

# Static Line

Spring 2019



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Showcases Brigade's Capability - Pg. 18



# Panther 6 Sends

**Col. Art Sellers**



To the Paratroopers, Families and Friends of 3rd Brigade Combat Team,

There is no Soldier in the U.S. Army more ready to deploy to Afghanistan in support of Operation Freedom's Sentinel than the 3rd Brigade Paratrooper.

Paratroopers at all echelons within the brigade have continually honed their technical knowledge, tactical skill, physical endurance and mental agility since the beginning of this year.

Repeatedly through high-quality training, everyone in this formation has been challenged with adverse weather, rugged terrain and determined near-peer opposing forces. I am thankful to every agency and unit external to the brigade who showed us how to better ourselves while sharing their best practices.

This year started with off-post training cycles at bases like Fort A.P. Hill, Virginia and Camp Atterbury Indiana, progressed to our Combined Arms Live-Fire Exercise at Fort Bragg's Range 63 and ultimately culminated in a massive demonstration of our capability as an Airborne Infantry Brigade as we conducted the 96-hour sequence on Fort Bragg and Operation Panther Storm on Holland Drop Zone.

Soon, our focus will turn to preparing for our scheduled deployment to Afghanistan in support of Operation Freedom's Sentinel. As leaders, we must remain vigilant and engaged throughout this process to ensure we prepare and pack the right equipment while keeping Paratroopers safe.

In late May, we will enjoy All American Week, a celebration of the 82nd Airborne Division, our heritage as Paratroopers and contribute to the lineage of the 3rd Brigade Combat Team. It will be a week of sports, celebrations, somber remembrance and everything All-Americans can be. I invite you to participate as much as you can in the week's events.

There are tremendous resources available to Paratroopers, Families and Friends of the brigade as we prepare to deploy this coming summer. Reach out to our social media channels anytime you have a question or concern and we will provide you the best, most-up-to-date information we can.

H-Minus!

Col. Art Sellers  
Brigade Commander

Command Sgt. Maj. Reese Teakell  
Brigade Command Sergeant Major

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# Panther Brigade to Deploy Summer 2019 to Afghanistan

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*"We stand eager and ready to work alongside our Afghan and coalition partners towards mission success in support of Operation Freedom's Sentinel." ~ Col. Art Sellers*

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The Department of Defense recently announced a brigade combat team from the 82nd Airborne Division is scheduled deploy to Afghanistan next year.

Paratroopers of the 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division are scheduled to deploy to Afghanistan in support of Operation Freedom's Sentinel in Summer 2019.

"Our great Paratroopers are honored to answer our Nation's call to deploy overseas," said Col. Art Sellers, commander of the 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division.

"We stand eager and ready to work alongside our Afghan and coalition partners towards mission success in support of Operation Freedom's Sentinel."



*The Flag of Afghanistan*



# 1P Trains at A.P. Hill

Paratroopers assigned to the 1st Battalion, 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division spent most of January 2019 conducting their Off-Post Training rotation at Fort A.P. Hill, Virginia.

Training at A.P. Hill focused on individual and collective tasks such as squad and platoon live-fire exercises, medical evacuation and tactical planning.



Paratroopers from 1st Battalion, 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division evacuate a simulated casualty during platoon-level live fire exercises in January, 2019 at Fort A.P. Hill, Virginia.

Training at A.P. Hill proved beneficial to 1P paratroopers and leadership.

Initially unfamiliar, the terrain challenged the paratroopers' quick reaction skills and planning. Frigid winter weather forced them to integrate cold-weather injury prevention into their operations while presenting an additional challenge to ground operations and logistics.





# "You Want to Prove Yourself and You Want to Fight"



Paratroopers assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat ruckmarch during the inaugural "Vandervoort Mile" on January 24. Paratroopers of the battalion conducted the teambuilding event, a 25.05 mile ruckmarch on Fort Bragg, to honor the memory and legacy of Lt. Col. Benjamin Vandervoort, commander of the battalion during the WWII invasion of Normandy.

Fort Bragg Paratroopers ruck marched through the chilly January night in remembrance of their battalion's fallen heroes and in honor of their distinguished heritage.

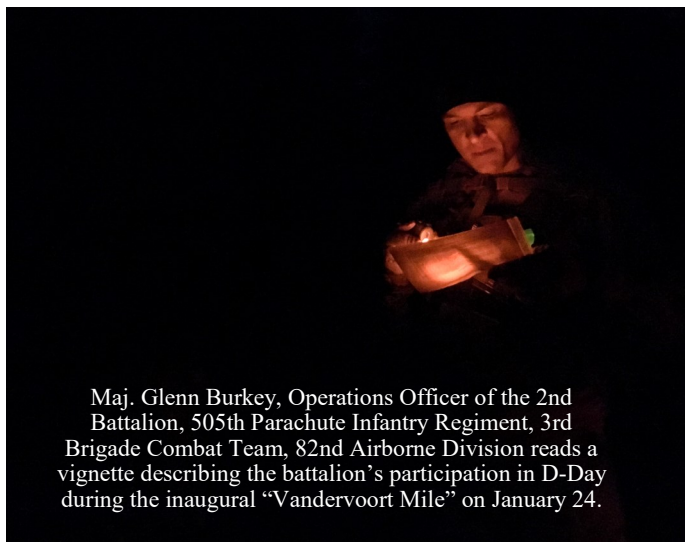
Paratroopers from the 2nd Battalion, 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division conducted the inaugural "Vandervoort Mile" overnight from January 24 to 25.

"We've never done this before and you are starting a new tradition in the battalion. We are calling this the Vandervoort Mile and we want this to be a special event," said Lt. Col. Graham White, the 2-505th PIR's commander in his briefing to the paratroopers.

From their battalion's headquarters, 297 volunteers from the battalion began the 25.05 roadmarch with their weapon, body armor and packing list around 7:00 P.M. on January 24th.

Along the route, leaders read vignettes highlighting historical events, past conflicts and elements of soldiering to participants as temperatures fell below freezing.

"We want you to have decided to take part in this because you are part of the team, you want to sacrifice for the team, you want to honor the past, you want to prove yourself and you want to fight," said Graham.



Maj. Glenn Burkey, Operations Officer of the 2nd Battalion, 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division reads a vignette describing the battalion's participation in D-Day during the inaugural "Vandervoort Mile" on January 24.

The ruck march commemorated the legacy of Lt. Col. Ben Vandervoort, commander of the 2-505th PIR when it participated in the D-Day parachute assault into Normandy, France, ultimately breaking his ankle upon landing. Despite the pain, Vandervoort led the battalion through fierce fighting and the defense of the French town of St. Mere Eglise against vicious Nazi counter-attacks.

While commemorating the battalion's distinguished history, the paratroopers also ruck marched in honor of the battalion's fallen; 186 in WWII, 1 in the Dominican Republic during Operation Power Pack, 56 as part of the Golden Brigade in Vietnam, 22 during the Global War on Terror and 8 paratroopers killed in training.

The first 2-505th PIR paratroopers completed the "Vandervoort Mile" at 4:30 A.M. on Friday, January 25th; taking a total of nine and a half hours to complete the teambuilding event. Two hundred and seventy-one finished the 25.05 mile trek and signed their names into a special ledger.



Paratroopers assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat ruckmarch during the inaugural "Vandervoort Mile" on January 24. Paratroopers of the battalion conducted the teambuilding event, a 25.05 mile ruckmarch on Fort Bragg, to honor the memory and legacy of Lt. Col. Benjamin Vandervoort, commander of the battalion during the WWII invasion of Normandy.





## Panther Medics Earn EFMB

Paratroopers from the 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division earned a distinguished honor in late March on Fort Bragg, North Carolina.

Four medics from the brigade were awarded the Expert Field Medical Badge during a ceremony at the 82nd Airborne Division's Hall of Heroes on Monday, March 18, 2019.

To earn the Expert Field Medical Badge, medics undergo a vigorous battery of tests evaluating their technical skill, tactical proficiency and medical knowledge.

Throughout the testing period, their physical endurance and mental agility are pushed to the limits, culminating in the final task; a timed 12-mile ruckmarch over difficult terrain with little rest.

Earning the EFMB demonstrates the medics' commitment to their profession while establishing their role as a mentor and leader within their formations.





# Volunteers Honored, Thanked at Luncheon

Leaders from across the 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division gathered Monday, February 11th at the brigade's dining facility to honor and thank those who contribute their time and talents to improving the wellbeing and quality of life for paratroopers.

The brigade's Volunteer of the Quarter luncheon provided attendees an opportunity to fellowship while showing appreciation for the volunteers' willingness to share their gifts and expertise.

Mrs. Nichole Beckham, the 82nd Brigade Support Battalion's Volunteer of the Quarter was nominated as the

3rd Brigade's Volunteer of the Quarter and recognized by the 82nd Airborne Division at a subsequent banquet honoring her contributions and efforts.



Mrs. Nichole Beckham of Company B, 82nd Brigade Support Battalion, third from left, pauses for a photo after being honored as the 3rd Brigade's Volunteer of the Quarter.

# "Fury from the Sky" helps Army diversify its network

By Kathryn Bailey, PEO C3T

Paratroopers with 1-508th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 82nd Airborne Division are assessing a new concept that is transforming the Army's tactical network.

Known as the Integrated Tactical Network, the new approach provides smaller, lighter, faster and more flexible communications systems with multiple connectivity options that are available primarily at the battalion and below level, down to the dismounted Soldier.

For the 1-508 PIR, it is facilitating mission command, situational awareness and air-to-ground communication throughout their operational training exercises.

"The ITN enhances tasks we have always had to do, such as getting situational awareness and communicating across our formations and higher headquarters, to make sure all of the assets are in place and all conditions are set for what we need to execute," said Capt. Matthew Risenmay, higher headquarters company commander for the 1-508 PIR.

By initially focusing on battalion and below, ITN efforts address the Army's understanding that it cannot field a one-size-fits-all network to every formation type. It aligns with the Army's tactical network modernization strategy, which will result in a network environment that is secure and unified, yet diverse enough to enable lethal missions across echelons.

The diversity is critical, and evident, as the ITN incorporates the Army's current tactical network environment (applications, devices, gateways and network transport) with commercial off-the-shelf components and transport capabilities to enable communications in contested and congested environments, or while experiencing any type of denied, intermittent and limited bandwidth situation.

Current ITN components are comprised of Leader Radios with advanced networking waveforms, gateways, Link-16 radios, small aperture satellite terminals, servers, applications and associated ancillary devices. These components work together, but are not over reliant, on any single network. This flexibility allows the Army to keep pace with technological advances -- critical to address the emerging threats from peer and near-peer adversaries.



Maj. John Intile, executive officer for the 1-508th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 82nd Airborne Division obtains battlefield situational transmitted using Integrated Tactical Network components





The 1-508 PIR is incrementally pushing ITN's capabilities at each training event to meet its mission needs, this time in the Hosier state during a live fires exercise that requires continuous communications and situational awareness from the forward observers to the tactical operations center commander.

"This is our sixth major battalion exercise where we employed the ITN network," said Maj. John Intile, executive officer for the 1-508 PIR. "We have built on what we deployed with lessons learned to enhance the software and hardware. We then test [the capability] many times to the point of breaking it; not physically, but by surpassing its capability during the training exercises."

The ITN assessments conducted during the 1-508 PIR's exercises are part of a developmental operations process, which is a proven industry practice that places developers side-by-side with Soldiers and commanders in operational units. This incremental development process enables the Army to evaluate potential technology concepts and solutions earlier and more frequently, collect feedback in real time and generate new requirements as needed.

"In contrast to other Army programs, where somebody that we're not even interacting with decides what we need and pushes it down, the ability to work

closely with the developers of the software and hardware has been great," Risenmay said. "If you don't have contact with the people that are developing it, you run into problems and you have to deal with the problems for a long time."

A key differentiator to the ITN from the Army's current tactical network design is that we are identifying data and information that does not need to be classified as SECRET, which opens up the opportunity to transmit it securely over commercial networks. We are calling this "Secure But Unclassified." It allows us to simplify training, set up and employment.

"Dealing with classified information includes a lot of red tape and just makes things a bit more difficult to operate in," Risenmay said. "It gets extremely inconvenient when you know that what you're dealing with is unclassified, but it has to be pushed over the classified network. It's just adding an unnecessary burden."

For the paratroopers on the edge, this higher bandwidth, more robust, agile and reliable network is increasing their communications and reducing equipment weight for more expeditionary movement.



# 3rd Brigade Conducts Combined Arms Live Fire Exercise, Proves Tactical Prowess, Combat Acumen



Paratroopers proved their tactical prowess and combat acumen during a demanding field exercise conducted late February and early March on Fort Bragg, North Carolina.

Paratroopers from the 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division proved their ability to synchronize a multitude of lethal assets and Mission Command elements during the brigade's Combined Arms Live Fire Exercise from February 18, 2019 to March 5, 2019.

**Paratroopers assigned to Company B, 2-505th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division emerge from obscuration smoke during the Company's live fire lane February 26, 2019 on Fort Bragg, North Carolina.**





**A paratrooper assigned to the 307th Airborne Engineer Battalion throws a grappling hook towards a simulated enemy obstacle to begin a breach during a Company-level live fire exercise conducted February 21, 2019 on Fort Bragg, North Carolina.**



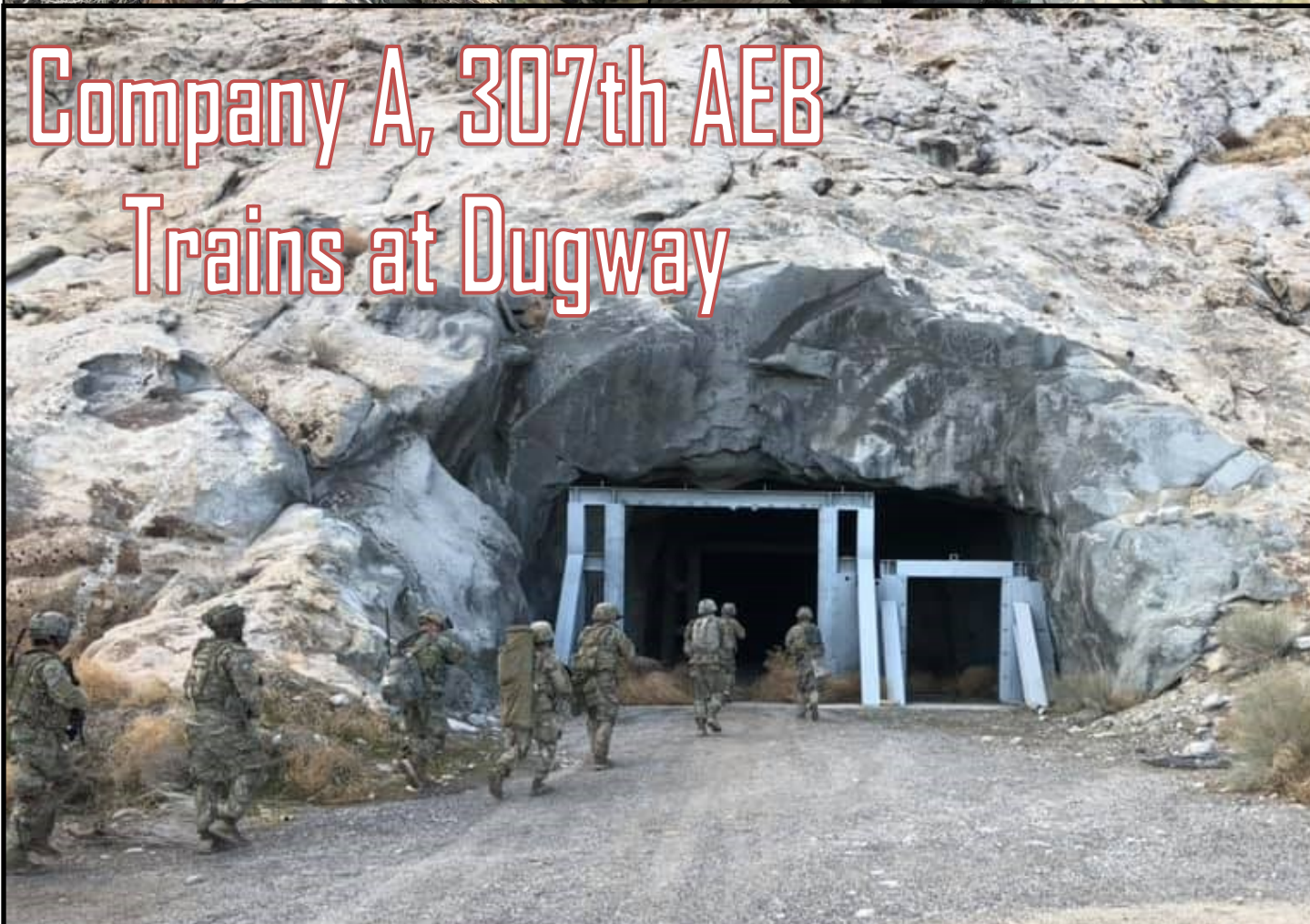
**A paratrooper assigned to Company A, 1-505th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division carries a simulated casualty to a Medical Evacuation helicopter piloted by aviators from the 82nd Combat Aviation Brigade during the Company's live fire lane February 19, 2019 on Fort Bragg, North Carolina.**







## Company A, 307th AEB Trains at Dugway



**Paratroopers from Company A, 307th Airborne Engineer Battalion conducted off-post training at Dugway Proving Grounds, Utah, in late February and early March.**

**Training at Dugway gave the All American Engineers the opportunity to take advantage of the training area's numerous subterranean complexes, varied demolition ranges and miles of rugged terrain to improve their readiness.**



# 3rd Brigade Artillery Paratroopers Jump, Live Fire from Bragg Drop Zone

Artillery paratroopers conducted a heavy-drop and static-line airborne operation onto a Fort Bragg Drop Zone to conduct live-fire operations.

Paratroopers from, 1st Battalion, 319th Airborne Field Artillery Regiment conducted the airborne operation Wednesday, March 13th onto Fort Bragg's Normandy Drop Zone, training for their hallmark mission of rapidly placing their artillery piece into operation and firing after conducting a jump.







# Charile Med Gators

# Honor Fallen Hero

Paratroopers from Company C, 82nd Brigade Support Battalion, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division conducted a hero workout the morning of Wednesday, March 20th to honor Sgt. Matthew Sandri.

Sandri was a member of the company when he was killed March 20, 2004 near Fallujah, Iraq when his unit came under rocket attack.

The combat-focused workout included various functional-fitness exercises, ending with a reading of Sgt. Sandri's biography and his place in the 82nd BSB's heritage and history.



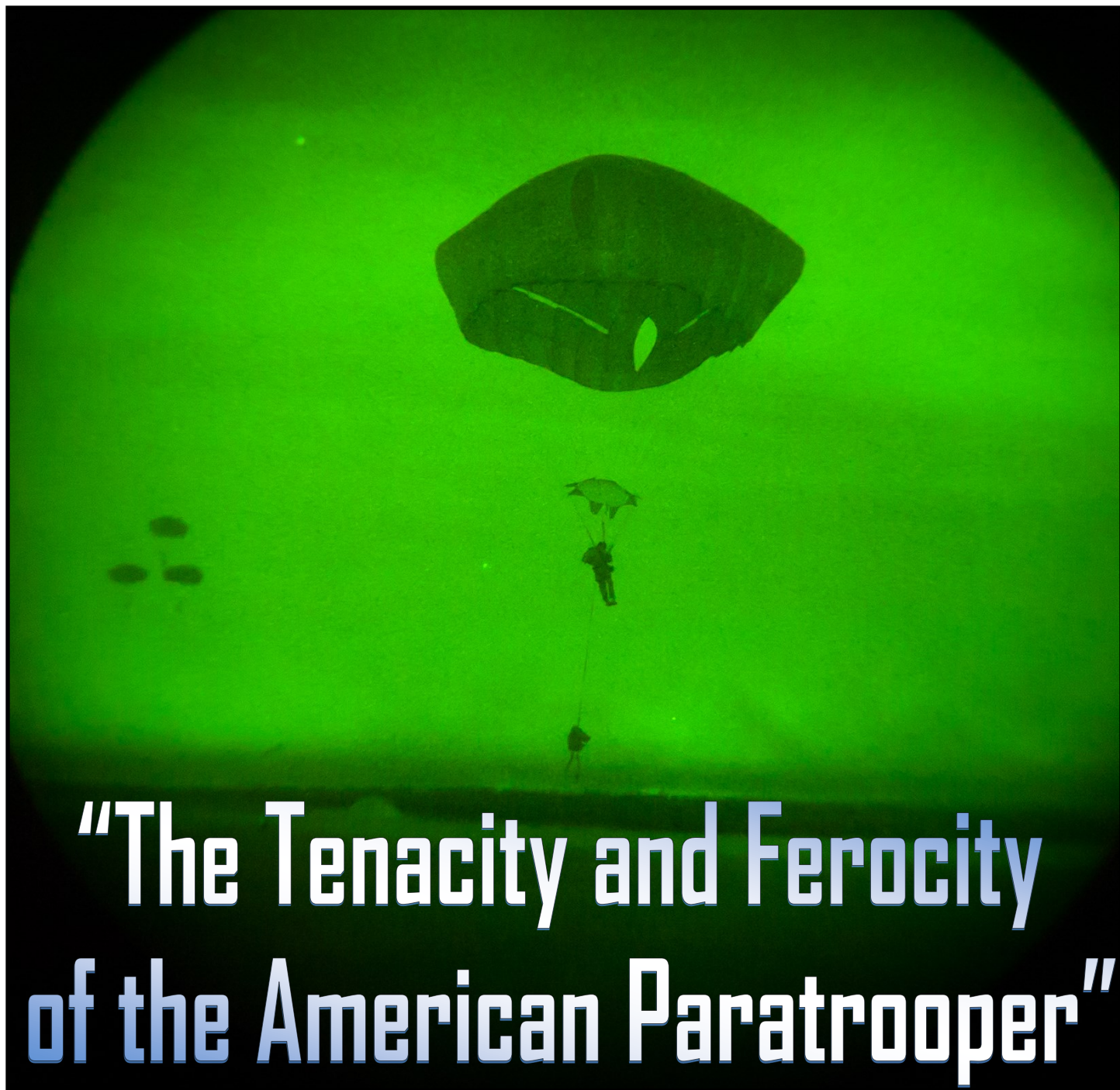
# Recon Recognizes Volunteer Excellence



Volunteer excellence among the ranks was recognized during a ceremony held by a unit of the 3rd Brigade Combat Team in March on Fort Bragg.

Staff Sgt. Joseph Newborn of Headquarters, Headquarters Troop, 5th Squadron, 73rd Cavalry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division was awarded the Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal for his exemplary commitment to volunteerism.

Newborn completed over 400 hours of volunteer work in communities surrounding Fayetteville, spending much of his free time coaching youth baseball, basketball and football.



Paratroopers from the 82nd Airborne Division showcased their capabilities at in the skies and on the ground at Fort Bragg late in March.

Paratroopers from the 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division conducted Operation Panther Storm, a Joint Forcible Entry exercise, Friday, March 29 onto a Fort Bragg Drop Zone.

“During Panther Storm, paratroopers from the brigade demonstrated their readiness, competency and lethality,” said Col. Art Sellers, the 3rd Brigade Commander. “During the operation, hundreds of paratroopers trained to conduct the hallmark mission of the 82nd Airborne Division; to jump, fight and win on any drop zone in the world while dominating our enemy.”



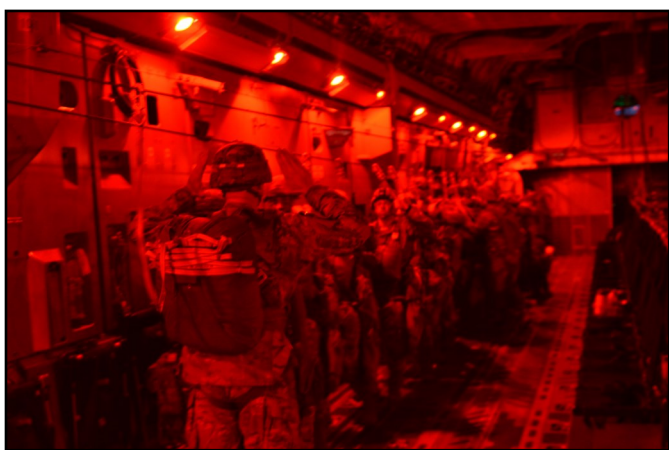
Panther Storm began with an early morning notification sent to paratroopers Monday, March 25 alerting them of their upcoming mission. Throughout the week, leaders at all levels prepared their formations while planning and rehearsing the parachute assault.

“An astonishing amount of art and science combine during the planning and outload process of a JFE like Panther Storm,” said Sellers. “We leveraged the subject-matter-expertise of our jumpmasters, logisticians, tacticians, fires and airspace

coordination cells during the planning process. Ultimately, these days of planning and rehearsing set conditions for paratroopers to rapidly assemble on the drop zone and accomplish their missions.”



Paratroopers assigned to the 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division load an Airforce C-17 Globemaster aircraft to conduct Operation Panther Storm on Thursday, March 28 at Fort Bragg's Pope Army Airfield.



A Jumpmaster gives commands to paratroopers assigned to the 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division aboard an Airforce C-17 Globemaster aircraft before conducting a combat equipment, static-line airborne operation as part of Operation Panther Storm on Thursday, March 29.

Originally, Panther Storm's execution was the night of Thursday, March 28th. Due to safety considerations on the drop zone, the operation was delayed a day, forcing commanders and staffs to again leverage their operational and planning knowledge to adjust their plan.

As the sun set on the 29th, the first wave of 3rd Brigade paratroopers conducted a much-anticipated combat equipment static-line airborne operation from multiple Air Force C-17 Globemaster and C-130 Hercules aircraft onto Fort Bragg's Holland Drop Zone.

Met by a determined near-peer opposing force role-played by paratroopers from 2nd Brigade Combat

Team, 3rd Brigade paratroopers assembled amid the chaos characteristic of a mass airborne operation and began to gather their combat strength. The rest of the night was composed of attacks, counter-attacks, defenses and raids until daybreak Saturday, March 30.

“Tonight, young men and women demonstrated the tenacity and ferocity of the American paratrooper when unleashed upon the battlefield,” said Col. Arthur Sellers, commander of the 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division. “I am extremely proud and humble to lead them and look forward to meeting them on any drop zone in the future.

**Col. Art Sellers**  
**3rd Brigade Commander**

**Command Sgt. Maj Reese Teakell**  
**3rd Brigade Command Sergeant Major**

