



United States Army John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center and School

INSIDE SWCS

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2010 SPECIAL FORCES SYMPOSIUM TO SHOWCASE GREEN BERET TRAINING

By Staff Sgt. Marshall Pesta

Special Forces Symposium Agenda

Mon., April 12 – Camp Mackall

0845 > Welcome Presentation
0900 > Airborne Events
1030 > Movement to Tent City
1045 > SFAS Presentation
1145 > Movement to RTF
1200 > Camp Mackall Tour

Tues., April 13 – Crown Expo Center

0730 > Registration & Badge Pick-up
0830 > Light Breakfast
0900 > Welcome, "State of SWCS"
1000 > SWCS Briefs
1100 > Break
1130 > Lunch
1300 > USASFC
1600 > Icebreaker Reception & Outdoor
Demonstrations

Wed., April 14 – Crown Expo Center

0830 > Light Breakfast
0900 > USASFC
1100 > Break
1130 > Lunch w/ Guest Speaker
1630 > SFA Pig Picking

Thurs., April 15 – Crown Expo Center

0830 > Light Breakfast
0900 > USASFC
1300 > Regimental First Formation (*Ft.
Bragg*)
1630 > Cocktails
1800 > SF Symposium Banquet

Fri., April 16 – Crown Expo Center

0900 > Special Forces Qualification Course
Graduation
1300 > Golf

FORT BRAGG, N.C. — Past and present Green Berets from across the world are set to return to Fort Bragg, the home of the U.S. Army Airborne and Special Operations Forces, for the Special Forces Symposium April 12-16.

Once a year, the Brotherhood of the Special Forces Regiment comes together with today's Green Berets, the Distinguished Members of the Regiment that blazed the traditions of Special Warfare, and the Family Members that support these Special Operators.

The symposium, a joint effort of the U.S. Army John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center and School and the U.S. Army Special Forces Command brings those groups together to celebrate the storied tradition of the Special Forces, and highlight the way ahead in unconventional warfare.

Maj. Gen. Thomas R. Csrnko, SWCS Commanding General, said the symposium has become another great tradition for Special Forces, and continues to expand each year.

"This is a great opportunity for senior leaders, both active and retired, to come together and get current on relevant issues, training and operations," Csrnko said. "It's also a great time to share the bond of the brotherhood."

This year, the demonstrations will begin with a military freefall tactical infiltration demonstration, complete with a military working dog. This event is open to the public and will start the symposium's family day, which will also include an engagement skills training session for family members, a shoot-house demonstration at Simm City, and an introduction to the survival course at Little Muddy highlighted by a Special Patrol Insertion Extraction System demonstration.

The tour of Camp Mackall will also have special meaning to the prior generations of Green Berets who will have a chance to see the latest changes to the Special Forces Assessment and Selection and Qualification Course. For some, it will be the first time coming back since they went through the course.

“One thing we want to stress is the importance of upholding the standards of training,” Csrnko said. “While the facilities and technology may change, the high standards do not.”

April 13-15, the symposium will move to the Cumberland County Crown Coliseum, for conferences where attendees will discuss the state and future of Special Forces.

The conferences will focus on senior leaders in both active duty and retired communities discussing lessons learned from past operations, as well as ideas and initiatives for future training. The ability for Special Forces to communicate between the generating force, or school house, and the operational force leads to the best training possible.

Military vendors from across the country will highlight the advanced technology employed by Special Forces Soldiers. This technology keeps these operators on the leading edge of training, producing the best special warfare apprentices for the operational groups. While the conferences require pre-registration, the vendor exposition will be open to the public. The Service Members and vendors will conclude the conference with a formal banquet April 15.

One of the greatest honors of the week will be recognizing the newest Distinguished Members of the Regiment and the new Honorary Regimental Leaders. Just as the Distinguished Members of the Regiment represent the history of Special Forces, they also have the privilege of inducting new members into the Green Berets at the Regimental First Formation April 15 and the Special Forces Qualification Course graduation April 16.

Maj. Brian Yarbrough, coordinator of the symposium, said honoring those who served before us is one of the greatest highlights of the week.

“The Special Forces Regiment has a deep heritage which is replete with traditions that bind the Brotherhood together,” Yarbrough said. “They provide a link with history for today’s Soldiers, thereby enhancing unit morale and esprit de corps.”



A Regimental First Formation for this year’s newest Green Berets, April 15 on Fort Bragg, will be a highlight of the 2010 Special Forces Symposium, to be held next week starting April 12.

“SWIKITS”

Management Skills for Non-Managers Course

“In celebration of Administrative Professionals Week, April 26-30, Staff and Faculty is bringing in a Fred Pryor Seminar April 29. Seating is limited to 30 attendees. This is open to anyone in SWCS in an administrative position. Class hours will be 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. The location is TBD.

Inspirational Quote

“I like to see a man proud of the place in which he lives. I like to see a man live so that his place will be proud of him.”
Abraham Lincoln