

CSTX Global Lightning 2015



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**310TH ESC
Commander.
COL. Robert G. Haste**



The achievements we have made during Combined Support Training Exercise Global Lightning 2015 are unprecedented in scale. This is the largest training exercise that has ever been conducted by the Army Reserve and well in excess of 11,000 Soldiers have participated in Global Lightning, of which Joint Sustainment Command Atropia (JSC-A) contributed over 6,000 Soldiers. Exercises of this scale don't just happen. CSTX Global Lightning 2015 took a tremendous amount of planning, preparation, and thought, to bring all of the pieces together for mission success. And while the exercise was going on, we were able to train on some very critical skills that the Army needs.

The vast majority of the bulk fuel capability of the Army is contained in the Army Reserve.

Commander Comments

The ability to do our wartime mission of receipt, storage and, issue as well as validation, is enabled by assets such as the petroleum labs that certify that we are delivering fuel on spec for any mission or equipment type, such as a ground generator, an LMTV, and all the way up to aviation assets. We manage that mission professionally, on spec, and we get fuel to the customer on time. While all of that was going on, JSC-A provided their own life support in the way of field feeding, health and hygiene. JSC-A purified their own water for showers and drinking, an achievement in an austere environment, but we took it further and did it in a tactical environment.

While the Quartermaster Liquid Logistics Exercise (QLLEX) has attempted to operate tactically before, what made this exercise different was the integration of a training division to provide validation.

At this exercise, the validation process went beyond the Commander of the unit, but provided some objective observation of the training to give feedback to the Commander on improvements and how to adjust the unit training plan moving forward. This is important in that as these units move through their ARFORGEN cycle, the validation

process will accurately tell the Commanders that their units are ready to answer the nation's call when it comes.

During the QLLEX, the Soldiers of the JSC-A moved over 4.2 million gallons of fuel for Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) Energy alone. We also came together to respond to a real-world contingency when the pipeline to Craney Island, the primary means of fuel delivery there, was disrupted. We took on the mission so there was no degradation of service. Because of that, the customer never missed a beat with their operations. That was because the Soldiers of JSC-A were trained, ready, and available to provide essential services.

Another great accomplishment is the combination of National Guard and Army Reserve units in CSTX Global Lightning 2015. The two components integrated, seamlessly picking up the mission and working together to get it done.

It was great to see not only what we have accomplished, but how we overcame adversity such as the relocation of JSC-A and still maintained forward momentum on the mission without missing a beat. All of those things combined, have left me honored to have commanded this organization through to the successful end of CSTX Global Lightning 2015.



310TH ESC
CSM. Scott A. Hinton

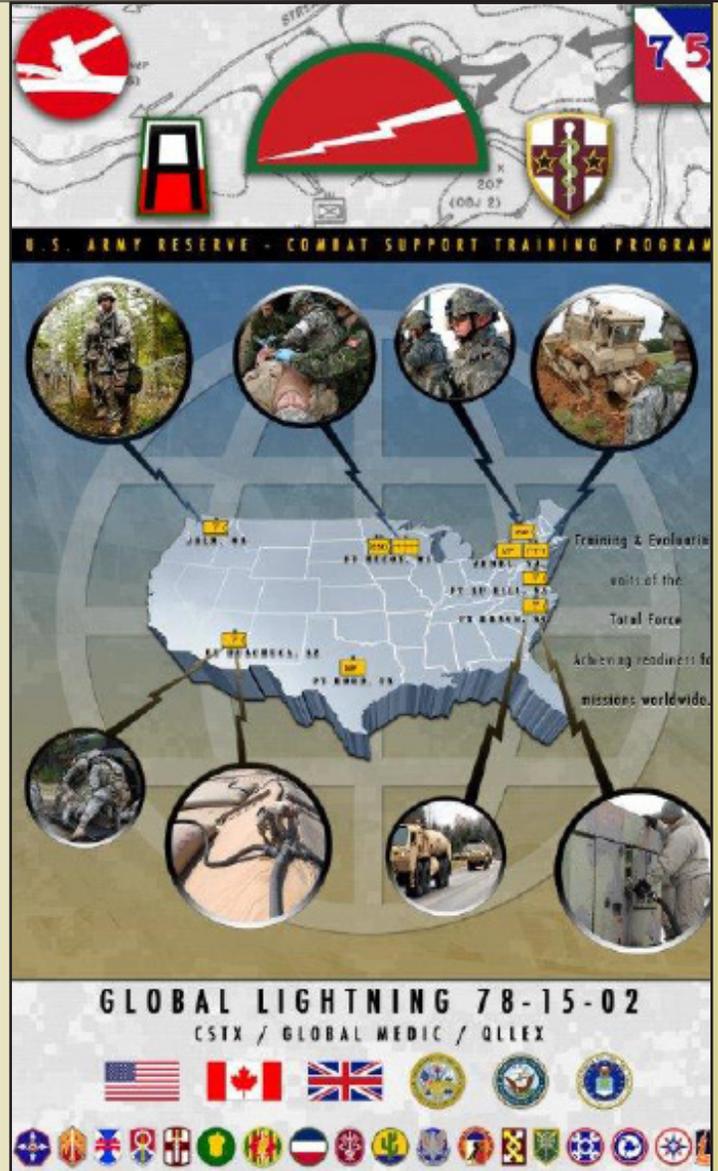
It has been a pleasure and privilege to take part in CSTX 8-15-02 "Global Lightning." This is the largest Army Reserve Sustainment training exercise ever conducted.

At the heart and backbone of CSTX Global Lightning is the 310th ESC and the down-trace of our units. We provided the largest fuel transport ever, to include real world contingency for primary fuel. When a pipeline went down during the exercise, the 310th ESC stepped up to provide service without interruption. The 310th ESC had the largest footprint going coast to coast.

We integrated the QLLEX and CSTX for the first time. We set the bar for future CSTX's in our performance, standards, and the training delivered to our Soldiers. The Soldiers of the 310th ESC are what made this mission so impressive. Throughout the course of CSTX Global Lightning 2015, I toured most of our sites, and at every stop, I witnessed our junior enlisted taking up responsibilities far beyond their rank without missing a beat.

I watched SPC's brief generals with a thoroughly impressive display of skill and knowledge, and attention to detail. I had the privilege of seeing units from the multiple Sustainment Commands, including the 316th ESC, 143rd ESC, and 103rd ESC interacting and performing at the top of their profession to accomplish the mission at a standard that has far eclipsed any exercise conducted before this, and their example will set the bar for any exercise after.

The level of excellence that became the normal



operating conduct during CSTX Global Lightning is now placed as the standard, and is a testament to our service members. It is an honor to serve alongside the best; the top 1% of the nation, the volunteer Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marines, and the members of the militaries of the several countries that have taken part in this combined exercise. Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your Command Sergeant Major. Thank you for leading alongside Col. Haste and myself. It has been an honor and privilege.

Hooah!



310th ESC Safety Corner:



310 ESC Chaplain: MAJ. Doug Hedrick

From the Safety Officer:

As CSTX Global Lightning 2015 begins to wind down I want to share my thoughts with all of the Soldiers and the Command participating in the exercise. It is my sincere belief that safety is everyone's responsibility up and down the chain of command. Even though the exercise has not concluded I believe that we have had no major accidents, in part, because safety was considered a top priority during the planning and execution phase of this exercise. The primary goal of safety during an exercise is to ensure that everyone returns to their Home of Record in the same condition as when they departed for the exercise. In order to accomplish that goal for Global Lightning 2015, all personnel, including Soldiers, civilians, and contractors must remember to "keep their guard up" as the exercise winds down. Many times, when accidents happen, they tend to cluster at the end point in a training exercise. Also, once you return home you should strive to use what you have learned during this exercise about risk assessment at home or at your civilian job, as you can just as easily be hurt while off duty as you can when on duty. Last, I want to give a special thanks to the Additional Duty Safety Officers and Safety Specialists who have worked tirelessly during the exercise and will continue to work until the exercise has ended. **For more information and resources about safety awareness and training, visit the U.S. Army Combat Readiness Center website at <https://safety.army.mil>.**

From the Chaplain:

I once heard a story about a mighty warrior who had been surrounded by a powerful Army. On the morning of the great battle, the warrior's servant walked out of his tent and saw that they had been surrounded and had no way of escape. The servant ran to tell the mighty warrior about their desperate situation and asked what they could possibly do to escape?

The mighty warrior told him not to be afraid, the situation was not as bad as it appeared. The mighty warrior then said a prayer for the servant's eyes to be opened, so that he would see the truth of their situation. Immediately the servant looked again, but this time he saw that an even more powerful Army had surrounded the enemy, waiting for the mighty warrior to issue the command to attack. The servant realized that what he thought was true, wasn't really true at all. He had to change his perspective, and when he did, he saw his situation with whole new eyes.

As I arrived at Ft. McCoy, I heard a few complaints about some of the problems the units participating in CSTX Global Lightning 2015 were facing during the training exercise. Most of it centered on the lack of communications. Then there was also the problem with flooding, caused by a dramatic amount of rainfall that was received in a very short period of time. The JOC had to be moved as well as many of the Soldiers.

Despite these setbacks, the Soldiers kept a positive attitude throughout the exercise and didn't give up. They didn't let the flooding, lack of communication capabilities, or delays in getting their uniforms washed get them down and prevent them from completing the mission.

One of the senior leaders told me they were glad that they had to face the problems they did. It allowed them to work through these issues so that they would be better prepared for a future "real world" mission. I was impressed with his perspective because he focused on what was positive and not the negative. Martin Luther King, Jr. once said, "the ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy." There were a few challenges throughout CSTX Global Lightning, but there were far more positives.

In the end, the CSTX showed that the 310th Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) is able to accomplish the real world mission, and do so admirably. But maybe even more important is that the Soldiers of the 310th ESC, when faced with adversity, are able to overcome, adapt, and improvise when necessary. When called upon to stand, they stood even when challenged.



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Focusing on the Missions

FORT MCCOY, Wis.

Training exercises focusing on the completely separate missions of Global Medic and the Quartermaster Liquid Logistics Exercise (QLLEX) were rolled into the Combat Support Training Exercise (CSTX) Global Lightning 2015 this summer, creating the single largest Army Reserve Sustainer training exercise in history.

Participating units from the Army, Navy and the Air Force, Great Britain and Canada, as well as the active component, Army Reserve and National Guard forces took over major training areas in seven states and many of the highways of the U.S. by storm.

The CSTX grew from the concept of an enhanced annual training to become the premier operational deployment exercise of the Army Reserve.

CSTX Global Lightning 2015 mimics many aspects of an actual deployment. It is primarily focused on the training of combat support (CS) and combat service support (CSS) elements.

These elements execute their individual tasks during the mission rehearsal phase of the exercise and their collective tasks during the mission operations phase of the exercise.

The overall goal of the exercise is to give unit commanders an objective assessment of deployment readiness to perform the Sustainer wartime mission.

The QLLEX took place under the umbrella of CSTX Global Lightning 2015. The QLLEX involves Army Reserve units working in conjunction with the Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) to perform real-world bulk petroleum and water operations.

This year, under the 475th Quartermaster Battalion and the Mission Command of the 310th Sustainment Command (Expeditionary), the more than 4,000 Army Reserve Soldiers participating in the QLLEX moved over 4 million gallons of fuel across America's highways over the course of 14 days. Bulk fuel was delivered to several different

Department of Defense customers, travelling over 228,000 miles in the process.

CSTX and QLLEX provide real-world experience for Soldiers; experience that will prove especially useful in future training exercises, as well as deployments.

"We were able to train on some very critical skills that the Army needs and are in short supply," said Colonel Robert G. Haste, Commander of the 310th Sustainment Command (Expeditionary), out of Indianapolis, Ind. "We had to provide our own life support...in a tactical environment...while QLLEX has attempted to do tactics before, what made this exercise different was the integration under a training division to provide validation,"

This strategy exercised the skills of Soldiers in many different military occupational specialties (MOS's). Low density MOS's such as the laundry, clothing and repair specialists from the 140th Quartermaster Company received training during CSTX training, conducting their wartime mission in an austere, realistic deployed environment. Soldiers like the fuel delivery specialists of the 308th Quartermaster Company were able to perform their wartime mission in a real-world environment under the QLLEX.

Army Reserve leaders can take the lessons learned from the performance given by their units during CSTX Global Lightning 2015 and evaluate the deployment readiness of their units. Army Reserve Soldiers can go home after the end of CSTX Global Lightning 2015 knowing they have validated their training and perform to the highest standard of the Sustainer.

Moving Army equipment with ease

Story and Photos
by Sgt. Marco Gutierrez

JOINT BASE MCGUIRE-DIX- LAKEHURST, N.J.

When the Army needs to move supplies and equipment from one location to the next, it is up to transportation specialists to get it done. During Combat Support Training Exercise (CSTX) Global Lightning 2015, and the Quartermaster Liquid Logistic Training Exercise (QLLEX), it is up to members of the 302nd Inland Continental Transportation Company to move the equipment necessary to operate and succeed in the largest Army Reserve Sustainment training exercise in history.

Army Reserve Cpl. Diego Santiago is a transportation specialist with the 302nd ICTC out of Joint Base Langley-Eustis, Virginia. During CSTX Global Lightning 2015 and the QLLEX, their unit is tasked with operating the Central Receiving Shipping Point (CRSP) at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst. CSTX Global Lightning will challenge the Soldiers of the 302nd ICTC, because they don't just have to worry about the transportation of equipment throughout the exercise, but also defending and reacting to enemy attacks and training them in their wartime mission in the real-world environment of the QLLEX phase of CSTX Global Lightning 2015. "We've been participating in war games while here, so we need to make sure we secure our perimeter, and that we are able to defend this location just like we would if we were deployed," Said Santiago.



Army Reserve Cpl. Diego Santiago, a cargo specialist of the 302nd Inland Cargo Transportation Company from Joint Base Langley-Eustis, Va., helps direct an Army M10A Forklift during Combined Support Training Exercise (CSTX) Global Lightning on June 15, 2015, at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, N.J.

Other members of the 302nd agree with Santiago, making the most of the low density Military Occupation Specialty (MOS) training of Global Lightning. "What I've enjoyed about the training is reacting to enemy fire. I may be a transportation expert, but I'm also a Soldier," said Army Reserve Spc. Jamar Dye, a transportation specialist with the 302nd ICTC out of Joint Base Eustis-Lagley. Dye also explained that in the short time they've been involved in the exercise they have had to deal with and react to three combat scenarios.

While at CSTX Global Lightning, Soldiers of the 302nd have had a chance to use different equipment

that they normally don't get to use at their home station, explained Army Reserve Spc. Lara Williams, a transportation specialist with the 302nd ICTC.

During the QLLEX portion of CSTX Global Lightning 2015, Soldiers with the 302nd ICTC will be hard at working ensuring all the units that depend on them are getting the support they need. Whether it be here in the U.S. or overseas, transportation specialists get Soldiers what they need when they need it.

"We move the Army, without us the Army doesn't move," said Santiago.

Transportation Management Coordinators Small Role Big Impact



Before the sun is even out, and many Soldiers are still asleep, transportation management coordinators with the 385th Movement Control Team are already on site at 4 a.m. and ready to start a 12-hour work rotation during the Quartermaster Liquid Logistic Exercise (QLLEX) at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, New Jersey.

The QLLEX, the largest annual quartermaster logistics exercise that is completely supported by the Army Reserve, has the mission of delivering thousands of gallons of fuel transported by truck to real world customers.

The transportation management

Story and Photos
by Sgt. Marco Gutierrez

JOINT BASE MCGUIRE-DIX- LAKEHURST, N.J.

coordinators track the movement of trucks hauling fuel and make sure that it is done properly. "Our main mission is to track, coordinate and know what vehicles go out of the motor pool or the Forward Operating Base," said Staff Sgt. Jerome Moody, a transportation management supervisor with the 385th MCT out of Fort Bragg, North Carolina. Moody also explained that the Soldiers of the unit track all vehicle movement during the exercise. When a unit needs to know where their vehicles are, the Soldiers of the 385th MCB have the knowledge and training to inform the unit when a vehicle left, how far it should be, when it will arrive at its destination and when it will return.

(Above) Army Reserve transportation management coordinator Pfc. Aikeem Johnson, Sgt. Miguel Sellers, and Pfc. Luis Casiano, with the 385th Movement Control Team out of Fort Bragg, North Carolina review trip tickets for convoys leaving the Quartermaster Liquid Logistic Exercise (QLLEX) Forward Operation Base in Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, New Jersey on June 09.

(Below) Army Reserve Sgt. Miguel Sellers, a transportation management coordinator with the 385th Movement Control Team out of Fort Bragg, North Carolina does a final walkthrough inspection of vehicles leaving the Quartermaster Liquid Logistic Exercise (QLLEX) Forward Operation Base in Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, New Jersey on June 09.



The process to ensure quality during vehicle movement sounds simple but a lot goes into it and it's critical that everything is correct. Sgt. Miguel Sellers, a transportation management supervisor with the 385th MCT, explains the process of what happens in order to properly move the huge amounts of fuel from point A to point B during the QLLEX.

Sellers explains that the process begins when a customer makes a request for a certain amount of fuel. Each transportation company decides how many vehicles they need to support that request. Once that is completed, transportation management coordinators submit a transport movement request form for convoys of over five vehicles so the state of New Jersey can authorize the movement of those vehicles. If the number of vehicles is less than five, they submit a local "trip ticket" that authorizes movement for the smaller number. Along with the constant controlled movement of thousands of gallons of fuel and water, the QLLEX has been a great training experience for the junior enlisted Soldiers of the 385th MCT.



“It’s critical to track these hundreds of vehicles.”

“This is great training because we get to do hands on what this MOS is about,” said Pfc. Aikeem Johnson, a transportation management coordinator with the 385th MCB. “I love being an 88 November, I wouldn’t do anything else in the Army.”

Pfc. Luis Casiano, a transportation management coordinator with the 385th MCB, also enjoyed the opportunity to train and work in his field.

“This is the most training I got doing my MOS, and it’s fun doing it,” said Casiano. He also said that the biggest thing he has learned during the exercise is making sure everything is correct, because a mistake can cause a lot of issues.

The movement of vehicles is critical to the success of the QLLEX, and the members of the 385th MCT are making sure that movement is done right.

“It’s critical to track these hundreds of vehicles and know where they are at, that’s what we do,” said Moody.



475th QM Group breaks records during CSTX and QLLEX 2015

Story and Photos by Capt. Jill Odell

FORT MCCOY, Wis.

A majority of the U.S. Army's petroleum and water units are currently in the Army Reserve. The Quartermaster Liquid Logistics Exercise (QLLEX) is a multicomponent exercise that trains reserve units to conduct real-world petroleum and water purification support in a deployed combat environment.

While delivering bulk petroleum and purifying water may not seem as important as the latest weaponry or fighter plane, more than 4,000 logistics Soldiers in the QLLEX 2015 may disagree. The 475th Quartermaster Group out of Farrell, Pennsylvania, hosted the exercise from June 8-16. QLLEX is the largest field training exercise of its kind with real-world logistic operations at the tactical, operational, and strategic level.

A theater level headquarters, the 475th QM Group based the QLLEX headquarters in Fort McCoy, Wisconsin, and managing logistics operations at five other sites across the United States: Fort Huachuca, Arizona, Fort Lewis, Washington, Fort Dix, New Jersey, Fort Bragg, North Carolina, and Fort A.P. Hill, Virginia. Sgt. Maj. Larry Houston, with Support Operations for the 475th QM Group, said the Soldiers are running 24-hour operations during the exercise.

"We receive missions from the Defense Logistics Agency," Houston said. "Then we tasks missions to our down trace battalions. They go to the defense fuel supply points, pick up the fuel, and then take it to the using customers."

The exercise began 32 years ago as the Petroleum Oil and Lubricant Exercise, but once water purification training was added in 2004, it developed into the QLLEX. The initial focus of the training has broadened through the years and now includes bulk petroleum distribution, water purification and distribution, and field services support, such as laundry and shower services.

"It's important because it gives the Soldiers actual hands-on work with the equipment," Houston, a member of the 475th QM Group, said. "It's not training fuel we are using. It is real live fuel that goes to real customers."



(Above) Army Reserve Sgt. Ryan Giegling inspect the filters in the filter separator tank during the Quartermaster Liquid Logistics Exercise (QLLEX) on Fort Huachuca, Ariz., June 10, 2015. According to Sgt. Vanessa Lauterwasser, clean rubber gloves must be worn while touching the filters to prevent any contamination in the fuel. Both Giegling and Lauterwasser are petroleum supply specialists assigned to the 383rd Quartermaster Company from St. Charles, Mo.

(Below) Army Reserve Spc. Marcus Baber-Newton, a power generation equipment repairer, adds fuel to a generator powering a washing machine system during the Quartermaster Liquid Logistics Exercise (QLLEX) on Fort Huachuca, Ariz., June 10, 2015. Baber-Newton is assigned to the 974th Quartermaster Company out of Amarillo, Texas.



Almost doubling the fuel pumped at last year's QLLEX, Sustainer Soldiers under the 475th QM Group pumped a total of more than 4 million gallons of fuel pump during QLLEX 2015.

Water purification units use the process of reverse osmosis to purify the lake water used at QLLEX 2015 by using Tactical Water Purification Systems (TWPS) which can produce 1,500 gallons of purified water per hour and Reverse Osmosis Water Purification Units (ROWPU's) which can pump out 3,000 gallons of purified water per hour.

"We take the most nasty, vile water and purify it into drinking water," explained Staff Sgt. Kacee Coster, a water purification specialist with the 651st Quartermaster Company out of Casper, Wyoming. "Everyone needs water. The mission is over within 24 hours if you don't have water. Without clean water, or any water, Soldiers can't do their jobs."

"It's not training fuel we are using. It is real live fuel that goes to real customers."

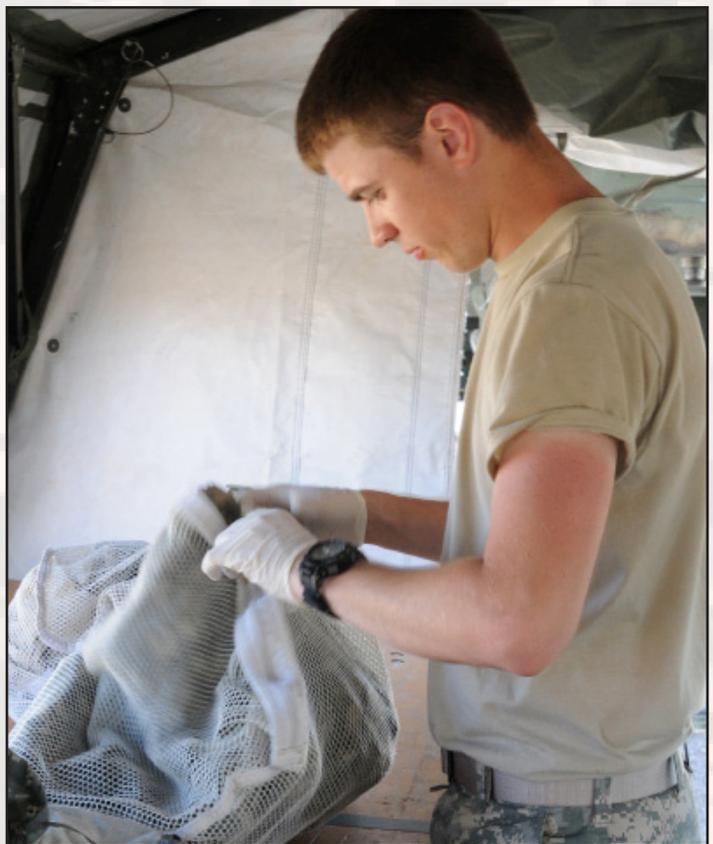
The training obtained during the QLLEX not only helps prepare the logistic units for operations in combat environments, but it also helps prepare them to respond to state-side disasters, explained Houston.

"If there was a disaster, if it was sever enough, they could call us in," Houston said. "For Hurricanes Sandy and Katrina, they called up some of our water units to purify water, so the residents had water to drink."

"People think that they just go to their local gas station and get fuel, but there is a lot more to it behind the scenes," he continued. "It takes a lot of work and coordination. It's a vital role for the military."



(Above) Army Reserve Sgt. Eric Gedeon, a shower, laundry, and clothing repair specialist, operates a laundry-advanced system during the Quartermaster Liquid Logistics Exercise (QLLEX) on Fort Huachuca, Ariz., June 10, 2015. Gedeon is assigned to the 974th Quartermaster Company out of Amarillo, Texas.



(Above) Army Reserve Pfc. Troy Hainsel, a shower, laundry, and clothing repair specialist, folds clothes during the Quartermaster Liquid Logistics Exercise (QLLEX) on Fort Huachuca, Ariz., June 10, 2015. Linsenbach is assigned to the 974th Quartermaster Company out of Amarillo, Texas.

(Bottom Left) Army Reserve Spc. Ashawn Smith, a petroleum supply specialist, pumps fuel into a truck during the Quartermaster Liquid Logistics Exercise (QLLEX) on Fort Huachuca, Ariz., June 10, 2015. Smith is assigned to the 910th Quartermaster Company.





Hard Work pays off for 308th Quartermaster Company

Story and Photos by Sgt. Mecó Chandler

FORT BRAGG, N.C.

During annual training, reservists accomplish a feat that hasn't been done in over two years. Soldiers from the 308th Quartermaster Company with the assistance of the 439th Quartermaster Company participating in the 2015 Combat Support Training Exercise (CSTX) Quartermaster Liquid Logistics Exercise (QLLEX) dubbed CSTX Global Lightning 2015 are proud of the work they do. Their hard work and dedication earned them the distinction of being the first units in two years to successfully set up and operate a Fuel System Supply Point (FSSP),

with permission from Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) inspectors. According to DLA inspectors, the two units set the standard for future units to emulate. The inspectors gathered information and took several pictures of the fuel site, called a "Bag Farm." Upon arrival at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, the units knew they had an opportunity to do something special. Days before the DLA inspection, the Soldiers of the 308th Quartermaster Company and the 439th Quartermaster Company set up and tore down several different fuel bag configurations to take advantage of this training opportunity. Each fuel bag is capable of storing fifty

thousand gallons of fuel.

"These Soldiers have set up and taken down these fuel bags on three separate occasions since arriving here at Ft. Bragg," said Sgt. 1st Class Ryan Moss of the 308th QM CO. from Fort Devens, Massachusetts.

The Soldiers seemed excited about this opportunity because of the real world nature of this mission. The only other chance they would actually get to perform at this level is during an actual deployment.

"This is an amazing opportunity."

It rained at Fort Bragg prior to the inspection and the Soldiers used everything at their disposal to remove water from near the fuel line couplings of their equipment, an important part of observing and maintaining environmental safety. The FSSP is part of a larger fuel distribution system where vehicles leave the Forward Operating Base (FOB)/FSSP and pick up fuel from the Defense Fuel Supply Point. The fuel is then delivered to real world DLA customers, or vehicles bring fuel from outside sources for storage at the FSSP. The Army Reserve then takes ownership of the fuel and performs all quality control operations prior to redistribution. In other words, the "Bag Farm" both issues and receives fuel.

"Because our soldiers get to move fuel that the Army Reserve does not have to purchase," this is an amazing opportunity, according to Col. Clifford Sawyer, Commander of the 475th Quartermaster Group out of Farrell, Pennsylvania.

140th Quartermaster Company keeping things clean



*Story by Sgt. Marco Gutierrez
and*

Photos by Spc Samuel Al-Nimri

JOINT BASE MCGUIRE-DIX- LAKEHURST, N.J.

Training for real world missions requires Soldiers to go out in the field, and getting covered in dirt and grime comes with the job.

The thousands of Soldiers participating in this year's Combat Support Training Exercise (CSTX) Global Lightning 2015 and the Quartermaster Liquid Logistics Exercise (QLLEX) held here at the joint base can come back from a day of hard training to enjoy the comforts of a hot shower and clean clothes thanks to units like the 140th Quartermaster Company.

The company is a shower, laundry and clothing repair unit out of Fort Totten, New York participating in the CSTX.

"At the end of the day it's a morale booster. They like clean clothes and a shower," said Army Spc. Kateema Bayley-Glae, 140th QM CO. shower, laundry, and clothing repair specialist.

The 140th QM CO. provides hot showers and clean laundry to more than 2,000 Soldiers participating in CSTX Global Lightning 2015 and the QLLEX.

"It's a lot of work; we get bundles and bundles of clothing each day - about 300 a day," said Army Spc. Tymir Brooks, 140th QM CO. shower, laundry, and

clothing repair specialist.

Soldiers of the 140th often work over 12 hours each day throughout the exercise. It's imperative to keep laundry and showers running for the Soldiers during exercises like these going on at the joint base, explained Bayley-Glae.

It's been great training for the Soldiers of the 140th, allowing them to gain valuable experience and develop skills as leaders, he continued.

"The time here helped me become more organized, and it taught me how to give more effective instructions, because there are so many moving parts in this job," said Bayley-Glae.

In addition to providing experience, field training also works to build camaraderie among units and the 140th QM CO. is no exception.

"We have to help each other, there's always team work," said Army Spc. Milton Rodriguez, a 140th QM CO. shower, laundry, and clothing repair specialist. "It helps us accomplish the mission faster and more efficiently,"

(Top Left) Army Reserve Pvt. Julian Alsbrooks, a shower, laundry and clothing repair specialist of the 140th Quartermaster Company from Fort Totten, N.Y., exchanges clothing from the washer to dryer side of the Laundry Advance System (LADS) in support of Combat Support Training Exercise Global Lightning 2015 (CSTX) and Quartermaster Liquid Logistic Exercise (QLLEX) on June 15, 2015 at Joint Base McGuire-Dix Lakehurst, N.J.

(Below) Army Reserve shower, laundry and clothing repair specialists with the 140th Quartermaster Company from Fort Totten, N.Y., prepare clothing for redistribution of soldiers participating in Combat Support Training Exercise Global Lightning 2015 (CSTX) and Quartermaster Liquid Logistic Exercise (QLLEX) on June 15, 2015 at Joint Base McGuire-Dix Lakehurst, N.J.





Formulating fuel for the fire

Story by Spc. Samuel Al-Nimri
Photos by Sgt. Marco Gutierrez, and
Spc. Al-Nimri

**JOINT BASE MCGUIRE-DIX-
LAKEHURST, N.J.**

Before fuel can be used to help ignite the fires that keep aircraft, ground vehicles, and generators running, petroleum lab specialists first approve the product for Quartermaster Liquid Logistics Exercise (QLLEX) a part of Combat Support Training Exercise (CSTX) Global Lightning at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst. Army Reserve petroleum lab specialists with the 308th Quartermaster Detachment from Scottsburg, Indiana are in a lab ensuring that the fuel that keeps the Army going is up to standard.

Working out of a Petroleum Quality Analysis System - Enhanced (PQASE) laboratory that contains all the fuel testing and data analysis equipment needed, petroleum lab specialists test the quality and guarantee all fuel that the Army uses during CSTX Global Lightning 2015 is suitable for use in Army equipment. Although assisted by the PQASE, the petroleum lab specialists must never accept complacency.

"To a certain degree it can be like riding a bike, however it is also very specific and particular. You have to be familiar with each test in order to be more fluent and productive, and accomplish multiple tests at one given time," said, Army Reserve Pvt. Derek Taylor, a petroleum lab specialist with the 308th Quartermaster

Detachment.

The purpose of testing the fuel before use is not only to assure that its host will function at its full potential, but also to safeguard that it will function at all. Just as the body collapses without proper nutrients – a vehicle can break down if the fuel is polluted with contaminants.

"The military is not allowed to use any fuel unless it gets passed by a lab; they couldn't use the fuel if we didn't say they could use it." Said, Spc. Kane Lewis, a petroleum lab specialist with the 308th Quartermaster Detachment.

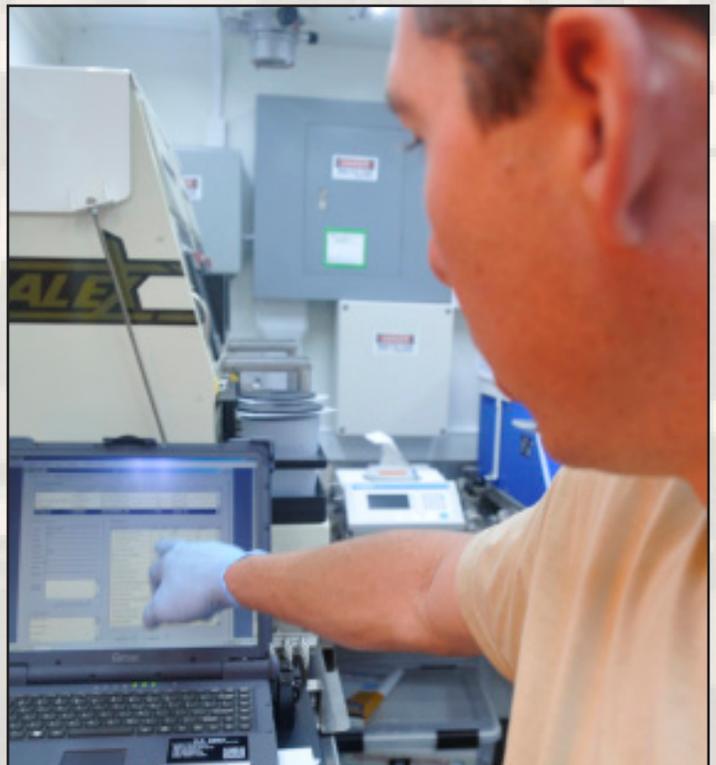
"They couldn't use the fuel if we didn't say they could"

If the quality of fuel is not up to the standard for its intended use, it can be downgraded to serve as a better fit somewhere else.

"If the fuel has been contaminated we can degrade

(Top Left) Army Reserve Spc. Michael Lawrence, a petroleum laboratory specialist with the 380th Quarter Master Battalion out of Evansville, Ind., checks a fuel sample for large particles before initial testing of fuel quality during the Quartermaster Liquid Logistic Exercise June 7, 2014, in Fort Lewis Wash.

(Below) Army Reserve Pvt. Derek Taylor, a petroleum lab specialist with the 308th Quartermaster Detachment out of Scottsburg, Ind., examines the results of fuel tested for Combat Support Training Exercise Global Lightning 2015 and Quartermaster Liquid Logistics Exercise, June 16, 2015, at Joint Base McGuire-Dix Lakehurst, N.J.





(Above) Army Reserve Spc. Michael Lawrence, a petroleum lab specialist with the 380th Quartermaster Battalion, Headquarters Company, out of Evansville, Indiana, examines lab instruments used in the fuel quality assurance process for Combat Support Training Exercise Global Lightning 2015 and Quartermaster Liquid Logistics Exercise, June 16, 2015 at Joint Base McGuire-Dix Lakehurst, N.J.

(Below) Army Reserve Cpl. Tania Zamora, a petroleum laboratory specialist with 308th Quarter Master Company, collects fuels samples for testing during the Quartermaster Liquid Logistic Exercise June 7, 2014, in Fort Lewis Wash.



it. For example, if Jet-A fuel were to become contaminated but still suitable for use we might be able to put in additives and use it for other engines, such as Humvees,” said, Taylor.

The 308th QM DET. worked alongside the 380th QM Battalion, Headquarters Company, out of Evansville, Indiana, and participated in QLLEX last year as well. Working together and promoting the Army’s philosophy of “one team, one fight,” the 308th QM DET. and the 380th QM BN Soldiers have grasped the true meaning of comradery.

“While working with the 380th, they’ve mentored me a lot. We’ve worked with each other before and any time we’re around, we help each other out,” said Lewis.

With more experience and a chance to continue to practice in such a large exercise that deals with several thousand gallons of fuel, Soldiers from the 308th QM DET. feel more confident about their job.

“After this exercise, with the help and instruction of the NCOs, being out here and becoming more familiar with the tests in general, and just doing the exercise, I feel more confident. I have definitely learned a lot just within the last two weeks,” said Taylor.

The 693rd QM CO supports CSTX Global Lightning 2015



**Story and Photos by
Capt. Fernando Ochoa**

FORT MCCOY, Wis.

Pfc. Quenae Brown, Pvt. Yaritza Carrillo, Pfc. Alexandria Lengson and Spc. Titus Burgess, all logistic specialists from the 693rd Quartermaster Company in Bell, Calif., participated in the Combat Support Training Exercise (CSTX) Global Lightning at Ft. McCoy, Wisconsin, where they worked at the Forward Operating Base (FOB) Liberty's mayor cell June 12.

Soldiers from the 693rd Quartermaster Company in Bell, Calif., 155th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, 304th Sustainment Brigade, traveled to Fort McCoy, Wisconsin, and were crossleveled to support the 650th Regional Support Group during Combat Support Training Exercise June 12.

**"I enjoyed my
experience here"**

Spc. Titus Burgess, Pfc. Alexandria Lengson, Pfc. Quenae Brown and Pvt. Yaritza Carrillo, all logistic specialists, were happy to attend this annual training, where they worked at the Forward Operating Base (FOB) Liberty's mayor cell.

The CSTX is a multi-component, joint, integrated training event that is conducted over six FOB's and will serve more than three thousand soldiers from U.S. Army Reserve units from around the country. "I enjoyed my experience here because I learned a lot of new skills that I didn't have before," said Burgess. "Plus, I learned more about dealing with the brass. I felt like they really cared about what I thought."

Like a utility ball player on a baseball team, these Soldiers worked a multitude of assignments such as manning the SINCGARS radio, Entry Control Points, the Mayor Cell reception and other miscellaneous tasks.

"I got a lot of hands on training with my basic logistics training, learning from good NCO's like Staff Sergeant Camarena who showed me how to issue weapons," said Carrillo. "Also, working with so many different people helped me improve my communication skills." These young Soldiers from the 693rd QM CO were happy and excited to be part of the CSTX Global Lightning 2015, where they learned new skills, made new friends and supported the 650th RSG.

The Quartermaster Corps mission is to provide Base Operations Support, Quality of Life and services essential to the entire operational forces in support of Unified Land Operations and the Nation's War-fighting Mission.

The Quartermaster ethos reads, "Logistics Warriors who are soldiers first, technicians second to none, battle focused, reliable professionals assuring victory by sustaining America's Army in peace and war."



196th Signal Makes Talking Easier

Story and Photos by Sgt 1st Class Frank Marquez

JOINT BASE MCGUIRE-DIX-LAKEHURST, N.J.

Sgt. Christ Tyrer said the 196th Signal Company's record is one hour and 45 minutes. That's about how much time it usually takes for the unit to setup and become fully operational. This time there were some delays. Getting the Satellite Transmission Terminal pointed in the right direction took longer than expected here at Combat Support Training Exercise (CSTX) Global Lightning 2015. Still, the unit setup in just a little under two hours. Headed by Sgt. 1st Class Scot Heineman, the acting first sergeant of a small segment of the company's Soldiers based out of Thomasville, N.C., arrived about a week ago to the exercise, which goes on for three weeks in June. Their mission is, to provide network support and tactical communications support for the 336th Combat Sustainment

Support Battalion (CSSB), based in Phoenix, Ariz., and the 113th Sustainment Brigade, headquartered in Greensboro, N.C. – both big prongs in the U.S. Army Reserve's annual training exercise, involving thousands of National Guard and Reserve Soldiers, airmen, sailors and Marines. So far, the unit can handle more than 500 subscribers – that means NIPR phone and computer connections for the host units' support staffs, virtually anyone who sits at a desk. This is remarkable considering the company's humble start as a mere section in the Steel Brigade just a few years ago. "We have been rebuilt as a brand new company," Heineman said. "And joining us, we have had capable people coming to us from the mountains to the beaches." The unit essentially stands on three legs: Tyrer is in charge of



the Joint Network Node, a piece of equipment Heineman calls "the brains of the operation" and controls the routing, switching, and encryption of the operation. Sgt. Samuel Schumacher watches over the Satellite Transmission Terminal, and Sgt. Chris Murray is in charge of the Re-transmission Operation, a set of relay terminals extending the communications reach across the battlefield.

Fuel keeps the mission rolling

*Story and Photos
by Sgt. Marco Gutierrez*

JOINT BASE MCGUIRE-DIX- LAKEHURST, N.J.

The purpose of the Quartermaster Liquid Logistic Exercise (QLLEX) going on at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Hurst is to give Army Reserve Soldiers a chance to do a real world mission in which they transport fuel and water from one location to real world customers just as they would in a combat zone. A vital part of that mission rests on the shoulders of petroleum supply specialists. The QLLEX and the Combat Support Training Exercise (CSTX) Global Lightning 2015, that it operates as part of, is also one of the largest Army Reserve training exercises in the country where thousands of soldiers participate annually.

“This training is very similar to what we do in an actual combat zone.” Said Staff Sgt. Brian Aikins, a petroleum supply specialist with the 233rd Quartermaster Detachment from Scranton, Pennsylvania.

While the job never changes, the situation does. Army Reserve petroleum supply specialists are tasked with setting up distribution sites, collection sites and retail points for fuel. The fast changing environment for this mission often makes the training new and different. Flexibility is always necessary to successfully carry out this mission. Sometimes the Soldiers of the 233rd QM Det show up to a site that is already set up, and other times they have to build it from scratch, said Aikins.

The mission has also been a great training experience for the junior enlisted Soldiers, who have been put in charged of tasks they normally would not have a chance to work with in a regular weekend Battle Assembly (BA).

“I’ve been put in charged of setting up the fuel pump, making sure the fuel point got put together properly, and working on getting Soldiers motivated,” said Army Reserve Spc. Chaunce Brasher, a fuel supply specialist with the 233rd QM Det.

“The more we do it, the more efficient we can get at it, the more we can train our Soldiers, so we want to train as many of our Soldiers as we can and be proficient as we can,” said Staff Sgt. Shawn Isby,



Army Reserve Spc. Maurice Cornish and Spc. Chaunce Brasher, petroleum supply specialists with the 233rd Quartermaster Company out of Scranton, Pa., connect a fuel pipe to redirect fuel to an empty 20,000-gallon fuel bag as part of the Quartermaster Liquid Logistic Exercise (QLLEX) portion of the Combat Support Training Exercise (CSTX) Global Lightning 2015 at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, June 12, 2015.

fuel supply specialist with the 233rd QM Det. when explaining the importance of the training during CSTX Global Lightning 2015.

On this particular day, the members of the 233rd QM Det. had to deal with a leak in a fuel bag, explained Brasher.

“One of the fuel bags was leaking fuel so we had to transfer the fuel to one of the other bags,” explained Aikins.

That task seemed simple enough, but with temperatures in the mid 90s by early afternoon, the Soldiers had to work as a team and work fast to get the mission done.



(Above) Army Reserve Staff Sgt. Brian Aikins and Spc. Chaunce Brasher, petroleum supply specialists from the 233rd Quartermaster Company out of Scranton, Pa., disconnect a fuel pipe to redirect fuel to an empty 20,000-gallon fuel bag as part of the Quartermaster Liquid Logistic Exercise (QLLEX) portion of the Combat Support Training Exercise (CSTX) Global Lightning 2015 at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, June 12, 2015.

(Below) Army Reserve Soldiers with the 233rd Quartermaster Company out of Scranton, Pa., carry a fuel pipe to set up a new 20,000-gallon fuel bag as part of the Quartermaster Liquid Logistic Exercise (QLLEX) portion of the Combat Support Training Exercise (CSTX) Global Lightning 2015 at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, June 12, 2015.



Especially when moving the pipes and equipment that can weigh over 60 pounds.

“This training is very similar to what we do in an actual combat zone.”

“We all come together really well. Things run smoothly even when there is a leak or something goes wrong. We are able to fix any problem quickly because we work together,” said, Brasher. The 233rd QM Det. showed that with team work, motivation and good training, no challenge is too big and they can keep supplying fuel to keep the mission running.

Directing the flow of water for CSTX, QLLEX



Story and Photos by Sgt. Marco Gutierrez

JOINT BASE MCGUIRE-DIX- LAKEHURST, N.J.

(Above) Army Reserve Sgt. Sergio Cortez, Spc. Rafael Gonzalez, and Spc. Armando Hinojosa, from the 971st Quartermaster Detachment from Rio Grande, Texas, work together to unload a 20,000-gallon water bag that will hold potable water as part of the Quartermaster Liquid Logistic Exercise (QLLEX) portion of the Combat Sustainment Training Exercise (CSTX) Global Lightning 2015 at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, June 10, 2015

(Below) Army Reserve Sgt. Sergio Cortez, from the 971st Quartermaster Detachment from Rio Grande, Texas, removes the strap securing a 20,000-gallon water bag that will hold potable water as part of the Quartermaster Liquid Logistic Exercise (QLLEX) portion of the Combat Sustainment Training Exercise (CSTX) Global Lightning 2015 at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, June 10, 2015.

Water is vital for human survival, and in the austere locations the U.S. Army typically operates out of, clean, potable water can often be hard to come by. To practice supplying this need, the Army Reserve Soldiers of the 971st Quartermaster Detachment out of Rio Grande, Texas, participating in Combat Support Training Exercise (CSTX) Global Lightning 2015, here are setting up a Tactical Water Distribution System (TWDS).

The CSTX is the largest Army Sustainment training exercise ever conducted and involves more than 12,000 service members from both U.S. and Coalition forces, some of whom are operating out of the joint base. "Global Lightning" also contains other integrated exercises, including the Quartermaster Liquids Logistics Exercise (QLLEX), during which the 971st will work to transport the necessary purified water throughout the United States.

Over 6,000 Soldiers of the Army Reserve came together at the joint base and the mission of getting them clean, drinkable water is the 971st QM Det main purpose.

Detachment Soldiers have set up approximately two miles of water distribution hose, connecting





(Left) Army Reserve Spc. Rafael Gonzales and Spc. Armando Hinojosa, water purification specialists from the 971st Quartermaster Detachment out of Rio Grande, Texas, set up a protective tarp before beginning the setup of a 20,000-gallon water bag that will hold potable water as part of the Quartermaster Liquid Logistic Exercise (QLLEX) portion of the Combat Sustainment Training Exercise (CSTX) Global Lightning 2015 at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, June 10, 2015.

(Below) Army Reserve water purification Spc. Rafael Gonzalez, from the 971st Quartermaster Detachment out of Rio Grande, Texas, connects the hose to the 20,000-gallon water bag that will hold potable water as part of the Quartermaster Liquid Logistic Exercise (QLLEX) portion of the Combat Sustainment Training Exercise (CSTX) Global Lightning 2015 at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, June 10, 2015.

two 20,000 gallon water bags to support both the tactical CSTX and the QLLEX missions of "Global Lightning," said Army Sgt. Sergio Cortez, 971st QM Detachment water purification specialist. Soldiers of the 971st QM Detachment have had to overcome significant obstacles during this training exercise, but it provided beneficial job training to new Soldiers, said Army Spc. Daniel Silva, 971st QM Detachment water purification specialist. The terrain dictates how Soldiers of the detachment will lay the hose line from clean water sources to different locations around the area of operations. The Soldiers work to be flexible with the layout and are often forced to plan alternate routes to accomplish the mission, according to Sgt. 1st Class Mike Beckham, 971st QM Det. non commission officer in charge. "You really have to be able to think on your feet, and be able to have a positive attitude to go in there knowing that what you planned might not work, and you might have to plan for something different," said Silva. Through all the challenges they face to accomplish their goal, Sylvia said the best part of the job is the camaraderie of his team, working hard, and having fun while working together.



Combating one of the Soldier's worst natural enemies

*Story by Spc. Blake Essex
Photos by Sgt. Beth Raney*

FORT MCCOY, Wis.

Army Reserve Soldiers of the 651st Quartermaster Company strive to provide safe and healthy water for coalition forces who are currently training on Fort McCoy, Wisconsin as part of the Combat Support Training Exercise (CSTX) Global Lightning 2015 during the month of June. Supporting more than 6,000 personnel, the strain to answer the demands for potable water is high. The 651st QM CO. Soldiers meet this challenge and help keep the CSTX missions running with the use of two Reverse Osmosis Water Purification Units (ROWPU) and two Tactical Water Purification Systems (TWPS), each pumping out 3,000 and 1,500 gallons of water per hour, respectively. Water is siphoned from Big Sandy Lake, Fort McCoy, where it is then purified, and distributed to the Forward Operating Bases (FOBs) and training areas within the operational area of CSTX Global Lightning 2015.

Spc. Jessica Neidhardt, a water purification specialist, with the 651st QM CO, spoke on the importance of water purification.

"It helps with, obviously, keeping people hydrated, as well as laundry and showers when they are feasible," Neidhardt explained. "Maintaining, Soldiers basically."

Spc. Nathaniel Petterson, also a water purification specialist, with the 651st QM CO, added that clean water is essential to good health, while also warning of the dangers of drinking non-purified water.

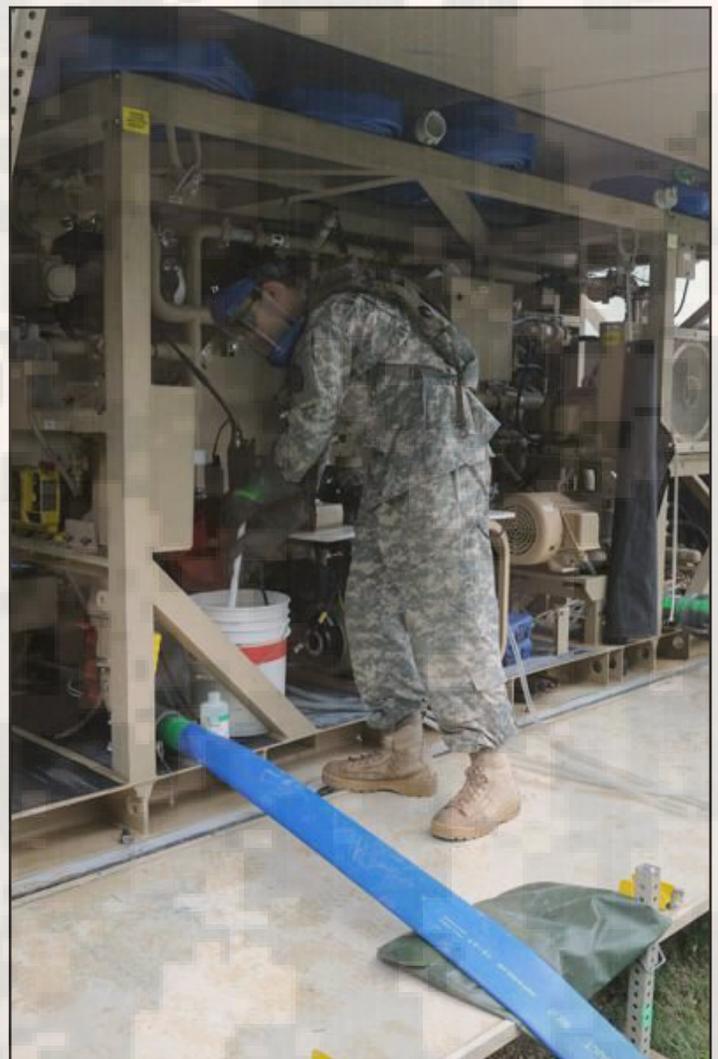
"If you didn't have clean water, you would always feel fatigued, you would have terrible stomach cramps." Petterson said. "If you get dysentery you actually would have a good chance of dying."

Dehydration is one of the most dangerous natural adversaries threatening Soldier health and mission

success. However, the Soldiers of the 651st QM CO, refuse to back down from the growing challenge by tirelessly working to ensure the health of their comrades.

"We take the most nasty, vile water and purify it into drinking water," explained Staff Sgt. Kacee Coster, a water purification specialist with the 651st. "Everyone needs water. The mission is over within 24 hours if you don't have water. Without clean water, or any water, Soldiers can't do their jobs."

FORT MCCOY, Wis. - U.S. Army Pfc. Joshua Smith, a water purification specialist with the 651st Quartermaster Company mixes water purification chemicals in order to maintain the Tactical Water Purification System (TWPS), during the Combat Support Training Exercise (CSTX) Global Lightning 2015 on Fort McCoy, Wis., June 15. The unit is providing clean, drinkable water to the multi-national force participating in the CSTX.





Army Reserve Soldiers with the 233rd Quartermaster Company out of Scranton Pennsylvania, carry a fuel pipe to set up a new 20,000 Gal. fuel bag as part of the Quartermaster Liquid Logistic Exercise (QLLEX) portion of the Combat Sustainment Training Exercise (CSTX) Global Lightning 2015 at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, June 12, 2015



Army Reserve Spc. Williams Lara, a cargo specialist with the 302nd Inland Cargo Transportation Company (ICTC) from Joint Base Langley-Eustis, Virginia helps direct an Army M10A Forklift during Combat Support Training Exercise (CSTX) Global Lightning 2015 on June 15, 2015 at Joint Base McGuire-Dix Lakehurst, New Jersey.



Army Reserve Spc. Milton Rodriguez, a shower, laundry and clothing repair Specialist of the 140th Quartermaster Company from Fort Totten, New York, inventories clothing in support of Soldiers participating in Combat Support Training Exercise Global Lightning 2015 (CSTX) and Quartermaster Liquid Logistic Exercise (QLLEX) on June 15, 2015 at Joint Base McGuire-Dix Lakehurst, New Jersey.



Army Reserve Soldiers with the 380th QM BN out of Evansville, IN, receive awards for their contribution in Combat Support Training Exercise (CSTX) Global Lightning 2015 on June 15, 2015 at Joint Base McGuire-Dix Lakehurst, New Jersey.



Soldiers with the 113th Sustainment Brigade out of Greensboro, N.C., perform Preventative Maintenance on a Humvee during Combat Support Training Exercise (CSTX) Global Lightning 2015 on June 15, 2015 at Joint Base McGuire-Dix Lakehurst, New Jersey.





CSTX Global Lightning 2015



The Combat Support Training Exercise or CSTX has grown from a simple concept of an enhanced annual training to an operational deployment exercise. It is the closest to an operational deployment the Army Reserve can get in a training environment. CSTX is the only exercise in the Army which is geared primarily toward combat support (CS) and combat service support (CSS) units. CS and CSS elements are given the opportunity to execute their individual tasks during the mission rehearsal phase, and then their collective tasks during the mission operations phase.

This sustainment-focused exercise gives commanders an assessment of their unit's deployment readiness and like its exercise partner, QLLEX, it is operating across JBLM, Fort Huachuca, Fort A.P. Hill, and Fort Bragg.