

REVELLE

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Camp Shelby Joint Forces Training Center's newest urban operations training ground, the Combined Arms Collective Training Facility, is located on 14 acres and is equipped with 193 cameras. U.S. Army photos by Staff Sgt. Michael Williams, CSJFTC Public Affairs

CSJFTC hosts grand opening of new facilities

BY STAFF SGT. MICHAEL WILLIAMS
CSJFTC Public Affairs

Camp Shelby Joint Forces Training Center held an open house event to showcase the newly-constructed Combined Arms Collective Training Facility and the fully-automated Live Fire Shoot House Jan. 24.

The CACTF, a \$10.5 million facility, is the newest urban operations training facility in the southeastern United States. The facility is the latest high-tech solution for realistic, fast-paced urban operation training that features 35 buildings on 14 acres and is equipped with 193 cameras inside with three additional cameras outside that can provide a 360 degree visual playback.

The fully-automated Live Fire Shoot House, a 2,070-square-foot facility that cost nearly \$3 million, provides units close proximity training that will present a high level of intense engagement in live-fire scenarios.

These training facilities add to the arsenal of Camp Shelby's training capabilities. From training platoon-size elements on Virtual Combat Training Suites to the CACTF or Live Fire Shoot House, this grand opening is considered by Camp Shelby leadership and trainers as a force multiplying tool.

"The CACTF is state-of-the-art, the latest and the greatest in the southeastern United States for urban operations training for both

military and law enforcement," said Col. Brad Smith, commander, Camp Shelby Joint Forces Training Center.

What also makes it significant is that these facilities are not just limited to military, but law enforcement agencies will be able to utilize these training facilities too. At a reasonable cost per day, law enforcement, both state and local, can continue to develop their tactics, techniques and procedures.

"What this offers to us is the ability here. We do not have to go to Fort Polk or Fort Benning. The closest National Guard CACTF and closest to its size is in San Antonio, Texas, just north of that. It allows people in this region to train here. We have also added the unmanned aircraft system and robotics. So, anything you would like to train on – from the urban operations on the military side or law enforcement side, you can do that here at Shelby," said Lt. Col. Rick Weaver, director of plans, training, mobilization and security at Camp Shelby.

At the end of the day, after training is completed, units will be able to view their performance by video during after-action reviews. By having immediate visual imagery feedback, commanders and leaders can address deficiencies immediately and improve maneuver techniques on the spot, ensuring optimal performance and continued mission readiness.



The fully automated Live Fire Shoot House, a 2,070 square-foot training facility that can be utilized by military or law enforcement personnel. The facility allows for live fire training while 16 cameras track their every move and provide immediate feedback for after action review. **More photos on Page 6.**

Hey, Soldier: Did you Know?

Weekend hours...

The Camp Shelby AAFES Exchange will be operating on a new weekend schedule starting Dec. 5, and the hours of operation will be 9:00 a.m. to 5 p.m.

New cafe hours...

The Camp Shelby Internet Café located on 26th Street, Bldg. 2614, is now open Monday- Friday 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. The café is free to the Soldiers.

A Day on....Not a Day Off

By STAFF SGT. MICHAEL WILLIAMS
CSJFTC Public Affairs

Nearly 50 military service members and civilians from Camp Shelby Joint Forces Training Center Soldiers donated their time and skills Jan. 25 in the renovation of the R3SM Volunteer House in downtown Hattiesburg.

In honor of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Camp Shelby employees observed his legacy by volunteering with Recover, Rebuild, Restore Southeast Mississippi (R3SM), a United Way Agency, to help restore the house.

"Camp Shelby wanted to do something to celebrate Martin Luther King's motto of 'A Day On...Not A Day Off,'" said Sandy Henderson, Camp Shelby Equal Opportunity Compliance specialist. "We looked into organizations within our local area and we started

with the United Way because we wanted a quality organization that had been vetted."

From painting, cleaning, carpentry, grouting and moving furniture, volunteers from Camp Shelby volunteered their time to re-establish a boarding house that was used by travelers passing through the Hattiesburg train depot in the late 1940s.

Now, the Volunteer House is being prepared to support volunteers working on community restoration projects in the Hattiesburg area and surrounding Pine Belt communities by providing lodging during their time here.

"We are volunteering with R3SM to assist in completing their volunteer house which will enable volunteers from other places to have a clean safe place of which to base



U.S. Army photo by Staff Sgt. Michael Williams, CSJFTC Public Affairs
Sgt. Tamika Stinson, Awards and Casualty NCO, preps a bathroom floor for grouting at the Recover, Rebuild and Restore Southeast Mississippi (R3SM) Volunteer House in Hattiesburg Jan. 25.