guard or Reserve Military Police unit are eligible for nomination.

The Military Police Corps Regimental leadership proudly announced this year's inductees as Major General Mary E. Clark, Major General Marion Garcia, BG Colleen L. McGuire, Colonel Dan McElroy, Command Sergeant Major Gary "Jay" Fowler, Command Sergeant Major Todd E. Spradling, First Sergeant Ennice L. Hobbs, Jr., and Specialist Fourth Class Paul V. Healey, Jr. This year's inductees bring the total number of distinguished leaders enshrined in the Military Police Hall of Fame to 120.



The MPRA joins the regimental leadership in congratulating each of these inductees and their families on this outstanding milestone in their service to our Regiment and this great country.

In keeping with promoting the history and preserving the traditions of our Regiment the MPRA is proud to maintain a current place on our website where you can view the names, pictures and citations for all 120 Hall of Fame members.

We invite you to visit the site at www.mpraonline.org to see this collection of Military Police heroes and to read about their legacies.

Although the United States Army Military Police School is the proponent for the MP Hall of Fame, the MPRA encourages everyone to review the outline of the prerequisites, process, and regulatory requirements and consider nominating those you feel to be deserving of consideration for this great honor.



MG Mary E. Clarke
Service Career 1945–1981



CSM Gary J. Fowler
Service Career 1984–2016



MG Marion Garcia
Service Career 1987–2020



SP4 Paul V. Healey, Jr.
Service Career 1966–1968



1SG Ennice L. Hobbs, Jr.
Service Career 1976–2000



COL Dan McElroy
Service Career 1981–2018



BG Colleen L. McGuire
Service Career 1979–2012



CSM Todd E. Spradling
Service Career 1983–2015

Fort Drum MPs, local police agencies compete for TOP COP HONORS

STORY AND PHOTOS BY MICHAEL STRASSER, FORT DRUM GARRISON PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Military and civilian police professionals put their skills to the test Sept. 22 during the 2022 Law Enforcement “Top Cop” competition at Fort Drum.

The event started at Wheeler-Sack Army Airfield where participants navigated a timed Emergency Vehicle Operator Course (EVOC) before they headed to Range 33 for a series of physical challenges followed immediately with a stress shoot, and culminating with an accuracy shoot.

“The EVOC is basically a course that everyone completes during initial training as a police officer, whether your military or civilian,” said Capt. Eric Napier, 227th Military Police Detachment commander. “It basically shows you how to maneuver a vehicle during emergency calls.”

After that, the physical fitness challenge required individuals to complete four tasks: a 90-pound sled drag, a kettle bell carry, a dummy drag or carry, and then a sprint.

Napier said that going directly from a sprint to the stress shoot required competitors to fire their weapons with an elevated heart rate, and maybe even a little out of breath.

“It’s not your typical marksmanship range,” he said. “Your heart rate is up, your blood pressure is elevated, and then we call out different targets that you have to hit for points. The last target is a walk-and-shoot.”

The 227th Military Police Detachment hosted the annual event, which included participants from New York State Police, City of Rome Police Department, the 563rd MP Company and 23rd MP Company.

More than just a training event, “Top Cop” is designed to



promote esprit de corps among colleagues in the law enforcement community.

“Top Cop is an event the 227th hosts every year to strengthen relationships with our civilian partner agencies surrounding the Fort Drum area,” Napier said. “It allows us an opportunity to build cohesion through competition.”

Pvt. Rahshan Paige, with the 23rd MP Company, said his reason for competing was to assess his physical and professional skills.

“I just love challenges and being able to push myself,” he said. “It was a really good test, and it’s always good to take any opportunities to improve. I think I did well overall.”

Dan Vescio, with the City of Rome Police Department, recorded the best individual performance at the competition to win the title of “Top Cop” for the second year in a row. Spc. Gabriel Brown, with the 563rd MP Company, placed highest among the military police.

“This was the first time I’ve competed here, and I thought it was really nice to see the different MP companies coming together with the New York State Police and Rome Police Department,” Brown said. “It was educating, and it gives me something to look forward to if I ever decide to pursue a career in a civilian police department.”

Fellow competitors took note as Brown flew through the physical challenge, finishing only slightly behind the fastest recorded time.

“I was trying, I mean, really trying to win that event,” Brown said. “I was just a few seconds off, I guess. Next year, I’ll come back and get it.”





Soldiers from the 91st Military Police Battalion and civilian law enforcement personnel tested their skills Sept. 22 during the annual Top Cop competition at Fort Drum. The competition had four phases – a timed Emergency Vehicle Operator Course (EVOC), a physical fitness challenge, a stress shoot and then an accuracy shoot to test pistol and rifle marksmanship.

Lt. Col. Anthony Howell, 91st Military Police Battalion commander, participated again this year alongside his Soldiers.

“I thought going from the physical activity straight through to the stress shoot was a good idea because it’s not just a test of your accuracy but it also tests how you can function under that stress and physical exertion,” he said. “Overall, I thought this was a really great event.”

Howell also said that he appreciates the camaraderie that occurs when different law enforcement agencies come together for friendly competition.

“We’re watching each other compete, but we’re doing a lot of talking too – finding out how they typically operate, compared to the Army way, and seeing how their police force is doing,” he said. “For a lot of our MP Soldiers, they may be looking at civilian police as future employment. So this gives them a chance to ask some of the questions they may have.”

Even though his Soldiers couldn’t claim Top Cop honors this year, Howell said there is a lot of pride in the 91st MP Battalion for the two Soldiers who excelled at the 2022 MP Competitive Challenge at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, earlier this month.

Staff Sgt. Adam Walter and Spc. Mikel Dillon won the overall team category during the three-day competition that included a physical fitness assessment, weapons qualifications, an 18-mile foot march and written exams.

“Everybody in the Army basically sends a team to compete, so it’s a pretty big deal,” Howell said. “Our team came out victorious, and we couldn’t be prouder. With our battalion having a high operational tempo, for them to be able to get ready quickly, mesh as a team and perform the way they did is absolutely fantastic.”



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PACIFIC WARRIOR 2022 BRINGS MILITARY POLICE TO CALIFORNIA

STORY AND PHOTOS BY MASTER SGT. ANDY YOSHIMURA, 200TH MILITARY POLICE COMMAND

More than 700 Soldiers from the 11th Military Police Brigade spent two weeks on the roads of Camp Pendleton and Fort Hunter Liggett, California participating in their annual exercise: Pacific Warrior. This was the first time all battalions from Washington, Arizona, Texas, and California assembled during the brigade exercise. Units were able to train on detainee operations, combat support, and law and order. Units were also able to provide logistical and signal support along with training on Army Warrior Tasks and firing various weapons during gunnery.

"The brigade and battalion staffs trained to improve the ability to conduct the command and control process in support of all MP missions," said Col. David Heflin, commander of the 11th. "The companies attending performed detention operations, provided support to mobility and area security and practiced host nation police training under the austere and rigorous conditions of Fort Hunter Liggett."

Working together as a team helped different battalions achieve their mission essential tasks. Units were able to understand each other during multiple situational training exercises involving two or more units.

"Working with other units has worked well with us," said Sgt. Zachary Galley, an internment/resettlement specialist with the 357th Military Police Company.

Soldiers from the 366th Military Police Company had a scenario where a team had to apprehend an enemy prisoner

1 Col. David Heflin receives the Meritorious Service Medal from Brig. Gen. Cary Cowan during the 11th Military Police Brigade Change of Command Ceremony here in Fort Hunter Liggett, California. 2 Spc. Emily Lam runs a fingerprint scan on a prisoner utilizing the Biometrics Automated Toolset System, which recognizes insurgents and unwanted individuals in an area, as part of Pacific Warrior. 3 Spc. Tanner Good searches a suspect during a situational training exercise as part of Pacific Warrior. 4 Soldiers utilizes the Biometrics Automated Toolset System to recognize insurgents and unwanted individuals using iris scanning and fingerprints.

of war and escort them to a detainee holding area monitored by the 357th. "Usually we don't have enough manpower to operate a facility and have opposing forces just within our unit, so being able to outsource to other units has been beneficial to us," added Galley.

As a combat support unit, the 366th drove on the dusty roads, reacting to scenarios handed down by the 607th Military Police Battalion. The commander of the 607th, Lt. Col. Marshall Hogue, enjoyed communicating with other battalions while responding to orders from the 11th.

"They are out here training like they are fighting," said Hogue. "We are passing good information to each other and challenging each other."

"If we did not have another battalion to support a mission, we would have to end the exercise sooner. Pacific Warrior will allow us to complete the mission," added Hogue.

Monitoring the paved roads were the Soldiers from the 438th Military Police Company. The 438th partnered with the Fort Hunter Liggett Police Department in providing traffic stops and enforcing military law.

Spc. Ethan Phillips, a military policeman with the 438th Military Police Company learned something new every single day. "We like to pride ourselves on productivity. During our traffic stops we are learning how to talk to people," said Phillips. "Verbal communication is a big deal, and we like to emphasize that. Make sure everyone is taken care of, and make sure we are talking to people the right way."

Phillips is also a Utah state trooper and finds that his civilian experience has helped train soldiers.

"I take everyone out with me, because not everyone is a police officer on the civilian side. I will try to train and teach as much as I can," added Phillips.

Outside of military police training, soldiers of the 11th were able to provide logistical and communication support for the operation. Food service specialists from all the battalions worked as one team and fed the 700-plus soldiers every day.

"MPs enjoyed excellent hot meals prepared in the field, in Mobile Kitchen Trailers, as they honed their fieldcraft skills," said Heflin.

On the ranges, MP teams were able to qualify as teams on the M2 .50-caliber machine gun, M249 Squad Automatic Weapon, and the MK19 grenade launcher. The brigade performed live fire crew-served weapons training and completed everything from ground qualification through Table VI Gunnery.

Moving pieces for a major operation does not come easy.

"I was most impressed with the brigade's ability to perform Expeditionary Operations and move soldiers, equipment and rolling stock to Fort Hunter Liggett safely, efficiently, and economically from all over the country by tactical convoys, commercial air and bus, and by contracted carriers," said Heflin.

This will be Heflin's last Pacific Warrior as the brigade also included a change-of-command ceremony during the exercise. Heflin was satisfied with the operation and sees great things for the future of the brigade.

"I am happy to turn over what is a motivated, individually-trained brigade that is ready to take the next step in improving collective training readiness," added Heflin.

5 Soldiers from the 366th Military Police Company mounts an M2 .50 caliber machine gun on a humvee during their situational training exercise as part of Pacific Warrior. **6** Spc. Ethan Phillips, a military policeman with the 438th Military Police Company conducts a traffic stop as part of Pacific Warrior. This is the first time a unit has partnered with the Fort Hunter Liggett police force with law enforcement activities. **7** Sgt. 1st Class Marshall Gross, an internment/resettlement specialist with the 224th Military Police Company inspects an MK-19 Grenade Launcher during a gunnery range as part of Pacific Warrior. **8** Soldiers from the 11th Military Police Brigade fire blanks during the M2 .50 caliber machine gun gunnery range as part of Pacific Warrior. Blank firing is table 3 of a 6-table crew-served team qualification.



PUERTO RICO NATIONAL GUARD RESCUES HURRICANE VICTIMS

STORY AND PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE
PUERTO RICO NATIONAL GUARD

The Puerto Rico National Guard rescued dozens of people threatened by Hurricane Fiona, which knocked out power to the entire island and caused severe flooding.

Monday in Cayey, the Guard's 65th Infantry rescued 21 elderly and bedridden people at an elderly home due to landslides that were threatening the home's structure and residents' safety. Also Monday, the 296th Infantry in Mayagüez rescued 59 people from a flooded community, including two bedridden elderly people. Thirteen pets were also rescued.

Over the weekend, Guard members with the 125th Military Police Battalion rescued a man in Ponce who was swept away by a flash flood when he apparently went out to try to get gasoline. He was clinging to a concrete post near Mercedita Airport in southern Puerto Rico, where floodwaters were as high as 6 feet. Guard personnel also rescued people in Salinas, Cayey, Toa Baja and Añasco, among other municipalities.

Guard members also rescued people in Salinas, Toa Baja, and Añasco, among other municipalities.

Puerto Rico National Guard Soldiers from the 125th Military Police Battalion help rescue families trapped by floods during the passing of Hurricane Fiona. The Guard prepositioned personnel and heavy equipment in nine locations before the storm.



Heavy rain continued to fall in the wake of the hurricane Monday and will "produce life-threatening and catastrophic flooding along with mudslides and landslides across Puerto Rico," a National Hurricane Center advisory warned.

The center forecast an additional 4 to 8 inches of rain in southern Puerto Rico Monday, with a local maximum of 15 inches. Total rainfall from the storm was projected to be 12 to 20 inches, with over 30 inches in some areas. Northern Puerto Rico was expected to get an additional 1 to 4 inches of rain Monday, with as much as 6 inches in some locations.

More than 450 members of the Puerto Rico National Guard have answered Gov. Pedro Pierluisi's call to assist people in need after Fiona's heavy rains and damaging winds caused widespread damage, flooding, mudslides and power outages.

Before the storm hit, the Guard positioned Soldiers and heavy equipment, including vehicles with high ground clearance, at 10 strategic points around the island to allow it to quickly respond to emergencies such as rescuing stranded and trapped people and clearing roads.

Members of the Puerto Rico National Guard, 125th Military Police Battalion, rescue a man who had apparently gone out to try to find gasoline and was caught in a flash flood caused by Hurricane Fiona in Ponce, near Mercedita Airport in southern Puerto Rico. The hurricane knocked out power to the entire island.



Fort Leonard Wood DES Police Officer's 'Gut Feeling' Brings Life-saving Help to On-post Resident in Need

STORY AND PHOTO BY BRIAN HILL, FORT LEONARD WOOD PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE

"I've always been told, even prior to working in law enforcement, that if you have a gut feeling, you need to trust it," said Brittany Marsh, a police officer with Fort Leonard Wood's Directorate of Emergency Services.

Marsh recently trusted her "gut feeling" that something wasn't right — and it paid off, when she came to the rescue of a retiree living on post, most likely saving her life.

The story begins on a Friday. Marsh was dispatched to the retiree's home due to reports of a loud argument. Marsh said DES had been called to the residence a couple of times prior — the retiree required a caretaker, and there were apparently some disagreements about who should fill the role.

As they were leaving, Marsh said she and her partner left the retiree in her bedroom.

"Saturday, I came into work, and I started to get that inkling that something wasn't right," she said, knowing the retiree's extended family was supposed to be en route. "Sunday rolled around, and I came on shift and told my supervisor before I got started on any of my security checks that I was going to essentially self-dispatch myself out to the residence because it didn't feel right."

When Marsh and another police officer arrived, they knocked on the door and heard what sounded like wailing or screaming.

"I went around the entire bedroom on the exterior of the home to try to see where was the closest place — the most clear position I could hear her," Marsh said. "I knocked on the siding, and I announced myself. 'It's Officer Marsh, ma'am. Do you hear me?' I could still hear the screaming."

Finally, the officers heard the resident say, "Help me! Help me!" There was an open window, and Marsh climbed through. They found the retiree on the floor of her bathroom.

"By the looks of the bathroom, I would presume she had been there for about two days — the day I had left," Marsh said. "At some point, she had hit her face. One of her eyes was swollen shut. She was unable to do anything. I feel like had I not responded there Sunday, there would not be any further days for her."

The retiree was treated for her injuries, and Marsh said the woman is now residing in an assisted-living facility for veterans.

"The previous times I had dealt with her, she had made it very clear she did not want to go to any hospital," Marsh said. "She declined medical multiple times. This time, it was like she decided to quit being stubborn, for lack of a better word. I'm so, so thankful that she was still responsive and was able to let us know she was indeed in distress and needed help. She said thank you to me."

The retiree was just the first person to thank Marsh for her exceptional service — senior leaders from across the installation have pointed to Marsh's actions as an example of what right looks like in policing a community.

"It's nice to have the recognition from the extreme higher ups," Marsh said. "It's our duty to police the community within the jurisdiction of Fort Leonard Wood — and assist, protect and defend — but to have the higher ups acknowledge what we deal with, or what we potentially deal with in the line of duty is huge in my eyes. They have



Brittany Marsh is a police officer with Fort Leonard Wood's Directorate of Emergency Services.

busy schedules; they're dealing with the entire installation, so to take a moment to check on someone who's lower on the totem pole is remarkable to me. I was a little taken back by it."

Marsh, originally from Calhoun, Georgia, came to Fort Leonard Wood about four years ago with her husband, a Military Police Soldier currently assigned to the Maneuver Support Center of Excellence NCO Academy. She also served in the Army as a Blackhawk helicopter mechanic for two years, and met her husband when they were both stationed at Fort Polk, Louisiana.

Before finding her position with DES, Marsh worked in law enforcement for Pulaski County — first, at the county jail, then as a deputy sheriff. She still holds a reserve commission with the county.

"I've always been passionate about law enforcement," she said. "I am someone who always wants to help people."

When Marsh was presented with the opportunity to work on post about a year ago, she said she couldn't pass it up.

"Having served in the military, I wanted that feeling of camaraderie and close-knit family," she said. "Working on the installation and dealing with service members allows me to feel that."

Marsh's supervisor, Anthony Dippel, has worked at DES for 10 years. He said he's "just happy to have her on the team."

"She has a very energetic charisma," he said. "The way she interacts with the public draws people to her in a positive light. Between that, and her knowledgeable background coming from other agencies, she's an asset to Fort Leonard Wood."

Marsh said law enforcement work allows her to do something she truly enjoys — engaging with the community.

"I like for our population and our society to realize there are individuals out there policing the community who are positive and engaging and reinforce good traits and good habits," she said.

As for her life-saving intuition, Marsh said no one should assume they know what is going on in someone else's life.

"Don't be scared to engage and build a rapport with someone," she advised.



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STORY AND PHOTOS BY SGT. KHYLEE WOODFORD, 200TH MILITARY POLICE COMMAND

MILITARY POLICE SET SIGHTS ON IMPROVED LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING

Early this May, military police and criminal investigation agents from the U.S. Army Reserve arrived at Grissom Air Reserve Base in Peru, Indiana, for annual training.

In attendance were nearly 100 Soldiers from the 159th Military Police Battalion, Criminal Investigation Division, the 393rd Military Police Battalion (CID), and the 733rd Military Police Battalion (CID).

The Soldiers were there to conduct one of the most coveted two-week training events for military police, Exercise Guardian Shield, an event typically focused on individual skills refresher and developing previously learned techniques.

However, with the landscape of military law enforcement constantly evolving, Lt. Col. Scott Carrington, battalion commander of the 159th Military Police Battalion in Terre Haute, Indiana, said this year, the exercise aimed at improving training with new concepts and techniques for tackling challenges in today's military law enforcement.

"What we brought to this exercise

were conceptual training opportunities on the use of force, criminal investigations, and assessing threats within communities," he said. "We wanted to add opportunities to increase awareness on new methods and tactics challenging older concepts our MP's may be used to diverting to."

One of those opportunities was the Special Operations Combatives Program (SOCP) facilitated during the exercise by the National Guard, 20th Special Operations Group, 1st Battalion (Airborne) out of Birmingham, Alabama.

The program focused on realistic, task-specific tactics designed for military police and CID agents presenting new models of techniques while also learning weapons retention, and improved methods for arrest procedures in a tactical environment.

"This training showed us quickly how a situation can escalate, especially when grabbing someone at the wrist," said Carrington. "We also learned conceptual moves designed to gain dominant positions and establish individual safety, ensuring we are not

Left: U.S. Army Reserve Cpl. Chase Fennel, a military police officer with the 323rd Military Police Detachment out of Jackson, MI., uses defense techniques in a Special Operations Combatives Program (SOCP) course held during Exercise Guardian Shield.

Middle: U.S. Army Reserve Chief Warrant Officer 3 Anthony T. Campbell, from the 159th Military Police Battalion in Terre Haute, presents a threat assessment techniques course to military police and criminal investigations special agents attending Exercise Guardian Shield.

Right: Chief Warrant Officer 1 Neil Ortiz, a U.S. Army Reserve special agent with the 220th Military Police Detachment, Criminal Investigations Division in Scranton, PA., adjusts focus during an advanced crime scene course.

injuring the person we are trying to detain or apprehend."

Carrington noted this iteration of SOCP training was the first of its kind delivered to Reserve military police centered on nonlethal de-escalation essential tactics in overseas detainee operations and within locally policed communities.

"This instruction was not about

being offensive. It was not about being aggressive or lethal, but it was about maintaining positive control quickly and using the correct procedures in various scenarios where use of force may become necessary," said Carrington.

In addition to field training, the exercise focused on improving education within the investigative process.

Collaborating with the U.S. Army Military Police School (USAMPS) at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, the 159th hosted the first Advanced Crime Scene Investigations Techniques Course (ACSIT) facilitated outside of the schoolhouse.

The course taught advanced methods of investigation focusing on crime scene interpretation, advanced photography, evidence evaluation, and collection procedures for both CID agents and MP's.

Students learned new crime scene processing techniques and modern investigation methods for cold case investigations. Students also received an introduction to the Joint Analytic Real-Time Virtual Information System (JARVISS), an Army software system used by military police to target criminal activity in and around military installations and facilities.

The ACSIT course also tested the MP's newly applied techniques in a mock mass grave scenario, where students excavated and documented replica human remains buried for the exercise.

Chief Warrant Officer 4 Steven

Geniuk, senior instructor with the United States Army Military Police School (USAMPS), explained how the specialized course bolstered competencies for many Reserve MP's and special agents who support the U.S. Army CID mission in peace and wartime.

"We investigate crimes both in garrison or overseas," said Geniuk. "The skills they learn during this exercise are going to apply to the investigations Reserve agents work, either supporting a CID office or as a civilian investigator."

Geniuk added, "This course contributes to not only solving those cases effectively but also learning ways to better protect the communities we are serving. Ultimately, that is what we are here to do."

Chief Warrant Officer 3 Anthony Campbell, from the 159th Military Police Battalion, led another strategic training objective. He facilitated a Department of Homeland Security class on threat assessment techniques.

Campbell walked through scientific approaches to identifying a reported individual's threat factors, implementing support methods to those struggling with behavioral health issues or thoughts of self-harm, and threat management tactics to address those espousing acts of violence in military communities.

"A critical portion of training not

typically offered to military police," Campbell said.

"We don't have this type of training as military police," he said. "We are very used to responding to criminal type actions. We aren't really trained in the behavioral type aspect," he stated.

Campbell discussed how the presentation introduced tactics to improve cross-collaboration with multidisciplinary agencies on the investigation process, reporting, and intervention of threats of mass violence not only on military installations but within the civilian community.

"The better prepared we are at understanding what people are going through, the better we are at responding and preventing these complex situations," he said. "I have seen first hand the impacts of this class, sometimes it may be simply improving a life, whereas other times it may be truly saving a life."

Upon completion of this year's Guardian Shield, Carrington hoped the new training experiences would give Soldiers and leaders the tools to pave a better way for training moving forward.

"In the Army, to get a 'go' in training, there are ten steps you have to execute correctly to pass," he said. "We really need to rethink how we are teaching Soldiers, because at the end of the day, improving these areas not only helps keep us safe, it also makes us a better force to protect our nation and the communities we serve."



Left: U.S. Army Reserve Maj. Yazmin Lostaglia and a fellow Soldier carefully sift soil at an Advanced Crime Scene Techniques course held during Exercise Guardian Shield.

Right: U.S. Army Reserve Lt. Col. Scott Carrington, battalion commander of the 159th Military Police Battalion in Terre Haute, IN., reviews a training schedule.

70th Regional Training Institute Continues to Train Top-notch MPs

STORY AND PHOTOS BY SGT. THOMAS LAMB, 29TH MOBILE PUBLIC AFFAIRS DETACHMENT

The 70th Regiment Regional Training Institute of the Maryland Army National Guard celebrated the graduation of the Basic Military Police Course class 22-001 on Sept. 1, 2022, at Aberdeen Proving Ground - Edgewood Area.

The 70th RTI trains Soldiers from the Army National Guard, Reserves and Active Duty from all over the country. The 2nd Modular Training Battalion focuses on training Soldiers who will become military police officers and already have a primary military occupational specialty or MOS.

In total, 26 Soldiers graduated the course, including four MDARNG Soldiers: Sgt. 1st Class Michael Beard, Sgt. Matthew Creel, Spc. Sean McElroy, and Spc. Feh Tanu.

Command Sgt. Maj. Pat Metzger, the brigade non-commissioned officer in charge for the 58th Troop Command, was the guest speaker for the event. As the highest ranking MP in Maryland, Metzger shared some insights on what it means to serve as a military police officer.

"As soldiers and soon to be military police officers you live to a higher standard and have to hold yourself to a higher standard," said Metzger. "The standard you walk by is the new standard. When you see something wrong, stop and say something. You have to correct that hard wrong, and as police officers you know what the right thing is."

The 2nd MTB provides realistic military training in accordance with the U.S. Army Training Doctrine and Command, the U.S. Army Military Police School and the U.S. Army Medical Center of Excellence standards. By integrating the Army Learning Concept for Training and Education, the 70th RTI's facilitation of classes incorporates modern methodology and best practices for the students attending the courses.



Basic Military Police Course graduates recite the Military Police Creed in Edgewood, Md., Sept. 1, 2022.



Basic Military Police Course graduates pose for a photo in Edgewood, Md., Sept. 1, 2022. The 70th Regional Training Institute, 2nd Modular Training Battalion, trains Soldiers from the Army National Guard, Reserve, and Active Duty from all over the country focusing on training Soldiers who will become military police officers and already have a primary military occupational specialty.

Little Goes a Long Way:

Instructor Uses 3-Question Student Feedback to Improve Military Police Investigation Course

STORY BY C ARCE, 37TH TRAINING WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Tech. Sgt. David Infante, who teaches the interview and interrogation portion of the Military Police Investigation course at the U.S. Army Military Police School in Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, improved the eight-week course by doing what Air Force instructors do best – putting their students first.

Infante has been teaching the course since October 2020, and teaches students from all military branches, including civilians and foreign national students. He typically has 30 students in each class, running 12 classes per year.

He wanted to revamp the curriculum methodologies to provide his students necessary tools to aid their development, and he did just that through something as simple as a three-question feedback form from his students.

The questions are:

- What is the most valuable thing you learned from the course and why?
- What is the least valuable thing you learned from the course and why?
- What would you change about the course?

“This continual feedback allowed me to implement rapid change in how I present material, as well as where my focus needs to be when accomplishing practical exercises,” Infante said.

The feedback highlighted some key issues, such as students needing more time to conduct interviews and wanting valuable individual feedback from their instructor.

Infante jumped into action and modified the way they conducted practical exercises and implemented individual feedback after every exercise. He also created grading rubrics for each student to provide a more student-centric learning environment.

“Prior to my arrival, there was a focus on the quantity of interviews versus the quality of interviews,” he said. “This change allowed the opportunity for

one-on-one feedback, which wasn’t part of the course plan before. This helps keep me up to date with process changes that we would normally miss if we didn’t encourage the back-and-forth discussion between students and instructors.”

Additionally, he improved their technical capabilities by utilizing Blackboard Learn, a learning management system, to provide students 24-hour access to course materials. Using the system also lessened their environmental impact by printing less documents for each student.

Although these small changes make a big difference, Infante wanted to make an even bigger impact by rewriting the course plan that is more in line with current, advanced interview and interrogation procedures.

“The emphasis on professional development in my current billet allows me to attend multiple law enforcement courses, anywhere from four to eight a year, which are fully funded by USAMPS and the 37th Training Wing,” he said.

Infante said that attending these courses confirmed their lesson plans are on par, and sometimes better than what is presented in those civilian courses. Additionally, he explained that without the Air Force and Army’s leadership support, staying ahead of the game wouldn’t be possible.

“My students affect people’s lives on a daily basis, and I feel I owe them the most up to date material in order to make them the best investigators they can be,” he said.

The USAMPS falls under the 14th Military Police Brigade. The 37th Training Group is tied to the USAMPS through the several Army courses that Airmen attend across Fort Leonard Wood. These courses include MPI, inter-service non-lethal individual weapons instructor, protective services training, and special reaction team.

Murfreesboro Native MP Named Tennessee Guard's Best Marksman At Shooting Competition

STORY BY SGT. 1ST CLASS TIMOTHY CORDEIRO, TENNESSEE NATIONAL GUARD PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE

More than 75 members of the Tennessee National Guard competed Aug. 19–21 at the Adjutant General Match, a three-day marksmanship training event and shooting competition for Tennessee's Guardsmen. This weekend's match, which took place at Tullahoma's Volunteer Training Site, focused on

handgun proficiency, while the rifle match took place in May.

2nd Lt. Sheridan Harrison, a Murfreesboro native, took home top honors in just her first time competing at the TAG Match. She has served in the Tennessee Army National Guard for six years and is currently a member of the 253rd Military Police Company, which is headquartered in Lenoir City.

"I didn't want to put a lot of pressure on myself," said Harrison. "There were so many awesome firers here this weekend, the best the state has to offer. I didn't think I was going to win but it was a great weekend."

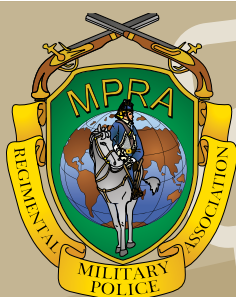
The three-day event is designed to test Guardsmen's proficiency in basic and advanced marksmanship techniques. While there is a competition intertwined into the weekend, the real purpose is for competitors to learn new shooting techniques and bring those skills back to their units to help train their fellow Soldiers and Airmen, creating a more lethal fighting force.

Harrison competed alongside three members of her unit: Capt. Eric Cheatham, Spc. Nathaniel Gust, and Spc. Jacob Williams. They collectively took second place in the team competition.

Harrison graduated from Middle Tennessee State University in 2021 with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Graphic Design and Marketing.



(Left to right) Spc. Nathaniel Gust, Capt. Eric Cheatham, 2nd Lt. Sheridan Harrison, and Spc. Jacob Williams, all members of the Tennessee Army National Guard's 253rd Military Police Company, finished in second place as a team at the Adjutant General Match, Aug. 19–21, at Tullahoma's Volunteer Training Site. Harrison placed first overall in the event, taking home honors as the top firer in the Tennessee National Guard. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by Sgt. 1st Class Timothy Cordeiro)



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301st Military Police Company U.S. Army Reserve in Puerto Rico Joins USAREC in Recruiting Efforts

STORY & PHOTOS BY SGT. HALAYLA VEGA, 1ST MISSION SUPPORT COMMAND

Approximately 180 local high schools in Puerto Rico participated in a Senior Career Fair at the convention center here, October 18 and 19.

The Miami Recruiting Battalion from the U.S. Army Recruiting Command with participation from the 301st Military Police Company U.S. Army Reserve in Puerto Rico, had a booth set up at the event with the intent to educate seniors about the military and inform them of the benefits, resources, and provide guidance to all those who would like to join.

Col. Carlos Caceres, 1st Mission Support Command commanding officer, and Col. Richard Aviles, 1st MSC deputy commanding officer, visited USAREC's booth and had the opportunity to engage with the students and recruiters.

"It is nothing short of amazing what can be accomplished when you have so many dedicated and devoted professionals like our recruiters in Puerto Rico and our 1st MSC members all working in unison driven by genuine care for our citizens and nation", expressed Col. Caceres.

The U.S. Army Recruiting Command is responsible for manning both the Active Army and the U.S. Army Reserve, ensuring security and readiness for our Nation. Recruiting operations are conducted throughout the United States, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and U.S. facilities in Germany and Asia.

"In the Army Reserve, we have a lot of benefits," stated Sgt. 1st Class Carlos Fontanez, USAREC recruiter. "One of them is the Montgomery GI Bill; the Army Reserve also provides Tuition Assistance and a Student Loan Repayment Program (SLRP)."

Applicants who score over 50 in the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) may qualify for additional incentives; for example, the SLRP will give those individuals up to \$50,000 in student loans.

Soldiers in the Army Reserve serve at least one weekend a month and two weeks a year; this part-time service means that service members will have the time to pursue life goals in school, their career, or personal passions when not on duty.

"I know there's a lot of people out there who don't



The Miami Recruiting Battalion from the U.S. Army Recruiting Command with participation from the 301st Military Police Company U.S. Army Reserve in Puerto Rico, had a booth set up at the event with the intent to educate seniors about the military and inform them of the benefits, resources, and provide guidance to all those who would like to join.

know about the Army Reserve and what we can do for them," said Staff Sgt. Joshua Rodriguez, USAREC recruiter. "Being a voice for the Army makes me happy to serve, the Army saved me, and I believe it can save others as well."

Approximately 10,900 soldier and civilian recruiters are working out of more than 1,400 recruiting stations spread across America and overseas. All have records of ability and potential, representing the finest traditions of the Army and military service.

The U.S. Army Reserve currently has over 120 specialties to choose from to further your Army and civilian careers.

MP company takes final BCT FTX to new heights with **AVIATION SUPPORT**



BY AMANDA SULLIVAN, FORT LEONARD WOOD PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE

For more than 150 trainees with Company E, 701st Military Police Battalion, the final field training exercise of the basic combat training phase of one station unit training – referred to as “The Forge” – went above and beyond what some others may experience during their time at Fort Leonard Wood – literally – according to Echo Company Platoon Leader 2nd Lt. Carlos Paiz, officer in charge of the event, which took place from Oct. 17 to 20.

With the help of Soldiers with the 7th Battalion, 158th Aviation Regiment, an Army Reserve unit located in the Kansas City area, Paiz said Echo Company trainees were airlifted from Forney Airfield via a C-47 Chinook helicopter to a landing zone that served as the starting point for a realistic and scenario-based four-day training

event developed by company cadre that included a 10-mile infiltration, full-blown tactical operations center, simulated enemy contact and major unit movements.

“The day and night missions included in the FTX were designed to test their abilities, so they could ultimately earn the title of ‘Soldiers,’” he said. “Everything we did required a lot of coordination, but it didn’t get away from teaching the fundamentals, which is the most important part of basic training. Making sure trainees understand the basics of shoot, move, communicate and survive is the goal of every drill sergeant under U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command and the cadre in this company. By combining that understanding with different assets recreating what they would see in a real-life combat situation, we



Trainees with Company E, 701st Military Police Battalion board a C-47 Chinook helicopter Oct. 20 at the Training Area 401 landing zone as part of the final field training exercise of the basic combat training phase of one station unit training at Fort Leonard Wood. (Photo by 2nd Lt. Carlos Paiz, Company E, 701st Military Police Battalion)

ensured they were mentally and physically fit, and ready to deploy when they get to their unit.”

At the end of the exercise, trainees were exfiltrated from the training area by air.

“The trainees were beyond excited,”

Paiz said of the flights. "They knew it might happen, pending weather, fuel and maintenance of the aircraft."

For many of the trainees, including Pvt. Cambria Cella, a National Guard Soldier from Avondale, Pennsylvania, the use of aviation support ensured the lessons learned during the FTX were ingrained in their memories forever.

"It felt very authentic, and I think it added to the experience and helped the whole company continue, persevere and see the bigger picture of what we came here for," she said. "A lot of other basic training units don't have this opportunity, so I'm very grateful for the experiences and it inspired me to go into aviation later in my career."

Pvt. David Riley, from Rapid City, South Dakota, had flown in helicopters before as a wildland firefighter, but said seeing his fellow Soldiers experience it for the first time motivated him to push through the last few days of training.

"It was cool to watch my battle buddies enjoy it together," he said. "Seeing the smiles on their faces was rewarding."



Paiz said unit cadre tried to go above and beyond this cycle to provide the best quality training possible, and that when the time came, everyone stepped up to the plate to make the exercise a success – including the trainees.

"The cadre in this company dedicated a lot of extra hours this cycle to get the trainees to this point," he said. "(During the exercise) the trainees were extremely disciplined. We trusted that they were going to do the right thing in the field, and they did, and they followed all the instructions in the aircraft. We had zero issues."

Cleto L. Rodríguez: The Other Medal of Honor Recipient

STORY BY RONNEY Z. MILLER, MPCR/USAMPS HISTORIAN

In a ceremony held at the John B. Mahaffey Museum Complex on 18 October 2010, Tamera Bacon loaned her husband's Medal of Honor to the Military Police Museum for temporary display. Her husband, First Sergeant Nicky Daniel "Nick" Bacon, earned our nation's highest decoration for battlefield valor during the Vietnam War while assigned to Company B, 4th Battalion/21st Infantry Regiment. He served two combat tours in Southeast Asia and was wounded three times; he was also awarded the Distinguished Service Cross and the Bronze Star Medal with "V" device. Bacon requested a third tour of duty in Vietnam but was denied. He subsequently transferred to the Military Police Corps and retired from the US Army in June 1984 as a Military Policeman. To the present day, Nick Bacon is well-known throughout our formation; not surprisingly, he was inducted into the Military Police Corps Regiment Hall of Fame in 2009. Lesser known among our ranks is Master Sergeant Cleto Luna Rodríguez — a similar story that precedes the Nick Bacon story.

Cleto Luna Rodríguez was born on 26 April 1923 in San Marcos, Texas. When he was nine years old, both of his parents died and he moved to San Antonio to live with relatives. He worked at the Gunter



Hotel and as a newspaper boy and attended Washington, Irving, and Ivanhoe schools. In early 1944, Rodríguez enlisted in the US Army and was deployed to the Pacific Theater of Operations where he was assigned to Company B, 148th Infantry Regiment, 37th Infantry Division. On 9 February 1945 during the battle for Manila, his unit attacked the strongly-defended Paco Railroad Station. While conducting a frontal assault across an open field, the company was hopelessly pinned-down by intense enemy fire — only a hundred yards from its objective — until two fearless soldiers rose to the occasion. Technical Sergeant Cleto Rodríguez and Private First Class John N. Reese, Jr., of Pryor, Oklahoma, advanced to a covered

position and remained there for an hour. Engaging the enemy with small-arms fire, the two men killed thirty-five Japanese soldiers and wounded many more. This enabled them to advance closer to the Paco Railroad Station where they killed more than 40 enemy soldiers. Within 20 yards of the station, Rodríguez single-handedly attacked an enemy strong point. Throwing five grenades, he killed seven enemy soldiers, destroyed a 20mm gun and knocked-out a heavy machinegun. With their ammunition almost depleted, the two soldiers began to make their way back to friendly lines, alternately providing covering fire for one other. Unfortunately, Reese was killed during this withdrawal. In total, during 2½ hours of close combat, these two men killed more than eighty-two enemy soldiers and disorganized their defense, thus facilitating the defeat of the Japanese at their strong point — and their heroics were witnessed by the entire company!

Two days later, Rodríguez single-handedly killed six enemy soldiers and destroyed a 20mm gun. Thus, on two occasions he "materially aided the advance of US troops into Manila." Soon after, Rodríguez was promoted to staff sergeant. At the time, he was the fifth person of Hispanic descent ever to receive the Medal



of Honor; he was also the first Mexican-American soldier to earn our nation's highest decoration for battlefield valor in the South Pacific. Rodriguez was also the recipient of the Silver Star, two Bronze Stars and the Purple Heart. During an awards ceremony held at the White House on 12 October 1945, President Harry S. Truman personally presented the Medal of Honor to Staff Sergeant Cleto L. Rodriguez. As a side note, Private First Class John Reese was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor and for the remainder of his life, Rodriguez would talk about his brave friend — Johnny Reese.

Upon his honorable discharge from the service, Rodriguez returned to San Antonio and married Flora Munoz on 11 November 1945; they were the parents of

four children (Cleto Jr., Betty, Mary, and Joe). Returning to civilian life, Rodriguez worked as a representative of the Veterans



Administration. He then served in the United States Air Force from 1952 to 1954 with the Air Police (formerly known as Military Police and today known as Security Forces). Rodriguez thoroughly enjoyed this line of work; however, he preferred the Army. Thus, he reentered the US Army and served in the Military Police Corps from 1955 to 1970. He retired with the rank of Master Sergeant. In 1975, Ivanhoe Elementary School (located in his hometown of San Antonio) was renamed Cleto Rodríguez School. Cleto L. Rodríguez passed away on 7 December 1990 and was buried with full military honors at the Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery — a true American hero!

BEHIND THE SCENES AT MILITARY POLICE MUSEUM

NEW CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS GALLERY AT THE MP MUSEUM

STORY BY MEGAN WARLEY MCDONALD, MUSEUM SPECIALIST,
MILITARY POLICE CORPS REGIMENTAL MUSEUM

This summer, the Military Police Corps Regimental Museum unveiled a new "Criminal Investigations" exhibit gallery. Focusing on the investigative role of U.S. Army Military Police, the exhibit tells the stories of Soldiers who served as Military Police Investigators (MPI), Special Agents of the Criminal Investigation Division (USACID), and laboratory personnel of the U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Laboratory (USACIL). With over 50 fascinating artifacts on display, you'll want to see this exhibit in person!



Above: The new exhibit gallery includes a large display of tools used by USACIL personnel to examine forensic evidence. Fingerprinting, chemistry, and photographic equipment are displayed, as well as tools used to analyze documents.

Right Top: One exhibit case is dedicated to the history of the U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Division (USACID). It includes tools and equipment used during investigations, as well as uniforms worn by CID personnel.

Right Bottom: A polygraph machine and polygraph examination chair anchor a display exploring the role of Military Police as polygraph examiners.



The experiences of individual Soldiers are highlighted throughout the Criminal Investigations gallery and help to illustrate the evolution of U.S. Army criminal investigations over the past century. Below are a few of the Soldiers that appear in the new gallery.

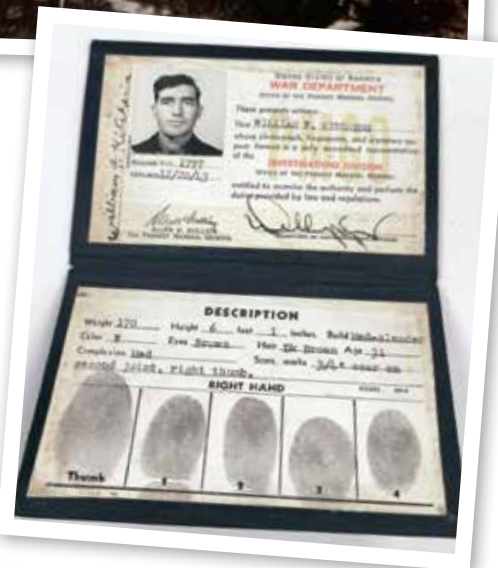


The 51st CID Detachment was the Army's first and only all-Black CID unit. This little-known unit is discussed in a panel about MSG James "Pappy" Henson. Henson was the first Soldier selected to be in the 51st CID Detachment and served as a CID Agent in Japan following WWII and again during the Korean War. This photograph depicts the first three members of the 51st CID Detachment: TSGT William Bryant, SSGT Robert Gill, and MSG Henson.



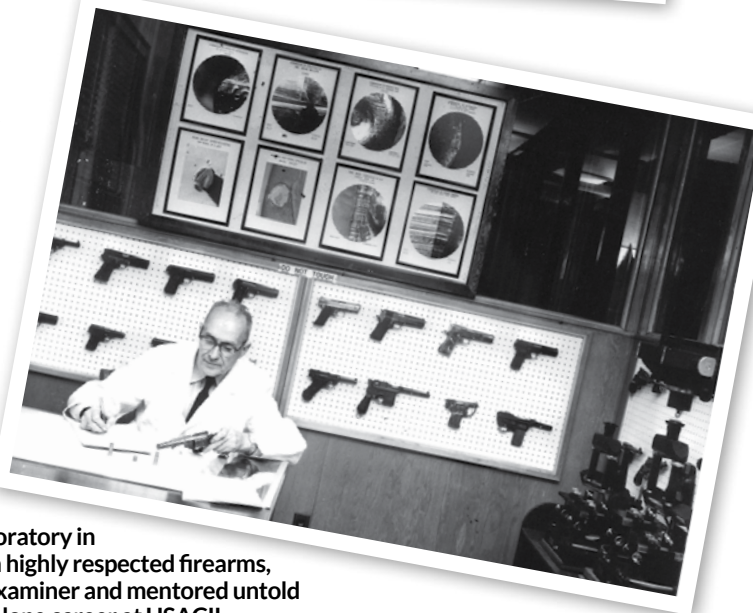
T/4 William "Fred" Kitchens (pictured at right with his partner, Richard Pitt) traveled throughout Europe during WWII, investigating crimes committed by and against U.S. Army Soldiers.

Kitchens carried this set of CID credentials throughout his travels during WWII. They are displayed alongside his badge in the gallery.



Visitors to the new gallery can learn about the career of SGT Beatrice "Bea" Hoaby, one of the Army's first female Military Police Investigators. Though opportunities for women were limited when Hoaby joined the Women's Army Corps (WAC) in 1969, she paved the way for others when she completed the 15th MP Brigade Investigator Course, finishing fourth in her class.

This circa 1960 photograph of COL George R. Bird was the inspiration for a display focused on USACIL firearms examiners. COL Bird established the Army's first criminal investigation laboratory in Algiers during WWII. He was a highly respected firearms, documents, and fingerprints examiner and mentored untold numbers of Soldiers during his long career at USACIL.



Want to see more? Follow the MP Museum on Facebook to view a "Virtual Tour" and "Behind the Scenes" video of the Criminal Investigations Gallery!

Virtual Tour: <https://fb.watch/fwdGDyEn9N/>

Behind the Scenes: <https://fb.watch/fwdFag8mS8/>

 Follow us on Facebook: facebook.com/usarmymilitarypolicemuseum

CRIME SCENE DO NOT CROSS

CRIME SCENE DO NOT CROSS

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MP Corps Celebrates 81st Anniversary During Regimental Week

STORY BY AMANDA SULLIVAN, FORT LEONARD WOOD PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE

The U.S. Army Military Police Corps celebrated its 81st anniversary during Regimental Week festivities, held Sept. 19 to Saturday here.

The theme of this year's celebration, hosted by the U.S. Army MP School, was "81 Years Ready, On Call — On Guard — On Mission."

The week kicked off Sept. 19 at the MP Memorial Grove to pay tribute to fallen MP brothers and sisters.

Invited guests of honor at the ceremony included local Gold Star families of fallen MPs, and music was performed by former MP Christiana Ball and the Waynesville High School Choir.

At the event, MP Regimental Command Sgt. Maj. Shawn Klosterman spoke on the importance of the memorial grounds to the MP Corps.

"The ground on which you sit or stand is sacred," he said. "It's not only a place where we memorialize our fallen, but a place we welcome the newest officers, warrant officers and enlisted Soldiers into our ranks of the corps and brand the unit regimental distinctive insignia on their uniforms. It is a fitting place, where we put the names of the fallen at the location where many of their journeys began, so we can continue to remember their sacrifice and share it with the ones who will carry on their legacy."

Following Klosterman's remarks, Col. Sarah Albrycht, USAMPS commandant, Regimental Chief Warrant Officer

5 Mark Arnold, and Klosterman laid a wreath in honor of fallen MPs before a three-volley salute and a rider-less horse passed the grove while bagpipes were played.

Events on Sept. 20 included a fishing tournament at Public Beach No. 2 in Osage Beach, Missouri, a regimental motorcycle ride from Nutter Field House to Osage Beach and back and the inaugural Regimental Command Sergeant Major James W. Frye NCO of Excellence Award ceremony at Lincoln Hall Auditorium.

According to tournament director Gary Homer, it was the sixth year for the bass tournament, and 88 participants competed. The winning big bass weighed 5.28 pounds and was caught by Jeff Shultz and Tim Edwards, who also took first place with a combined team catch of 20.51 pounds. Finishing in second place were Robert Robinson and Don Forester who caught a combined weight of 14.76 pounds. In third was the team of Kevin Findley and Paul Hager, who caught a combined weight of 13.5 pounds. All the winning team members and the individual who caught the biggest bass received trophies.

More than 15 motorcyclists participated in this year's regimental ride that ran from Nutter Field House to Lake of the Ozarks and back, said Sgt. 1st Class Michael Case, the ride organizer.

The inaugural Regimental Command Sergeant Major James W. Frye NCO of Excellence Award was presented to 1st Sgt. Roberto Castaneda with the 978th MP Company, Fort Bliss, Texas, by Frye — the award's namesake and first regimental command sergeant major of USAMPS — and Klosterman, for being "the NCO who has distinguished themselves for their outstanding dedication and to the MP Corps."

"Wear it with pride," Klosterman said. "Your reputation was clearly depicted in your submission packet, and you have a bright future in this corps if you so choose."

Events on Sept. 21 included the regimental run in the morning, starting on Gammon Field, and ending with the oldest and youngest Soldiers in the regiment cutting the MP birthday cake.

A regimental retreat ceremony in the afternoon, on the Maneuver Support Center of Excellence Plaza, rounded out the day's events.

At the regimental retreat, Albrycht emphasized the importance of the modern day MP.



U.S. Army Military Police School Soldiers carry a wreath Sept. 19 at the MP Memorial Grove during a ceremony honoring fallen MP Soldiers. (Amanda Sullivan, Fort Leonard Wood Public Affairs Office)



More than 15 motorcyclists participated in this year's regimental ride on Sept. 20 that ran from Nutter Field House to Lake of the Ozarks and back. (Ryan Thompson, Fort Leonard Wood Public Affairs Office)



U.S. Army Military Police School Soldiers pause after the lowering and folding of the flag during the MP Regimental Retreat Sept. 21 on the Maneuver Support Center of Excellence Plaza. (Amanda Sullivan, Fort Leonard Wood Public Affairs Office)

"The MP Soldier is the embodiment of an ideal that no Soldier is above the law, no matter their rank or position," she said. "Our MP Corps today is reflective of the Army's population – diverse, intelligent and inspired men and women, who desire not only to serve their Army, but to better their community."

To conclude the ceremony, 399th Army Band bugler Spc. Hayden Bustamante played "Retreat," followed by the lowering of the flag during the sound of "To the Color."

On Sept. 22, golfers teed off at the Piney Valley Golf Course for the annual regimental golf tournament.

On Friday, USAMPS inducted eight Soldiers into the MP Corps Hall of Fame during the annual ceremony at Lincoln Hall Auditorium. New inductees this year were retired Maj. Gen. Mary Clarke; retired Maj. Gen. Marion Garcia; retired Brig. Gen. Colleen McGuire; retired Col. Gary Fowler; retired Command Sgt. Maj. Todd Spradling; retired 1st Sgt. Ennice Hobbs Jr.; and Spc. 4 Paul Healey Jr.

Clarke, who died in 2011, was the first woman to achieve the rank of brigadier general and went on to serve as the first female commandant of USAMPS, among many other achievements.

In a pre-recorded video played at the ceremony, Brig. Gen. Niave Knell, former USAMPS commandant, who currently serves as deputy commanding general of the 1st Infantry Division at Fort Riley, Kansas, called Clarke "a groundbreaking person."

"I wish I had had the opportunity to meet her; her work is incredible," she said. "I wish she were able to be here to make her own speech about the many things she must have seen in her career."

The week's events concluded with the annual MP regimental ball Saturday at Nutter Field House.



Retired U.S. Army Military Police Corps Regimental Command Sgt. Maj. James Frye (left), and MP Regimental Command Sgt. Maj. Shawn Klosterman present 1st Sgt. Roberto Castaneda with the inaugural Regimental Command Sgt. Maj. James W. Frye Noncommissioned Officer of Excellence Award during a ceremony Sept. 20 in Lincoln Hall Auditorium. The award is presented to an NCO for their outstanding dedication and commitment to the MP Corps. Frye, for whom the award was named, was appointed as the MP Corps' first regimental sergeant major in September 1982. (Ryan Thompson, Fort Leonard Wood Public Affairs Office)

How A MP Connection In The U.S. Army Leverages Mentorships To BUILD GREAT LEADERS

BY KEVIN KRUSE, CONTRIBUTOR

U.S. Army Course Chief of Basic Leadership 1st Sgt. Mike McGonigal can trace his career path back to a pivotal conversation with his father some 19 years ago: “When I was a young buck in the Army, I said something crazy to my dad. I told him I wanted to be just like him. And he responded, ‘I absolutely want you to be nothing like me.’ He said, ‘I worked this hard with you so that you could always be better than me.’”

For McGonigal, this advice was formative. From that point forward, he forged his own path and measured success his way. The conversation also inspired a core piece of McGonigal’s leadership philosophy that he now brings as the Course Chief for the Basic Leadership Course: Learn from the mistakes and successes of more senior, more experienced leaders.

In the Basic Leader course that McGonigal heads out of the Maneuver Support Center of Excellence Noncommissioned Officers Academy, Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, junior soldiers learn how to become junior leaders (of typically two to three people). Their Basic Leadership Course is a 22-day intensive running Monday through Saturday, spanning 169 hours of learning and practice (you can see the hourly breakdown here). The audience spans every part of the Army: Military police, engineers, bomb techs, supply techs, human resources personnel, and more.

McGonigal described how the variety of backgrounds helps bring together various perspectives and experiences around leadership. “In the Basic Leader Course, because we are talking to all walks of life in the Army, the most diverse group that I’ve honestly seen, our ability to expand on the actual



U.S. Army Course Chief of Basic Leadership 1st Sgt. Mike McGonigal. Photo by Mike McGonigal.

concept of leadership and go specific to leadership only and not to any one job description helps them understand and learn.”

McGonigal described the core topics and feel of the Basic Leadership Course: “We are there in the morning to start with physical fitness training. Then, we cover key topics like Public Speaking. We assess them on their ability to give a brief on a specific topic within a set parameter, timeline, and so on. We also teach them how to conduct training and assess them on that. We look at their ability to lead formations, either marching or physical fitness. For context, these topics of Public Speaking and Leading Exercises are two of the biggest assessments. We teach key leadership aspects as well, such as how to do evaluations, how to counsel, how a junior leader should talk to one of their subordinates,

and effective communication. We even have them writing APA formatted essays.”

“Ultimately,” McGonigal said, “this is the class where soldiers learn that leadership is much more than what they thought.”

HOW MCGONIGAL DESIGNED A MENTORSHIP PROGRAM FOR DEEP LEADERSHIP DISCUSSIONS

Inspired by his conversation with his father nineteen years ago, McGonigal designed and launched a mentorship program where Senior NCOs (non-commissioned officers) meet with the junior leaders in his course. They discuss their perceptions of leadership and their experiences with leadership. The idea is that senior leaders can pass along their learnings and experiences. When senior leaders get vulnerable and open up about the challenges they’ve faced and the ways that they’ve failed, young leaders can learn and progress faster.

In the Army, where rank holds such significant value, junior leaders and soldiers are often hesitant to have an open conversation with more senior leaders who are two levels above them and a decade more experienced. What McGonigal has done with these mentorship conversations is to create and set up a psychologically safe environment that breaks down the walls that rank puts up. McGonigal said, “In an organizational environment, I have to worry about whether that specialist is willing to talk to that staff sergeant or sergeant first class in their unit because they don’t want to look dumb or ask a question. Here, there’s no harm done.” Junior NCOs are given a guided set of questions but encouraged to go “off-script” to ask about their specific situations and have more open conversations. “Every leader has something they look back on and wish they had done differently or better. This allows that leader to mentor the junior leader and help them get it right.”

One senior leader who participated as a mentor, Staff Sgt. Shane Ladd, described in a separate interview about the mentorship program how impactful these conversations are: “The only difference between this young sergeant and me is that I joined first, and I got where I’m at because I’ve been in for nine years and I went through everything that I’ve been through. Eventually, he’ll be in my shoes, so it’s about sharing what issues you went through.”

PREPARING LEADERS TO ACHIEVE THEIR POTENTIAL

McGonigal emphasizes that leadership is people-first and unique to each leader. As a leader himself, he put together five leadership competencies:

Relevance - “I believe that in any job description you could ever have, the higher you progress, the more difficult it is to remain relevant as those junior soldiers and leaders are the individuals completing tasks and making things happen. This is not always bad, as it could mean that you did your job preparing them to work without oversight. So I’m always asking myself, what can I do to stay relevant? What can I provide to help these leaders?”

Accountability - “Some leaders are quick to say you did A, B, and C wrong, and we’re very slow to say how good you’re doing. I believe that a leadership fundamental is accountability in all facets—good and bad.”

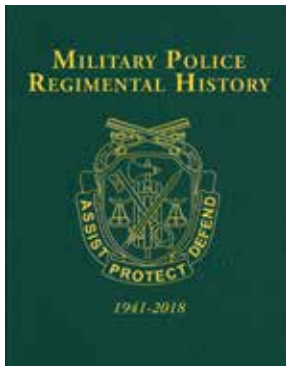
Effective & Efficient - “People will tell you that you can have efficiency or effectiveness. I disagree. You need to have both. There’s a difference between being finished and being finished successfully.”

Be the Best - “It’s like the Mario Kart ghost races against your previous self. If you continuously work on making yourself better than who you were yesterday, there’s a solid chance you’ll be the best leader for those you lead. Focus on being the better version of yourself, and don’t worry about everyone else. You will surpass them with each daily improvement.”

McGonigal tied each of his Leadership Five back to his ability to make an impact as a teacher and Course Chief. One thing that was clear throughout the interview: In the same way that his father’s comment prepared him to have a better career than his father, McGonigal is seeking new methods and ways to refine the Basic Leadership course to ensure soldiers in his program will fulfill their career potential and learn from the senior leaders above them.

Kevin Kruse is the Founder + CEO of LEADx, a leadership development system that scales and sustains habits through micro-coaching and behavioral nudges. Kevin is also a New York Times bestselling author of Great Leaders Have No Rules, 15 Secrets Successful People Know About Time Management, and Employee Engagement 2.0.

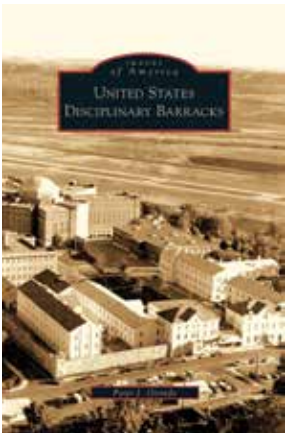
MP Book Nook



Military Police Regimental History

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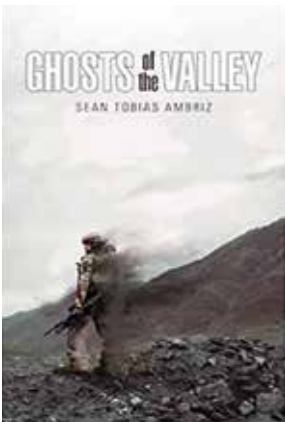
PURCHASE: mpraonline.org/shop/military-police-history-book



United States Disciplinary Barracks

On May 21, 1874, Congress approved the establishment of the United States Disciplinary Barracks (USDB), formerly the United States Military Prison at Fort Leavenworth. The original prison was once a quartermaster depot, supplying all military posts, camps, and stations in the Indian Territory to the West. It has been the "center of correctional excellence" in the military for over 130 years, housing the most notorious service members in the armed forces, including maximum-custody inmates and those with death sentences. On October 5, 2002, retreat was played for the last time in front of the eight-story castle inside the old USDB, and another era started with the occupation of a new modern correctional facility.

PURCHASE: mpraonline.org/shop/united-states-disciplinary-barracks



Ghosts of the Valley

Ask around your local VFW about what a military police soldier does for a living. The answers will make you laugh, cringe, and sometimes simply lean back at the nonsensical tales we evoke from our comrades in arms. Even to the standard military police soldier, their experiences from one to the next are largely different depending on any number of influences. Whether that is duty station, deployments, specific type of military police. In this book, you will see the far edge of the combat spectrum for a military police soldier. Every so often, military police get training that enables them to be attached to units conducting missions well outside the purview of a standard military police soldier. For those soldiers, their story goes largely untold. Whether due to the incredulity of the story, or because some stories are hard to talk about. The events in this book are told exactly as they happened. Some have been modified due to security concerns and for the privacy of comrades. Ghosts of the Valley gives a full spectrum recount of the incidents that took place in Afghanistan, and the recovery process that became necessary upon return to the peace of home. The book itself will hopefully serve as a benefit to soldiers who have not yet deployed, civilians who struggle to understand the average combat veteran, and the soldiers who have redeployed that still struggle in their recovery process. The book is not meant to glorify war, but to expose the horrors of it. Ghosts of the Valley also provides a comprehensive, and up-to-date as of the publication, list of resources for those struggling with PTSD, or those who simply need help.

PURCHASE: <https://mpraonline.org/product/ghost-of-the-valley>

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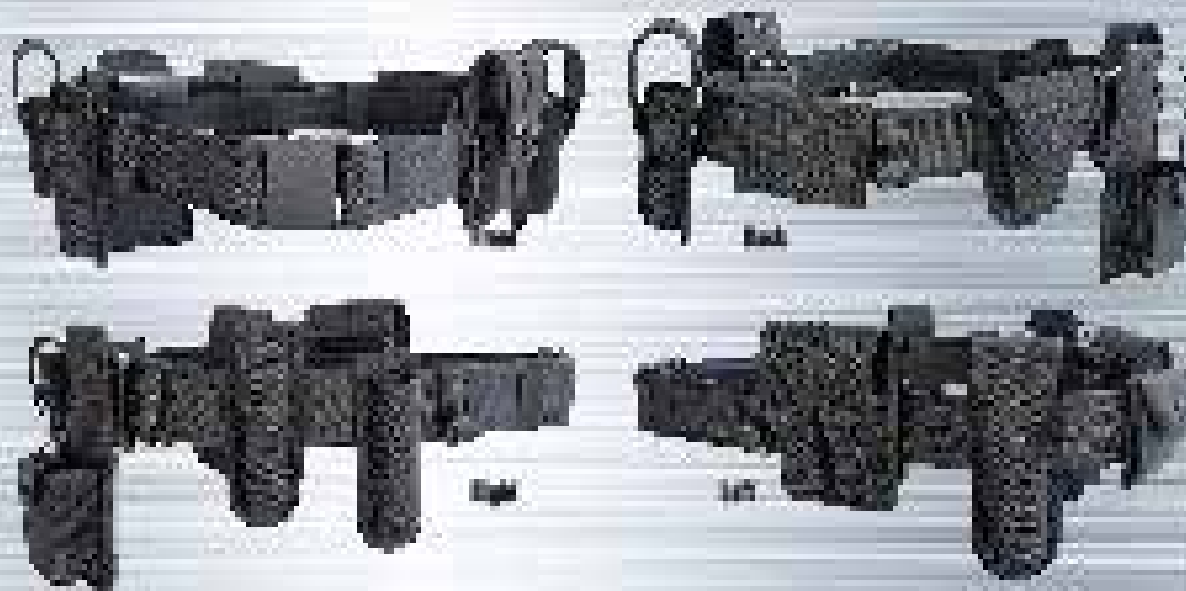
Rear Tactical Carrier

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Soldiers Say Goodbye to Beloved Military Working Dog Who Saved Lives in Afghanistan

"CCRUZ WAS MORE LIKE A SON TO ME RATHER THAN JUST A DOG."

STORY BY HALEY BRITZKY. COURTESY OF TASK & PURPOSE

Soldiers bid farewell this week to CCruz, a beloved explosive-detection dog at Fort Benning, Georgia, who Task & Purpose met earlier this year.

CCruz, a 5-year-old Belgian Malinois, was assigned to the 904th Military Working Dog Detachment at Fort Benning. He was on a mission in New York in support of the United Nations General Assembly last month with his handler Spc. Austin Ramos when it was "discovered that he had terminal widespread cancer which would have resulted in prolonged suffering," according to a press release from Fort Benning.

"For the better part of five years, CCruz was more like a son to me rather than just a dog," Ramos said in the release. "He served as my protector while deployed and my best friend while stateside. Words can't describe the love I will always have for this dog."

Task & Purpose met CCruz and Ramos in April this year as they worked an event at the International Sniper Competition at Fort Benning. Ramos gushed over CCruz, who Task & Purpose confirmed was a very good boy, and whose face Ramos had tattooed onto his arm.

CCruz, a fourth-generation military working dog, came from the "puppy program" at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, which Fort Benning said produces "some of the most



Spc. Austin Ramos at the memorial ceremony of MWD CCruz, October 13, 2022 at the Infantry Chapel. (Markeith Horace/U.S. Army).

prestigious Military Working Dogs." He was certified as a Patrol Explosive Detector Dog-Enhanced, and in 2018, he graduated from the training program at Lackland and was assigned to Ramos, who was with him ever since. He trained his entire life as an explosive detection dog and served on a deployment to Afghanistan with special operations where the Fort Benning release says he saved the lives of multiple soldiers after detecting two improvised explosive devices.

"His significant actions prevented serious harm, injury or death and protected his handler and the [Special Forces] teams they were with," the Fort Benning release said.

Following his time in Afghanistan, CCruz and Ramos were chosen to support 22 U.S. Secret Service missions "in the protection of the President of the United States and his dignitaries," the release said.

CCruz "was always ready to work and play for his handler," the Fort Benning release said, "and will be missed by all who knew him."

Thousands of military working dogs have served as critical members of the fight during the Global War on Terror as they helped identify explosives before troops were injured, protect service members on deployments, track targets, and assist in search and rescue. Service members have often reflected on the unbreakable bond they formed with their working dogs — not just their handlers, but the units the dogs worked in as well, as the dogs often gave troops moments of levity in an otherwise dangerous and stressful situation.



FORT BENNING, Ga – Soldiers from the 904th Military Working Dog Detachment, attend the memorial ceremony of MWD CCruz, October 13, 2022 at the Infantry Chapel. MWD CCruz 4 year military career with Spc. Ramos from both Fort Campbell and Fort Benning where his duties consisted of Military Working Dog demonstrations, Law Enforcement Support and Force Protection support for the Communities on the Installation. (U.S. Army photo by Markeith Horace, Fort Benning Maneuver Center of Excellence photographer)

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RETIRED MP AND FORT LEE CHIEF OF POLICE CONCLUDES 40-YEAR CAREER AWARDED BRONZE MARECHAUSSEE

STORY BY MPRA STAFF

Police Chief Joseph C. Metzger distinguished himself by through exceptionally exceptional service to the Military Police Corps Regiment for over 40 years. Since 1982, he has dedicated himself to improving the strengths of the Military Police Corps, encouraging and growing Soldiers in the Force of Choice, and earned his way to positions of increasing responsibility. He demonstrated unfailing dedication and impeccable performance as a leader in assignments of increasing responsibility, most notably as the Fort Lee, VA, Chief of Police.

Joseph C. Metzger's professionalism, loyalty and dedication to duty are a clear example of "What Right Looks Like." His daily service and commitment to the Soldiers and Families of the Military Police Corps are second to none. He is clearly dedicated to upholding the Military Police Corps' reputation as the Force of Choice as we forge the future. His exceptional performance of duty is most deserving of the recognition afforded by the Military Police Regimental Association Order of the Marechaussee Medal in Bronze.



Retiring Chief of Police Joseph C. Metzger addresses the audience while wearing the Order of Marechaussee medallion he received during his parting ceremony Oct. 27 at the Lee Club. (photo by T. Anthony Bell, U.S. Army Garrison Fort Lee Public Affairs).

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