

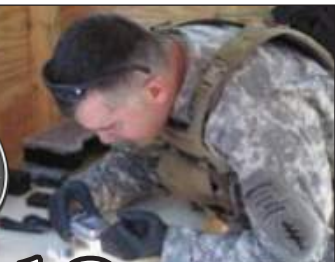


Inside SWCS

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1st Special Warfare Training Group (Airborne) activates 5th and 6th battalions to lead training in



Military Information Support Operations & Special Operations Intelligence

By Dave Chace
SWCS Public Affairs Office

The 1st Special Warfare Training Group (Airborne) held activation ceremonies last week to formally establish two new battalions dedicated to training special-operations Soldiers in two specific functions.

Fifth Battalion, 1st SWTG(A) will conduct all Military Information Support Operations training courses for the U.S. Army John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center and School. Prior to the 5th Battalion's activation, the group's 3rd Battalion managed courses for both MISO and Civil Affairs Soldiers; both are now separate and distinct units.

"Both regiments are expanding their forces and education base...The education demands require instructor and staff expertise with full time engagement. We have not had this luxury in the past," said Lt. Col. Brinton Rosenberry, 5th battalion commander.

The 5th Battalion's mission is to educate and train special-operations forces, U.S. Army Reserve forces, joint and allied counterparts and advanced individual training Soldiers in the art of influence operations. The majority of students attending the battalion's courses will graduate to serve with the Army's active-duty 4th Military Information Support Group (Airborne), or the U.S. Army Reserve's Civil Affairs and Psycho-

logical Operations Command (Airborne).

Qualification courses are held year-round for active-duty MISO personnel (who also receive regional education through the Directorate of Regional Studies and Education) and Army Reserve officers and NCOs from psychological operations units across the country. Advanced Individual Training is held for newly enlisted U.S. Army Reserve Soldiers fresh out of basic combat training.

In its activation ceremony June 27 at Fort Bragg's John F. Kennedy Plaza, Rosenberry became the battalion's first commander. A qualified psychological operations officer since 2003, Rosenberry is a veteran of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Sixth Battalion, 1st SWTG(A) will provide advanced training and education for experienced operators to succeed in uncertain, sensitive and high-risk environments. Its mission is to train and educate special-operations forces and other selected personnel to conduct specialized intelligence and operational activities in order to provide special-operations forces the capability to understand and address the diverse threats of the 21st century.

Over the last year, military and civilian personnel assigned to SWCS have developed new intelligence courses and improved and updated the content of the courses already offered. Many of those personnel are now members of the 6th Battalion ranks. Prior to the 6th Battalion activa-

tion, intelligence courses were conducted by the 1st SWTG(A)'s 1st and 2nd battalions.

Sixth Battalion now boasts a robust course catalog, to include Advanced Special Operations Manager, Special Forces Technical Surveillance Course, Special Forces Intelligence Sergeant Course, Special Operations Analytics and Intelligence, Network Development Course, Unconventional Warfare Operational Design Course, SOF Digital Targeting Training, Operator Advanced Course, Technical Exploitation Course, and the Exploitation Analysis Center Course.

In its activation ceremony June 28, Col. B. Ashton Naylor, 1st SWTG(A) commander, entrusted command of the 6th Battalion to Lt. Col. John Holevas, who is coming to Fort Bragg from Fort Knox, Ky. where he was chief of the U.S. Army Special Operations enlisted branch at the U.S. Army Human Resource Command. Holevas is a veteran of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

1st SWTG(A) is now made up of seven distinct battalions, the two new units join the group's Special Forces training, advanced skills, civil affairs, SFQC development and support battalions.

"Training group develops warriors and cognitive thinkers who possess language skills and have a keen perception of our adversaries. These traits are what give ARSOF-trained Soldiers the advantage over our counterparts," said Rosenberry.

Support Battalion welcomes new commander



Col. B. Ashton Naylor, Jr. (right) hands the Support Bn., 1st SWTG(A) colors to incoming commander Lt. Col. Michael Stefanchik during the unit's change of command ceremony June 24.

By Dave Chace

SWCS Public Affairs Office

The 1st Special Warfare Training Group (Airborne) held a change of command ceremony for its support battalion June 24 at Fort Bragg's John F. Kennedy Plaza.

Lt. Col. John T. Corley, the battalion's outgoing commander, passed command of the unit to Lt. Col. Michael Stefanchik, a Special Forces officer reporting to Fort Bragg from Washington, D.C., where he served as a liaison officer in the U.S. Special Operations Command's Washington office.

"[Stefanchik] is no stranger to war, or this group," said Col. B. Ashton Naylor, Jr., who commands the 1st SWTG(A). "He's deployed in combat to operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm, the liberation of Kuwait, operations in Haiti and Bosnia, and Operation Enduring Freedom."

Stefanchik is also no stranger to 1st SWTG(A), or the U.S. Army John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center and School. He completed the Special Forces Detachment Officer Qualification Course in 1994, and returned to SWCS in 1998 to become one of the command's first small-group instructors for the Special Forces Qualification Course officer training.

"He has all the qualities and experience to lead the Support Battalion here at SWCS," Naylor said.

The Support Battalion provides logistical support to the instructors who educate Soldiers in the Army's three special-operations branches: Special Forces, Civil Affairs and Military Information Support Operations. This logistical support includes administrative in- and out-processing, academic records-keeping, vehicle maintenance, transportation, electronic and communications equipment maintenance and repairs, food service and parachute rigging.

"Shortly after I took command of this unit, the U.S. Special Operations Command took measures to formally recognize the support of the many non-special-operations forces in the conduct of our wartime mission," Corley said.

"The addition of the fifth declaration to the special-operations forces truths recognized the importance of the enablers and their contributions to mission success," he said.

"Not to mischaracterize [Adm. Eric Olson's] comments, he was speaking specifically about the joint services, engineers, intelligence analysts and the numerous other professions that contribute to special operations," he said. "Nonetheless, I sense that it's appropriate to extend the precept to the officers, NCOs, Soldiers and civilians in the service of the Support Battalion," he said.

Stefanchik told the Soldiers and civilians within the battalion that they have done outstanding things in support of special-operations training.



Nine SWCS Soldiers, who participated in the command's 2011 Soldier and NCO of the Year competition, pose for a group shot after completing a freshly rained-on Nasty Nick obstacle course at Camp Mackall. Top row: Spc. Pable Martinez, Support Battalion, 1st Special Warfare Training Group (Airborne); Staff Sgt. Joseph Drevlow, Special Warfare Medical Group (Airborne); Sgt. Vernon Hart, SWCS Headquarters and Headquarters Company; Sgt. Adam Kourelis, 3rd Battalion, 1st SWTG(A); Spc. Jonathon Dobson, 1st Battalion, 1st SWTG(A). Bottom row: Sgt. 1st Class Eric Rivas, 4th Battalion, 1st SWTG(A); Sgt. 1st Class Lee Isham, NCO Academy; Sgt. Valencia Arredondo, SWMG(A); and Sgt. 1st Class Michael Gruver, Directorate of Regional Studies and Education. Rivas was named the command's top NCO, and Martinez was named the command's top Soldier, in a ceremony June 24 in John F. Kennedy Auditorium. Both will go on to compete in the U.S. Army Special Operations Command Soldier and NCO of the Year competition in July.

First women's self-defense class for SWCS Family members and personnel draws high turn-out, positive reviews

By Kaawaloa Taylor

SWCS Division of Family Programs

On June 1, the Division of Family Programs held its first-ever self-defense class for women.

This class was open to all women (spouses, children, Soldiers and civilians, ages 16 years and up) in the U.S. Army John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center and School.

The instructors were first- and fourth-degree black-belts from ATA Blackbelt Academy in Fayetteville, N.C.

The class was attended by more than 20 women of all ages and abilities. Once the class began there was a warm-up period and then the instructors began each block with a demonstration and explanation of the purpose of each particular technique.

By the end of the class the participants had learned several techniques and were provided time to practice the techniques. All of this culminated with role-playing scenarios to fend off an attacker (protected, for his own safety, in a huge, red suit).

The class taught the Families and Soldiers in SWCS some important skills, giving them real-life take-aways in the event they should ever need to use them.



SWCS Family members and personnel participate in a women's self-defense class organized by the SWCS Division of Family Programs (Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Teresa Coble, SWCS PAO)

Since then, the word has gotten out about the success and usefulness of the class; the division has had non-stop requests for another class. Please stay tuned for more information.

The SWCS Department of Family Programs is happy to offer educational services to the SWCS community, so until next time, remember: Families are our number-one priority!

SWCS Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3	Independence Day	5	6	7	8	9
10	Civilian of the Quarter submissions due	12	13	14	Promotion ceremony for Col. Ferdinand Hizarry, SWCS Deputy Commander 1800 Airborne and Special Operations Museum	16
17	Retirement ceremony for Col. Paul S. Burton 10 a.m. JFK Auditorium	19	20	21	22	Robin Sage begins