

Professionalism Was Key For 2nd Brigade

By Sgt. First Class Daniel Goodwin & Cpt. Richard Miller

The professionalism of Second Brigade's soldiers proved to be the crucial element for a successful Annual Training in 2002. Drill Sergeants and instructors from Second Brigade provided outstanding support not only at Fort Knox, Kentucky but also at Fort Lewis, Washington.

When the call went out for instructors to provide training at the National Leadership Course in Fort Lewis Washington, the headquarters detachment of Second Brigade was suddenly thrust front and center. During the winter of 2001 and 2002, several of the unit's soldiers were receiving training designed to increase their effectiveness as instructors through the Total Army Instructor Training Course.

Upon completion of the course the soldiers were entitled to include the Hotel Identifier as part of their military occupational specialty. Almost immediately there was a demand for their newfound expertise. It was soon realized that they would be ideal to supplement the training provided to ROTC cadets at Fort Lewis. So with only short notice, the seven instructors were packing their bags for the trip to Washington State.

Soldiers from HHD, Second Brigade in Owensboro, Kentucky teamed with the soldiers from the third of the 398th in Madisonville, Kentucky and conducted instruction at the ROTC National Leadership Course based at Fort Lewis, Washington. Second Brigade's soldiers set the standard for the Individual Movement Techniques Course and the 100 Meter Assault Course. This training prepared ROTC cadets for the "Audie Murphy" Course; a requirement for graduation and commissioning in the U.S. Army.

"Second Brigade without a doubt set the standard for this course. Their professionalism and expertise are a model for not only the 100th Division, but the total Army force as well," according to Major Kenneth Sanders, increment officer in charge.

Drill Sergeants from Second Brigade also conducted annual training at Fort Knox, Kentucky. Teamed with active component Drill Sergeants, they provided instruction in basic combat training (BCT). This consists of drill and ceremonies, military history, physical fitness, basic rifle marksmanship, land navigation, and other instruction necessary for graduation from U.S. Army basic training.

The August 7, 2002 BCT graduating class was the first from Fort Knox to unify for a combined ceremony of two battalions for graduation. Also assisting annual training 2002 were soldiers in the administrative and supply fields. These soldiers complete the process for graduation and are essential to process soldiers in and out of the Army.



Sgt. First Class Jeff Renfrow does the "Commando Crawl" across the one rope bridge during a demonstration for advanced ROTC cadets at Fort Lewis, Washington.



Sgt. Emily Johnson releases the spoon from a hand grenade as she prepares to neutralize a bunker during a demonstration for advanced ROTC cadets at Fort Lewis Washington.