



“SWIKITS”

As the Army continues its high operational tempo, you have the opportunity to help the Army determine its priorities in helping enhance Soldiers' performance and resilience. Take the Army's Global Assessment Survey by the end of the month, answering questions about your personal emotional, social, spiritual and family fitness. Take the survey at <http://www.army.mil/csf>

Active duty military will be able to attend all 2010 Durham Bulls games for free. The program covers all Bulls regular-season games at Durham Bulls Athletic Park, as well as USA Baseball games played there. Active military will need to show identification at the Bulls ticket office to take advantage of the opportunity.

In Brief, From the Chief

“It takes real leadership to be patient.”

-Col. Curtis Boyd,
SWCS Chief of Staff



Quote of the Week

“We're not here to waste anybody's time. We're here to do the job right and get the mission done.”

-Sgt. 1st Class George Bell,
Psychological Operations
Small Group Leader, NCO
Academy



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

INSIDE SWCS

Thursday, May 6, 2010

JOINT COOPERATION AT SWCS STRENGTHENS U.S. SPECIAL OPERATIONS FORCE

By Dave Chace

FORT BRAGG, N.C. — Collaboration between military branches is essential throughout the special operations community, and that joint mentality starts at the John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center & School.

On top of managing training and doctrine for all U.S. Army Special Forces, Civil Affairs and Psychological Operations Soldiers, the Center and School works closely with the Marine Corps, Navy and Air Force by integrating their service members, as students and instructors, into advanced skills training courses like the Military Freefall School at Yuma Proving Ground, Ariz. and the Joint Special Operations Medical Training Center at Fort Bragg, N.C.

“Special operations forces, by their very nature, are joint,” said Lt. Col. Baron Harrison, the Marine Corps Service Advisor for SWCS and the U.S. Army Special Operations Command. “Because of the way [U.S. Special Operations Command] is set up, you're not typically going to operate in a unilateral fashion when you go downrange.”

Harrison serves as a Marine Corps liaison to SWCS on training issues, and USASOC on operational issues. He helps coordinate on behalf of seven Marines working at the freefall school as instructors, as well as approximately 70 Marines attending the school each year.

Over the last couple years, Marine units have sent their civil affairs personnel through the civil affairs specialist and qualification courses at SWCS, he said. Harrison also cited the Marine Corps' small but enduring requirement for psychological operations training; the most recently graduated psychological operations specialist course included three Marine noncommissioned officers.

“It's all about building relationships before you deploy, because you're going to work together downrange,” Harrison said.



A Navy Corpsman runs through a treatment procedure on a role-playing classmate during the Special Operations Combat Medic course, part of the Joint Special Operations Medical Training Center.

When it comes to building relationships between services, nowhere do the uniforms blend together better than the Joint Special Operations Medical Training Center, where special operations medics train side by side regardless of branch of service.

“These students don’t see a uniform,” said Master Sgt. Chuck Halcome, Air Force liaison to the JSOMTC. “Training alongside each other really does build camaraderie, and it makes our jobs so much easier downrange because we all have the same training and background.”

Halcome, a self-proclaimed “Air Force of One,” is the lone Air Force representative at SWCS, coordinating on behalf of Air Force medics attending JSOMTC’s Special Operations Combat Medical Skills Sustainment Course, an every-other-year requirement. He also leads and instructs classes as regularly as other services’ personnel.

The Navy, with a slightly bigger footprint than the Air Force at the JSOTMC, sends over 100 students each year through the Special Operations Combat Medic Course alone. “Our flavor is SEALs, special boat operators and recon Corpsmen,” said Lt. Cmdr. Phil Dauernheim, Navy Dean at the JSOMTC.

The branches of service may be different, but the training requirements for special operations combat medics are similar across the board. “Special operations tend to lean toward joint missions,” Dauernheim said. “Being able to train in that atmosphere helps a lot.”

“A lot of times, Army Soldiers don’t really understand the Navy rank structure,” said Master Chief Petty Officer Eric Sine, the senior Navy enlisted leader at the JSOMTC. “It helps that they get the chance to learn that here, before going out and joining the force.”

Sine, who is on his second tour at SWCS, said that when he returned to the operational force between his two Fort Bragg assignments, he worked with many of the same service members he helped train.

“That made a lot of our relationships a lot easier,” Sine said. “That was joint to its finest.”

“Sometimes that factor of unfamiliarity between services makes someone very suspicious of a person’s ability to get something done,” Dauernheim said. “I think having this same frame of reference helps validate a person’s ability to get the job done, no matter their service.”

All service branches in the special operations community benefit from the expertise of the instructors and resources across SWCS, but Dauernheim says it’s the Army personnel at SWCS and Fort Bragg that ultimately gain the most from working with the other services.

“We give them a little bit of class,” he said.

“It doesn’t take long to realize you’re going to be working with the other services,” Harrison said in his office on the sixth floor of the SWCS headquarters, just around the corner from the SWCS Commanding General’s office. “Instead of discovering how each other operates during the middle of a deployment, we can build these relationships in a classroom environment.”



A Marine drops into Mackall Army Airfield during a military freefall demonstration April 12 as part of the Special Forces Symposium opening events.

HEY, SWCS!

The SWCS Public Affairs Office
is where it’s at.

Visit the new and improved
PAO portal at ...

<https://arsocportal.soc.mil/swcs/staff/pao/default.aspx>

... to find links to
all the latest articles and videos
about SWCS, PAO photos
and past issues of
“Inside SWCS.”

We are proud to work with
the professional Soldiers
and civilians across SWCS.
Please keep up the great work—
we wouldn’t have any
stories to tell if it
weren’t for you!