

THE DEPLOYED TROOPER



May 2019



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A COLLECTION OF STORIES
FROM DEVIL BRIGADE
SOLDIERS



Warrant Officer Alan Mendoza, an all source intelligence technician assigned to 2-34, reviews significant activity, during exercise Allied Spirit X.

Intel team proves its value at Allied Spirit X

HOHENFELS, Germany—Soldiers assigned to 2nd Battalion 34th Armored Regiment, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, conduct intel operations during exercise Allied Spirit X from March 30

through April 17, 2019 at the Hohenfels Training Area.

“We’re making sure the capabilities [of 2-34] are going to be effective and can bring a lot of fight,” said Warrant Officer Alan Mendoza, an all source intelligence technician assigned to 2nd Bn, 34th Armored Regt., 1st ABCT, 1st ID. [*See More*](#)

(right) An M1A2 Abrams tank from 2-34 and an AH-64 Apache helicopter from 1-6th Cav, conduct security operations during exercise Allied Spirit X.

(far right & cover) Pvt. Lars Simensen, an armor crewman from 2-34, prepares to move an M1A2 Abrams to overtake a local town held by opposing forces during exercise Allied Spirit X.



‘Quarterhorse’ navigates new terrain in Poland



SWIETOSZOW, Poland – Cavalry Scouts assigned to 1st Squadron, 4th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division tested the Polish terrain and honed their skills during a training exercise here, April 2-4, 2019.

The training entails a week of mounted and dismounted exercises with specific emphasis on maneuver. Today, the Scouts overcame the dense forest terrain, with concentrations of pine trees and undergrowth, while they completed their assigned missions.

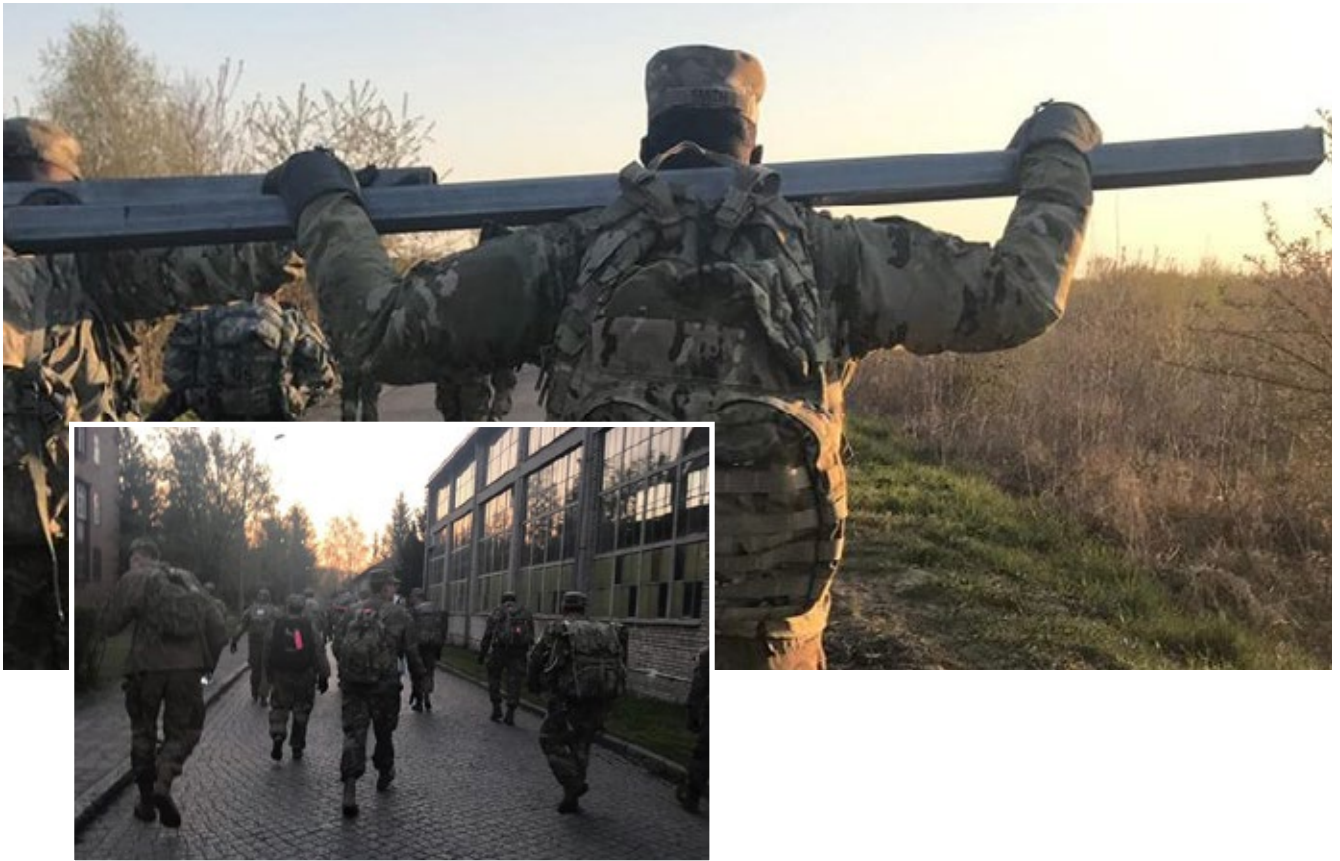
“It’s beneficial to train dismounts in that type of environment,” said 1st. Lt. Tyler Zellers, platoon leader from Bravo Company, 1st Sqd. 4th Cav. Regt.

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(top) Cavalry Scouts assigned to 1-4 Cav., use the Polish terrain to conceal themselves while utilizing an observation post to scan the terrain during squad STX lanes.

(middle & bottom) Cavalry Scouts assigned to 1-4 Cav., use the Polish terrain to hone their skills while executing area reconnaissance during squad STX lanes.

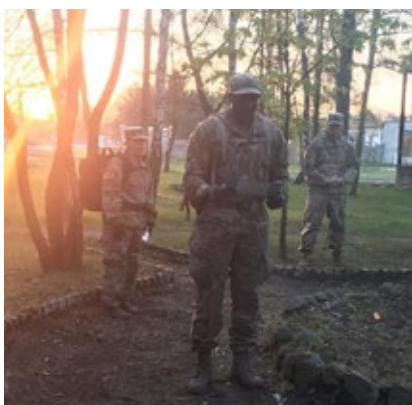




101st Soldiers participate in Good Friday ruck march

101st Brigade Support Battalion soldiers participated in a “Good Friday” ruck march sponsored by Chaplain Williams. The ruck march entailed 14 different stations that told the crucifixion story intended to provide a parable of the purpose of the Easter Holiday. The bars were a metaphor to represent the cross Jesus carried.

“It was a very spiritually satisfying yet physically trying task,” said participating Soldiers.





1-5 Field Artillery tops off for table 11 training

TORUN, Poland -- Soldiers from 1st Battalion, 5th Artillery Regiment, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, resupply their M109A6 Paladin howitzers with ammo and fuel before they head to a firing point for table 11 certifications in Torun, Poland, April 16, 2019.

Throughout April and May, the Battalion will conduct their platoon level artillery table certifications, which consists of tables seven to 12. The Soldiers loaded up on ammo in preparation for these certifications. Capt. Travis Miner, the fire direction officer for the

battalion, explained the importance of preparing the Paladins for table 11 certifications and live-fire training.

“This is what’s called an R3SP. This is where the artillery crews pick up ammo and get topped off on fuel before they head to a firing point,” said Miner. “Once they get to a firing point, they start their dry-firing missions.”



1-16 conducts live fire training



Soldiers with the 1-16th Scout Platoon, conduct reconnaissance during a live-fire training exercise at Novo Selo Training Area, Bulgaria, April 5, 2019.



(above left) Cpl. Latigo and Pfc. Spencer with 1-16th Scout Platoon, conduct reconnaissance during a live-fire training exercise.

(above right) Spc. Logan B. Batayias, with 1-16th Scout Platoon, conducts live-fire training.



(left) Soldiers with the 1-16th Scout Platoon, conduct reconnaissance during a live-fire training exercise.



Burt's Knights train and compete in Poland



CAMP TRZEBIEN, Poland -- Able Company held a company learning competition to build moral among Soldiers and to increase proficiency in their jobs, at Camp Trzebien, on Apr. 1 - 5, 2019.



1st Engineer Aviators take flight with UAVs



Pfc. Anthony Garcia, an Unmanned Aircraft Systems Repairer with the 1st Eng. Bn., conducts preflight checks on an RQ-7 Shadow Unmanned Aerial Vehicle prior to takeoff during a surveillance training mission at Camp Trzebień, Poland.

TRZEBIEŃ, Poland -- Unmanned Aerial Vehicle aviators with Delta Company, 1st Engineer Battalion, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division flew training missions with the RQ-7 Shadow at Camp Trzebień, Poland April 5, 2019.

The Soldiers from Delta company have been training all week, launching and flying the RQ-7s, otherwise known as Shadows, to certify on the aviation systems.

Spc. Christopher McCoy, an Unmanned Aircraft Systems Repairer with the 1st Eng. Bat. was one of the soldiers being evaluated that day.

“I’ve been doing training all week, doing launch after launch, trying to find my deficiencies and correct them,” said Spc. McCoy.

[See More](#)

(left) Pfc. Anthony Garcia and Pfc. Cody Rouse Unmanned Aircraft Systems Repairers, with the 1st Eng. Bn., steady an RQ-7 Shadow Unmanned Aerial Vehicle prior to takeoff during a surveillance training mission at Camp Trzebień, Poland.

(right) Spc. William Pruitt, an Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Operator with the 1st Eng. Bn., operates an RQ-7 Shadow Unmanned Aerial Vehicle during a surveillance training mission at Camp Trzebień, Poland.



Devil 6: ‘Call to Arms’ to eliminate sexual assault



(top) Soldiers from HHC, 1st ABCT, listen to Col. Charles S. Armstrong, commander, 1 ABCT as he calls for action to prevent sexual harassment and sexual assault.

(left and bottom) Soldiers from HHC, 1st ABCT, listen to Col. Charles S. Armstrong, commander, 1 ABCT as he calls for action to prevent sexual harassment and sexual assault.

ZAGAN, Poland – Col. Charles S. Armstrong, commander, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division traveled to eight bases in Poland, Hungary, and Romania to engage Soldiers about sexual harassment and assault prevention, from Mar. 19 - Apr. 17, 2019.

Col. Armstrong spoke passionately with 1 ABCT Soldiers and started each conversation by acknowledging that the Army has a problem with sexual assault. He shared real examples of incidents in the brigade and described the immense damage that sexual assault has on individual victims and the entire community. [See More](#)



CSM Levares J. Jackson Sr. assumes responsibility of the 1st ABCT in Zagan, Poland.



Devil Value of One volunteer day



(top) A Soldier with 1st ABCT, tosses a brick at Lwówek Śląski, Poland, April 26, 2019. Soldiers from 1ABCT, 1ID volunteered the help renovate a building that will soon become a community center.

(right) Soldiers from HHC, 1st ABCT, rake leaves at Lwówek Śląski, Poland, April 26, 2019.



(left) A Soldier with 1st ABCT, uses a sledge hammer to tear down a brick wall at Lwówek Śląski, Poland. Soldiers from 1ABCT, 1ID volunteered to help renovate a building that will soon become a community center.

(right) A Soldier with 1st ABCT, chisels at the concrete wall at Lwówek Śląski, Poland, April 26, 2019.



Quarter Cav Soldiers earn their spurs

ŚWIĘTOSZÓW Poland -- Cavalry Soldiers of the 1st Cavalry Regiment, 4th Battalion, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, participated in a battalion sponsored Spur Ride, an event in which they earn their right to wear the distinguished silver spurs traditionally awarded to U.S. cavalymen, on the ranges near Świętoszów, April 24-25, 2019.

The Army does not have strict guidelines for how a Spur Ride is conducted, the regulations are set forth by the command of the unit conducting the event. In the 1-4 Cavalry, 111 U.S. Soldiers and 6 Polish Soldiers, known as spur candidates, participated in a series of events over two days.

[See More](#)

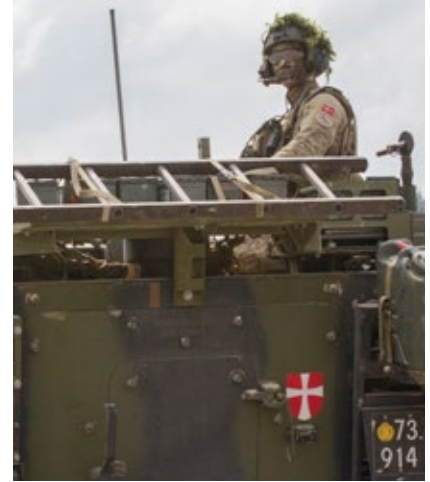


(top) Spur Candidates from 1-4 Cav Bn., practice calling for indirect fire, during the Spur Ride.

(middle) Spur Candidates from 1-4 Cav Bn., crawl through the obstacle course, during the Spur Ride.

(bottom) Spur Candidates from 1-4 Cav Bn., apply camouflage, during the Spur Ride.





2-34 brings American firepower to European partners

[*\(click to watch video online\)*](#)

HOHENFELS, Germany – 2-34 participates in Allied Spirit X, a multinational exercise designed to develop and enhance NATO and key partner interoperability and readiness across specified warfighting functions, here, March 30 - Apr. 17, 2019.

“For Allied Spirit X, our battalion is going to deploy out into the field as part of the combination of allied nations throughout Europe,” said U.S. Army Maj. Widmar Roman, operations officer with 2nd Bn., 34th Armored Regt. “To essentially, conduct offensive and defensive operations in order to work interoperability, to be more proficient at it.”

Training regularly with NATO allies and partners ensures the U.S. Army is positioned with credible forces, ready and prepared to respond to potential threats.

[*See More*](#)

(upper left) Soldiers with 2-34, maneuver in the box during Allied Spirit X.

(upper right) A service member from the Danish military looks to ensure roads are clear during Allied Spirit X.

(lower left) 2nd Lt. KiAnna Duncan, assistant fire support officer with 2-34, talks to fellow Soldiers during Allied Spirit X.





Spc. John P. Visco, a sniper assigned to 2-34, aims downrange with a M110-SASS semi-automatic sniper rifle during a sniper training exercise.

US and Israeli snipers send rounds downrange

GRAFENWOEHR TRAINING AREA, Germany – Snipers assigned to 2nd Battalion, 34th Armored Regiment, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division conduct sniper training with snipers from the Israel Defense Forces 35th Paratroopers Brigade here April 05, 2019.

The training was part of Allied Spirit X, which includes approximately 5,600 participants from 15 nations, March 30-April 17, 2019, at the Hohenfels Training Area in southeastern Germany.

“We came out here to Grafenwoehr, to work with the Israeli snipers,” said U.S. Army Sgt. Phillip West, sniper assigned to 2nd Bn., 34th Armored Regt., 1st ABCT, 1st ID. “To compare our equipment and



techniques and to do some drills with them.”

Allied Spirit is a U.S. Army Europe-directed multinational exercise series designed to develop and enhance NATO and key partner interoperability and readiness across specified warfighting functions.

[*See More*](#)

(top right) U.S. Army Sgt. Tacoma L. Haack (right) and Spc. John P. Visco (center), from 2-34, discuss tactics and techniques with a sniper from the Israel Defense Forces during a sniper training exercise.

(bottom left) U.S. Army snipers assigned to 2-34, pose with snipers from the Israel Defense Forces during a sniper training exercise.

(bottom right) U.S. Army Sgt. Tacoma L. Haack from Las Vegas, Nevada (right), a sniper assigned to 2-34, reviews clearing techniques with a sniper from the Israel Defense Forces during a sniper training exercise.





(top) U.S. Army Soldiers with 2-34, move out into the training area, during Allied Spirit X.

(bottom right) U.S. Army Soldiers with 2-34, move out to the training area, during Allied Spirit X.

(bottom) Spc. Raymond Taylor, a tank gunner assigned to 2-34, keeps guard and watches the main road for enemy movement during Allied Spirit X.

‘Dreadnaught’ Soldiers enhance training during Allied Spirit X

HOHENFELS TRAINING AREA, Germany – Soldiers with 2nd Battalion, 34th Armored Regiment, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division spent several days training in the field during Allied Spirit X, a multinational exercise series designed to develop and enhance NATO and key partner interoperability and readiness across specified warfighting functions, here, March 30 – April 17, 2019.

On April 06, 2019 the troops left their barracks and headed to the training area, called the box, where they conducted operations until April 14, 2019.

“We hit a few rough spots our first night out,” said U.S. Army Specialist Raymond Taylor from Golden Valley, Arizona, tank gunner assigned to 3rd Platoon, Alpha Company, with 2nd Bn, 34th Armored Regt., 1st ABCT, 1st ID. “But we pushed through and continued with the mission.”

[See More](#)





Quarterhorse learns the ropes

SLOVAKIA – Soldiers of the Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear Operations Platoon of the 1st Squadron, 4th U.S. Cavalry Regiment, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, were instructed in training for search and rescue operations by instructors from the Texas Army National Guard, April, 11, 2019.

The search and rescue was a training event during the 2-week Toxic Lance exercise for the CBRN Soldiers of the 1st. Sqd. 4th. Cav. Regt. The training included learning rope knots and equipment to make secure 1-to-1 and 3-to-1 rope systems and then to use those systems as a team to effectively conduct rescues.

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3-66 conducts maintenance

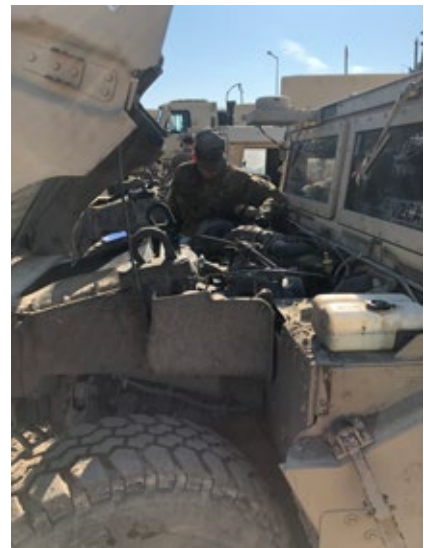
3-66 AR BN conducted Command Maintenance on 15 April, 2019; after all vehicles had a short road test the week prior. Soldiers conduct a Preventative Maintenance Checks and Services (PMCS) on their assigned vehicles, to ensure that all vehicles are able to shoot, move and communicate. The primary focus of this week's Command Maintenance was communication equipment. Soldiers need to constantly check their communication equipment because during movements and training exercises cables can come loose and makes comms ineffective.

PFC Therkildsen is in charge of maintaining the Medical Platoon Leaders truck. If the truck is unable to operate then the Medics will not be able to move needed medical equipment for the BN.

“Maintaining our vehicles is an essential element to ensuring that we are ready to fight and support our allies.”

SPC Fairchild held a class for members of S3 on how to maintain and run their generators. These generators are used to power various equipment when in the field.

“I’m ensuring this generator works so I can have heat and cooling in the field,” said SGT Clark.





Bandit Troop conducts exercise with Polish Army

Bandit Troop conducted its first interoperability exercise with the Polish Army, beginning with a TEWT at 0600 that morning with the Polish Tank Battalion Commander and his Company Commanders, Mar. 26, 2019. During the TEWT we discussed both on the map and on the ground how and where Bandit Troop would develop the situation rapidly for Polish ground forces. Clarifying exactly where the LU/RP Points would be located and the method of marking the lane itself.

Following the TEWT, Bandit White Platoon executed rehearsals on zone reconnaissance, and establishing a lane quickly. These rehearsals were vital to the joint maneuver exercise to follow later that day.





1st Platoon Alpha Battery trains for tables 7-12

1st platoon Alpha Battery went out and trained for simulated tables 7-12 at Camp Destroyer, Mar. 29, 2019. The Platoon practiced digital training exercises between the Fire Direction Center and the three guns. The Platoon practiced reconnaissance and initial occupation of a firing point. Increasingly difficult missions were being sent down to ensure a first time go for Table 12.



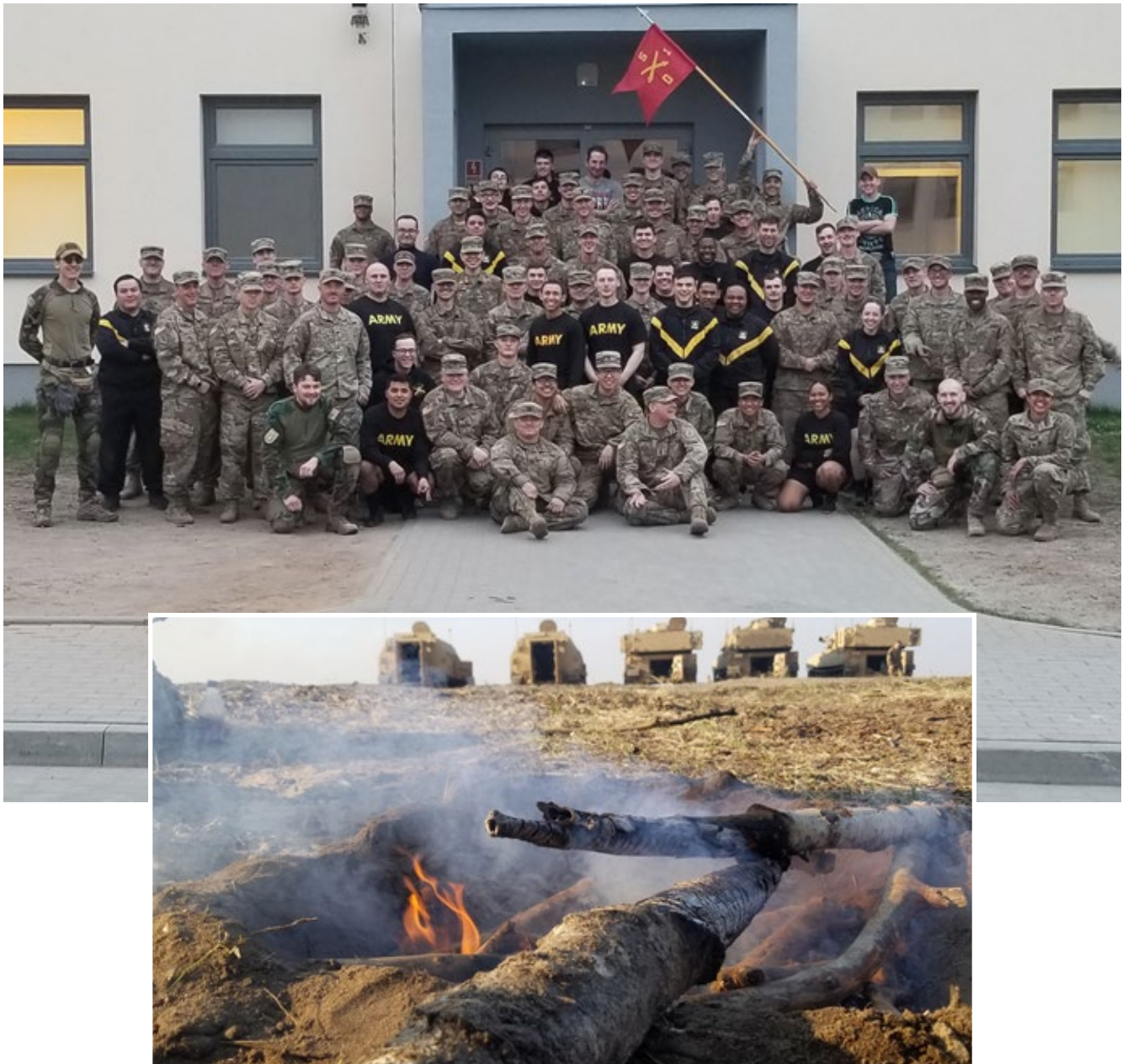
After the completion of the fire missions the platoon tactically maneuvered to the next firing point. There they underwent more variables to training.

Simulated indirect fire was taken. Because of this the platoon had to medically evacuate casualties from the firing point. All together the training was challenging and will prepare A/1 to complete Tables, 12, 15, and 18.

1-5 supports rapid deployment

Delta Battery, 1-5 FA supports the 1st Armored Division's Rapid Deployment at Drawsko Pomorskie Training Area, Northern Poland, Mar. 21 - 11 Apr., 2019.

Within two days the Battery had all of their equipment and personnel moved from Torun to Northwest Poland. While there, 1st Platoon shot over 250 rounds and supported 6 different 1AD maneuver companies. 2nd Platoon certified with their Artillery Tables V-XVII making Delta the first Battery prepared to do Battalion level certifications. Despite the hectic schedule, Delta was able to form relations with the local Polish Range Safety Officers and their Interpreters. After three long weeks, Delta Battery is back in Torun and ready for the next mission set.



Liberty Soldiers set the standard



‘Diehard’ Sappers represent in Poland



(top) Combat engineers from 1st Eng. Bn., run with a miners boat during the Polish Best Sapper competition in Newodeba, Poland.

(middle) Combat engineers from 1st Eng. Bn. and their counterparts from the Czech Republic, pose after completing the Best Sapper competition.



(bottom) Combat engineers from 1st Eng. Bn., conduct a 500 meter run with gas masks during the Polish Best Sapper competition.



1-16th conducts gunnery skills training



(top) Pfc. Cheng Yang and Angel G. Marerra, infantrymen with the 1-16th, disassemble the M240C machine gun during gunnery skills training.



(left) Pfc. Angel G. Marerra, an infantryman with 1-16th, boresights a Bradley Fighting Vehicle during gunnery skills training.

(bottom left) Pvt. Tyler J. Neely, prepares to install the M242 main gun on a Bradley Fighting Vehicle during gunnery skills training.

(bottom right) Pfc. Nicholas J. Amen, loads dummy rounds into the M242 main gun on a Bradley Fighting Vehicle during gunnery skills training.

