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# The Real McCoy®

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## Cold Steel, CSTX, other training events are increasing operations tempo at 'Total Force Training Center'

BY SCOTT T. STURKOL  
Public Affairs Staff

Training in 2018 has already been at a high pace at Fort McCoy during January and February, and the schedule shows it's going to continue to be busy.

During January and into early February, more than 1,200 Marines were at Fort McCoy for their Ullr Shield cold-weather training exercise. The Marines, all from units with the 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing of Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point, N.C., trained at areas all over post, such as the Combined Arms Collective Training Facility (CACTF), Improved Tactical Training Base Freedom, numerous live-fire ranges, and more.

Coming up, the Fort McCoy range complex will see further extensive use, especially live-fire ranges, for the Operation Cold Steel (OCS) II exercise, which began in mid-February.

According to exercise planners, OCS II operations at Fort McCoy for 2018 will be under Task Force Triad. The task force, hosted by the 416th Theater Engineer Command, will conduct training at the installation through May 26 and more than 3,000 Soldiers are expected



Photo by Scott T. Sturkol

Students in the Cold-Weather Operations Course Class 18-04, which included Marines and Soldiers, participate in snowshoe training Feb. 7 at a training space on the cantonment area at Fort McCoy. More sessions of the course will continue on post through March.

to attend the mounted crew-served weapons qualification training.

"Training and range use for (Cold Steel) will be similar to last year," said Training Co-

ordination Branch Chief Craig Meeusen with the Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security. "For this training, Ranges 2, (See **TRAINING**, Page 3)

## Soldiers build railcar-loading skills during exercise

STORY & PHOTOS BY SCOTT T. STURKOL  
Public Affairs Staff

Dozens of Soldiers from two Army engineer units, as well as numerous personnel with the Fort McCoy Logistics Readiness Center, completed a four-day cold-weather rail operations exercise and real-world deployment in early February on post.

The exercise, held Feb. 5-8 at the rail yard near building 2100 on the cantonment area, was an opportunity to take a regular rail-loading operation and turn it into training for Soldiers with the 397th Engineer Battalion at Eau Claire, Wis., and the 983rd Engineer Battalion of Monclova, Ohio, said Fort McCoy Transportation Officer D.J. Eckland with the Logistics Readiness Center (LRC) Transportation Division.

"Each unit was loading equipment for shipment to support overseas (See **RAIL**, Page 8)



A Soldier tightens a chain while participating in railcar loading Feb. 7 at the Fort McCoy rail yard.

## Fort McCoy earns ACOE Silver Award in competition

The Army's Office of the Assistant Chief of Staff for Installation Management announced Feb. 13 that Fort McCoy earned the Silver Award in the active Army category in the 2018 Army Communities of Excellence competition.

Fort McCoy last earned Army Communities of Excellence honors in 2017 in the same category with a Bronze Award.

Army Communities of Excellence is an annual competition that uses the Baldrige Framework for Performance Excellence to evaluate Army installations, said Fort McCoy Plans, Analysis and Integration Office Chief Ken Musselwhite.

That framework is based on seven criteria: leadership, strategic planning, customers, knowledge management, workforce, operations, and results.

"Fort McCoy's competitive strengths are its workforce, which is always willing to go the extra mile for the customer, and its ability to develop and follow five-year strategic business plans," Musselwhite said.

In January, Fort McCoy was named as a finalist in the competition, Musselwhite said.

The Army community is the backbone of Army readiness, according to Installation Management Command. Army forces train at, deploy from, are sustained by, and return to the community. Army Communities of Excellence awards have been presented since 1989 by the command.

For the 2018 competition, in the active Army category, U.S. Army Garrison, Fort Rucker, Ala., earned the Gold Award. Bronze Award winners were U.S. Army

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## NEWS

# New pedestrian bridge being built near Pine View Campground

Contractors are building a new pedestrian bridge over the La Crosse River near Fort McCoy's Pine View Campground.

A \$171,000 contract was recently awarded to NuGen Johnson LLC of Sussex, Wis., to build the new bridge and construction has already started.

"One of our first tasks was to get the bridge footings in place," said Keith Keskimaki with NuGen Johnson. "Getting that in forms the basis for all of the rest of the work to come."

Engineer John Adams with the Directorate of Public Works said the pedestrian bridge was designed for Fort McCoy by SEH, Inc. of La Crosse, Wis.

"The (bridge) span is about 60 feet and will be installed in the same location where an old timber foot bridge existed," Adams said. "The timber bridge washed out years ago, and the span of this structure will be two feet above the projected 100-year water surface elevation of the La Crosse River at that location."

A prefabricated steel truss bridge will be put in, Adams said.

"It is built with steel known as 'weathering steel.' This type of steel does not need to be painted. Initially, after manufacture, it has an orange oxidized protective layer, and over time, it will darken to a bronze patina.

"The oxidized coating becomes a protective layer, eliminating the need for painting, which, when done over a water body or adjacent to one, the overspray creates an environmental concern," Adams said. "The lack of a need to paint the bridge also adds to the longevity of the structure. Also, with keeping the main span of the bridge out of the 100-year water surface elevation, it reduces the probability of future washouts."



Photo by Scott T. Sturkol

Workers with NuGen Johnson LLC of Sussex, Wis., work on a bridge footing for a new pedestrian bridge Feb. 7 next to the La Crosse River and Pine View Campground at Fort McCoy. A new bridge is being placed in the same area where a bridge washed out several years ago.

Adams added that, when completed, the bridge will provide more connectivity to the trails surrounding the campground. "And that

will provide campers with more experiences at Pine View Campground," he said.

Work on the pedestrian bridge is expected

to be completed by May 30.

(Article prepared by the Fort McCoy Public Affairs Office and the Directorate of Public Works.)

## AWARD

Garrison, Fort Stewart, Ga., and U.S. Army Garrison, Daegu, South Korea. Honorable Mention went to U.S. Army Garrison, Fort Wainwright, Alaska, and U.S. Army Garrison, Fort Knox, Ky.

A formal recognition ceremony will be held at the Pentagon later in 2018.

"I am very proud of each team member, and am humbled to lead the highly committed, Army values-based professionals at Fort McCoy," said Garrison Commander Col. David J. Pinter Sr. "What a great accomplishment and fitting recognition of all the hard work required to reach this level of excellence."

Gold Award winners go on to compete for the Commander in Chief's Annual Award for Installation Excellence, which includes the other military services.

(Article prepared by the Fort McCoy Public Affairs Office and the Plans, Analysis and Integration Office.)



Photo by Scott T. Sturkol

Deputy to the Garrison Commander James A. Chen signs the Installation Management Command Leadership Pledge to service excellence June 14, 2017, as part of the installation observance of the Army birthday. The pledge was one of many measures taken at Fort McCoy to ensure customer service excellence and to continue a culture of continuous improvement. It's commitments like the pledge that also helped the installation earn the Silver Award in the 2018 Army Communities of Excellence competition.

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## NEWS



Photo by Staff Sgt. Debralee Best

Staff Sgt. Javar Manley (right) and Spc. Jonathan Hessel, both medics with Task Force Triad for Operation Cold Steel II, cover an emergency patient simulator with a blanket during a medical evacuation rehearsal Feb. 8 at Fort McCoy. Operation Cold Steel is the Army Reserve's crew-served weapons qualification and validation exercise.

## ■ TRAINING

(From page 1)

18, 26, and 34 will be mainly used.”

Beginning in March, the 78th Training Division will hold a Combat Support Training Exercise, or CSTX.

CSTX is a Combat Support Training Program (CSTP) exercise, which is a large-scale training event where units experience tactical training scenarios specifically designed to replicate real-world missions, according to the Army Reserve. CSTP exercises “prepare America’s Army Reserve units to be combat-ready by immersing them in realistic scenarios where they train as they would fight.”

“This CSTX is one of three being held at Fort McCoy this year,” Meeusen said. “We are also having a CSTX in June and August.”

The March CSTX, which is scheduled to cover the entire month, includes involvement with the Army’s Medical Readiness Training Command and with personnel and facilities at the Regional Training Site-Medical at Fort McCoy. “We expect approximately 3,000 (service members) to participate in the March CSTX,” Meeusen said.

Thousands of service members from many units are also

scheduled to come to Fort McCoy in February and March for battle-drill and extended-combat training. These include infantry, psychological operations, engineer, medical, and combat-support units.

For institutional training, hundreds more service members are scheduled to train with garrison and tenant organizations at the installation, including with the 13th Battalion, 100th Regiment; Regional Training Site-Maintenance, Medical Simulation Training Center, Staff Sgt. Todd R. Cornell Noncommissioned Officer Academy, and Wisconsin Military Academy and in courses like the Cold-Weather Operations Course.

To support the training this year, especially during the exercises, Fort McCoy staff members have a lot to do. For example, on the food-support side, the Logistics Readiness Center (LRC) Supply and Services Division and its Subsistence Supply Management Office (SSMO) provide food, ice, and more for training troops, said Fort McCoy Food Service Manager Andy Pisney.

For the Ullr Shield exercise, Fort McCoy food service personnel provided 878 modules of unitized group rations (UGRs)

that equals 43,900 meals; 2,409 cases (28,908 meals) of cold-weather meals; 14 cases of kosher meals, ready to eat (MREs); and rations enhancements of fruit, salad, cereal, etc., worth more than \$60,000.

For the March CSTX, food-service support will include the distribution of 2,279 modules (113,950 meals) of UGRs, 5,280 cases (63,360 meals) of MREs, and \$70,000 of rations enhancements, Pisney said.

“For Cold Steel, we will open up Dining Facility (building) 2674, and it will provide two hot meals daily to them,” Pisney said.

“They will eat breakfast and dinner meals in the dining facility and eat an MRE lunch. The dining facility staff will also (prepare) 240 meals (daily) for four different ranges for each breakfast and dinner meal. For those in the cantonment area for the March CSTX, they will also eat breakfast and dinner meals in building 2674.”

Other training at the installation coming up will be Army Reserve training for Soldiers in the public affairs career field, Meeusen said.

## NEWS

# Students learn about winter survival, operations during CWOC Class 18-04



Photos by Scott T. Sturkol

Students in the Fort McCoy Cold-Weather Operations Course Class 18-04 build improvised shelters Feb. 12 during training in a wooded area on the installation's North Post. Building improvised shelters is just one of the many skills taught during the course. More than 50 Marines and Soldiers participated in Class 18-04.



Cold-Weather Operations Course students practice snowshoeing while carrying rucksacks during training Feb. 7 at a training area on Fort McCoy's cantonment area.



Students raise an Arctic 10-person cold-weather tent as part of course operations Feb. 7 at Fort McCoy.



A student takes the plunge during cold-water immersion training Feb. 14 at Big Sandy Lake at Fort McCoy.

## NEWS

# CWOC students enhance skiing ability during training at Fort McCoy

STORY & PHOTOS BY SCOTT T. STURKOL

Public Affairs Staff

For the majority of students attending the Cold-Weather Operations Course (CWOC) at Fort McCoy, when they put on skis, it's often the first time.

The white all-terrain skis have been a part of military cold-weather training for decades.

"I've always called them the 'white rockets,'" said CWOC Instructor Hunter Heard. "They are not easy to learn, but once you get the hang of them, they aren't too bad."

Heard was out with other instructors at Whitetail Ridge Ski Area at Fort McCoy with the 54 students of CWOC Class 18-04 practicing the first full day of skiing with the students. He would ski with the students to give them tips and encouraging words. As time went on, many of the students got better.

"Skiing can be considered one of the primary modes of transportation for service members deployed in a cold-weather environment," said CWOC Instructor Bill Hamilton. "It allows the service member to quickly move from one point to another in a silent fashion with a minimal tactical footprint left behind. Troops skiing in a patrol in each other's tracks will only leave one set of prints for an opposing force to find, enabling the service member to move a small or large force quietly, efficiently, and quickly, while again allowing a minimal footprint for detection."

Hamilton said CWOC students spend approximately 25 hours training on skis.

"We'll do the skiing for that long provided the conditions allow it," Hamilton said. "Obviously we would love to have more snow, to allow students to train more on skis, but we are at the mercy of the elements and weather.



A student in Cold-Weather Operations Course Class 18-04 practices skiing during course training Feb. 8 at Whitetail Ridge Ski Area.

If we had the time, we would love to have 40 hours dedicated to skiing just to build up proficiency."

Through Class 18-04, more than 200 students have learned to ski during the winter 2017-18 training season, Hamilton said.

"When they start off, it is never pretty," Hamilton said. "But you can see how the students start getting better at it as they continue to practice and follow direction."

The skis have unique bindings that allow the users to wear regular boots with the skis. Plus, the skis are made to be durable enough to be used for both cross-country and downhill

skiing.

During CWOC training, nearly all skiing is done at Whitetail Ridge Ski Area. Some skiing practice is done when the class completes cross-country skiing on flat training areas, but all downhill skiing is completed at Whitetail.

"They train in a 'crawl, walk, run' phase for all of the skiing in our course," Hamilton said. "It's not a race. We want them to learn about the equipment and trust the equipment they may use when deployed in a cold-weather environment."

Marine Corps Lance Cpl. Jonathan Reynoso with Marine Wing Communication Squad-

ron 28 at Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS) Cherry Point, N.C., attended CWOC Class 18-01 in December. He said he was happy to learn to ski as well as other skills.

"This course gave me an exposure to experience that deals with operating in cold-weather environments," Reynoso said. "My level of experience and understanding of operating in this sort of environment was minimal. After attending the course, I feel confident in my skills to (operate) in a cold-weather environment."

"The best parts of this course were building survival shelters and learning how to ski," said Class 18-01 student Sgt. Gregory Medina with Marine Wing Support Squadron, also at MCAS Cherry Point. "This course has given me the ability to pass on those skills and more."

Though skiing is a big part of the CWOC, students also learn about cold-weather injury identification and treatment, proper ways to wear cold-weather clothing, cold-weather risk management, snowshoeing, and adverse effects of cold weather on military equipment, Hamilton said. Training also includes developing winter fighting positions in the field, camouflage and concealment, building improvised shelters, and numerous other areas that are important to know in order to survive and operate in a cold-weather environment.

"Combining all the skills taught in the course, including skiing, the students should leave here with a better ability to operate in cold weather and be able to share those skills with fellow service members in their unit," Hamilton said.

As long as enough snow stays on the hills at Whitetail Ridge, Hamilton said students will continue to be trained on skiing through the end of March.



Students in Cold-Weather Operations Course Class 18-04 make their way up the hill before skiing Feb. 8 at Whitetail Ridge Ski Area.

## NEWS

# Ammunition supply Soldiers enhance skills, expertise in ALC at Fort McCoy

BY SCOTT T. STURKOL

Public Affairs Staff

More than a dozen “89-Bravos” from Army units across the country completed training in the 89B Advanced Leader Course (ALC) at Fort McCoy from mid-January to mid-February with the 13th Battalion, 100th (13th, 100th) Regiment.

An ALC is a branch-specific course that provides Soldiers selected for promotion to staff sergeant an opportunity to enhance leadership, technical skill, tactical expertise and experience needed to lead squad-size units, according to the Enlisted Personnel Management Directorate of Army Human Resources Command. An ALC consists of both a 90-day highly facilitated web-based common core program and a branch-specific resident phase. For the 89B ammunition specialist military occupation specialty, its ALC at Fort McCoy is four weeks (two two-week phases).

“This is the second fiscal training year we’ve had the ALC here at Fort McCoy, and it’s going well,” said Sgt. 1st Class Doug Dobitz, course coordinator with the 13th, 100th. “In this course, future enlisted leaders in this MOS build their skills to not only become better leaders and supervisors, but also better Soldiers.”

Soldiers who are 89B-qualified are tasked with receiving, storing, and issuing conventional ammunition, guided missiles, large rockets, explosives, and other ammunition and explosive-related items. During the two phases of the course, the students learn about advanced leadership and supervision skills required for their career field and more.

“It’s important for all the students to understand what is required of them as (enlisted leaders) in this field,” said Sgt. 1st Class Lester Hinton, ALC instructor for the 13th, 100th. “When the students leave here, we want them to leave with a renewed sense of what they need to do to be successful.”

Sgt. Eric Fairman, an ALC student with the 2nd Battalion, 309th Regiment at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, N.J., said he was happy to be a part of the course.

“(The course) advances us to next level of the Noncommissioned Officer Professional Development System and progresses us down the career path,” Fairman said. “Some of the best parts about this course are the opportunities to try new things. We were able to conduct different tasks that we normally complete on a regular basis.”

“This is a great bit of in-depth training and a refresher of what we learned in our initial MOS training,” added student Staff Sgt. Timothy Singleton with the 802nd Ordnance Company, Detachment 3, in Aiken, S.C.

Staff Sgt. Brandin Schumann, a student with the New Mexico National Guard at Albuquerque, said the instructors gave them an excellent overview of everything they needed to know.

“The instructors provided us with the additional (skills) to take back to our home units,” Schumann said. “There is a great core (of instructors) and they provide great Soldier care.”

According to the Army job description, ammunition supply specialist NCOs supervise the receipt, storage, issue, and preparation of ammunition, ammunition components and explosives for transportation and storage. They also supervise ammunition stock control and accounting procedures for surveillance inputs, conduct ammunition inspections and tests, and perform inspections of containers and vehicles transporting ammunition.

89B NCOs also inspect storage locations, ensuring compliance with storage compatibility, quantity distance, and explosive safety limits. And, they ensure compliance with all ammunition safety requirements as prescribed in applicable Army regulations.

“There is a lot for them to know,” Hinton said. “What the



Photo by Staff Sgt. Debralee Best

A student in the 89B Advanced Leader Course conducts a mock inspection with a Task Force Triad, Operation Cold Steel II, ammunition specialist on a palletized load system Feb. 5 at Fort McCoy.



Photo by Scott T. Sturkol

Students complete a classroom project during operations in the 89B Advanced Leader Course on Jan. 16.

students learn in (ALC) is important to not only them, but also the Soldiers they lead so we go into detail on a variety of subjects.”

The 13th, 100th is an ordnance battalion that provides

training and training support to Soldiers in the ordnance maintenance MOS series. The unit, aligned under the 3rd Brigade, 94th Division of the 80th Training Command, has been at Fort McCoy since about 1995.

## NEWS



Photo by Troy Boardman, 13th Battalion, 100th Regiment

Students in the 89B Ammunition Supply Course participate in slingload training with an Army Chinook helicopter Feb. 7 at the Sparta-Fort McCoy Airport on South Post.

## Soldiers become new '89-Bravos' in course taught on installation

BY SCOTT T. STURKOL  
Public Affairs Staff

Twenty Soldiers became new “89-Bravos” after completing training in the 89B10 Ammunition Supply Course (ASC) with the 13th Battalion, 100th (13th, 100th) Regiment at Fort McCoy in January and February.

The four-week course provided training for Soldiers who are reclassifying to the 89B military occupational specialty (MOS) — a specialty that’s in high demand throughout the Army. By Army definition, ammunition supply specialists are “Soldiers responsible for the management of ordnance to include ammunition and explosives.”

Soldiers who are 89B-qualified are tasked with receiving, storing, and issuing conventional ammunition, guided missiles, large rockets, explosives, and other ammunition and explosive-related items. During the two phases of the course, the students learn all of the entry-level basics about the course, said course manager Sgt. 1st Class Douglas Dobitz.

Phase one focuses on basic work, such as ammunition and equipment familiarization, paperwork procedures, and demolitions training, Dobitz said. Phase two includes more hands-on training, such as equipment operation and use of the Palletized Load System. Upon successful completion of both phases of the course, students are awarded the 89B MOS.

Other critical skills gained by students include learning how to identify, package, store, and ship all types of ammunition. The students

also become familiarized with various types of equipment that’s typically associated with the 89B field, such as extreme terrain, 10,000-pound capable forklifts as well as military trucks capable of hauling ammunition.

“Some of the best parts of this course is the hands-on training,” said Staff Sgt. John Abelon with the 163rd Ordnance Company at Tustin, Calif. “And through this course, I am better able to know how to reference a field manual, technical manual, and Army forms, which I can show future (ammunition supply Soldiers) before they go to school (for training).”

Student Staff Sgt. Dominique Womack-Detrick with the 749th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion said the training helped her hone her attention to detail and sharpen skills in many areas.

“This course helped by develop my skills as an NCO (noncommissioned officer),” Womack-Detrick said. “Also, when my unit goes to the range, I have that better understanding of how the ammunition operations work.”

For Spc. Mark Pulver with the 592nd Ordnance Company in Billings, Mont., being a student gave him an entire new appreciation for how Soldiers receive their ammunition.

“Having served and deployed as an infantryman with practical experience using the ammunition covered during the course, this training has given me a greater understanding ... of where ammo, pyrotechnics, grenades, missiles, and rockets start the journey to being issued and used by the Soldier in the field,” Pulver said.

ASC instructor Sgt. 1st Class Jeremy Van-

Strein said it’s a privilege to share his experience with the students.

“I like being able to pass down my knowledge and experience as an ammunition specialist to Soldiers interested in this field,” VanStrein said. “I’ve had great instructors in the past, and I would like to be able to make a positive impact with these students’ careers just as my past instructors have made a positive impact on my career.”

This class of students is one of many for fiscal year 2018 by the 13th, 100th. The unit also teaches the 89B Senior Leader Course, Advanced Leadership Course, and courses for the

89A ammunition stock control and accounting specialist MOS. Teaching all of these courses is an expansion of training from two years ago.

“This training expansion is a big deal for us and for Fort McCoy,” Dobitz said. “This expansion is an effort that started about five years ago and was approved in the past two years by the Army. Now, every Soldier in the Army who is reclassifying into the 89B MOS trains here at Fort McCoy. All new Soldiers will continue to complete the 89B advanced individual training at Fort Lee (Va.)”

For more information about 13th, 100th training, call 608-388-9251.



Photo by Scott T. Sturkol

Students in the 89B Ammunition Supply Course complete a lesson during training Jan. 16 at Fort McCoy.

## NEWS



Soldiers secure a loader to a railcar Feb. 7 at the Fort McCoy rail yard on the cantonment area. Two Army engineer units loaded equipment on railcars in early February. All the equipment being moved was to be delivered to support overseas contingency operations. The Logistics Readiness Center Transportation Division coordinated the rail operations.

## RAIL

(From page 1)

operations,” Eckland said. “This was a great opportunity to increase the quality of training for everyone involved.”

A classroom session began the training Feb. 5 with 89 people attending. The classroom portion was taught by a Marine Corps mobile training team from Barstow, Calif.

“The classroom training set the basics of what everyone needed to know,” Eckland said. “The real learning took place on the railcars.”

Over the course of three days, service members with each unit took turns loading their equipment on railcars. The 397th loaded 36 railcars with 65 pieces of equipment and nine 20-foot Equivalent Units (TEU) containers. The 983rd loaded 30 railcars with more than 80 pieces of equipment and four TEU containers.

“And throughout this mission training and loading process, we had temperatures consistently below zero, and it seemed like it snowed every day,” Eckland said. “But everyone came together and all personnel involved did an outstanding job with everything.”

The fact that so much work was completed in some of the worst conditions with no ac-

cidents or safety problems was impressive, said Movements Branch Chief Terry Altman, also with the LRC Transportation Division.

“With all that loading, switching of railcars, and other activity going on, it was all very successful,” Altman said.

From the earliest days of Fort McCoy’s nearly 110-year history, railways have played an important role in the post’s mission. Whether it was transporting troops in for training during World War II, or bringing in equipment and supplies for a present-day exercise on post, rail continues to be a primary mode of transportation at the installation.

“This (exercise) was also an example of how Fort McCoy is able to execute its mobilization force-generation installation mission,” Eckland said. “Rail is one of our strategic transportation missions and these events allow us to exercise our capability.”

Some of the equipment loaded as part of the training will return to the installation later in the year as part of the equipment’s redeployment. The next railcar-loading/movement operation at Fort McCoy is expected sometime this summer, Eckland said.



Soldiers with the 397th Engineer Battalion at Eau Claire, Wis., and the 983rd Engineer Battalion of Monclova, Ohio, completed the railcar loading and training over several days.

## NEWS

# Marines tackle cold-weather rail training during Ullr Shield exercise at Fort McCoy

STORY & PHOTOS BY SCOTT T. STURKOL

Public Affairs Staff

More than 70 Marines who were at Fort McCoy for the 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing's Ullr Shield exercise faced tough conditions during training in railcar loading in late January as part of the exercise.

During the training, the Marines, all from Marine Wing Support Squadron (MWSS) 271, dealt with frigid below-zero temperatures and several inches of fresh snow while loading 34 railcars with 77 pieces of equipment and more than 50 containers.

Ullr Shield is a training exercise designed to improve 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing's capabilities in extreme cold-weather environments. Ullr Shield took place from early January to early February at Fort McCoy with more than 1,200 Marines participating.

The Marines accessed training venues across Fort McCoy in addition to the rail yard, such as the Combined Arms Collective Training Facility (CACTF), Young Air Assault Strip, Sparta-Fort McCoy Airport, Leadership Reaction Course, Confidence Course, Improved Tactical Training Base Freedom, numerous live-fire ranges, and more.

"As part of their redeployment from the exercise, they requested training on railcar loading," said Fort McCoy Transportation Officer D.J. Eckland with the Logistics Readiness Center (LRC) Transportation Division.

During the rail-loading operation, temperatures dipped as low as minus 15 degrees and snow fell on several different days.

"In years past for operations like this, we had warmer temperatures and better weather," Eckland said. "MWSS 271 (personnel) wanted to conduct rail operations as part of their cold-weather training, and Mother Nature didn't disappoint."

Movements Branch Chief Terry Altman, also with the LRC Transportation Division, said the training and loading with the Marines went well.

"Everything was loaded correctly, and there were no accidents or incidents," Altman said. "That's a great outcome when considering the weather they were working in."

Eckland said his team was glad to be able to support the training and loading effort.

"We're always happy to support this kind of training," Eckland said. "Not only did these service members get some great hands-on training on an important mode of transportation, we also were able to demonstrate Fort McCoy's joint training and strategic rail capability."

MWSS 271 is located at Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point, N.C. Its mission is to "provide aviation ground support to enable a Marine aircraft group (MAG) or a composite MAG to conduct expeditionary operations."



A Marine from Marine Wing Support Squadron 271 drives a Humvee along a railcar during a loading operation Jan. 30 at Fort McCoy.



Marines move ramps into place while working on loading equipment on railcars Jan. 30 at the Fort McCoy rail yard on the cantonment area.

ADS

## NEWS

# Marines follow Ulr Shield with Frozen Badger exercise



Photos by Lance Cpl. Jailine L. Martinez

Marines with Marine Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Squadron (VMU) 2 prepare to launch an RQ-21A Blackjack at Young Air Assault Strip on Jan. 29 during the Frozen Badger exercise on Fort McCoy. Frozen Badger is a training exercise that took place on post from late January to late February and was designed to improve VMU-2's operational capabilities in cold weather.



Marine Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Squadron 2 personnel maneuver a Humvee over a rock bed on a driving course during operations for the Frozen Badger exercise Jan. 31 at Fort McCoy.



Sgt. Geoffrey Childers, an imagery analysis specialist with Marine Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Squadron 2, coaches a Marine firing an M240B machine gun on an installation live-fire range during Frozen Badger operations Jan. 26.

## FEATURE



Fire Desk Supervisor Tim Caucutt and Range Control Technician Mark Confer with the Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security work at the Fire Desk on Jan. 16.

## McCoy's Range Fire Desk is 'heartbeat' of installation field ops

**STORY & PHOTO BY SCOTT T. STURKOL**  
Public Affairs Staff

"We're going live on Range 26," crackles a voice of a Soldier over the radio at the Fort McCoy Range Fire Desk.

"Roger, thanks, and out," Range Control Technician Mark Confer says in a rapid response.

Calls like this to Range Fire Desk, which is operated by the Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security (DPTMS), are a multiple times a day occurrence during peak training times at the installation. The desk operates communications with units using the range complex as well as Range Maintenance and other personnel throughout 46,000 acres of training areas on post.

"The desk is like the heartbeat of range operations," said Tim Caucutt, Fire Desk supervisor.

Located in building 2954 with other sections of the DPTMS Range Management

Branch, the Fire Desk has received upgrades over the past couple of years to make it a state-of-the-art communications center.

Along one wall are large monitors that shows where action is taking place anywhere on the installation.

"It's a common-operating picture (COP) for all of Fort McCoy," Confer said. "We have a way of tracking everything, seeing where people are working, and what ranges are hot. Essentially, we follow what's going on all over the Range Complex."

The computer software that provides the COP is part of an Army system linked with Fort Belvoir, Va.

"This system is so much better than what we had before," Caucutt said. "After the system was installed here in March 2016, it took us a little while to learn more about it and what it can do. However, ever since, it has been a great system to have here. It helps eliminate a lot of human error."

Confer said the system is especially help-

ful when directing people to locations on the Range Complex.

"When we can pinpoint directions for people, it saves time and energy," Confer said. "That's just one way this system of how we operate now is more efficient and beneficial to our customers."

Caucutt and Range Control Supervisor Todd Vanderbush run the Fire Desk operations. Caucutt said there are generally two people per shift at the desk – one to watch the desk operations and the other to complete range riding if necessary. "We also always have one person to work a swing shift so we have constant coverage," Caucutt said.

The person assigned to manage the desk each day is the key player in the success of Fire Desk operations.

"That person is running the ballet out there on the ranges," Caucutt said. "That person is the one who is constantly talking to people throughout the ranges to ensure things are going well."

And it's no doubt the Fire Desk personnel manage a large ballet when there are large training events on post, such as Operation Cold Steel II, the Combat Support Training Exercise or the Exportable Combat Training Capability exercise. In fiscal year 2017 alone, a record 155,975 personnel completed training at Fort McCoy.

"It can get real busy, but we're up for the challenge," Caucutt said.

In addition to the Fire Desk, the DPTMS Range Management Branch also includes Range Operations and its Scheduling, and Safety sections. It also includes Range Maintenance, Integrated Area Training Management (ITAM) and a contracted workforce for the tactical training bases, the Combined Arms Collective Training Facility and shoot houses, as well as collective training and combat in the cities facilities. ITAM includes Land Rehabilitation and Maintenance, Range and Training Land Assessment, and Geographic Information Systems.

## FEATURE

# Fort McCoy ArtiFACT

## Teamster's pin

Archaeology work has been ongoing at Fort McCoy for more than 30 years.

In summer 2014, archaeologists from Colorado State University's Center for Environmental Management of Military Lands unearthed a teamster's pinback button.

Although the button is not in the best condition, there was still enough detail to make out some of the letters and numbers. This pin is associated with the International Brotherhood of Teamsters (IBT) Local Union No. 199 of La Crosse, Wis.

Local 199 originated and was

chartered in 1911. In 1983, Local 199 merged into IBT Local Union No. 695. Local 695 still exists.

The text "June 1941" on the button refers to the time when the button's owner paid his or her dues. The union member would wear the button on a hat or uniform so that the union steward knew the member was in good standing.

In 1941, the members of Local 199 most likely were employed by ice and coal firms, though some would have been employed by transportation firms.

Visitors and employees are reminded they should not collect arti-

facts on Fort McCoy or other government lands and leave the digging to the professionals. Any individual who excavates, removes, damages, or otherwise alters or defaces any historic or prehistoric site, artifact, or object of antiquity on Fort McCoy is in violation of federal law.

The discovery of any archaeological artifact should be reported to the Directorate of Public Works Natural Resource Branch at 608-388-4793.

*(Article prepared by Colorado State University Center for Environmental Management of Military Lands and Directorate of Public Works Natural Resources Branch.)*



Photo by Colorado State University Center for Environmental Management of Military Lands  
**Pictured is a teamster's pinback button found on Fort McCoy during an archaeological dig. This pin is associated with the International Brotherhood of Teamsters Local Union No. 199 of La Crosse, Wis.**



Photo by Jarrod Roll, Monroe County Local Historical Room

## Archaeology talk

Alexander Woods, Ph.D., an archaeologist with Colorado State University's (CSU) Center for Environmental Management of Military Lands under contract with Fort McCoy, gives the presentation titled, "Solving Secrets with Science: Archaeology at Fort McCoy," to dozens of people Feb. 8 at the Monroe County Local Historical Room in Sparta, Wis. Woods provided a glimpse into archaeological discoveries made during a 2017 dig at Fort McCoy and described how scientists use modern technology to help understand the past.

## SAFETY

# Be ready for challenges presented by black ice

BY CHARLES D. BETONEY II

633rd Air Base Wing Safety  
Joint Base Langley-Eustis, Va.

It's a typical mid-January Monday morning. The weekend ended too soon, and the long grind of the work week looms ahead.

You start your normal morning routine — making coffee, eating breakfast, taking a shower, dressing, and warming up the car. The sun still hasn't peeked over the distant horizon, and the temperature dropped well below freezing last night. Looks like a good time to try out that new winter jacket you got for Christmas.

Thankfully, the winter has been rather mild this year, and you haven't had to deal with the hassle of constant snowfall. You're beginning to run late, so you back out of the driveway before your car fully heats up and head down familiar roads to work. Even with the new coat on, the inside of the car is still frigid. You're fumbling with the heater knob when your car suddenly begins skidding and goes into a spin. You've just driven across one of the most perilous and often unseen hazards on winter roads — black ice.

Black ice can be a serious driving hazard when the temperature dips near or below freezing. Black ice forms when snow, water, or other types of condensation melt onto the road surface and refreeze. It's called black ice because it is difficult to see and can blend in with the road's color. It is most common on bridges, overpasses, and in shaded sections of the road where it can remain frozen after other parts of the road have thawed. You need to follow certain precautions when driving in wintry weather or when there is the potential for black ice to form on the roads.

The first precaution is to always wear your seat belt — something you should be doing anyway. Then, as you drive, watch out for black patches or what appears to be water on the road, as this could be black ice. Just as when driving in the rain, avoid using your cruise control or overdrive because these can cause wheel spin and send your car out of control.

Allow a generous following distance behind the vehicle ahead so you'll have ample room to stop or maneuver if you hit ice or need to react quickly. Accelerate slowly to maintain traction and never slam on the brakes, which can cause a skid. If you notice a possible trouble spot ahead, shift into a lower gear to reduce your speed and give you more control of your vehicle.

Should these precautions fail and you find yourself beginning to skid, here are a few driving techniques to help you regain control.

If you feel your vehicle beginning to skid, quickly take your foot off the gas, as accelerating only increases your chances of spinning. Also, don't slam on the brakes. Hitting your brakes will send you skidding out of control. If you have a stick shift, push in the clutch or put the transmission in neutral and allow the ve-

**HERE IT COMES** *Are you ready to hit the road?*

- Accelerate and decelerate slowly
- Increase your following distance eight to 10 seconds to provide more room to stop
- Know your brakes
- Don't power up hills and don't stop while going uphill unless necessary
- Take a fully charged cellphone, food, water and warm clothing
- Don't go out unless absolutely necessary

**READY ...OR NOT?**

**Ready ... or Not** is a call to action for leaders, Soldiers, Army Civilians and Family members to assess their "readiness" for what lies ahead—the known as well as the unknown.

Throughout our professional and personal lives, events happen all around us. We are often able to shape the outcome of those events, but many times we're not. Navigating life's

 **ARMY STRONG:**

 <https://safety.army.mil>

hicle's momentum to carry you straight across the ice. In the event that the car begins to skid, turn the steering wheel in the direction of the skid to get the vehicle back on track.

Using these techniques can make the difference between driving out of a skid and spinning out of control. While winter driving has its risks, being prepared and alert can keep you on the road and out of an accident.

Here are some additional winter driving tips to help keep you safe:

- Turn on your lights to increase your visibility to other motorists.
- Make sure your tread is in good condition.
- Keep your headlights and windshield clean.
- Use low gears to keep traction, especially

on hills.

- Don't pass snowplows and sanding trucks. These drivers have limited visibility, and you'll likely find the road in front of them worse than the road behind.

- Don't assume your vehicle can handle all conditions. Even four-wheel- and front-wheel-drive vehicles can encounter trouble on winter roads.

## ARMYWIDE NEWS

# Mattis: New policy cracks down on nondeployable troops

BY TERRI MOON CRONK

Department of Defense News

The Department of Defense (DOD) has a “higher expectation” of deployability by its forces, Defense Secretary James N. Mattis said recently.

Speaking with reporters on a return flight from Germany to Washington, the secretary said the undersecretary of defense for personnel and readiness defined a problem that initially was brought to his attention by the Army, where “many nondeployables were on their rolls.”

Aside from combat-injured personnel who are in a separate category, Mattis said, the issue concerns service members “who are, just for one reason or another, not able to deploy with their units. It was a significant number, and the Army brought their concerns forward. The other services also highlighted [their] concerns.”

## New policy

DOD’s office of personnel and readiness has “come out with a policy that if you’re not deployable for a year or more, you’re going to have to go somewhere else,” he said.

As an example, Mattis said, if 10,000 troops out of 100,000 are not deployable, that means 90,000 deploy more often to meet the same deployment standard.

“That’s unfair,” he said.

The secretary talked about a service member who is on his sixth deployment in 11 years.

“When that sort of thing happens, that brings sharply into focus that some people are carrying more than the share of the load that I want them to carry,” he said.



Photo by Scott T. Sturkol

**Spc. Joshua Gobin with the Army Reserve’s 327th Engineer Company of Onalaska, Wis., provides security while fellow unit Soldiers work on a troop project to build a pole building Aug. 16, 2017, near Range 2 on North Post at Fort McCoy.**

“They need time at home,” Mattis emphasized. “They need time with their Families. We may enlist Soldiers, (but) we re-enlist Families. That’s the way it is. If you can’t keep the Family together, then you’re either going to lose the Family or you’re

going to lose the Soldiers, and that’s a net loss for our society and for our military. (We) put a lot of training into people nowadays. So that policy is now out.”

## Military must be deployable

The secretary said as he reviewed the services’ policies, they were already strong enough, “so some of this may simply be more adherence to the current policy that we have; some of it may require an effort within the DOD, the Office of Secretary of Defense policy, that we put out for the department now,” he added.

“But the bottom line is, we expect everyone to carry their share of the load,” the secretary said, adding, “and sometimes things happen. People bust their legs in training or they’re in a car accident. We understand that.”

But DOD comprises a deployable military, which is a lethal military that aligns with its allies and partners, he said.

“If you can’t go overseas (and) carry a combat load, then obviously someone else has got to go. I want this spread fairly and equitably across the force.”

The only exemption is for those who have been injured in combat, he noted.

“If they were wounded in combat, and they want to stay in and they’ve lost their leg or something like this, and they can’t be a paratrooper anymore, then we’ll find a place to use them. That’s a special category. They’ve earned that special status,” Mattis said.

“Otherwise, you’re either deployable, or you need to find something else to do. I’m not going to have some people deploying constantly, and then other people who seem to not pay that price to be in the U.S. military,” he said.

# Commitment to readiness includes beefed-up BCTs, says Secretary of the Army Esper

BY DAVID VERGUN

Army News Service

WASHINGTON — Three months ago when Dr. Mark T. Esper became secretary of the Army, he said he would focus on two enduring priorities during his tenure.

First, he committed to making sure that Soldiers, their Families, and civilians are well cared for, led, trained, and equipped. Secondly, Esper wants to ensure everyone commits to Army Values, particularly leaders, who should treat everyone with dignity and respect.

Esper spoke on these priorities at a media press briefing Feb. 15 at the Pentagon.

One of the ways to ensure Soldiers are equipped to handle high-end threats from nations like China and Russia, he said, is to make brigade combat teams more lethal. The Army has been doing that in a variety of ways, including converting infantry brigade combat teams (BCTs) to armored BCTs, he said.

Additionally, those BCTs are being beefed up with more Soldiers, thanks to Congress providing additional funding for manning levels and equipment.

Besides that, BCTs are becoming more robust with additional equipment such as short-range air defense, indirect fire support, and various upgrades like more lethal firepower for

Strykers, Esper said, noting that he was recently with Soldiers in Germany during a Stryker live-fire exercise.

BCTs are also now receiving more munitions and replacement parts, he added.

While it is very important for Soldiers in those BCTs to be training with partner nations, it’s also important to get a good return on investment in the process, Esper noted. The Army, in consultation with the joint staff, is looking at its far-flung, worldwide commitments to determine where it might be able to consolidate, he said.

Currently, Soldiers are being deployed a lot more than they were four or five years ago, and at some point, that impacts readiness in a negative way — meaning fatigue and time away from Families, the secretary noted.

## Funding assessment

Esper had praise for the fiscal year 2019 budget that was recently released and said he has asked lawmakers to always provide budgets that are “predictable, adequate, sustained, and timely.”

With regard to “timely,” he said the appropriation process that takes place in Congress eats up many months of each fiscal year, so when authorization is finally granted, it’s too late to spend for modernization, training or

classroom seats.

If he was given one wish to ask of lawmakers, Esper responded that his would be “to allow me to spend O&M money over a period of two fiscal years,” which smooths out the spending curve. Operation and maintenance (O&M) is currently the largest portion of the budget after military personnel.

## Green out, pink in

Esper was asked a number of other questions, including what he thinks of bringing back the World War II-era “Pink and Green” uniform.

He noted that the sergeant major of the Army was its biggest cheerleader and that he too is on board with the idea. A decision should be made by summer, pending congressional approval, which Esper said he thinks he has. The secretary recalled his own 21 years Army service, which included 10 years on active duty in the 1980s and 1990s.

Back then, Soldiers were not too fond of the “Green” uniforms, he said. Soldiers were happy to see them phased out later on.

“It’s difficult to explain the pride Soldiers take in their uniform appearance,” Esper concluded. “It really makes a difference in terms of pride, confidence and esprit de corps. It’s those intangibles that make a difference in combat.”



Photo by Scott T. Sturkol

**Wisconsin National Guard Soldiers with the 32nd Infantry Brigade Combat Team drive a tactical vehicle in a convoy during annual training July 26, 2017, at Fort McCoy.**

## NEWS NOTES

### DJ Trivia held weekly at McCoy's Community Center

McCoy's Community Center, building 1571, holds DJ trivia from 5 to 7 p.m. Thursdays.

There is no cost to enter, and advance registration is not required. Prizes are awarded weekly to the top team.

The competition is open to all Fort McCoy employees and their guests. Participants must be at least 18 years old to play. For more information, call 608-388-4161.

### March basketball competitions planned at Rumpel Fitness Center

Rumpel Fitness Center, building 1122, will be holding several basketball competitions throughout March in celebration of March Madness.

A **March Madness bracket contest** will start March 11. The bracket will be posted at the fitness center after Selection Sunday. Brackets must be submitted before March 12. The participant with the most points will win a prize.

A **three-on-three basketball tournament** is set for 4:30 p.m. March 14. A minimum of three people and a maximum of five people are allowed on each team. Teams can be co-ed, and prizes will be given to the winning team. Registration is required by March 5.

A **"Super 8" competition** is scheduled for March 19. Participants will complete a variety of shots. Registration is required by March 18.

The **"Hot Shots" competition** is March 20. Participants will shoot from various areas of the basketball court. The participant with the highest score will win a prize. Registration is required by March 19.

A **free-throw contest** is scheduled for March 21. Participants have two minutes to make as many free throws as possible. Registration is required by March 20.

For more information or to register, call 608-388-2290.

### 'Weight Loss for Wellness' runs March 5 to May 11

"Weight Loss for Wellness," a weight-loss competition, runs March 5 through May 11.

Participants will compete in two-person teams. The team with the highest percentage of weight loss in 10 weeks will win prizes. Participants will be weighed March 5 and May 11. Winners will be announced at the Wellness Fair on May 16.

Call Rumpel Fitness Center at 608-388-3200 to register and set up a weigh-in time.

### AER campaign kick-off set for March 6

The annual Army Emergency Relief campaign Kick-Off Breakfast is scheduled for 8:15 to 9:30 a.m. March 6 at McCoy's Community Center, building 1571.

The event will provide information on



Photo by Scott T. Sturkol

### Cargo loading

A heavy-equipment operator with the Logistics Readiness Center Transportation Division uses a Rough-Terrain Container Handler/Loader to load a container on a trailer near building 2100 on Feb. 7 at Fort McCoy. The container handler/loader is capable of lifting some of the largest shipping containers and load those containers on either trailers or railcars.

Army Emergency Relief and kick-start fund-raising. For more information or to register, call 608-388-3540.

### 'Connect the Tots' play group meets March 6

The "Connect the Tots" play group will meet at 9:30 a.m. March 6 at the Army Community Service Family Building, building 2161.

The play group is for children 5 years old or younger. Through play, transitions, circle time, songs, activities, and informal conversations, parents learn about developmental ages and stages, gain tools to help understand their children's behavior, and become empowered to prepare the Family and children to enter school ready to learn.

ACS events are open to military members, retirees, civilian workforce, Family members, and registered Fort McCoy volunteers.

Additional play groups are scheduled for March 13 and 27 and April 10, 17, and 24. For more information or to register, call 608-388-2412.

### Education plan workshop scheduled for March 15

An Individualized Education Plan workshop is scheduled for 9 to 11 a.m. March 15 at Army Community Service, building 2111.

This workshop will provide parents with basic tools to understand the special education process in easy-to-understand terms.

This training is a collaborative effort with ACS and Wisconsin Family Assistance Center for Education, Training & Support.

ACS events are open to military members, retirees, civilian workforce, Family members, and registered Fort McCoy volunteers. Registration is required by March 8.

For more information or to register, call 608-388-7262.

### Caregiving class planned for March 20

A "Caregiving and the Sandwich Generation" class is scheduled for 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. March 20 at South Post Community Center.

According to AARP, the "sandwich generation" is traditionally defined as those who have a living parent and are supporting a child. This class will offer caregivers helpful information and tips, along with opportunities to share, ask questions, and participate in meaningful discussion.

ACS events are open to military members, retirees, civilian workforce, Family members, and registered Fort McCoy volunteers. Registration is required by March 16.

For more information or to register, call 608-388-2412.

### April Showers 5k set for April 18

The April Showers 5k run/walk is scheduled for 2:30 p.m. April 18 at Rumpel Fitness Center, building 1122.

The event is free and open to all eligible Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation patrons. Medals will be awarded to the top runners in each category. The Commander's Challenge Award will be given to the organization with the most registered participants.

The event helps bring awareness to child abuse and sexual assault. Participants are encouraged to wear blue or teal to show support.

Registration is required by April 11. For more information, call 608-388-3200.

### Dates set for tryouts for post's Army Ten-Miler team

Tryout races have been scheduled for Fort McCoy's 2018 Army Ten-Miler team.

Soldiers must compete in at least one of the three qualifying 10k races. The top eight runners will be selected for the team. The team is open to permanent party active-duty or Reserve Soldiers in units at Fort McCoy.

Selected team members will be expected to train together prior to the Army Ten-Miler, which will take place Oct. 7 in Washington, D.C.

The three qualifying races are the April Showers Run at 2:30 p.m. April 18, South Post Run at 9 a.m. May 19, and Commander's Run at 7 a.m. June 14. Advance registration is required for all races.

For more information, call Rumpel Fitness Center at 608-388-3200 or Lt. Col. Mark Woommavovah at 608-388-4929.

### Armed Forces Day Open House scheduled for May 19

The annual Fort McCoy Armed Forces Day Open House will be 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. May 19. This Family-friendly event is free and open to the public.

The installation's Commemorative Area will serve as the hub of activity for this event and will showcase the History Center, five World War II-era buildings, the Equipment Park, and Veterans Memorial Plaza.

Planned activities include guided installation bus tours, a sandbag-filling station, personalized ID tags, camouflage face painting, military equipment displays, and much more.

Guests must enter the installation through Gate 15 off Highway 21 between Sparta and Tomah, Wis.

Adults must be prepared to present photo identification.

For more information about the event, call the Fort McCoy Public Affairs Office at 608-388-2407.

### Post welcomes new employees

New employees started working in several post organizations in January and February.

Welcome to the following new employees:

- **Brianna Mitchell** — Civilian Personnel Advisory Center.

- **Fidel Gnebra, Benjamin Meyer, Jacob Ross, and Jacob White** — Directorate of Emergency Services.

- **Ty Bjornson** — Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security.

- **Jason Welch** — Equipment Concentration Site-67.

- **Nancy McCoy** — Installation Legal Office.

- **Corrine Johnson** — USARC Equal Employment Opportunity.

- **Keegan Kayala and Shayna Martinson** — USARC Pay Center

### Next issue of The Real McCoy

The next issue of The Real McCoy will be published March 9.

The deadline for submissions to be considered for publication in the March 9 issue is noon Feb. 28.

**Recreation**

**Automotive Skills Center:** Building 1763. Open 1-9 p.m. Thurs.-Fri. and 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Sat. Call 608-388-3013.

**Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers (BOSS):** Meets 4:30 p.m. third Thurs. of each month at McCoy's Community Center. Call 608-388-3200.

**McCoy's Community Center:** Building 1571. Offers books, arcade, gaming area, and bowling. Manager has discretion on closing time. Call 608-388-7060.

**Bowling Center:** Open 11 a.m.-11 p.m. Mon.-Fri. and 4-10 p.m. Sat. Extreme bowling 4-9 p.m. Fri.

**Leisure Travel Services Office:** Open noon-8 p.m. Mon., 2-8 p.m. Tues., and noon-8 p.m. Wed.-Fri. Call 608-388-3011.

**Pine View Campground/Recreational Equipment Checkout Center:** Building 8053. Open 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Mon.-Fri. Call 608-388-2619. For weekend/night assistance, call the camp host at 608-633-1044.

**Rumpel Fitness Center:** Building 1122. Open 5 a.m.-8 p.m. Mon.-Thurs., 5 a.m.-7 p.m. Fri., and 6 a.m.-2 p.m. Sat.-Sun. Call 608-388-2290.

**Indoor swimming pool, atrium, sauna and steamroom:** Open 6 a.m.-7 p.m. Mon.-Thurs., 6 a.m.-6:30 p.m. Fri., and 9 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Sat.-Sun.

**Sportsman's Range:** Closed for the season. Call 608-388-9162/3517.

**Tactics Paintball & Laser Tag:** Open 12:30-4:30 p.m. Mon.-Sat. and 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Sun. Reservations available. Call 800-531-4703.

**Whitetail Ridge Ski Area:** Building 8061. Open 4:30-9 p.m. Fri., 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Sat., and noon-6 p.m. Sun. **Dependent on weather. Check [www.facebook.com/WhitetailRidge/](http://www.facebook.com/WhitetailRidge/) or call 608-388-3517 for latest information.**

**Dining**

**McCoy's Community Center:** Building 1571. ATM located inside. Catering/admin., call 608-388-2065.

**Primo's Express:** Open 11 a.m.-9 p.m. Mon.-Fri. and 4-10 p.m. Sat. Buffet (pizza, pasta, and rotating hot dishes) available 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Mon.-Fri. Pizza available 9-11 p.m. Mon.-Fri. Call 608-388-7673.

**Sports bar:** Open 4-11 p.m. Mon.-Fri. and 4-10 p.m. Sat. Manager has discretion on closing time.

**Snack Avenue:** Building 1538. Located inside Express. **Open 6 a.m.-7 p.m. Mon.-Sat. and 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Sun.** Call 608-269-5604 or 608-388-4343.

**Specialty Express Food Court:** Building 1538. **Open 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Mon.-Fri.** Call 608-269-5615, ext. 303.

**Whitetail Ridge Chalet:** Building 8061. Open 4:30-9 p.m. Fri., 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Sat., and noon-6 p.m. Sun. **Dependent on weather. Check [www.facebook.com/WhitetailRidge/](http://www.facebook.com/WhitetailRidge/) or call 608-388-3517 for latest information.**

**Services**

**Alteration Shop:** Building 1538. Open 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Mon.-Fri. and 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Sat. Call 608-269-1075.

**Barber Shop (Exchange):** Building 1538. Open 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Mon.-Fri. and 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Sat. Call 608-269-1710.

**Car Rental (Enterprise):** Information available at the Exchange, building 1538. Use the phone at the Enterprise sign. Call 608-782-6183 or 800-654-3131; use CDP# 1787245.

**Car Wash:** Building 1568. Offers self-service bays. Automatic bay closed for repairs. Open 24/7. Accepts cash, tokens, or credit cards. Token machine on site. Call 608-388-3544.

**Commissary:** Building 1537. Open 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Mon.-Sat. Early bird/self-checkout open 9-10 a.m. Mon.-Fri. Call 608-388-3542/3543.

**CWT (Carlson Wagonlit Travel) SatoTravel:** Building 2180. Open 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Mon.-Fri. Call 608-388-2370, 608-269-4560, or 800-927-6343.

**Education/Learning Center:** Building 50, room 123. Open 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Mon.-Fri. Call 608-388-7311.

**Exchange:** Building 1538. **Open 8 a.m.-7 p.m. Mon.-Sat. and 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Sun.** Call 608-269-5604, ext. 101 or ext. 4343.

**ID Card/DEERS Section:** Building 35. Open 7:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Mon.-Fri. Call 608-388-4563 prior to any visit to verify the ID Section is operational.

# facilities services

This schedule is projected through **March 8, 2018**. **Bold, italic typeface** indicates a change since the last publication. Please call facilities before visiting to verify hours. To report updates to this page, call 608-388-2407.

**IHG Army Hotels:** Building 51. Open 24/7. Call 608-388-2107 or 877-711-TEAM (8326).

**Launderette/Dry Cleaning:** Building 1538. Open 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Mon.-Fri. and 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Sat. Call 608-269-1075.

**Laundry Facilities:** Buildings 1671, 2763, and 2877 open 24/7. Exclusively for use by Soldiers training on Fort McCoy pursuant to military orders. Civilians and retired military *are not authorized* to use these facilities. Call 608-388-3800 (Troop and Installation Support Branch, building 490).

**Military Clothing:** Building 1538. **Open 8 a.m.-7 p.m. Mon.-Sat. and 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Sun.** Call 608-269-5604, ext. 203.

**Patriot Outfitters:** Building 1538. Open 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Mon.-Fri. and 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Sat.-Sun. Call 608-269-1115.

**Permit Sales:** Building 2168. Open 7 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri. Call 608-388-3337.

**Retirement Services Office:** Building 35. Open 7:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Mon.-Tues. and Thurs.-Fri. Call 608-388-3716.

**R.I.A. Credit Union:** Building 1501. Open 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Mon.-Wed. and 9 a.m.-1 p.m. and 2-5 p.m. Thurs.-Fri. ATMs are located in building 1501 (available 24/7); McCoy's, building 1571; Exchange, building 1538; and IHG Army Hotels, building 51 (available 24/7). Call 608-388-2171.

**RV Storage Lot:** Next to building 2880. Short- or long-term storage. Fees

charged. Authorized patrons only. Call 608-388-2619/3517.

**Service Station/Express/Class VI:** Building 1538. **Open 6 a.m.-7 p.m. Mon.-Sat. and 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Sun.** Call 608-388-4343. Pay-at-the-pump gas is open 24/7. ATM inside. Cash transactions available during Express hours.

**Visitor Control Center:** Building 35. Open 6-10 a.m. Mon.-Fri. Call 608-388-4988.

**Family Support**

**Army Community Service:** Building 2111. Open 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Mon.-Fri. or by appointment. Call 608-388-3505.

**Army Substance Abuse Program:** Building 1344. Open 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Mon.-Fri. or by appointment. Call 608-388-2441.

**Child Development Center:** Building 1796. Open 6:30 a.m.-5:15 p.m. Mon.-Fri. Call 608-388-3534/2238.

**Military and Family Life Consultant Program (MFLC):** Building 2111. Provides education, information, and support for anyone affiliated with the military. MFLC services are confidential. Available 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Mon.-Fri. or by appointment. Call 608-469-1432.

**Red Cross:** Fort McCoy active-duty Soldiers and Family members can call 877-272-7337 for emergency assistance. For other Red Cross services, call 800-

837-6313 or 608-788-1000.

**School Age/Youth Center:** Building 1792. Activities for youth grades kindergarten through 12. Offers after-school, nonschool, and inclement-weather care for eligible youth. Open nonschool days 6:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. or 2:30-5:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri. for After School Program. Call 608-388-4373.

**Health Care**

**Alcoholics Anonymous:** For more information, call 608-388-5955/2441.

**Fort McCoy Civilian Employee Assistance Program:** Screening and referral services for civilian employees and Family members experiencing difficulties due to problems related to substance abuse, mental health, marital/Family discord, or other causes. Call 608-388-2441/5955.

**Fort McCoy Sexual Harassment/ Assault Response & Prevention (SHARP):** 24/7 hotline: 608-388-3000.

**Occupational Health Clinic:** Building 2669. Open 7 a.m.-3 p.m. Mon.-Fri. Call 608-388-2414.

**TRICARE:** TRICARE North Region, 877-874-2273; TRICARE West Region, 877-988-9378; TRICARE South Region, 800-444-5445; TRICARE for Life, 866-773-0404; or visit [www.tricare.mil](http://www.tricare.mil).

**Troop Medical Clinic:** Building 2669. Open for sick call 7-8 a.m. and appointments 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Mon.-Fri. Authorized use only for Extended Combat Training Soldiers on orders of less than 30 days. Personnel on orders for more than 30 days are eligible for TRICARE Prime Remote and will see off-post providers. Call 608-388-3025.

**Worship**

**Catholic:** Chapel 10, building 1759. Mass at 9:30 a.m. Sun. Fellowship follows service from 10:30-11:30 a.m. at building 2675. Call 608-388-3528.

**Jewish:** Congregations of Abraham, 1820 Main St., La Crosse, Wis. Call 608-784-2708.

**Mormon:** Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 702 E. Montgomery St., Sparta, Wis. Services from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Sun. Call 608-269-3377.

**Protestant:** Chapel 1, building 2672. Protestant worship at 9:30 a.m. Sun. Fellowship follows service from 10:30-11:30 a.m. at building 2675.

**Protestant Women of the Chapel Bible Study:** Building 2675. 8:30-10:30 a.m. Wed. Call or text Amber Bailey at 325-280-9380 or visit [www.facebook.com/groups/PWOCFortMcCoy/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/PWOCFortMcCoy/).

**Spanish Language:** Catholic services in Norwalk at 4 p.m. Sun.; call 608-823-7906. Seventh-Day Adventist services in Tomah; call 608-374-2142.

Call 608-388-3528 for more information about Chapel and worship schedules in the surrounding communities.

The RSO is on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/FtMcCoyRSO](http://www.facebook.com/FtMcCoyRSO).

If you have an emergency, call 608-388-2266, and the on-call duty chaplain will be contacted.

**Organizations**

**American Federation of Government Employees (AFGE), Local 1882:** Building 1411. Open 7 a.m.-4 p.m. Mon.-Fri. Meets at 5 p.m. second Tuesday of each month. Call 608-388-1882.

**American Society of Military Comptrollers:** Meets several times throughout the year. For more information, call Maureen Richardson at 608-269-1912.

**Association of the United States Army - AUSA (Robert B. McCoy Chapter):** For information on meetings, visit [www.mccoysausa.org](http://www.mccoysausa.org).

**Friends and Spouses of Fort McCoy:** Meets third Wednesday of each month. For info, email [fsfomccoy@gmail.com](mailto:fsfomccoy@gmail.com).

**Reserve Officers Association, Fort McCoy-Readiness 43:** For more information, call 920-535-0515 or email [justdave49@centurylink.net](mailto:justdave49@centurylink.net).

**USO Wisconsin at Fort McCoy:** Building 1501. Open 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Mon.-Fri. by appointment. For more information or to volunteer, call 414-477-7279 or email [ehazlett@usowisconsin.org](mailto:ehazlett@usowisconsin.org).

**Warrant Officers Association, Chapter 0317:** For more information, email [usawoamccoy@outlook.com](mailto:usawoamccoy@outlook.com).

**DAILY BUGLE CALLS**

5:50 a.m. – First Call • 6 a.m. – Reveille • 6:45 a.m. – Assembly • 7 a.m. – Breakfast • Noon – Mess Call (Dinner) • 5 p.m. – Retreat/To the Colors • 5:45 p.m. – Mess Call (Supper) • 10:30 p.m. – Tattoo • 11 p.m. – Taps

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Read this publication online at <http://www.mccoymilitary.com>

**SEVERE WEATHER ANNOUNCEMENTS/PROCEDURES**

During any severe winter weather situation, a liberal leave policy will automatically be in effect.

This policy affords supervisors and employees flexibility in addressing an individual request for leave or a work schedule adjustment due to weather, accommodating a late arrival, and/or an employee's request for an early departure due to weather conditions.

Annual leave may be requested and approved in 15-minute increments. If the Garrison Commander should deem that due to an extreme weather situation all post operations would need to be suspended during the duty day, then that announcement will be made via a command-approved, postwide email communication, with employee notifications then disseminated through their supervisory channels.

If such a decision were to be made outside of the normal duty day, then a Fort McCoy Public Affairs Office authorized announcement will be released through Fort McCoy's Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/FtMcCoy](http://www.facebook.com/FtMcCoy).

In addition, information regarding liberal leave/post closure can be obtained after duty hours by calling 608-388-7777 or dialing toll-free 800-982-3585, extension 7777.



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