



THE SUN NEVER SETS ON THE 10TH MOUNTAIN PATCH

March 2018



The 10th Mountain Division (LI) held the D-Series Mountain Winter Challenge on Fort Drum, N.Y., Feb. 15, 2018. Division competitors, along with 2nd Combat Engineer Brigade, Engineer Training Area 9/10 from the U.S. Marine Corps and the 24th Commando Royal Engineers of the British Army participated in the challenge.





# OUR LEGACY



## Riva Ridge

In February of 1945, 10th Mountain soldiers were tasked with taking Riva Ridge to prevent the Germans from observing the movement of friendly forces in the valley below. The Germans believed that the snow and ice made Riva Ridge impossible to scale, and neglected to post a night sentry. On the night of February 18, 1945 mountain soldiers summited the ridge in darkness and secured their objective with minimal casualties. The taking of Riva Ridge was a resounding success, and demonstrated the benefit of U.S. Army alpine trained soldiers on the battlefields of Europe.

## The Pando Commando

The informal insignia of the 10th Division Light (Alpine) while they trained at Camp Hale, CO. Reportedly the insignia was even submitted for formal approval, but was denied due to appearing too cartoonish. This did not prevent it from decorating the post headquarters at Camp Hale, where the Division trained prior to entering World War II.

The Pando reference is a play on the nearest town to Camp Hale - Pando, Colorado. While the Commando pays homage to the physical skill and daring that was being demonstrated by the British Commandos during this period - overall it highlights the 10th Division Light (Alpine) as an elite organization. At the time, the division lacked any unique distinguishing identification such as today's recognizable Mountain Tab, which would be awarded along with the name change to 10th Mountain Division in 1944.







*U.S. Army Photo by Staff Sgt. Nathan Akridge*

Iraqi soldiers practice firing positions as they exit an aircraft. Combined Joint Task Force - Operation Inherent Resolve (CJTF-OIR) provides training and support to Iraqi Forces for follow-on operations to increase regional stability.



*Courtesy photo by U.S. Army*



*U.S. Army Photo by Staff Sgt. Nathan Akridge*

Soldiers from 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division (LI), conducted a live fire exercise at a new range training complex at Qayyarah Airfield West, Iraq, Feb.12, 2018. The complex will be used by Iraqi Security forces in order to hone their skills and increase readiness.

Soldiers from 2nd Battalion, 4th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division (LI), engage targets at the Qayyarah Airfield West range training complex during a live fire exercise, Feb 12, 2018.





*Courtesy photo by 10th CAB*

Soldiers from A Company, 277th Aviation Support Battalion, performed a 6-mile ruck at a grueling pace through the air assault route. Each Soldier built readiness along the way and those who finished first returned to motivate the Soldiers behind them.



*U.S. Army photo by Spc. Thomas Scaggs*

Aviators from C Company, 2-10 Assault Helicopter Battalion, 10th Combat Aviation Brigade, 10th Mountain Division (LI) gather for air assault training at Fort Drum, New York, on February 2.



*Courtesy photo by 10th CAB*

C Company, 2-10 Assault Helicopter Battalion, successfully executed air assault missions alongside 2-87 IN, 2nd BCT and moved on to National Training Center preparations, persisting through the cold and snow to stay fit and ready to fight.





*U.S. Army photo by Capt. James Sheehan, U.S. Army Africa*

An NCO from 1st Battalion, 32nd Infantry, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division (LI), shares tactics and training with Nigerian Army Soldiers from 26th Infantry Battalion. This bilateral military training showcases the U.S. commitment to its African partners and Nigeria's commitment to counter-ing violent extremist organizations in the region.

A Soldier from 1st Battalion, 32nd Infantry Regiment, 10th Mountain Division (LI), assigned to Combined Joint Task Force - Horn of Africa, puts a firing stake in the ground for a mounted M240B machine gun during training for an Expert Infantryman Badge evaluation at Camp Lemonnier, Djibouti, Jan. 24, 2018. After two weeks of training and five days of testing, 50 Soldiers earned the coveted special skills badge that requires Soldiers to perform an Army Physical Fitness Test, day and night land navigation, a 12-mile ruck march, and 30 individual tasks covering weapons, medical, and security patrol skills.



*U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Timothy Moore, CJTF-HOA*



*U.S. Army photos by Staff Sgt. Christina Turnipseed*

Soldiers of Task Force Darby and 1st Brigade Combat Team conduct trauma lanes during combat life-saver training while medical staff from the Cameroonian Air Force witness U.S. medical techniques Feb. 14.





10th Mountain Soldiers train in preparation for the U.S. Army's Sniper School on February 26 - March 2, 2018 at Fort Drum, N.Y.



*U.S. Army photos by Spc. Jerod Hathaway.*



The 41st Engineer Battalion, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division (LI), won the D-Series Mountain Winter Competition, a competition which tests the mental and physical endurance of units in winter conditions. 10th Mountain Division aims to bring back the tradition and continue this annual competition.

2nd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division (LI) conducted squad training exercises after an air assault insertion provided by 10th Combat Aviation Brigade. Soldiers navigated dense woods, frozen creeks and marshes to reach their objectives. The Soldiers worked on squad tactics to prepare for upcoming Mountain Peak, a training exercise held annually.



*Courtesy photo by 2nd BCT*





U.S. Army Photos by Liane Hatch

Officers from 10th Sustainment Brigade participated in the Muleskinner Avalanche, a training exercise, February 1, 2018. The event consisted of a log saw and carry, unit re-supply, Hum-vee push, a medical lane, and weapons assembly.



U.S. Army Photos by Liane Hatch

(left) 510th Human Resources Company, 10th Sustainment Brigade, cased its colors in preparation for an upcoming deployment to Puerto Rico on March 1, 2018 at Fort Drum, NY. This deployment will allow the company's Postal Platoon to conduct postal operations in theatre.



U.S. Army Photos by Liane Hatch

Officers from 10th Sustainment Brigade participated in the Muleskinner Avalanche on February 1, 2018.





*Courtesy photo by 86th IBCT*



*Courtesy photo by 86th IBCT*

Members of the Massachusetts 86th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, veterans and community members re-dedicated a plaque honoring 10th Mountain Division atop Wachusett Mountain, a former training location during World War II. During WWII the division trained in several locations in the country, including Wachusett Mountain. A plaque paying tribute to the mountain soldiers of the division was installed on a rock near the summit of the mountain in 1975. At the rededication of the plaque, Brig. Gen. Frank Magurn, assistant adjutant general of the the Massachusetts National Guard said, "The history of the 10th Mountain Division is of a legacy of service."

Soldiers from 86th Infantry Brigade Combat Team - 'Mountain,' trains on the proper way to scale an icy cliffside March 5, 2018.



Soldiers from 86th Infantry Brigade Combat Team - 'Mountain' performs winter-weather training March 5, 2018.





The 10th Mountain Division (LI) cases the division colors Feb. 23 in preparation for deployment to Iraq as part of Combined Joint Forces Land Component Command - Operation Inherent Resolve.



Soldiers from 10th Mountain Division participate in the last division run before the Headquarters and Headquarters Battalion deploys to Iraq in support of Operation Inherent Resolve.



Headquarters and Headquarters Battalion, 10th Mountain Division (LI), Soldiers board an aircraft at Fort Drum, N.Y., deploying to Iraq.

***READY NOW, RELEVANT TOMORROW***



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*Courtesy photo by 10th Mountain Division*



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