



THE NCO CREED

o one is more professional than I. I am a noncommissioned officer, a leader of Soldiers. As a noncommissioned officer, I realize that I am a member of a time honored corps, which is known as "the backbone of the Army." I am proud of the Corps of Noncommissioned Officers and will at all times conduct myself so as to bring credit upon the Corps, the military service and my country, regardless of the situation in which I find myself. I will not use my grade or position to attain pleasure, profit or personal safety.

ompetence is my watchword. My two basic responsibilities will always be uppermost in my mind — accomplishment of my mission and the welfare of my Soldiers. I will strive to remain tactically and technically proficient. I am aware of my role as a noncommissioned officer. I will fulfill my responsibilities inherent in that role. All Soldiers are entitled to outstanding leadership; I will provide that leadership. I know my Soldiers and I will always place their needs above my own. I will communicate consistently with my Soldiers and never leave them uninformed. I will be fair and impartial when recommending both rewards and punishment.

fficers of my unit will have maximum time to accomplish their duties; they will not have to accomplish mine. I will earn their respect and confidence as well as that of my Soldiers. I will be loyal to those with whom I serve; seniors, peers, and subordinates alike. I will exercise initiative by taking appropriate action in the absence of orders. I will not compromise my integrity, nor my moral courage. I will not forget, nor will I allow my comrades to forget that we are professionals, noncommissioned officers, leaders!

Cover: Staff Sgt. Mark Lynas (left), squad leader, and Sgt. Mark Record, team leader, both attached to Provincial Reconstruction Team Zabul, secure a school and clear insurgent threats Nov. 22, 2011, in a village in Shah Joy, Afghanistan. Both sergeants are deployed from C Company, 182nd Infantry Regiment, Massachusetts National Guard. PHOTO BY SGT. RUTH PAGAN

Above: Soldiers with 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, walk through a cloud of dust after being dropped off by a Chinook helicopter at Forward Operating Base Pacemaker in Afghanistan. PHOTO BY SENIOR AIRMAN GROVERT FUENTES-CONTRERAS

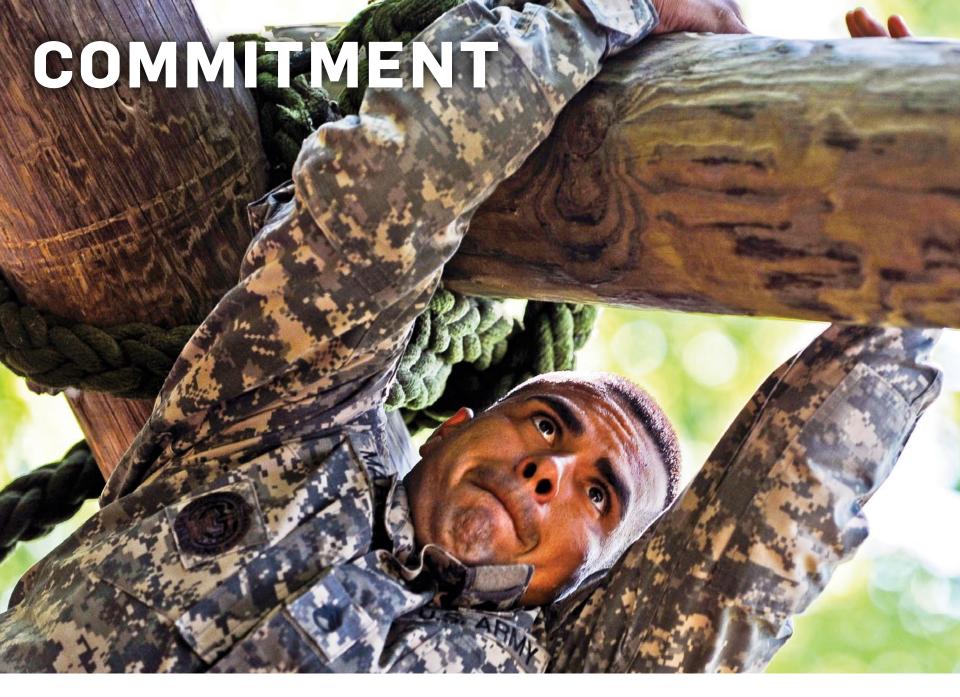


October 2012

NCOJOURNAL

25 26 27 28 29 30

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	Soldiers from U.S. Army Reserve Command's headquarters climb an obstacle during a noncommissioned officer professional development event March 16, 2012, at Fort
Operation Enduring Freedom begins (2001)	8 Columbus Day	9	10	11	12	13 Navy Birthday	Bragg, N.C. The Soldiers negotiated the obstacles and used teamwork when necessary to complete each station. PHOTO BY TIMOTHY L. HALE
14	15	16 National Boss Day	17	18	19	20	
21	22	23	24 United Nations Day	25	26 Eid al-Adha	27	SEPTEMBER 2012 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29
28	29	30	31 Halloween				NOVEMBER 2012 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24



November 2012

	SATURDAY	FRIDAY	THURSDAY	WEDNESDAY	TUESDAY	MONDAY	SUNDAY
Staff Sgt. Victor Marquez Rodriguez Sr., a Fort Sill Okla., drill sergeant climbs across a log to gei to a waiting rope on the confidence course at For Eustis, Va., June 27, 2012, as	3	2	Vietnam War begins (1955)				
part of the Drill Sergean of the Year competition The yearly competition is designed by the previous year's winners and is mean to challenge each dril sergeant, both physically and mentally	10 Marine Corps Birthday	9	8	7	6 Election Day	5	Daylight Saving Time ends
PHOTO BY SENIOR AIRMAN WESLEY FARNSWORTH	17	16	15 Islamic New Year	14	13	12	11 Veterans Day
OCTOBER 2012 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	24	23	22 Thanksgiving	21	20	19	18
DECEMBER 2012 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29		30	29	28	27	26	25



December 2012

NCOJOURNAL

Sgt. Ni	SATURDAY	FRIDAY	THURSDAY	WEDNESDAY	TUESDAY	MONDAY	SUNDAY
Sgt. Rob Logu 20th I 2nd Briga	1						
2nd Infan their resistant a vehicle Feb. a successf patrol thro Menden prov	Hanukkah begins United States enters World War II (1941)	National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day	6	5	4	3	2
PHO	15	14	Army National Guard Birthday	12	11	10	9
NOVE	22	21 Winter begins	20 Operation Just Cause begins (1989)	19	18	17	16
4 5 6 11 12 13 18 19 20 25 26 27	29	28	27	26 Kwanzaa begins	25 Christmas	24	23
JAN 1 6 7 8 13 14 15 20 21 22 27 28 29						31 New Year's Eve	30

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9 10 16 17 23 24

18 19 25 26



January 2013

NCOJOURNAL

17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28

	SATURDAY	FRIDAY	THURSDAY	WEDNESDAY	TUESDAY	MONDAY	SUNDAY
Cpl. William Hopkin a spotter with F Compar 2nd Aviation Assault Battalio 82nd Combat Aviation Brigad 82nd Airborne Divisio looks through the scope of .50-caliber rifle whi	5	4	3	2	New Year's Day		
Sgt. Lucas Cordes, a snip team leader, waits for tl UH-60 Black Hawk to tu around so they can commen an aerial firing platfor exercise Jan. 26, 2012, Logar province, Afghanista	12	11	10	9	8	7	6
PHOTO BY SPC. CODY BARB	19	18	17	Operation Desert Storm begins (1991)	15	14	13
DECEMBER 201 2 3 4 5 6 7 9 10 11 12 13 14 1 16 17 18 19 20 21 2 23 24 25 26 27 28 2	26	25	24	23	22	Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday (observed)	20 Inauguration Day
30 31 FEBRUARY 201 1 3 4 5 6 7 8 10 11 12 13 14 15 1			31	30	29	28	27



February 2013

	SATURDAY	FRIDAY	THURSDAY	WEDNESDAY	TUESDAY	MONDAY	SUNDAY
Staff Sgt. Tom Maahs of the Task Force Paladin explosive ordnance disposal unit inspects the site of an improvised explosive device through his rifle scope Feb. 18, 2012, on a street in	2 Groundhog Day	1					
Gardez, the capital of Paktia province, Afghanistan. The IED was discovered by local Afghan Uniformed Police and was later destroyed by an Afghan National Army EOD unit.	9	8	7	6	5	4	3 Super Bowl XLVII
PHOTO BY SPC. KEN SCAR	16	15	14 Valentine's Day	13 Ash Wednesday	Mardi Gras Lincoln's Birthday	11	10 Chinese New Year
JANUARY 2013 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	23	Q2 Washington's Birthday	21	20	19	Washington's Birthday (observed)	17
MARCH 2013 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30			28	27	26	25	24



March 2013

NCOJOURNAL

21 22 23 24 25 26 27

28 29 30

	SATURDAY	FRIDAY	THURSDAY	WEDNESDAY	TUESDAY	MONDAY	SUNDAY
Sgt. Lewis Howard, a CH-47 Chinook crew chief assigned to B Company, 1st Battalion, 11Ith Aviation Regiment, Florida National Guard, looks	2	1					
over cargo paperwork for the load up of supplies at a forward operating base in Afghanistan. PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. ANDY M. KIN	9	8	7	6	5	4	3
	16	15	14	13	12	11	Daylight Saving Time begins
FEBRUARY 2013	23	22	21	Spring begins Operation Iraqi Freedom begins (2003)	19	18	17 St. Patrick's Day
3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28	30	29 Good Friday	28	27	26	25 Passover begins	24 Palm Sunday
APRIL 2013 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27							31 Easter Sunday



April 2013

MONDAY

TUESDAY

NCOJOURNAL

26 27 28 29 30 31

SATURDAY

				WEBNESDAT			
Staff Sgt. Matthew Alarcon, a jumpmaster with 1st Battalion, 504th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division, gives jump instructions during a joint access	United States enters World War I (1917)	5	4	3	2	1 April Fool's Day	
exercise Feb. 10, 2012, at Pope Army Airfield, N.C. Photo by Staff Sgt. Tony R. Ritter	13	American Civil War begins (1861)	11	10	9	Holocaust Rememberance Day	7
	20	Revolutionary War begins (1775)	18	17	16	15 Tax Day	14
MARCH 2013 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	27	26 Arbor Day	25 Spanish-American War begins (1898)	24 Administrative Professionals Day	23 Army Reserve Birthday	22 Earth Day	21
MAY 2013 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25					30	29	28

WEDNESDAY

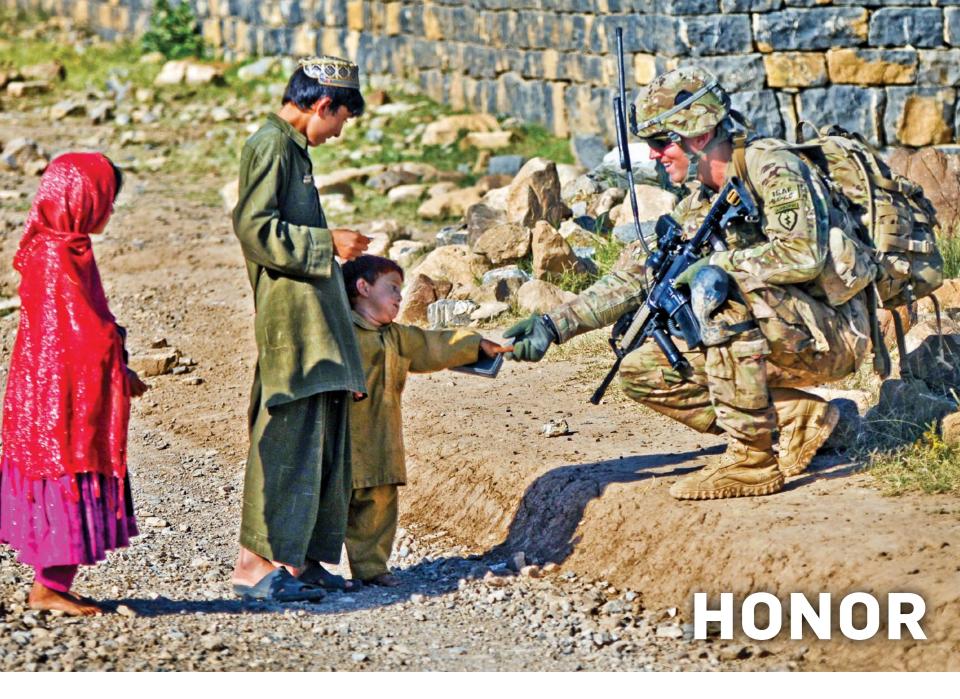
THURSDAY

FRIDAY



May 2013

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
			1	2	3	4	Soldiers in A Company, 2nd Battalion, 69th Armor
			•	National Day	0		Regiment, 3rd Heavy Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry
				of Prayer			Division, receive a safety brief Jan. 26, 2012, before
							firing at Galloway Range at
		7			10	11	Fort Benning, Ga. The training was part of brigadewide
5	6	1	8	9	10	- 11	training to prepare for the brigade's rotation at the
Cinco de Mayo			V-E Day (1945)			Military Spouses Day	National Training Center
							at Fort Irwin, Calif. PHOTO BY SPC. ERIK ANDERSON
							PHUTU BT SPC. ERIK ANDERSUN
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	
Mother's Day	Mexican-American War	• • •			•••	Armed Forces Day	
	begins (1846)						
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	APRIL 2013 1 2 3 4 5 6
10	20			20		20	7 8 9 10 11 12 13
							14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27
							28 29 30
26	27	28	29	30	31	_	JUNE 2013
20	Memorial Day	20	23	30	31		2 3 4 5 6 7 8
	метюпат рау						9 10 11 12 13 14 15
							16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29
							30



June 2013

MONDAY

TUESDAY

SUNDAY

NCOJOURNAL

SATURDAY

						1
2	3	4	5	6 D-Day (1944)	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14 Army Birthday Flag Day	15
16 Father's Day	17	18 War of 1812 begins	19	20	21 Summer begins	22
23	24	Korean War begins (1950)	26	27	28	29
30						

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

UJUUNNAL

Cpl. Brian Lewis, a team leader assigned to 4th Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, greets Afghan children while conducting a security patrol June 2, 2012, in the Shaway Valley of Khowst province, Afghanistan.

PHOTO BY Staff Sgt. Jason Epperson

MAY 2013

5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

JULY 2013

7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31



July 2013

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
	C anada Day	2	3	Independence Day	5	6	Sgt. Paul Jordan, a medic assigned to the 25th Combat Aviation Brigade, 25th Infantry Division, provides security as a UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter arrives to extract his team and members
7	8	Ramadan begins	10	11	12	13	of the 2nd Afghan National Civil Order Patrol Special Weapons and Tactics Team on March 16, 2012, in Kandahar province, Afghanistan. PHOTO BY SGT. DANIEL SCHROEDER
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	
21	22	23	24	25	26	Korean War Armistice (1953)	JUNE 2013 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29
28	29	30	31				AUGUST 2013 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

TEAMWORK



August 2013

NCOJOURNAL

29 30

	SATURDAY	FRIDAY	THURSDAY	WEDNESDAY	TUESDAY	MONDAY	SUNDAY
Soldiers from B Battery, Fires Squadron, 2nd Stryker Cavalry Regiment, launch a round Nov. 30, 2011, during a live-fire exercise at the Grafenwöhr Training Area, Germany.	3	2	1				
PHOTO COURTESY OF The U.S. Army	10	9	8 Eid Al-Fitr	Operation Desert Shield begins (1990)	6	5	Coast Guard Birthday
	17	16	15 V-J Day (1945)	14	13	12	11
JULY 2013 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	24	23	22	21	20	19	18
SEPTEMBER 2013 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28	31	30	29	28	27	26	25



September 2013

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27 28 29 30 31

	SATURDAY	FRIDAY	THURSDAY	WEDNESDAY	TUESDAY	MONDAY	SUNDAY
Staff Sgt. Aaron Kaehn of the 176th Engineer Company, Washington Army National Guard, does masonry work with his Thai counterpart at the Ban Wang Nam Khiao elementary school	7	6	5 Rosh Hashana	4	3	2 Labor Day	1
in Thailand. Multinational forces worked together to improve interoperability at six humanitarian civic action sites throughout Thailand as part of Exercise Cobra Gold. PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. KAREN PERSON	14 Yom Kippur	13	12	11 Patriot Day	10	9	National Grandparents Day
	21 National POW/MIA Recognition Day	20	19	18 Air Force Birthday	17 Constitution Day	Mexican Independence Day	15
AUGUST 2013 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	28	27	26	25	24	23	22 Fall begins
OCTOBER 2013 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26						30	29 Gold Star Mothers Day



October 2013

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17 18 19 20 21 22 23

	SATURDAY	FRIDAY	THURSDAY	WEDNESDAY	TUESDAY	MONDAY	SUNDAY
Staff Sgt. Charles Stokes patrols near a local village near Combat Outpost Terezayi in Afghanistan's Khowst province. Stokes is a member of the 4th Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division.	5	4	3	2	1		
PHOTO BY SPC. ERIC-JAMES ESTRADA	12	11	10	9	8	Columbus Day Operation Enduring Freedom begins (2001)	6
	19	18	17	16 National Boss Day	15 Eid Al-Adha	14	13 Navy Birthday
SEPTEMBER 2013 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	26	25	24 United Nations Day	23	22	21	20
NOVEMBER 2013 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9			31 Halloween	30	29	28	27



November 2013

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
					Vietnam War begins (1955)	2	Army Reserve Soldiers render final honors at a Fallen Warrior ceremony Jan. 10, 2012, at Fort Bragg, N.C. The command honored seven Army Reserve Soldiers who made the ultimate
Daylight Saving Time ends	4 Islamic New Year	5	6	7	8	9	sacrifice in Iraq and Afghanistan. PHOTO BY TIMOTHY L. HALE
10 Marine Corps Birthday	11 Veterans Day	12	13	14	15	16	
17	18	19	20	21 Thanksgiving	22	23	OCTOBER 2013 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31
24	25	26	27 Hanukkah begins	28	29	30	DECEMBER 2013 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31



December 2013

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
1	2	3	4	5	6	National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day	Sgt. 1st Class Michael Nelsor (right) of the Alaska Nationa Guard, a security force member of Provincial Reconstructior Team Farah, inspects a member of his team May 26, 2012, while providing security during a
United States enters World War II (1941)	9	10	11	12	Army National Guard Birthday	14	mission in Farah City, Farah province, Afghanistan PHOTO BY LT. BENJAMIN ADDISON
15	16	17	18	19	Operation Just Cause begins (1989) Winter begins	21	
22	23	24	25 Christmas	26 Kwanzaa begins	27	28	NOVEMBER 2013 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30
29	30	New Year's Eve					JANUARY 2014 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31



2013

2014

JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH
1 2 3 4 5	1 2	1 2	1 2 3 4	1	1
6 7 8 9 10 11 12	3 4 5 6 7 8 9	3 4 5 6 7 8 9	5 6 7 8 9 10 11	2 3 4 5 6 7 8	2 3 4 5 6 7 8
13 14 15 16 17 18 19	10 11 12 13 14 15 16	10 11 12 13 14 15 16	12 13 14 15 16 17 18	9 10 11 12 13 14 15	9 10 11 12 13 14 15
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APRIL	MAY	JUNE	APRIL	MAY	JUNE
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JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER
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1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 OCTOBER 1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 NOVEMBER 1 2	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 DECEMBER 1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 OCTOBER 1 2 3 4	3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 NOVEMBER	7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 DECEMBER 1 2 3 4 5 6
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Above: Sgt. Aaron Sweeny and Staff Sgt. Robert Novak, both of A Battery, 2nd Battalion, 377th Parachute Field Artillery Regiment, Task Force Spartan, 10th Mountain Division, watch artillery impacts from a mountaintop near Forward Operating Base Salerno in Khowst province, Afghanistan, during a call for fire exercise. PHOTO BY SPC. KEN SCAR

TRAITS OF THE NCO



INTEGRITY OCTOBER 2012



COMMITMENT NOVEMBER 2012



TRUSTWORTHY DECEMBER 2012



PERSONAL COURAGE JANUARY 2013



SELFLESS SERVICE FEBRUARY 2013



EXPERTISE MARCH 2013



RESILIENCE APRIL 2013



COMMUNICATION MAY 2013



HONOR JUNE 2013



RESPONSIBILITY JULY 2013



TEAMWORK AUGUST 2013



LOYALTY SEPTEMBER 2013



DUTY OCTOBER 2013



RESPECT NOVEMBER 2013



COMPETENCE DECEMBER 2013