



Inside SWCS

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U.S. forces liberate Pineland (for the 254th time)



Soldiers and civilian role-players participate in a Robin Sage mission during the summer of 2010. Robin Sage, the final part of the Special Forces Qualification Course, is managed by 1st Battalion, 1st Special Warfare Training Group (Airborne). The training, involving several Special Forces candidates, occurs on civilian land across 15 North Carolina counties.

By Caroline Goins

USAFKSWCS Public Affairs Office

Aspiring Special Forces Soldiers led guerilla fighters across smoke-blanketed fields as they waged war throughout Pineland this August during the 254th Special Forces Qualification Course culmination exercise.

This exercise, Robin Sage, is the U.S. Army's final test in unconventional warfare for Special Forces students. Eight times a year, conflict erupts in the fictional country of Pineland, which actually spreads across civilian towns and land in 15 North Carolina counties.

Special Forces instructor Sgt. Todd Brown explained Robin Sage as a culmination exercise that relies on all skills, learned over their past year of Special Forces qualification training, to accomplish a comprehensive understanding of unconventional warfare.

Robin Sage prepares future operators to lead and train indigenous forces by teaching guerrillas to communicate, move, fight and provide medical aid while helping to liberate a country by tactical force.

"This training teaches us to utilize people in any way we can in order to continue our

mission and achieve success," said Capt. Steve Miller, an SFQC student.

Soldiers infiltrate Pineland, the fictitious war-torn region for training, spanning 15 counties in North Carolina: Alamance, Anson, Cabarrus, Chatham, Davidson, Guildford, Hoke, Montgomery, Moore, Randolph, Richmond, Rowan, Scotland, Stanly and Union. Throughout the exercise, Special Forces candidates not only conduct missions, but also live, eat and sleep in these areas.

Citizens from these areas participate in training by playing roles as guerillas or the opposing force.

"My son volunteered me to give a Robin Sage group a ride in 1992 and I have been helping ever since," said Jimmy Hayden of Ellerbe, N.C.

"I couldn't join the Army, but I can do my part to better the country by making this simulation exercise as realistic as possible," Hayden said. "These Soldiers will be deployed soon to areas with real bullets and dangerous situations; I want to do my part to prepare them."

"This training teaches us to utilize people in any way we can in order to continue our mission and achieve success."

Capt. Steve Miller
Special Forces Qualification Course student

Civilian volunteers act as role-players to add realism during the two-week training. Role-players act as local citizens working with Soldiers to accomplish missions, or as the opposing force that has invaded Pineland to gain control of the country.

Retired military service members continue to serve their country by volunteering to assist with Robin Sage. Retired Lt. Col. Donald A. McInnis served for 34 years and fought in Vietnam twice with the 82nd Airborne

Division. He continues to support Special Forces as a Robin Sage role-player.

"We're military, it's in our blood. In a time of national need it's hard to walk away," McInnis said. "If we can help by training these Soldiers to do a better job overseas, then that's what we're going to do."

Robin Sage is a Special Forces candidate's final hurdle before reaching SFQC graduation and earning their green beret. Following this, each Soldier will be assigned to one of the Army's seven operational Special Forces groups.

3BN transforms in support of CA, MISO changes

By Lt. Col. Brent M. Bartos

Commander, 3rd Battalion, 1st SWTG(A)

Third Battalion, 1st Special Warfare Training Group (Airborne), owns two of the three qualification courses taught at SWCS. The battalion's mission is to train and educate Army officers, NCOs and AIT Soldiers in Military Information Support Operations and Civil Affairs.



Bartos

The current generating force capability has not expanded to meet the increase in operational requirements, resulting in a demand to produce quality collective, individual, leader development, and advanced knowledge training and education requirements.

Change is on the horizon. Third battalion is posturing itself with increased resources and instructor manpower over the next six months in order to accommodate the influx of increased civil affairs students, while simultaneously resourcing our company responsible for MISO qualification to stand on its own.

The quality of support 3rd Battalion is receiving is a natural segue for experienced junior leaders coming from multiple tours under vague and dynamic combat conditions to want to replicate and perpetuate the hard-fought lessons that they, and the Army, have learned over the years.

Their desire is to continue the cultural change so we could inculcate what we have learned through blood, sweat, tears and toil in the firm belief that the Soldiers entrusted to us will be the benefactors and both regiments will be well-prepared to face the challenges that will continue to confront our military and nation in the 21st century.

Our training methodology is also changing. The days of PowerPoint are becoming scarcer. The Soldiers within 3rd Battalion are utilizing the experiential learning model, leveraging existing technologies and emerging capabilities to make the qualification courses more intellectually challenging. These initiatives are the essential ingredient for success and will produce trained military professionals who can consistently and accurately assess conditions to anticipate frictions or opportunities that lie in the immediate, near-term and long-term future.



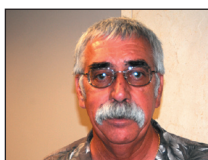
Capt. As Aliyu, of the Nigerian Army, was promoted to the rank of Major this morning by his classmate, Capt. Ryan Middlemiss. Aliyu and Middlemiss are among 100 officers and NCOs attending the Civil Affairs Senior Leader Course at Fort Bragg. SWCS is proud to host allied nation service members during this and similar courses; this particular class includes six international students.

iWATCH Antiterrorism Awareness relies on you to monitor suspicious behavior

By George Miller

USAJFKSWCS Antiterrorism Officer

iWATCH is a nation-wide modern version of Neighborhood Watch developed by the Los Angeles Police Department to encourage and



Miller

enable members of the community to identify and report suspicious behavior that may be associated with terrorist activities.

The Army has approved the Army's adoption of the iWATCH Antiterrorism Awareness Program. Specific guidance was transmitted to the field around the middle of April, directing Army-wide implementation of iWATCH to run concurrently with the Army's Antiterrorism Awareness Month in August.

The purpose of iWATCH is to promote anti-terrorism awareness and leverage every member of the Army community to act as a sensor to help identify and prevent potential terrorist acts.

The passive element of iWATCH is individual's situational awareness of their surroundings.

The active element requires individuals to take action and report suspicious behavior or activities to law enforcement for further investigation.

An essential component of iWATCH is reporting suspicious activity. iWATCH aspires to ensure everyone knows how to report suspicious activity.

If you see suspicious activity, report it by calling 90-REACT - that's (910) 907-3228. The key to implementing iWATCH is education - on the initiative itself, on indicators of terrorist activity, and on reporting suspicious activity.

Suspicious activity includes the measurement of important buildings, prying questions about security procedures, unattended briefcases or packages, unfamiliar people in secure areas, the wear of clothes that are noticeably too big or hot for the weather, or the purchase of supplies or equipment that can be used to make bombs or weapons.

Be alert at all times for suspicious activity. Everyone can make a difference by recognizing what to report, and reporting it to security forces. Law enforcement officials cannot be everywhere and need the eyes and ears of the entire installation community to assist in quelling terrorism.

Upcoming Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	SF Senior Leader Course Graduation 11 a.m. JFK Auditorium	1	Civil Affairs & MISO AIT Graduation 10 a.m. JFK Auditorium	Training Holiday	4
5	Labor Day	7	"Surviving the Cut" feat. Special Forces Underwater Operations School Discovery Channel 10 p.m.	"Tactical Arms TV" feat. Range 37 and select SWCS cadre Sportsman's Network 10 p.m.	10	11