

Machine gun qualification

By STAFF SGT.
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The Mississippi Army National Guard's 184th Sustainment Command conducted crew served weapon qualifications during Annual Training at Camp Shelby Joint Forces Training Center July 17.

The Soldiers of the unit received instruction and hands-on experience with the M249 Squad Automatic Weapon, which is a light machine gun chambered in the same 5.56mm caliber as the current U.S. M4 Carbine, and serves as an additional base of fire for the squad in conjunction with the 7.62mm M240B General Purpose Machinegun.

The unit, commanded by Brig. Gen. Janson D. Boyles, serves as a command element for subordinate sustainment brigades that provide supply, maintenance, transportation, field service and other logistical support to forward operational units. During the command's 2010-11 Afghanistan deployment, they led the Joint Sustainment Command which included more than 43,000 Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines and civilians.

The unit ensured the delivery of 413.3 million gallons of fuel, 25.9 million pounds of ammunition, 42.7 million pounds of mail, and more than 109.5 million meals.



U.S. Army photos by Staff Sgt. Kenny Hatten, CSJFTC Public Affairs

At top, Sgt. Rodger Colburn fires three-round bursts from the M249 Squad Automatic Weapon on the zero range as his assistant gunner, Spc. Glenn Caylor, watches the fall of shot on the target and calls out corrections during 184th SC Annual Training at Camp Shelby Joint Forces Training Center July 17. Above from left, after firing a partial belt, Colburn and Caylor examine the target to determine the zeroing adjustments to make on the weapon before firing for qualification. Center, hot brass and links shower the ground beside Spc. Shannon Tarver as he fires a full belt from the M249 SAW during the crew-served weapon qualification which was part of 184th SC Annual Training at CSJFTC.

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