

**POLAND:** 230TH SUSTAINMENT BRIGADE SUPPORTS OPERATION ANAKONDA

# THE VOLUNTEER STATE GUARD

M A Z I N E

## BUILDING STRONG TIES

**BULGARIA:**

TENNESSEE ARMY AND  
AIR ENGINEERS ACTIVE  
IN RESOLUTE CASTLE  
EXERCISE

VOL. 16, ISSUE 4



# THE VOLUNTEER STATE GUARD MAGAZINE

18

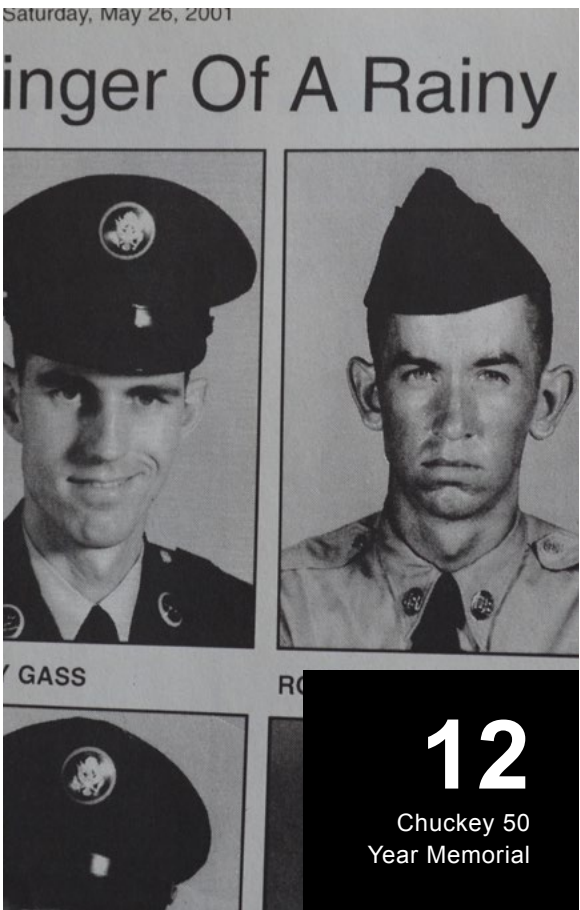
118th Wing  
Supports  
Resolute  
Castle.



## ON THE COVER

Aug. 9, 2016 - Airman 1st Class Aron Flowers and Senior Airman Adam Gartner, 118th Civil Engineer Squadron, Tennessee Air National Guard, break ground on August 10 for the installation of lighting at the Ammo Holding Area (AHA) that is under construction at Novo Selo Training Area, Bulgaria.

Photo by Master Sgt. Kendra M. Owenby

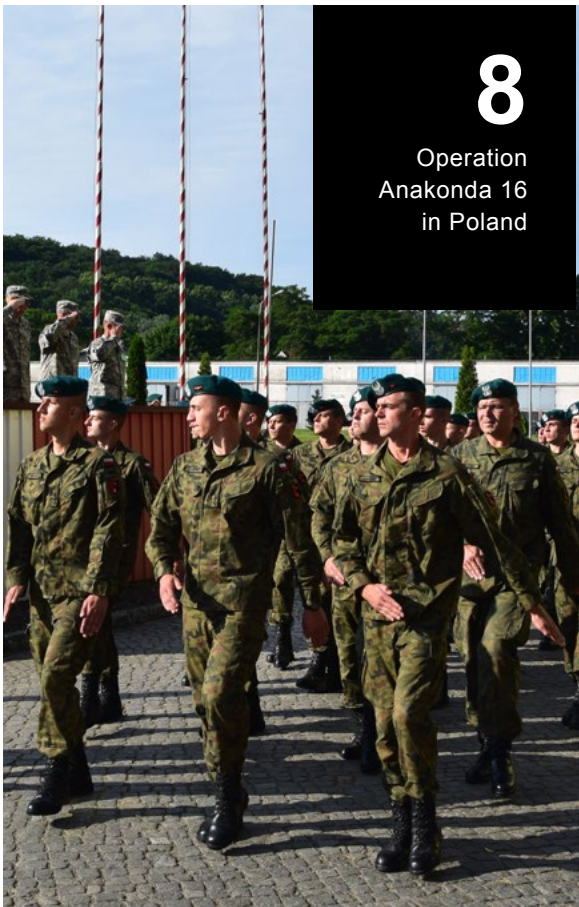


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in Michigan





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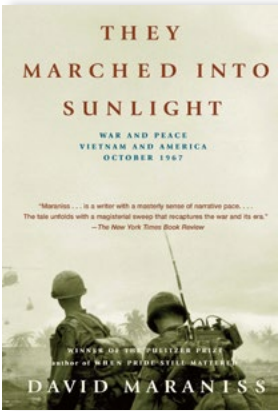
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# VSG

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<b>EDITOR-IN-CHIEF</b>	MAJ (RET) RANDY HARRIS
<b>ART DIRECTION</b>	ROB PENNINGTON
<b>SENIOR EDITORS</b>	CW4 NICK ATWOOD MASTER SGT ROBIN BROWN STAFF SGT WILLIAM JONES ROB PENNINGTON
<b>PHOTOGRAPHY</b>	MAJ (RET) RANDY HARRIS LT COL JOE HOLLISTER MAJ DARRIN HAAS MASTER SGT DAVID KUJAWA MASTER SGT KENDRA M. OWENBY 1ST LT MATTHEW GILBERT SPC STACI EVBUOMWAN PFC ETHAN TURNER
<b>WRITERS</b>	LT. COL JOE HOLLISTER MAJ DARRIN HAAS MASTER SGT KENDRA M. OWENBY TECH SGT. DANIEL HEATON 1ST LT MATTHEW GILBERT SPC STACI EVBUOMWAN

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For more information, the staff can be reached by telephone (615) 313-0633, or by email to [tnpao@live.com](mailto:tnpao@live.com). The Volunteer State Guard reserves the right to edit all material. Published works may be reprinted, except where copyrighted, provided credit is given to The Volunteer State Guard and the authors. Distribution of the The Volunteer State Guard is electronic and can be downloaded at: <http://www.tnmilitary.org>





## TENNESSEE SNAPSHOT

### **OPERATION ANAKONDA 16**

May 30, 2016 - Members of Tennessee's 230th Sustainment Brigade participate in Operation Anakonda 16. This exercise demonstrates the capability to move forces into the region with speed in order to deter any potential aggressors.

PHOTO BY: LT COL JOE HOLLISTER





TENNESSEE  
SNAPSHOT

**EARLY FORMATION**

Staff Sgt. Zack Allen, 118th Mission Support Group, Tennessee Air National Guard, during an early morning formation Aug. 15, 2016, while deployed to Novo Selo Training Area, Bulgaria.

*PHOTO BY: MASTER SGT KENDRA M. OWENBY*



TENNESSEE  
SNAPSHOT

**117TH MILITARY POLICE DEPARTURE**

Aug. 9, 2016 - The 117th Military Police Battalion headquartered in Athens, Tenn., holds a ceremony for the family and friends of their Soldiers as they prepare to depart for a nine-month deployment to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

PHOTO BY: PFC. ETHAN TURNER





## TENNESSEE SNAPSHOT

### **UNDER CONSTRUCTION**

A U.S. Army M1A1 Abrams Tank drives by a 194th Engineer Brigade, Tennessee Army National Guard military construction site at Novo Selo Training Area, Bulgaria, during Operation Resolute Castle on June 25, 2016.

*PHOTO BY: 1ST LT. MATTHEW GILBERT*



**POLAND**



# OPERATION ANAKONDA 16

STORY AND PHOTOS BY LT COL JOE HOLLISTER





***TENNESSEE'S 230TH SUSTAINMENT BRIGADE  
SUPPORTS OPERATION ANAKONDA '16 IN  
SZCZECIN, POLAND.***



Polish Commanders and Tennessee Army  
National Guard Commanders salute  
Polish forces as they march past.



# POLAND



Above: Maj. Gen. Max Haston, Tennessee's Adjutant General (third from left), and Col. Steven Barney, 230th Commander (second from left), in the northern port city of Szczecin.

**SZCZECIN, Poland** - Members of Tennessee's 230th Sustainment Brigade, headquartered in Chattanooga and Smyrna, participated in Operation Anakonda 16, a multi-national and multi-component exercise. According to the United States Army European Command (USAREUR), Anakonda 16 "brings more than 31,000 servicemembers from 24 NATO and partner nations together to train, exercise and integrate Polish national command and force structures into an allied, joint, multinational environment." The purpose of the exercise is to demonstrate that the United States stands behind its North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) partners and demonstrate the capability to move forces into the region with mass and speed in order to deter any potential aggressors.

The 230th Sustainment Brigade's mission was to support reception, staging and onward movement of arriving forces and their equipment. The unit was headquartered in the northern port city of Szczecin, and provided mission command for subordinate units arrayed across six locations in Poland and Germany.

The first phase of the 230th operation was to receive the incoming US forces and link them with the incoming unit's equipment before sending the unit to their designated operational area. Once all incoming units were received and moved to their training area, the mission for the 230th changed. Upon conclusion of Anakonda 16, the 230th reversed the process and sent units and their equip-



Col. Steven Barney, 230th Commander, (right) meets with Polish Soldiers.





***“THIS OPERATION HAS ALLOWED US TO DEPLOY AND OPERATE IN AN EXCITING AND CHALLENGING ENVIRONMENT AND PERFORM A REAL OPERATIONAL MISSION.”***

ment back to their home station. However, it was not as simple as it sounds. The personnel and equipment had to be accounted for, moved back to air, rail and seaports of debarkation, and prepared for redeployment. Tactical vehicles used by the units had to go thru a series of wash points and pass customs inspection before being loaded on ships for return to the US. The coordination and scheduling of the various logistics, personnel and health service support functions is part of this unit’s “complex and diverse mission”.

Operation Anakonda 16 ran from May 7 thru July 15. To cover such an extended time period, the 230th sent Soldiers in two different iterations.

According to Col. Steve Barney, the 230th Brigade Commander, “The brigades participation in this exercise is historical because the United States has never participated in the exercise with the amount of equipment and personnel currently operating in Poland. This operation has allowed us to deploy and operate in an exciting and challenging environment and perform a real operational mission. Our Soldiers are performing exceptionally well during the exercise, just as we expect them to. It is truly an honor for me to serve with our Soldier’s who represent everything that is right about the United States, the Great State of Tennessee and the many fine communities that they represent.” - **LT COL JOE HOLLISTER**



# Memories Linger Of A Rainy Sunday Morning

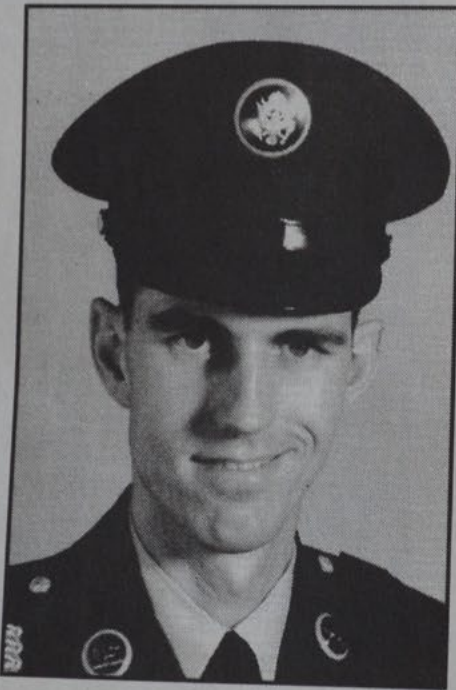
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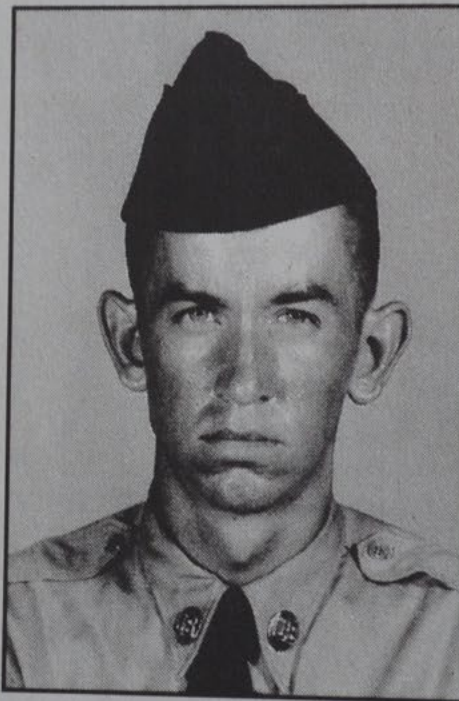
has been a sad experi-  
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come away from every  
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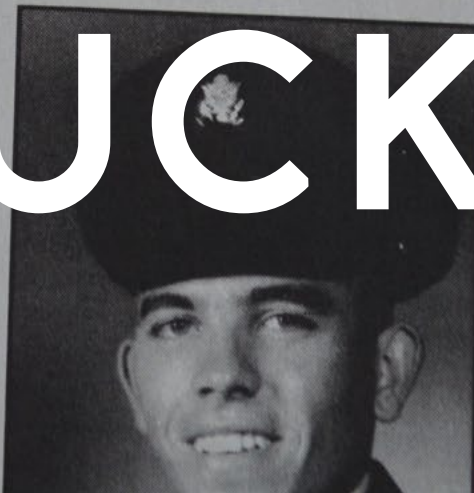
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Pines Community.  
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to PFC Herbert  
but she was more  
ther to him.  
came to live with my  
the age of 12, and he



HARRY GASS



RONNIE COX



# CHUCKEY

niture plant and went about  
helping others. Herb didn't  
know it, but his wife,  
Barbara, was pregnant at the  
time of the accident. Their  
son, Tim, would be born sev-  
eral months later. Today, Tim  
is a teacher at Baileyton  
Elementary School.

Jimmy Kenney loved hors-  
es, cars and bowling. Like  
Herb Shelton, he died without  
knowing his wife was preg-  
nant with their first child.  
Dawn Holt Kenney would  
give birth to their son, Lee,  
eight months later. Dawn now  
lives in Lenoir City, but, sadly,  
Lee died in 1994 at the age of  
27.

Harold Lee Smith also  
helped make televisions at  
what was then the Magnavox  
C. R. Smith. He grew up at  
D. Busk, and I used getting  
to see his father, Albert  
Smith, by just a few months.  
When Albert Smith died late  
last year, a baby diary from  
his son's first year was  
among his most cherished  
possessions.

The eight survivors of the  
accident recovered within a  
year or so, and they all but  
disappeared.

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But there  
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The kids  
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## 50 YEAR MEMORIAL

The Tennessee National Guard honors Soldiers  
killed and injured 50 years ago.

Story by MAJ DARRIN HAAS



On what was thought to be a typical Sunday morning drill, 16 Soldiers from Greeneville, Tenn., loaded into the back of a 5-ton cargo truck for an hour-long trip to Johnson City. Roughly 30 minutes into their drive to link-up with the rest of their unit to conduct training, at a town called Chuckey, the truck flipped into a ditch on the side of the highway. It landed upside down, killing eight Soldiers and severely injuring the other eight. The tragic event on August 7, 1966, was the worst vehicle accident the town had ever seen.

It was also a day never forgotten. On August 7, 2016, to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the event, over 250 friends, family, and members of the community held a ceremony at the Brown Springs Baptist Church in Mosheim, Tenn. to remember the incident and honor those killed serving their state and country.

Maj. Gen. Terry “Max” Haston, Tennessee’s Adjutant General and the event’s keynote speaker, said “Today, we honor those men who sacrificed so much on that Sunday morning, and we honor them for their patriotism and distinguished service to the great state of Tennessee. They are all my brothers, and their service will never be forgotten.”

According to Haston, “Every man who loaded those trucks that morning were Citizen-Soldiers. A Volunteer. A Patriot. They decided, during an era when the country was at war, to volunteer to serve their state and country and were willing to sacrifice their own lives to defend it. They made

this decision at a time in America where it was wildly un-popular to do so, a dark period in American history.”

To honor all of the Soldiers injured and killed 50 years ago, Haston awarded each Soldier the Tennessee National Guard Distinguished Service Medal. He declared that the Soldiers aboard that truck in 1966, “put their lives on the line during a period when many Americans were not thankful of their sacrifice, and eight of these Soldiers gave their lives. Every man who loaded those trucks that morning are patriots and heroes and deserve to be recognized for their service.”

Following the presentations and words from other speakers, Soldiers from the Tennessee National Guard’s Troop L, 278th Armored Cavalry Regiment, performed a three-volley rifle salute and played taps in memory of those killed. The Soldiers from L troop are direct descendants of the original unit that was involved in the 1966 accident and their armory, the Greeneville Memorial National Guard Armory, is named in honor of those that were killed.



**TOP:** Friends and family gather in remembrance of the incident.

**BOTTOM:** Soldiers from the Tennessee National Guard’s Troop L, 278th ACR, perform a three-volley rifle salute. (Photos by Maj. Darrin Haas)



## THAT HORRIBLE SUNDAY MORNING

On the morning of Sunday, August 7, 1966, the detachment of Company A, 1/117th Infantry Regiment, which consisted of the company’s 2nd Rifle Platoon and Weapons Platoon, were starting their second day of drill at the Greeneville Armory headquartered at the VFW Post 1990 Gymnasium. For the last three years, the detachment trained in Johnson City, Tenn., with the rest of the company during the day and then returned in the evening. On August 7, 84 Soldiers were assigned to the detachment planning to train on company level attacks in Johnson City.

A little after 7 a.m., following first formation, many of the Soldiers loaded into the back of three M-54, 5-ton, 6x6, International Cargo “Troop Carriers.” Outfitted in full combat gear and rifles, most climbed into the truck beds and sat on benches facing toward the center. It was lightly raining that morning, so canvas tops covered the Sol-





Maj. Gen. Terry "Max" Haston, Tennessee's Adjutant General and the event's keynote speaker, awarded each Soldier the Tennessee National Guard Distinguished Service Medal. (Photo by Maj. (Ret.) Randy Harris)

diers and were cinched down to keep out the rain. A strap was attached across the back tail gate to keep Soldiers from falling out. The first truck even carried a full mortar tube between the bench seats.

**Soldiers loaded into the back of three M-54, 5-ton, 6x6, International Cargo "Troop Carriers." Outfitted in full combat gear and rifles, most climbed into the truck beds and sat on benches facing toward the center.**

As soon as the Soldiers were loaded, the three trucks pulled out of the Greeneville Armory in a loose convoy with many of the senior leaders and new recruits traveling in their own cars. Spc. Glen Malone drove the lead truck with Sgt. Elmer Mullins, the truck's senior non-commissioned officer, rode in the cab alongside him, responsible for the 14 Soldiers riding in the back. Before pulling onto the highway, Malone checked the truck's brakes in the driveway next to the Greeneville Armory.

While driving east down U.S. Highway 11E, the convoy did not maintain sight of each other and allowed for large gaps in their convoy.

Around 7:40 a.m., Malone drove the lead truck down a hill and entered a curve in front of the Chuckey Elementary School traveling 40-45 miles per hour. It began to



slow down but was still traveling too fast. Malone applied the brakes but they didn't work. The truck fishtailed and crossed into the oncoming lane, nearly colliding with a white Cadillac traveling west. The Cadillac was nearly run off the road as the truck was skidding past. Malone then overcorrected, skidding right and then left again, back into the oncoming traffic lane. Next, the back end of the truck collided with a second car traveling past, a Chevrolet Belair. The Belair was knocked off the highway into a ditch.

After the collision, Malone lost complete control of the truck and it drove over a bank on the right side of the highway, hit a ditch and flipped over, stopping and coming to rest upside down. Once Malone's truck came to a stop upside down, he was able to crawl out of the cab and began making his way to the road so he could see if he could get help. Sgt. Mullins was killed, pinned under the cab of the truck. As Malone climbed to the road, the second truck full of Guardsmen arrived on the scene of the accident.

Sgt. Russell Self, the driver of the second truck, traveled down the hill and saw the destroyed Belair. He pulled off the road and let his Soldiers out of the back to help the civilian victims. The second truck was unaware that Malone's truck was destroyed on the other side of the highway until Sgt. Claude Tunnell, who was riding on Self's truck, got out and saw Malone climbing up the hill saying he lost his air brakes and couldn't slow down.

Tunnell and the rest of the Guardsmen then saw the flipped vehicle. They began to help the injured Guardsmen that were crawling out from under the vehicle, thrown clear, or were still pinned under the vehicle. Tunnell reported that many of the Guardsmen trapped under the truck could be heard moaning and screaming. Self then decided to drive the second truck to a nearby store to call for an ambulance, then returned to the scene to direct traffic.

By 7:50 a.m., the Tennessee Highway Patrol, city police, county Sheriff's department, Greeneville Rescue Squad, and all the local ambulances were notified and began reporting to the scene. The police arrived and directed traffic and helped with injured. The Greeneville Fire Department arrived with a fire truck in case of a gasoline fire from gas cans that the 5-ton was carrying. Ambulances from Greeneville and Johnson City came in three waves to transport the



*Taps played at the ceremony  
(Photo by Maj. (Ret.) Randy Harris)*

injured and dead. Soon, hundreds of people were gathered at the scene to help.

The Soldiers already at Johnson City responded with stretchers and litters. Many of the injuries and most of the fatalities that day were caused by crushing injuries from the truck. One of the main problem rescuers faced were Soldiers trapped alive in the bed. The rescue teams could not get to them at first. When the first wrecker arrived on scene, they tried to pull the 5-ton truck up to free the victims, but it was too heavy. The rescue crew then used a shovel to dig a hole under the truck so the injured could get air. It would take three wreckers to upright the truck enough to remove the last victim, two and a half hours after the initial accident occurred.

Immediately following the accident, many key National Guard leaders responded and assisted with the recovery of the victims, vehicle, and the investigation as to what happened. Within two hours following the accident, Maj. Gen. Thomas G.

#### Soldiers Killed During Accident

Pfc. Ronnie J. Cox  
Spc. Cody W. Erwin  
Spc. Harry E. Gass  
Spc. Roy D. Hice  
Pfc. Jimmy L. Kenny  
Sgt. Elmer M. Mullins  
Spc. Harold L. Smith  
Pfc. Herbert F. Shelton

#### Soldiers Injured During Accident

Spc. Walter R. Bowman  
Pvt. Ross C. Conner  
Spc. Donald A. Dean  
Pvt. Clyde D. Henry  
Spc. Glen L. Malone  
Pvt. Robert E. Purgason  
Pvt. Harold D. Shipley  
Pvt. Terry W. Whittenburg

Wells, Commander of the 30th Armored Division at the time, arrived in Greeneville to take command of the recovery operations and to investigate the cause of it. He established a command post at VFW Post 1990 to manage information and communications as well as to help the families of those killed and injured. Maj. Gen. Van Nunally, the Adjutant General at the time, flew to Greeneville from Nashville with members of his staff following the incident.

Overall, eight Soldiers were killed and eight more were injured, as well as four civilians. It was a horrific and tragic event for the local community and the Tennessee National Guard. A mixture of wet road conditions, loss of brakes, and use of snow tires all contributed to the accident resulting in eight deaths.

In 2001, the community installed and dedicated a monument in honor of all the Soldiers who were involved in the accident at the spot where it occurred.

**- MAJ DARRIN HAAS**





# LEARNING OPPORTUNITY

Austin Peay Student Presented Learning Opportunity During Military Operation in Bulgaria.



**NOVO SELO, Bulgaria** - Among the Tennessee Soldiers participating in Operation Resolute Castle is Spc. Logan Bowman, an Austin Peay State University nursing student who doubles as a medic in the 230th Engineer Battalion, 194th Engineer Brigade, Tennessee Army National Guard. Spc. Bowman is a Rossview High School graduate who has been at Austin Peay for one year and with

the Tennessee Army National Guard for two years.

Resolute Castle is part of Operation Atlantic Resolve, a large NATO led mission stretching across Eastern Europe designed to improve relationships between NATO and Eastern European countries, embolden local economies, and strengthen security throughout the region. Unlike other area

Spc. Logan Bowman (center), a medic with the 230th Engineer Battalion, 194th Engineer Brigade, Tennessee Army National Guard, administers an IV while Captain Jason Henry (right), a physician assistant with the Tennessee Army National Guard medical detachment supervises. *(Photo by: 1st Lt. Matthew Gilbert)*



operations which focus on interoperability amongst militaries – such as Operation Sarmis, Operation Anakonda, and Operation Dragoon Ride – Resolute Castle focuses on the construction and expansion of military bases in Estonia, Hungary, Romania, and Bulgaria.

As one of the 230th Engineer Battalion's medics, Bowman works with a team to medically treat servicemembers who become sick or injured at Bulgaria's Novo Selo Training Area. His evaluations determine methods of treatment and whether it is safe for the service member to return to their mission.

"We try to make everyone's life a little easier and get them better so they can get back to work," said Spc. Bowman.

During Resolute Castle, Spc. Bowman worked on a variety of actual medical cases ranging from sick calls and medical screenings to determine treatment plans. He was one of the field medics during cross-training exercises using weapons like tasers between military police forces of the Tennessee Army National Guard and the Bulgarian Military Police. He also worked on a medical team consisting of servicemembers from the United States Navy and the United States Marine Corps.

"This has been my first opportunity to do anything clinical. I've learned a lot and I'm looking forward to more in the future," he stated. "The taser training with the Bulgarian Military Police went very smoothly. The class was simple and informative and the 194th Engineer Brigade Military Police were more than ready to help with any questions that came up. The field training was great with everyone getting a few opportunities to walk through the process and application of the taser."

As an Austin Peay nursing student and Army National Guard medic, several doors opened for him. While obtaining his college degree, he is getting real-world experience, training, and education from the military. At the same time, a college degree in nursing opens doors not just to further career paths in hospitals and clinics, but presents an opportunity with the Tennessee Army Nation-



Specialist Logan Bowman (right), a medic with the 230th Engineer Battalion, 194th Engineer Brigade, Tennessee Army National Guard, evaluates a patient during a medical training exercise while assigned to Operation Resolute Castle on May 26, at Novo Selo Training Area, Bulgaria. (Photo by: 1st Lt. Matthew Gilbert)

al Guard to take on greater challenges and more responsibility.

Spc. Bowman plans to use this as an opportunity to obtain a master's degree in nursing, to become a nurse practitioner in middle Tennessee, and to become a physician assistant and officer in the Army National Guard.

Another opportunity is the ability to work with experienced medical professionals like Capt. Jason Henry, one of Spc. Bowman's supervisors. Capt. Henry is a physician assistant with the Tennessee Army Guard Medical Detachment and practicing physician assistant in Smyrna, Tenn. He brings to the table a B.A. from D'Youville and Masters from Nebraska, both in emergency medicine, as well as over 15 years of experience as a corpsman for the United States Navy and a physicians assistant with the Tennessee Army National Guard.

Capt. Henry emulates real-world situations to maximize learning during training exercises. In Resolute Castle, he created a situation where medics under his supervision treated volunteers by administering IVs

using a variety of techniques. This skill refresher course served as a great opportunity to practice basic medical skills.

"Skill refresher courses in the military are very important because you have very few opportunities to practice. In medicine, you have to be able to work with new people with as little practice time as possible," stated Henry.

Henry realizes the medics he teaches may one day be called on for big responsibility. "These are the guys that may be attached with the forward units. Medicine doesn't change by branch of the military. You may be in an environment working with other services. It's good to know that no matter what branch you're in you'll get taken care of." - **1ST LT MATTHEW GILBERT**



# TENNESSEE ENGINEER



**118TH WING CIVIL ENGINEER SQUADRON  
DEPLOYS TO BULGARIA IN SUPPORT OF  
OPERATION RESOLUTE CASTLE.**

STORY AND PHOTOS BY MASTER SGT KENDRA M. OWENBY



# WARRIORS



Members of the 194th Engineer Brigade and the 118th Civil Engineer Squadron work together on August 10, to prepare the ground for installing lighting at the Ammo Holding Area (AHA) under construction at Novo Selo Training Area in Bulgaria.





# TENNESSEE ENGINEERS



Above: Staff Sgt. Rodney Smith, Senior Airman Brett Bostic, and Airman First Class Zach Allen, 118th Civil Engineer Squadron, Tennessee Air National Guard, bury wiring for lightning protection equipment on August 10, at various locations on the installation at Novo Selo Training Area, Bulgaria.

**NOVO SELO, Bulgaria** - Airmen from the 118th Wing Civil Engineer Squadron (CES), Mission Support Group (MSG), based in Nashville, Tennessee, deployed to Novo Selo Training Area (NSTA), Bulgaria Aug. 2016 in support of Operation Resolute Castle.

The members were part of a rotational crew assigned to continue projects already in progress by the 194th Engineer Brigade, a Tennessee Army National Guard unit out of Jackson, Tennessee.

Among the projects that the 118th MSG tackled while at NSTA were the installation of lighting at the Ammo Holding Area, better known as the AHA, and the emplacement of lightning protection at various structures around the installation.

Maj. Nathan Smith, 118th CES Deputy Commander, provided a brief description of the tasks at hand for the 118th MSG.

“We are here supporting the 194th Engineer Brigade and we are what is known as a vertical engineer company. We have carpenters, plumbers, and electricians, as opposed to horizontal engineers. Those are the guys that have the big dirt moving equipment. Our biggest project is working on the Ammunition Holding Area. We are going to do perimeter lights about 100 feet apart and there’s 32 of those. The other part of the project is to do lightning protection and lighting within the AHA itself. With lightning protection you try to create a protective zone around buildings so you put up air terminals. They can either be masts or some other type of systems that are integrated within the building itself and run a conductor to ground” said, Smith, “What that means is any lightning that hits the building will travel along that path and anything below that

should be safe from getting electrocuted.”

The majority of the National Guard members on the rotation were “traditionals,” meaning they only work one drill weekend per month and 15 training days annually. The training they receive while on these deployments is extremely beneficial since most do not have the opportunity for it elsewhere. They are learning and practicing new skill sets at NSTA while simultaneously completing construction projects that will be beneficial to both Bulgaria and the US for years to come.





Top: 1st Sgt. Mike Ilko, 194th Engineer Brigade, Tennessee Army National Guard, Maj. Mark Smith and Airman First Class Aron Flowers, 118th Civil Engineer Squadron, Tennessee Air National Guard discuss preparing the ground for the installation of lighting at the Ammo Holding Area (AHA)

Bottom: Airman from the 118th Civil Engineer Squadron, Tennessee Air National Guard, install lightning protection.

“Most of our guys are more interior electricians than they are either heavy voltage or high voltage or lightning protection. Those are a little bit outside the norm. They get the training in tech. school but as far as training on a regular basis or training or installing this type of system, this is the first time for most of these guys,” stated Smith.

The AHA consists of 12 storage cells that require security fencing, security lighting, lightning protection and improvements to the access road. The 118th MSG were only responsible for providing the lighting and lightning protection portion during their stay.

Heavy equipment and materials needed for the construction projects at sites like NSTA is sometimes a challenge to obtain if the Army doesn’t already have it readily available. Most of the equipment and supplies have been brought in by the 194th EN BDE for completion of the projects. Local hardware stores are not guaranteed to have all of the items needed.

Senior Airman Matthew Justice, while overseeing the excavator/drilling operation and prepping for the lighting installation, explained the role of the 118th MSG at the AHA and their portion of the project during their rotation at NSTA.

“We are putting lighting around the entire perimeter...it’s going to be a work in progress for a while. We auger for a while and then take a shovel and take out the big rocks. Our plan is to get the holes dug, get the poles in, get the lighting system up, and then ground the lighting system,” stated Justice.

Service members from the US Navy, US Army, and US Air Force have all worked closely together during rotations at Resolute Castle 16. With every rotation working toward meeting their goals, things are on schedule. The projects that the Tennessee Air National Guard contribute to this collaboration are invaluable to strengthening the bonds with their state partnership nation of Bulgaria.

**- MASTER SGT KENDRA OWENBY**



# VISIT TO NOVO SELO

## US Army Europe Commander Makes a Visit to the Novo Selo Training Area in Novo Selo, Bulgaria.

**NOVO SELO, Bulgaria** - During the summer, the 194th Engineer Brigade, Tennessee Army National Guard, conducted mission command for Operation Resolute Castle 16 (RC16) at Novo Selo Training Area, Bulgaria. RC16 is a US Army Europe (USAREUR) led training mission across the countries of Bulgaria, Estonia, Romania, and Hungary, consisting of construction improvements for military police training. RC16 gives the United States the opportunity to work and train with NATO allies, improving the ability to operate as a combined force and to strengthen ally partnerships.

Army Lt. Gen. Ben Hodges, Commanding General USAREUR, and Martina Strong, Deputy Chief of Mission at the US Embassy in Sofia, Bulgaria, visited troops at Novo Selo Training Area on May 18, 2016. Hodges thanked the Soldiers from the 194th Engineer Brigade and Seabees from the 133rd Naval Construction Battalion for their hard work and dedication. He spoke about the importance of RC16 and how the construction improvements and training involved enhances our ability to operate as a combined force with our NATO allies. RC16 is more than construction on training sites; it provides the US Army, and its allies and partners, the opportunity to see how our strengths and capabilities can be combined.

Army Sgt. Justin Marlow, Survey and Design sergeant, with the 194th Engineer



Lt. Gen. Ben Hodges, Commanding General USAREUR, visited Novo Selo Training Area, Bulgaria, and met with Soldiers from the 194th Engineer Brigade, Tennessee Army National Guard and Seabees with the 133rd Naval Mobile Construction Battalion, May 18. (Photo by: Spc. Staci Evbuomwan)

Brigade, briefed Hodges and Martina on the engineering projects. Marlow has been assisting in the planning of RC16 since October 2015. In regards to his brief and Hodges' comments, Marlow said, "It was certainly gratifying to have Lt. Gen. Hodges come out to the job-site to show his support and enthusiasm for our on-going overall mission, as well as digging in to get the specifics on our individual projects. For the Soldiers doing the work, I feel that was such a boost in motivation, just to know the importance of what we are doing here and how it all fits into the larger picture of the Strong Europe initiative."

In recognition of the dedication, hard work, leadership, and technical expertise, Lt. Gen. Hodges presented coins to Lt. Col. Cory Scates, Quality Assurance and Quality Control Officer, and Army 1st Sgt. Michael Ilko, the Vertical Subject Matter Expert, both with the 194th Engineer Brigade and Navy Petty Officer 1st Class Ryan Esmile, Detail Assistant Officer in Charge, with the 133rd Naval Construction Battalion. Marlow received a coin for the technical expertise provided during planning for RC16, and for his assistance with the engineering project designs.

**- SPC STACI EVBUOMWAN**



# MP TO MP

## 268th Military Police Company under the 194th Engineer Brigade Cross-Train with Bulgarian Military Police.

**NOVO SELO, Bulgaria** - The 268th Military Police Company arrived at Novo Selo Training Area (NSTA), Bulgaria in May. The 268th is under the 194th Engineer Brigade, Tennessee Army National Guard. The 194th is at NSTA conducting mission command for Resolute Castle 16 (RC 16). The 268th Military Police Company is at NSTA to support the 194th during their training exercises and to train with the Bulgarian Military Police.

RC16 is a United States Army and Europe led operation spanning over 4 countries, and nested within Operation Atlantic Resolve. Resolute Castle 16 is composed of a joint task force of Active Duty, Reserve, Navy Seabees, and multi-state National Guard forces. These components of the United States military will work side by side and train with NATO allies for the duration of RC 16. The training and work being conducted is giving the United States and other respective armies the ability to learn to operate together.

The 268th Military Police Company and the Bulgarian military police conducted a cross training class to expand on the capabilities of both armies. The command from both armies led the class sharing the ways each respective army operated. The Soldiers were very engaged in the class and performed hands on cross training. Capt. Stefan Dimitrov, with the Bulgarian Military Police expressed his appreciation of the class and the information received by saying, "The objective was exposed in a way that was under-



Sgt. Robert Stevens (center), sergeant with the 268th Military Police Company, 194th Engineer Brigade Tennessee Army National Guard, explains and demonstrates weapon handling safety on May 20, 2016 during the U.S. Army and Bulgarian Army military police training class. (Photo by: Spc. Staci Evbuomwan)

standable for students. The instructors were very knowledgeable and informative. I really enjoyed being able to train with the US Soldiers. It was a good experience and a good way to learn and exchange knowledge."

This type of training provides the ability to improve relationships and interoperability with our NATO allies.

It exposes Soldiers from all respective armies to information and knowledge that will increase their abilities, and provides the opportunity to build relationships and trust

with allies. Those relationships will enable us to work as a collective force more efficiently.

Spc. Jonathon Leland with the 268th Military Police Company stated, "This training was important to allow us to work better with the Bulgarian Military Police, especially in a crisis situation. One reason we are here at NSTA conducting training is to build a bond with the Bulgarians, and that is exactly what we did today."

**. - SPC STACI EVBUOMWAN**





# COMBAT LIFE SAVING CLASS

194th Engineer Brigade Leads Combat Life Saving Class during Operation Resolute Castle in Bulgaria.



**NOVO SELO, Bulgaria** - Soldiers from the 194th Engineer Brigade, Tennessee Army National Guard, led a combat lifesaving course at the Novo Selo Training Area during Operation Resolute Castle in Bulgaria, June 22, 2016.

The 194th holds mission command over Operation Resolute Castle, a part of Operation Atlantic Resolve, a US and NATO led

operation in Eastern Europe tasked with improving interoperability between militaries, emboldening local economies, and building lasting relationships with the host nations. While most parts of Operation Atlantic Resolve – Operation Dragoon Ride, Operation Sarmis, Operation Anakonda – focus on interoperability of militaries through simulated combat operations, Operation Reso-

Spc. Staci Evbuomwan, a medic in the 194th Engineer Brigade, demonstrates how to move a soldier on a stretcher during a combat life saving class with the Bulgarian Military Police on June 22, during Operation Resolute Castle in Novo Selo Training Area, Bulgaria. (Photo by: 1st Lt. Matthew Gilbert)



lute Castle focuses on military construction of bases in Hungary, Estonia, Bulgaria, and Romania.

It is unusual for a State National Guard Unit to lead such a large operation. However, the partnership here makes sense. The Tennessee National Guard and the country of Bulgaria have partnered together for more than two decades, completing several joint training missions together.

During this exercise, the Tennessee Army National Guard administered a combat life-saving class to the Bulgarian military police. This class was led by Spc. Staci Evbuomwan, medic, and Sgt. Brandon Cotton, military police, both with the 194th Engineer Brigade.

The goal of combat lifesaving is to get an injured person from the field to the hospital in the quickest amount of time and to give the injured person the highest chance of recovery possible. "Once a patient gets to the hospital, the doctor takes care of treatment," states Evbuomwan, adding that "you have to focus on stopping the bleeding. That's the most effective thing you can do."

Because loss of blood can result in serious injuries or worse, time is very important in making decisions. During the class, Evbuomwan emphasized "You have to use your judgment on who you can give the most help to in the shortest amount of time," teaching ways to determine who should be helped on the battlefield first, and why.

Once a patient is secure, it is important to transport that person to a hospital and doctor as soon as possible. A hospital's staff and equipment combined with a doctor's expertise and experience give an injured person the highest chance of recovery.

During the training, Evbuomwan taught the participants proper ways to load people with injuries onto stretcher, and explained techniques for transporting them from the field to the hospital without making their injuries worse. "First, you have care under fire, which is when there is too much danger for the medical staff to render aid," explains Evbuomwan, elaborating that once a patient is safe, that "you always try to transport the patient in a way that gives them awareness



Spc. Staci Evbuomwan demonstrates how to create splints with improvised materials during a combat life saving class on June 22, during Operation Resolute Castle in Novo Selo Training Area, Bulgaria. Combat life saving focuses on medical treatment of injuries while away from hospitals or vehicles.  
*(Photo by: 1st Lt. Matthew Gilbert)*

into what's going on for their own protection."

Sgt. Cotton approached the same class from a very different perspective. As a military police officer, he focuses on the ability to administer combat lifesaving aid in all situations – including situations where you may have little or no medical equipment available.

"As a combat life saver and MP, your main priority is to stop the bleeding which is the number one cause of death on the battlefield," stated Cotton. "If it's life or death, you might not always have those items. A lot of times you have to make due with what you have."

During the course, Cotton explained techniques and procedures for treating a bleeding wound when bandaging materials were not available. "Essentially you are taking any type of fabric or material to be able to stop blood flow. You are using a fabric and some type of rigid structure in order to be able to stop the blood flow," he explained, adding that "what you are doing with that tourniquet is making sure it is at least two inches wide to ensure you are not damaging nerves or arteries. You utilize the rigid structure to apply pressure with a twisting motion."

Cotton also demonstrated a wide variety of strategies for transporting injured patients when a stretcher was not available, in-

cluding creating stretchers out of uniforms or any other material you can find.

His explanations were very thorough. "If you are using uniform tops, it cuts out steps for you. Turn them inside out and use a rigid structure pole/stick in order to reduce fatigue on person carrying. You can also use a blanket or sheet or cloth or whatever you have to remake whatever the litter is. Place sticks in material slightly wider than person you are carrying and then you fold it into thirds over the sticks with the sticks being inside the material. What that does is the weight of the person you are carrying causes friction on the person that you are carrying between the two rigid items. It essentially works as a friction knot – the friction keeps the person there."

"The entire concept is to transport the person giving as much support to the neck and spine as possible and being able to secure person to the object that you are carrying," concluded Cotton.

Soldiers like Sgt. Cotton and Spc. Evbuomwan keep our Soldiers safe and intelligently communicate that information to our allied nations.

**- 1ST LT MATTHEW GILBERT**





# HUMANITARIAN EFFORTS

## 164th Airmen Support Humanitarian Efforts in Bulgaria.



**KABILE, Bulgaria** - Members of the 164th Airlift Wing, 118th Mission Support Group and Civil Engineer Squadron, Tennessee Air National Guard along with Soldiers from the Bulgarian Army, participated in a Humanitarian Civic Assistance effort to remodel a kindergarten school in Kabile, Bulgaria in Aug., 2016.

Senior Master Sgt. Robert Wilbur, 118th

Civil Engineer Squadron, explained the various projects the Airmen tackled.

“New tile, paint, toilets, kitchen sinks, laminate flooring in the classroom - a typical renovation project. What we call in America, “down to the studs”.

The Airmen updated antiquated electrical timers, replacing them with new ones to make them safer. Inside they reworked plas-

Airmen from the 164th Civil Engineer Squadron remodel and repaint the outside of a Bulgarian elementary school Aug. 15, 2016, prior to the new school year. (Photo by Master Sgt. Kendra Owenby)





Left: Airmen from the 164th Civil Engineer Squadron remodel, prime and paint the interior of the school. Below: Chief Master Sgt. Shantel Bolton, 164th Civil Engineer Squadron, Tennessee Air National Guard, trims overgrowth around playground equipment. (Photos by Master Sgt. Kendra Owenby)



ter walls, built new stud walls for updated plumbing, re-plumbed some of the kitchen area, primed and painted classrooms, installed new lighting, and installed new tile floors. Outside they trimmed hedges, cleared brush to make way for a larger play area, repainted playground equipment and fencing, replaced broken and rotting boards on benches and sitting areas, and rewired antiquated street lights.

The director of the school, Milena Baskoba, said the children's ages ranged from one to seven years and they would be excited when they returned to see all the work that has been done.

Alexandria Rabina, a local Bulgarian who served as the interpreter for the Airmen while they were assigned to the project was interviewed by Capt. Stephanie McKeen, Public Affairs Officer for the 134th Air Refueling Wing, and shared some of her knowledge of the school.

"The ladies here, they are teachers and helpers. If they need to paint something the teachers do it. They're the ones who interact with the kids and educate the kids. That wing over there is a nursery and the youngest kid is one year and four months old and the kids on this side are ages three to seven...about a

total of 40 kids. It's like preparation for going to school. I remember that we had a little bit of English that was taught."

Chief Master Sgt. Charles Gregory, 164th Civil Engineer Squadron, and a city electrician in Memphis, Tenn. in his civilian career, explains how a new timer for the outside lighting will work.

"The old timer stopped working and is very antiquated...we are adding a receptacle to the panel so the timer here plugs into the receptacle, so they no longer have to worry about manually coming down here (in the basement) and turning on the lights outside in the yard".

The children had not had full use of their playground area in quite a while. Since there were no tools available to clean off the property, it had become overgrown with weeds and briars. Yard tools such as lawn mowers and weed eaters are not common in the villages. They only have access to simple hand tools such as hoes and rakes. Along with the help of some Bulgarian Army Soldiers, the Airmen were able to uncover parts of the playground that were completely overgrown.

Master Sgt. Nancy Hall, Training Man-

ager for the Civil Engineer Squadron, says she is extremely proud to be part of such a hard working group of young people.

"I didn't realize Civil Engineering worked so hard", stated Hall, 164th Civil Engineer Squadron. "I used to see them when I was in personnel when they came through with dirty boots".

"We have a lot of folks who are learning hands-on what they learned about in tech. school. I tell them, be a sponge! Learn from the senior people because you will be replacing them someday. It's a lot of teamwork. It has to be 110%. I tell them, take pride in what you do. You are putting your stamp on your work," she said.

The Airmen left the school with a sense of accomplishment and pride in knowing that their hard work was going to be very rewarding not only for them, but also to the Kabile students for years to come.

**- MASTER SGT KENDRA OWENBY**



# HIGH SPEED TRAINING

## 118th Security Forces Squadron Gains Diverse Training at Northern Strike Exercise in Michigan.

**CAMP GRAYLING, Mich.** - “Working with the 5th Special Forces team at Northern Strike – there is no more current, no more high speed training than working with them,” said Chief Master Sgt. Dan Kellum, superintendent of the 118th Security Forces Squadron, which is based in Nashville.

The Airmen from the 118th are engaging in several missions during Northern Strike 2016, a large scale military exercise based at the Alpena Combat Readiness Training Center and the Camp Grayling Joint Maneuver Training Center, both in northern Michigan.

The unit began by providing flight line security at Alpena, serving as “students” for the Special Forces team and providing security for various distinguished visitors at the exercise’s various venues.

“We even had a few members of our Inspector General team from back home who were here, using this exercise as a chance to review our operations. We’re really maximizing this opportunity,” said Kellum.

Tech. Sgt. Keith Lester, a member of the 118th SFS, said the training benefits the Airmen of the unit by giving them an opportunity to experience different aspects of their career field.

“We’re on the go, doing a lot of different things,” he said. “So we’re being exposed to things that some people have never done before and adding to their skill levels.”

Northern Strike 16 is a National Guard



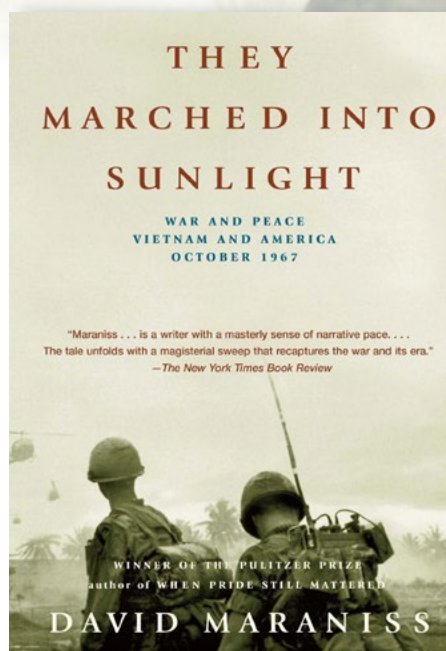
A C-130 Hercules flies by the Military Operations on Urbanized Terrain training facility at the Alpena Combat Readiness Training Center while a member of the 118th Security Forces Squadron, Tennessee Air National Guard, participates in a training exercise during Northern Strike 16, Aug. 12, 2016. (Photo by Master Sgt. David Kujawa)

Bureau-sponsored exercise uniting approximately 5,000 Army, Air Force, Marine, and Special Forces servicemembers from 20 states and three coalition countries during the first three weeks of August 2016 at the Camp Grayling Joint Maneuver Training Center and the Alpena Combat Readiness Training Center, both located in northern Michigan. The exercise strives to provide

accessible, readiness-building opportunities for military units from all service branches to achieve and sustain proficiency in conducting mission command, air, sea, and ground maneuver integration, and the synchronization of fires in a joint, multinational, decisive action environment.

**- TECH SGT DANIEL HEATON**





***They Marched Into Sunlight:***

War and Peace Vietnam and America October 1967.

By David Maraniss.  
Simon & Schuster, 2004.

## Maj. Darrin Haas Gives his Review of: **THEY MARCHED INTO SUNLIGHT**

For someone who did not live through the 1960s, the Vietnam War can be a very difficult conflict to understand, especially in light of today's pro-military public and all-volunteer Army. The political and social dynamics are confusing, but one book that masterfully and vividly makes the war understandable is David Maraniss' *They Marched into Sunlight: War and Peace, Vietnam and America, October 1967*.

Published in 2003, and using countless primary sources and interviews, Maraniss crafts a unique and sweeping narrative that brings the era vividly to life. Examining just two days in October of 1967, he juxtaposes an ambush in Vietnam of American Soldiers by North Vietnamese Regulars with antiwar demonstrations held at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. He argues that these events, occurring on October 17 and 18 and on two different sides of the world, metaphorically represent the moment the war became unwinnable and students radicalized against it.

Maraniss' work is broken into just three main parts. In the first section, he examines the Vietnam War, particularly the creation of a new infantry company with the 2nd Battalion, 28th Infantry Regiment, 1st Infantry Division, known as the "Black Lions." The battalion, commanded by Lt. Col. Terry Allen, tasks 1st Lt. Clark Welch to organize and train new Soldiers to fight the battle hardened Vietnamese in just a few months. The author also studies Allen, the son of the famous World War II general, Terry Allen Sr., and the family problems he suffers because of the war.

In the book's next section, Maraniss shifts to the University of Wisconsin where recruiters from Dow Chemical Company, the sole mil-

itary supplier of napalm, conduct job fairs seeking new employees. With the eroding conservative culture of the school and the rise of liberal ideals making anti-war demonstrations popular, the recruiters become easy targets for student protests. The author looks at the build-up leading to a confrontation.

The third section takes up more than two-thirds of the book. Maraniss bounces between Madison and Vietnam leading to the culmination of the ambush and violent protests. In Vietnam, Allen and 155 of his Black Lions moved into the Long Nguyen Secret Zone to attack a retreating Vietnamese regiment. They were ambushed, resulting in 64 US Soldiers killed, including Allen, and 75 wounded. Suffering roughly 90 percent casualties, the ambush began prompting some US leadership and the public to question if the war was still winnable.

At the same time, a Dow Chemical recruiter visited the University of Wisconsin and was met with a large crowd of student activists in the school's University Building. The school chancellor ordered police to clear the activists from the building. Using clubs and shields to force protesters out, the police then arrested those who would not disperse. Many students were injured, several were hit with clubs and kicked by police. After the building was cleared, the police dispersed the crowd gathering outside with tear gas.

These two events, a massive loss of US life in combat and the first violent anti-war protest, symbolized a turning point in the war in Vietnam. David Maraniss skillfully pulled these two events together to give the reader a clear understanding of what America went through and why it is important to understand it. I highly recommend this work to any service member wanting a sense of what everyone endured and the toll it took on them as well as a better understanding of the failures of the war.

**- MAJ DARRIN HAAS**