

# THE STATIC LINE

March 9, 2012



**PANTHER BRIGADE  
BEST IN DIVISION**

## **3RD BCT COMMAND TEAM**

**COL Michael Fenzel**

**CSM Nicholas Rolling**

## **PUBLIC AFFAIRS**

**SGT Joseph Guenther**

**SPC Terrance Payton**

## **COVER PHOTO**

Sgt. Jason Thomas (Left), and Pfc. Jeremy Shivick (Right), infantrymen with "Bastard Platoon" Company C, 2nd Battalion, 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment won the 82nd Airborne Division's Noncommissioned Officer and Paratrooper of the Year Competition. The winners were announced March 20, 2012. (Photo courtesy Pro Image)



# PANTHER BRIGADE BEST IN DIVISION

Story by **Sgt. Joseph Guenther**

Two Panthers pulled off what may have been considered impossible March 20, 2012, when they emerged as the winners of this year's 82nd Airborne Division Noncommissioned Officer and Paratrooper of the Year competition.

Pfc. Jeremy Shivick and Sgt. Jason Thomas, both infantrymen with 1st Platoon, Company C, 2nd Battalion, 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, competed at the division level after winning the brigade NCO and Trooper of the year board March 5, 2012.

Paratroopers, representing each of the brigades in the division began the competition, March 6,

with the Army Physical Fitness Test at Ritz Epps Physical Fitness Center. Shivick and Thomas outshined the rest of the competitors as Shivick completed the two-mile run with the fastest time, lapping most of the other candidates around the stadium track, while Thomas notched the highest score.

Shivick and Thomas dominated the competition beyond the APFT, as candidates proceeded to the range to compete in marksmanship.

At each event, Shivick and Thomas made the tasks look easy. Both Paratroopers finished first in the land navigation event and ranked high among the list of competitors on the soldier's written test, warrior tasks and battle drills.

The board, which was the final event of the competition, was held at Gavin Hall March 9, 2012.

"The board was pretty straightforward, Shivick said. "The board members asked questions, and I answered them."

"It was intimidating at first," Shivick said, "but once I started answering questions right, everything just started having a rolling effect and just went from there."

Once the board ended, each of the competitors and their sponsors gathered into the board room to hear final statements from the Task Force All-American Command Sergeant Major, Command Sgt. Maj. Steven L. Payton.

"I'm honored to serve with such outstanding Paratroopers as you," Payton said. "You've proven your commitment to excellence by representing your units and giving it your all. This is a major step toward becoming great leaders. Congratulations."

After the winners were announced 11 days later, Thomas said "It feels good. It's nice to know I have something to show for how hard I've worked, not only over the past year, but over my whole career in this unit."

As a Paratrooper, Thomas said he has many styles of leadership. The most important message he would want to pass on to new generations of Soldiers entering the Army is "Do your best at everything. Never be satisfied. If you're satisfied, it means you've stopped training."



**Pfc. Jeremy Shivick, an infantryman with Company C, 2nd Battalion, 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division qualifies with a randomly assigned rifle as part of the division's Trooper of the Year Competition. Shivick, and Sgt. Jason Thomas of the same unit both went on to win Trooper and Noncommissioned Officer of the Year competition.**



# ARBOR DAY CEREMONY AT THE GROVE OF HONOR



Story by [Spc. Terrance Payton](#)

Paratroopers with Troop D, 5th Squadron, 73rd Airborne Cavalry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division participated in an Arbor Day Ceremony March 16 at Fort Bragg's Grove of Honor Pollinator Garden.

In the two days leading up to the ceremony, volunteers and the 5-73rd Troopers put their gardening and landscaping skills to the test as they beautified the area in preparation for the ceremony.

During the ceremony, Maj. Robert Nesbit, WO1 Justin Lucas and Mr. Mike Lynch planted a redbud tree, which was donated by Tree City USA, in the garden.

Maj. Nesbit said that 5-73rd would like adopting the Pollinator Garden and maintaining it on a regular basis.

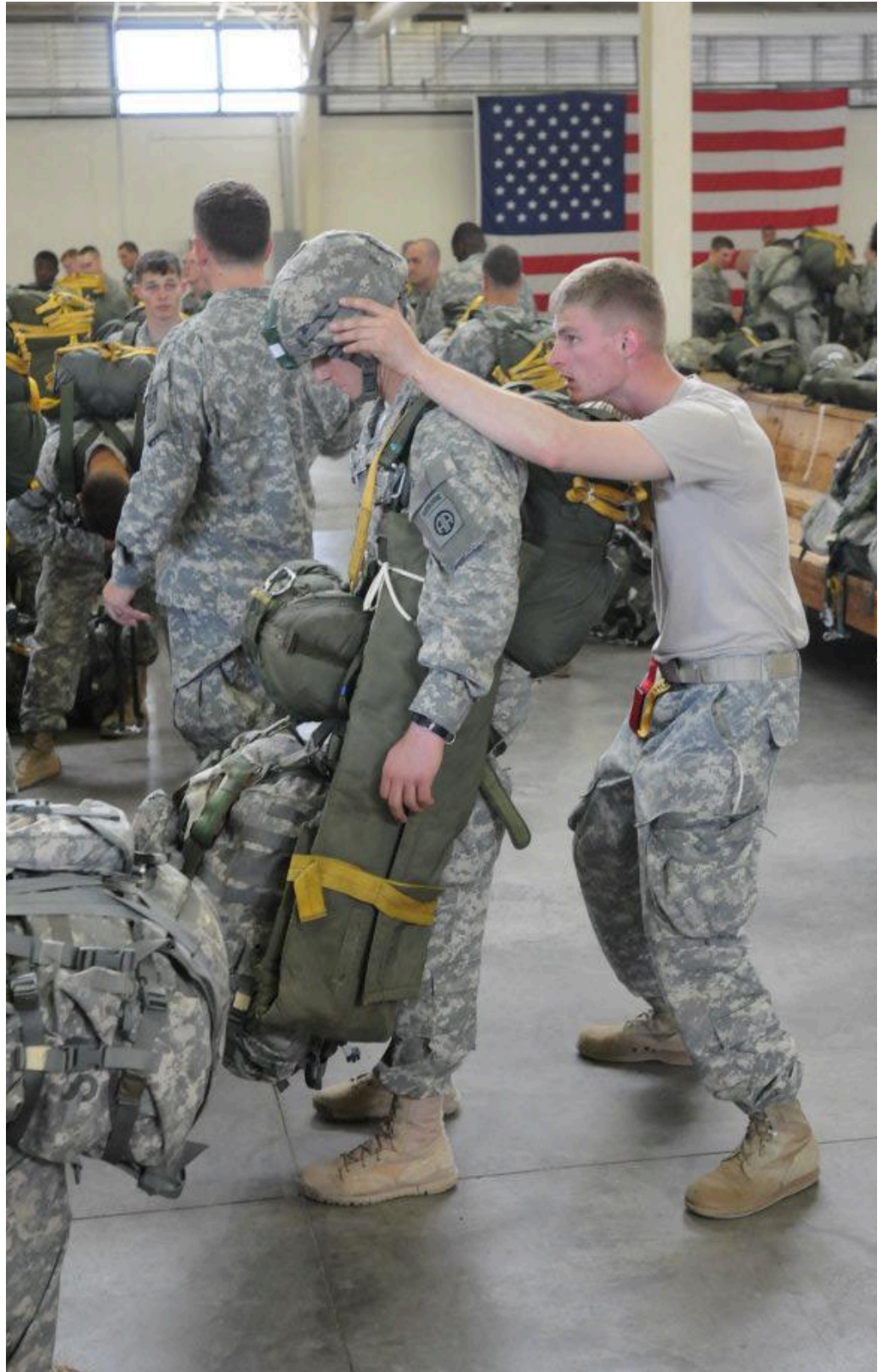
Tree City USA is a nonprofit tree planting and tree care program sponsored by the National Arbor Day Foundation for cities and towns in the United States.



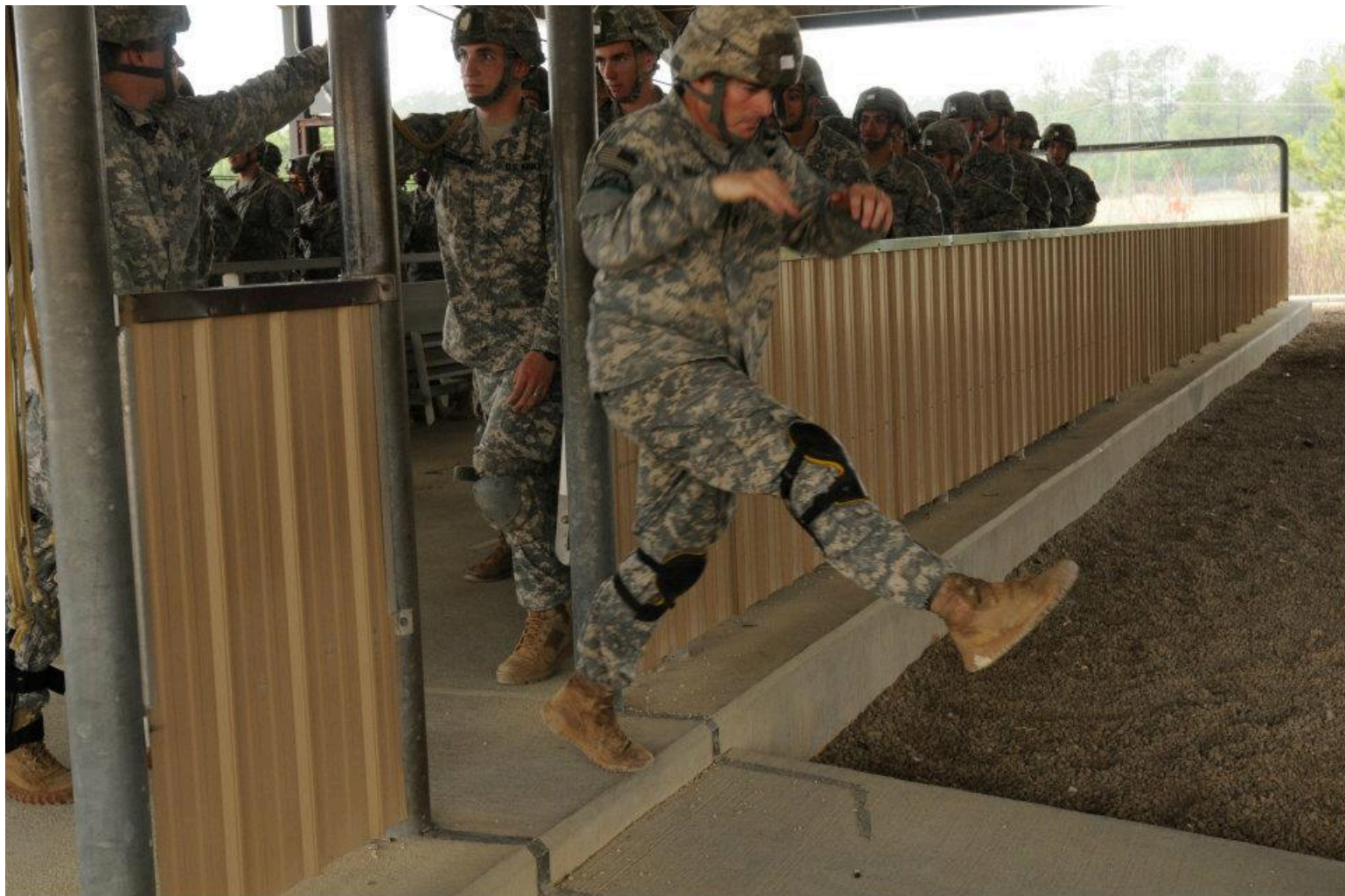
# EMERGENCY DEPLOYMENT READINESS EXERCISE

The Paratroopers of 2nd Battalion, 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team participated in an Emergency Deployment Readiness Exercise March 19, 2012. The exercise began with an early morning recall for the 2-505th Paratroopers, and continued with an Army Physical Fitness Test, modified with a five-mile run. Other Paratroopers continued on to be issued ammunition and parachutes and conducted sustained airborne training and put on their parachutes as they prepared to load an aircraft.

The purpose of the exercise is to evaluate the readiness of a unit to assemble with little notice, and deploy anywhere in the world they might be needed.











**3rd Brigade Combat Team**  
**82nd Airborne Division**

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