

# The Railsplitter

Spring 2000

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## 84th Division commanders answer the call

Story and photo by Jacqueline Guthrie  
84th Division Public Affairs Office

When the active Army sends out a call for help, the 84th Division (Institutional Training) answers.

The most recent call came from 1st Battalion, 19th Infantry Regiment, Infantry Training Brigade in Fort Benning, Ga., who needed a battalion commander.

Lt. Cols. Michael Soja, commander of 2nd Battalion, 329th Infantry Regiment, 1st Brigade; and Harold Berloth, commander of 2nd Battalion, 333rd Infantry Regiment, 1st Brigade filled the need. Each served as the commander of 1st Battalion, 19th Infantry Regiment

**“I have full confidence in the 84th commanders,”**

**- Lt. Col. Dennis Bundy**

for three weeks in January and February.

The vacancy was a result of the active duty battalion commander, Lt. Col. Dennis Bundy's temporary transfer to brigade staff.

While training divisions have provided drill sergeants to the brigade for nearly 20 years, this is the first time a Reserve battalion commander ran the unit.

“It's been good that we have the relationship with the 84th. We can call on them when we need to,” said Bundy.

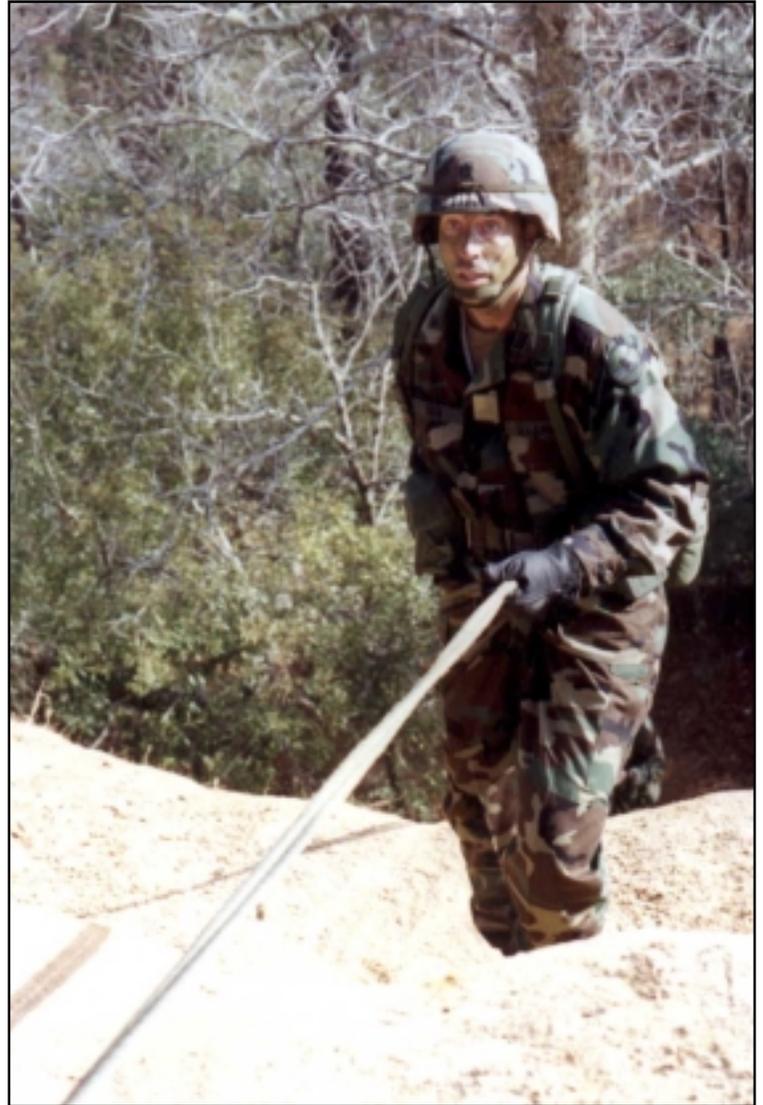
“I (gave) them full responsibility of the unit while they are down here,” Bundy said. Both commanders fulfilled the responsibility in an outstanding manner, he added. “I have full confidence in the 84th commanders.”

“Being able to come down here and be a commander, that's quite a honor,” said Soja. “You can't replace an opportunity like this.”

His biggest challenge was finding his way around the installation. “I've never been to Fort Benning,” he said.

Serving as battalion commander was also a great opportunity to train for the upcoming battalion displacement, he said. Referring to the summer training mission where all Soja's battalion staff officers, as well as staff officers from other 84th battalions, will step into their active duty counterparts job for two weeks.

There will be six battalion displacements, Bundy explained.



**Lt. Col. Michael Soja rappels down a 60-foot cliff during his time as the active duty commander of 1st Battalion, 19th Infantry Regiment, in Fort Benning.**

“The 84th battalion staff will come in and work side by side with their active duty counterpart. “If the 84th soldier outranks the active duty officer, they will be in charge of running the staff position,” he added.

The displacement emphasizes the Chief of Staff of the Army's philosophy of creating one team with all Army components, he said. “It's important for the 84th to be part of the total Army and we couldn't do our mission without them.”

# Before there is a warfighter there is a trainer

By **Robert Smith III**

Commander, 84th Division (IT)

**A**s I complete over 18 months in command of the 84th Division (Institutional Training), I wish to thank everyone involved in helping to execute my vision of making the 84th Division the premier training division in "The Army."

First, as our name *Railsplitter* might denote, we the soldiers and civilians have created new directions off the mainline. Weapons qualifications will be conducted utilizing 21st Century technology, the Laser Marksmanship Training System, or LMTS Beamhit. Several professional development and military occupational specialty classes will be conducted using distance learning, which is broadcasted from Fort McCoy, Wis.

We will continue to be innovative in our training while being seen in the community through such training initiatives as the "Matt Talbot Project" and "Hoop It Up." I will continue to work to improve the quality of life within the division by continuing to raise the need for improvements in the TRICARE system for our full-time soldiers and adding more command emphasis to the family support activities.

Secondly, the 84th Division now has a new slogan "Before there is a warfighter, there is a trainer". So powerful is this motto and the message it conveyed that all the institutional training divisions within the U.S. Army Reserve have chosen to adopt this as their official slogan, thus keeping in line with why the 84th Division's vision is real. So as we in the 84th help train the best Army in the world, we in the 84th must make sure we are the best professional trainers we can be.

Thirdly, we must continue to improve our strength—top command priority, increase our duty MOS qualification, reduce attrition and maximize the execution of our budgeted dollars, while always taking care of our soldiers and modernizing our equipment.

Fourthly, we must continue to strive for excellence by winning again and again competitions such as drill sergeant of the year. Our veterans, alumni, friends, families and other military comrades must continue to read about the 84th in such periodicals as Soldiers magazine, Defense Link, Army Reserve magazine and various local newspapers. Additionally, visits to our re-designed web site ([www.84thdivision.com](http://www.84thdivision.com)) must, and will, continue to increase as we work towards the vision.

Lastly, I pledge as commanding general to continue to devote my energy and travel schedule to visit our units and soldiers. We will continue to keep command focus on our vision: "A full partner in America's Army as its premier trainer."



U.S. Army Photo

**Maj. Gen. Robert W. Smith, III**

## The Railsplitter

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At a minimum submissions should be in Microsoft Word format and include: title of story, author's name and title, unit affiliation and telephone number.

Submit photographs as color prints or in JPEG format and include: a list of those in the photo from left to right, their title and unit affiliation; photographers name, title and unit affiliation. We reserve the right to edit as needed.

# NCOs can make it happen

By Charles Clark

84th Division Command Sgt. Maj.

**W**elcome to the 21st century. These will be exciting times for the 84th Division (Institutional Training).

I have been selected and have accepted one of the most challenging jobs there is in Army, to be a division command sergeant major. As the senior NCO in the 84th Division, there are many obstacles we must overcome to make this division better than ever. I would like to talk about two.

First, NCO education is high on my list. We have been focusing on teaching the senior NCO leaders in this division, but I believe we also need to empower junior NCOs and tell them what we expect from them and train them to take our place.

I am telling the brigade command sergeant majors to look into their units and develop their soldiers, they are the future leaders of the 84th Division.

Second, consider what it takes to keep good soldiers in the Army Reserve. I bet we could start with "taking care of soldiers."

While it is true we need to increase strength, train soldiers in their duty military occupational specialty, and recruit more drill sergeants and instructors, we must also take care of the soldiers we have.

Here are some suggestions:

- Complete NCO evaluation report counseling:
  - Set short and long term goals.
  - Check that previous goals were met. (Exceeding a goal could be an excellent bullet on an NCO evaluation report). Find out why any goals were not met.
  - Transfer goals to evaluation reports.



U.S. Army Photo

Command Sgt. Maj. Charles Clark

- Determine soldiers' needs:
  - Are there any family problems?
  - Are there any employer problems?
- Military education comes before mission! (ALWAYS)
- Develop a five-year plan:
  - Where do we want that soldier to be in five years?
  - Who is going to lead the soldier

to obtain that goal? This is just a start of a long list of ways we have to

take care of soldiers. I hope you expand on this list. Taking care of soldiers is nothing new; we just have to do a better job of it!

Lastly, I hope the word has been spreading like wildfire that school seats for airborne and air assault are now available to drill sergeants, instructors, and junior officers.

The 84th Division is also offering expert infantry badge and expert medical badge testing for those soldiers who want that extra challenge.

I have, and always will, believe that with soldier caring and a good NCO support chain there is nothing the NCO Corps cannot accomplish.

**I believe we also need to empower junior NCOs and tell them what we expect from them and train them to take our place,**

**--Command Sgt. Maj. Charles Clark**

## News Briefs

### Army launches internal website

#### Army News Service

The U.S. Army recently became the first service to stand up an internal web site available to the entire service community.

Army Knowledge Online, is the Army's global Intranet, and offers active-duty and reserve soldiers, Department of the Army civilians, retirees and other authorized users a secure environment to communicate and access a warehouse of military-related information.

Email accounts with AKO can be checked from any web browser, allowing Army personnel to easily access email while on temporary duty, while moving or even after retiring. For more information visit [www.us.army.mil](http://www.us.army.mil).

### New PT uniform approved

#### Army News Service

The recently approved new physical training uniform will be issued to new soldiers in May 2000 and will be available in military clothing sales stores in October 2000, said Master Sgt. Debra Wylie, uniform policy officer in the Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel.

The new PT uniform consists of a five-piece ensemble: a T-shirt, long-sleeve shirt, jacket, pants and shorts.

The new uniforms will cost almost double that of current PT uniforms, which have been issued since 1986.

The reasons for the increase in the price include inflation, different material and different design.

# Division soldiers tops in Wisconsin

By **Jacqueline Guthrie**  
84th Division Public Affairs Office

Four 84th Division (Institutional Training) soldiers were recognized for being among Wisconsin's best recently.

Sgts. 1st Class Earl Schmoll and Jerry Reick, Staff Sgt. Nathan Klenz and Sgt. Pamela Schmitt were among 50 Wisconsin military reservists recognized at the state capital during the 1999 Wisconsin Military Achievement Awards in October.

"It is always a pleasure to be around some of the finest people in Wisconsin, the men and women who wear the uniform of their country - and lead the challenging but rewarding lives of citizen-soldiers, airmen, sailors and Marines," said Brig. Gen. Al Wilkening during the ceremony.

Wilkening represented Maj. Gen. James Blaney, adjutant general of Wisconsin. Wilkening is the deputy adjutant general for Air and commander of the Wisconsin Air National Guard.

"It's an honor for me to be here to help honor you for your outstanding achievements," he said. "For 35 years, Wisconsin has taken a moment each year to recognize the men and women who serve their state and nation as members of the National Guard and reserves."

To qualify for the award recipients must be an enlisted member of a National Guard or reserve unit in Wisconsin, according to Lt. Col. Tim Donovan. Donovan is the Wisconsin Army and Air National Guard public affairs officer and project officer for the military achievement awards.

Service members must also meet



Photo by Master Sgt. Doug Hayes

**Award winners (left to right) Sgts. 1st Class Jerry Reick and Earl Schmoll, Sgt. Pamela Schmitt and Staff Sgt. Nathan Klenz.**

standards recommended by the organizing committee and established by each of the seven reserve components.

334th Regiment, 2nd Brigade, 84th Division headquartered in Milwaukee. Reick became a drill sergeant in 1995 and is currently responsible for teaching new soldiers basic combat skills at active duty installations such as Fort Benning, Ga.

Klenz is a training noncommissioned officer for Headquarters, 5th Brigade, 84th Division in Mil-

waukee.

The 5th Brigade is responsible for teaching the enlisted military occupational specialties medical specialist and practical nurse. As training NCO Klenz reviews programs of instruction and regulation changes, supervises the school library and oversees the unit's security program.

Schmitt, of Headquarters, 84th Division, also in Milwaukee, serves the Army Reserve full-time as an administrative specialist.

At the time of the award, Schmitt was responsible for the mailroom and mail distribution, and served as the telephone control officer. Schmitt has served in the Reserves for the past nine years, but recently moved on to her new assignment at the Army Reserve Readiness Training Center, Fort McCoy, Wis.

In addition to recognizing Wisconsin's best service members, the honorable Governor Tommy Thompson,

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**“For 35 years, Wisconsin has taken a moment each year to recognize the men and women who serve their state and nation as members of the National Guard and reserves,”**

**- Brig. Gen. Al Wilkening**

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Standards include proficiency in a military assignment, attendance at scheduled training assemblies, leadership ability, military appearance and bearing, and citizenship. Awardees are nominated by their commanders and selected by appropriate military boards in each component.

Schmoll is a drill sergeant with Company A, 3rd Battalion, 274th Regiment, 2nd Brigade, 84th Division (IT) headquartered in Oshkosh.

He has been leading others to excellence for the last 14 years as a drill sergeant and his current responsibilities include training others for drill sergeant school. Future plans include instructing at the drill sergeant school and competing in the next drill sergeant of the year board.

Reick is also a drill sergeant. He is a member of Company D, 3rd Battalion,

# Drill sergeants make a difference

## 84th Division Public Affairs Office

The transition from civilian life to military life is often filled with challenges. From new schedules to new skills, soldiers go through a life changing experience during training programs.

The experience is no different for current members of Company E, 1st Battalion, 19th Infantry Regiment at Fort Benning, Ga., with one exception — they also have new leaders every two weeks.



*Photo by 1st Sgt. James Shitaker*

**Sgt. 1st Class James Houvener, Company A, 330th Training Regiment, 1st Brigade shows soldiers how to perform a functions check during BRM.**

Reservists, not full-time service members, are leading the trainees through this transition from civilian to military life.

Each year members of 1st Battalion, 330th Training Regiment, 1st Brigade, 84th Division (Institutional Training), rotate through an active duty training unit every two weeks until the fourteen week cycle is complete.

Spending two weeks on active duty fulfills the Reservists' annual training requirement.

Indiana based units, Companies B and C, took on the challenge in November, according to 1st Lt. Michael Smith, Company B's executive officer.

The Reservists spent their training period leading the new soldiers through a variety of training events, but the highlight was basic rifle marksmanship qualification, he said.

During this event, the drill

sergeants and unit leaders taught the trainees how to use and then qualify on a rifle.

To qualify, a soldier must hit at least 23 out of 40 targets, Smith explained. Those who hit more than 36 are considered expert marksman.

All 270 Reserve led trainees qualified and a record breaking 27, earned the expert title, he said. The long-standing brigade record was 26.

The Reservists and trainees are proud of their accomplishments.

"It's both challenging and rewarding at the same time because you are able to see the soldiers progress even during the short time that we are here," said one of the drill sergeants.

The commander echoed his sentiments.

"Echo Company has one of the highest success rates in the battalion because Reserve drill sergeants are able to keep the training fresh for the trainees," said Capt. Chad Warren, Company B commander.

And having new trainers doesn't bother the soldiers.

"It keeps us on our toes and it benefits us because we learn so many different things from the new drill sergeants every time they take over," said Pvt. Benjamin Hayhurst.

## Instructor retiring after 28 years as mentor and friend

**By Steve Snyder**

*Fort Dix Post*

**"Lt. Col. Augustus is the Bobby Knight of CAS-3,"**

said one student, comparing a honcho of the Combined Arms and Services Staff School at Fort Dix, N.J., with the enfant terrible who coaches the perennial cage powerhouse, the University of Indiana Hoosiers.

The description, believe it or not, is an endearing one and is especially apropos as the retirement of Lt. Col. Charles Augustus approaches. Augustus and his crew at the 13th Battalion, 6th Brigade, 84th Division (Institutional Training), Harvey, Ill., wrapped up two CAS-3 classes recently after thoroughly training 42 officers from around the country in the intricacies of staff operations.

"We teach them how to be effective staff officers and to use the six-step problem solving process," he said.

The CAS-3 instructors from the 13th have been com-

ing to Dix for the last two years. Augustus says Dix offers superior facilities at a cheaper price in everything from classrooms to billeting. But this will be the last go round for the Detroit native. He ends 28 years of sterling service in May. And it's been a rich, long haul.

Born in 1951 in Harleyville, S.C., Augustus graduated from Latta High School and attended South Carolina State University in Orangeburg, where he majored in chemistry and graduated in 1972.

Completing ROTC in college, Augustus joined the Army in 1972, spending his initial two years as a training officer at Fort Polk, La. From 1974 to 1976, he led a rifle platoon for the Berlin Guard in where else, Berlin, Germany.

The Cold War was frigid at the time and the tour there was seared into the officer's memory.

**See CAS-3 Page 12**

# Love of teaching keeps drill sergeant on trail

By Michael Maddox

Fort Benning *Bayonet*

**N**early 40 years after enlisting, one 84th Division (Institutional Training) soldier can't get enough of basic training.

Sgt. 1st Class Robert Young, an Army Reservist, spends two weeks every year passing on combat and infantry skills to new soldiers in Company E, 1st Battalion, 19th Infantry Regiment at Fort Benning.

Young, who at 57 is about twice the age of most drill sergeants, is a member of 1st Battalion, 1st Brigade of the 329th Infantry Regiment in Bloomington, Ind.

When he joined the military in 1962, Young never imagined that he would still be serving through the millennium. He says it's been a long road to where he is now, but he's enjoyed every second of it.

His first experience in the military came during Vietnam when Young enlisted in the Marine Corps right after high school. The Bloomington native was assigned to the 1st Marine Division during his 25-month tour.

After Vietnam, Young returned to Paris Island, N.C., where he served as a drill instructor for three years. He later served sea duty as detachment gunnery sergeant on the USS Ranger.

It was around this time that Young decided to start a family.

"I wanted to raise a family and that was pretty hard to do back then," he said. So he decided not to re-enlist and instead dedicate his time to building a family in 1971.

Young went on to have two sons and a daughter with his wife, Bobby, and ended up running his own 500-acre farm raising cattle, kids and corn.

Young was out of the military for 20 years before putting his uniform back on in 1989. He said he decided to join the military again, this time the Army Reserve, for several reasons.

"My son was in the Reserves, and he was activated for Desert Storm. I thought, well, they got my boy so I thought I'd come back in too," he said.

"I came back in to go to Desert Storm. There's always been men from my family in every war, sometimes more than one at a time. I just figured it was the right thing to do," Young said.

His expertise was more valuable on the homefront so the military put him to work as a drill instructor, he explained. Adding that he enjoys the camaraderie the military offers.

"I enjoy working with the men and the military life," he said.

Young also likes being able to share his love of the military and America with today's new soldiers.

"I have a flag that flies at my house everyday. I have a lot of pride that was instilled in me many years ago," he said.

"I'd like to see these young fellows get it. If I can help them out in some way so they can come back from a war, that's what I'd like to do," he added.

**Young's dedication to service and knowledge brings a great aspect to the soldiers training, according to Staff Sgt. David Santos, Young's active duty counterpart.**

"He's awesome. We cannot afford to lose the experience from a first-rate, excellent senior noncommissioned officer who knows all aspects of the U.S. Army and its environment," Santos said.

"He's very impressive," said Pvt. Brent Thornton, a trainee. "It blows my mind to see a man of that age go along with us on marches and train us. It really impresses me,



**Sgt. 1st Class Robert Young, advises a young private during infantry one station unit training.**

makes me want to drive on when I feel like I can't."

Bringing knowledge to the unit is all worthwhile because today's soldiers seem to soak up the knowledge the drill sergeants put out to them, Young said.

"These kids are much smarter than I was used to working with. They are intelligent, highly select individuals as far as I'm concerned," he said. "When I did this before, it wasn't unusual to find someone with a third grade education. The soldiers today are superior, young privates, more qualified and higher educated."

Working with the active duty drill sergeants and commanders keeps Young coming back to train soldiers each year.

"The command philosophy, leadership style and expectations are right on target with the type of soldiers the Army is receiving these days," he said. "The E Company, 1st Battalion, 19th Infantry Regiment drill sergeants and the Reserve drill sergeants are the best I have ever worked with."

Young said he plans on leading new soldiers as long as possible.

"I'll be here doing this as long as my health stays up," he said. "In another three years, (the Reserves are) going to do it for me anyway, you have to retire from the Reserves at 60. But my health is good so I guess I'll be around until then."

# 2nd Brigade saves Army more than peanuts

**By Hugh Mueller**

3rd Battalion, 47th Infantry

A U.S. Army Reserve unit from Wisconsin recently saved a Fort Benning unit more than \$8,000 using a little ingenuity and a lot of peanut shells.

The physical training field of the newly activated 3rd Battalion, 47th Infantry Regiment, Basic Combat Training Brigade at Benning, needed to be covered because approximately three-fourths of the field was mud and wasn't usable for PT.

Wisconsin Reserve members from 2nd Battalion, 339th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade, 84th Division (Institutional Training), traveled to Benning to conduct basic training to new soldiers.

After an initial coordination meeting between the staff of the Reserve and active duty units, Maj. Jay Costello, 2nd battalion's executive officer, assigned specific tasks to each of the staff sections. The primary task for the supply officer was to find someone to provide sawdust to cover the PT field.

"This was no small task," Costello said.

The staff at Fort Benning had been trying to acquire sawdust since the unit's activation in April, said Capt. Ed Santiago, the supply officer.

In the past Benning units had been able to acquire sawdust very inexpensively, or even for free, from small sawmills in the local area. However, some of these sources had since gone out of business, and others didn't have any sawdust to offer.

The other solution was to purchase the sawdust through an official source at the Directorate of Public Works. However, the unit needed 650 cubic yards of sawdust to cover a PT field, at a cost of \$12.95 a cubic yard, this would have cost the unit \$8,417.50.

"This option was cost prohibitive," Santiago said.

With that background, Capt. Stuart Graham, logistics officer for the Madison based unit, went to work. He called every sawmill in the area and confirmed that there wasn't any available.

Then he called DPW and also confirmed the cost of sawdust of \$12.95 per cubic yard. However, during the same phone call, a DPW representative recommended that Graham contact Tom's Foods of Columbus, and ask them if they had any peanut shells available.



**Maj. Jay Costello (left) and Capt. Stuart Graham with fresh peanut shells on the PT field.**

The DPW representative said that the shells would work just as well as sawdust, and that he believed Tom's Foods gave them away for free. A bit skeptical, Graham contacted Tom's Foods.

"I wasn't sure if this guy was pulling my leg but when I called – sure enough, they said that they gave away peanut shells, and that they just happened to have truckloads of them available at the time," Graham said. The only problem would be transporting the shells from downtown Columbus, Ga., to Benning's Sand Hill training area.

Graham then contacted Don Day of Day's Trucking Company of Smiths, Ala., and arranged for transporting the peanut shells the same day. During the next three days, the trucking company delivered, at a nominal cost, four tractor-trailer loads of peanut shells to the PT field.

The total delivery ended up being approximately 900 cubic yards, far more than the minimum of 650 cubic yards of sawdust required.

While Graham was working the delivery of peanut shells, Maj. Michael Marx, the operations officer for the 339th unit from Wisconsin, was also busy.

Marx spent the day contacting personal in the medical field to find out if the peanut shells could possibly have any detrimental effects on those soldiers who are allergic to peanuts. He was assured the risk was minimal.

So, in a few short days, the Reserve staff solved a problem that the full-timers had been working on for months. This not only showcased the interoperability of the Reserve and active component units, but also proved that problems can often be solved simply by looking at them from different angles, said Lt. Col. Don Salo, deputy commander for 3rd Battalion.

Unit Commander Lt. Col. Edward B. Daly said the crowning achievement goes to Graham, "Not only did he provide us with an upgraded safer PT field, but he also saved the U.S. government more than \$8,000."

# New infantrymen demonstrate Army values

## ■ 84th drill sergeants transform civilians to infantrymen

Story and photos by Jacqueline Guthrie

84th Division Public Affairs Office

**M**ore than 200 young men came to Company E, 1st Battalion, 19th Infantry Regiment, Fort Benning, Ga., 13 weeks ago with the goal of becoming soldiers. But not just any soldier, these men want to be infantrymen.

Reservists from 1st Brigade, 84th Division (Institutional Training) are helping them succeed. The 84th Division Railsplitters have been rotating to Benning every two weeks teaching the young men physical training, marksmanship, hand-to-hand combat, land navigation, seven Army values and much more.

The final test, known as the Bayonet, evaluates not only the recruits' abilities, but also the competence of the trainers. However, the primary focus is on "Seven Army Value" training, said Capt. Ted Qualls, Company E commander.

All soldiers, active and Reserve, must receive training on seven Army values: loyalty, duty, respect, selfless-service, honor, integrity and personal courage. While most soldiers hear about these values through videos and classroom teachings, the soldiers in Benning training brigades also get to live them.

"The Bayonet is a culmination exercise of implementing each of the seven values and infantry skills," explained Qualls. Each training mission requires the men to use their newly acquired infantry skills, but also focuses on teaching them a value. The first is "honor."

The recruits entered Benning as individuals, but they left their assembly area for a 25-mile road march as a team ready to pay honor to their fallen comrades that

had come before them. The first leg of the march took them to the rock steady wall.

Named in honor of Pvt. Louis Gideon, a young soldier who single handedly defended his wounded commander during battle, the rock

steady wall required the Company E recruits to negotiate a wall obstacle under fire and move all men and equipment up and over it.

As shots rang out, the platoon leader huddled with squad leaders to develop a plan of action, while the rest of their comrades lay hidden in the grass and among the trees providing security. With stealth, the young men moved quickly to the edges of a steep, straight wall. In teams they built pyramids to climb upon, created rope swings and even used logs for leverage to move themselves, their equipment and their wounded up to the top.

**Following each task the new infantrymen reviewed** their actions with their drill instructors, discussed lessons learned and determined which value was most prevalently demonstrated. They also discussed how to use these values in their civilian life.

"As infantrymen you don't leave your buddy behind," said Staff Sgt. David Santos, Company E drill sergeant. The recruits just learned how to truly show "loyalty" to themselves, their country and their unit.

"These Army values don't just relate to the Army," said Sgt. 1st Class Kendall Moore, one of the Reserve drill sergeants. "They also relate to everyday life. Apply them to everything you do." The soldiers continued on their road march ready to face new challenges, test more skills and learn more about themselves and each other.

"It's all about transformation," explained Col. John Schorsch, Infantry Training Brigade commander. A transformation from a civilian to a soldier, he said. The Bayonet exercise allows the trainees to put into practice what they have learned.

"It shows that they've internalized this stuff," Schorsch said. It is also a transformation from being a soldier in training, led by drill sergeants, to becoming a soldier on a team with drill ser-



**A Company E private uses his "courage" to rappel down a 60-foot wall.**



**Sgt. 1st Class Ben Adams, Company A, 1st Battalion, 329th Infantry Regiment, 1st Training Brigade shows infantry soldiers in training how to overcome obstacles using a one-rope bridge.**



**Demonstrating “selfless-service,” the Army’s newest infantrymen transport a wounded man to a first aid station.**

geants, he said. Demonstrating the Army values shows they are ready to be part of the infantry, Schorsch added.

As the young men continued on their mission, the next obstacle they faced was land mines in their path. The only other route was across a river. Demonstrating their devotion to “duty,” the men built a one-rope bridge and transported all men and equipment to the other side, where they continued on.

Suddenly shots rang out and the men ran for cover. Unfortunately not all escaped the shrapnel and bullets. The infantrymen “selflessly” loaded their wounded in uniform made slings, boosted them onto their backs, and carried them in their arms. They also piled on the extra equipment and moved to a first aid station for care.

Orders from higher headquarters soon followed and the men moved out to deliver ammunition to comrades in need. However, the amount of ammunition exceeded the number of soldiers and decisions had to be made.

“We could have just dumped some of it along the side of the road,” said one young man. But the Army’s newest infantrymen instead demonstrated “integrity” and did the right thing by making two trips to deliver the ammunition.

The soldiers feasted on meals ready-to-eat and slept on their equipment throughout their 30-hour mission. However, fatigue did not slow them down as they came upon their next obstacle, the rock of Chickamauga cliff and a flowing, icy river. Overcoming any fears of water or height, one by one the young men rappelled down the 60-foot cliff and waded across the icy river.

After completing all tasks the soldiers tactically marched the final six miles to a area lit only by fire barrels and torches. In the glowing embers, the men filled their canteen cups with punch by dipping them into barrels.

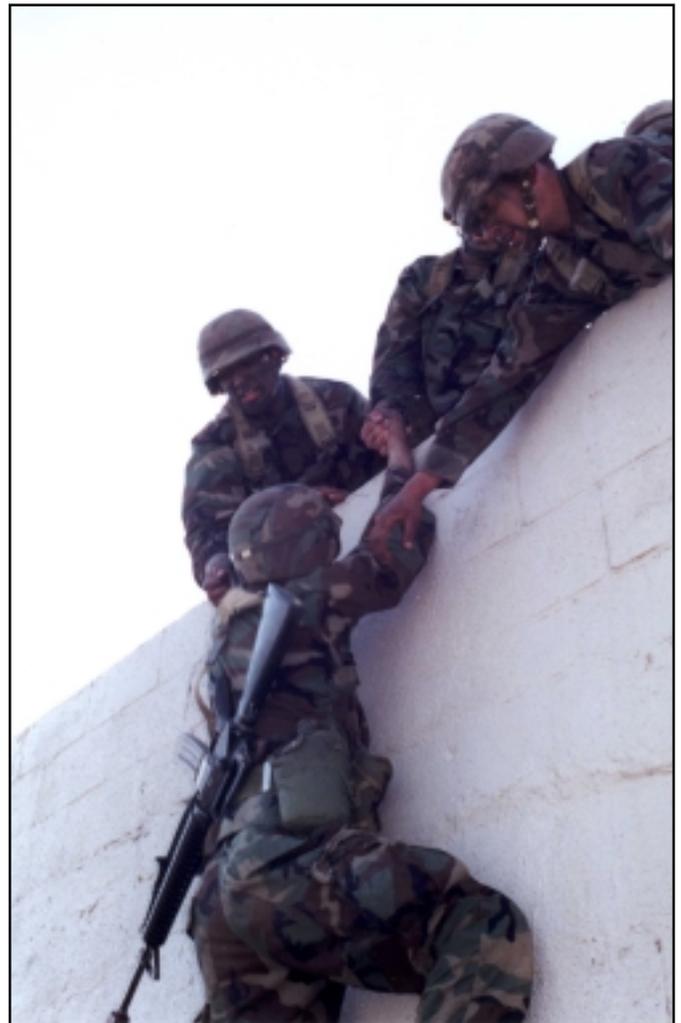
One by one they passed under the infantry cross-rifle arch and assembled to pay honor to Company E, the

training brigade, the Army, and to infantrymen past, present and future.

After the toasts of honor echoed through the night, the battalion’s highest ranking NCO, Command Sgt. Maj. Leon Aaron, showed his “respect” for the newest infantrymen’s ability to demonstrate each of the Army values by lighting seven torches. The young men then stood at attention as their drill sergeants, the men who taught them how to be infantrymen, welcomed them to their fraternity by pinning on crossed-rifles.

One hundred and ninety men walked back to their barracks not as just soldiers, but as infantrymen. And the last rotation of drill

sergeants returned to their quarters knowing everyone had passed the final test.



**Soldiers in training practice “loyalty” by helping each other up the rock steady wall.**

# Road to fitness starts here

Story and photos by Susanne Aspley

Company D, 3rd Battalion, 274th Regiment, 2nd Brigade

**B**eing able to pass the Army's physical training test may not be enough when on a high stress deployment or peace keeping mission, much less during combat. And all the high tech weapons in the Army's arsenal are useless if a soldier is not fit enough to use them.

Keeping up with Army physical fitness standards is one reason to put on a pair of running shoes, however, four 84th Division (Institutional Training) soldiers learned it also means much more.

Chief Warrant Officer 2 Jerry White, 6th Brigade; Sgts. 1st Class Robert Deegan, Company B, 3rd Battalion, 334th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade and Jeffrey Huelsbeck, 8th Brigade, ROTC (Provisional); and Staff Sgt. Robert Boudnik, Company D, 2nd Battalion, 274th Regiment, 2nd Brigade were among 52 soldiers who recently graduated from the Army's two-week Master Fitness Trainer Course held at Fort McCoy, Wis.

"Everyone has obligations in life and duties in the Army they have to do, usually for other people," said Instructor Master Sgt. Kevin Murphy. Murphy is the NCO in charge of the school and leads the four-member fitness trainer team from Fort Benning, Ga.

The course began each day at 3 a.m. with a PT session. Pushed ( but not quite smoked) the students participated in a variety of speed and agility drills, grass drills, guerilla drills, human obstacle courses and a post-wide urban orienteering course. After showers and breakfast, the students received classes on body composition, nutrition, healthy lifestyle habits, injury and disease risks, and unit and individual program development.

Physical fitness training should enhance a soldier's ability to successfully perform the unit's mission and mission essential task list, Murphy told the class.

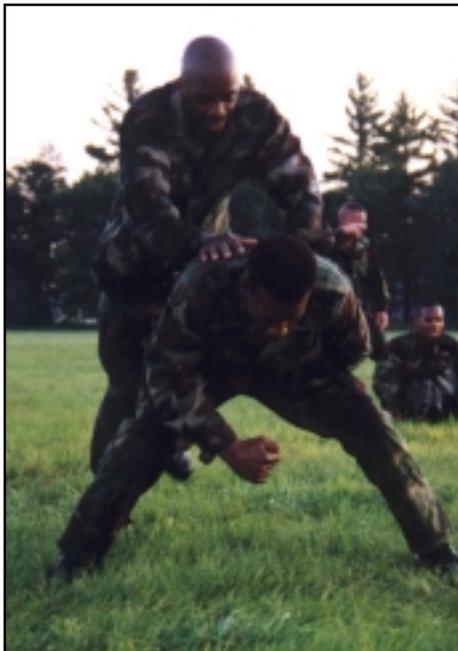
Physical fitness training activities and assessments must correlate with the physical proficiency needed to become mission capable, he said. Adding that the Army is shifting toward developing battle-focused physical readiness assessments, creating PT based on mission and METL, de-emphasizing distance running and improving motor skills and total-body muscular strength.

"But physical fitness is (also) about taking care of yourself, to improve the quality and add years to your life," he said.

Once the master fitness trainer has gained a personal awareness of physical fitness, he or she is able to design both unit and individual PT programs. According to Murphy, the goal is for each battalion size element to



(Above) Master Fitness Trainer candidates take a "break" from an early morning road march. (Below) Chief Warrant Officer 2 Jerry White leap frogs over another candidate during grass and guerilla drill training.



have one MFT to advise the commander on the unit PT program, help soldiers struggling to meet minimum PT standards improve, and mentor those just meeting standards to do even better.

The final result is a unit able to fulfill their combat mission requirements.

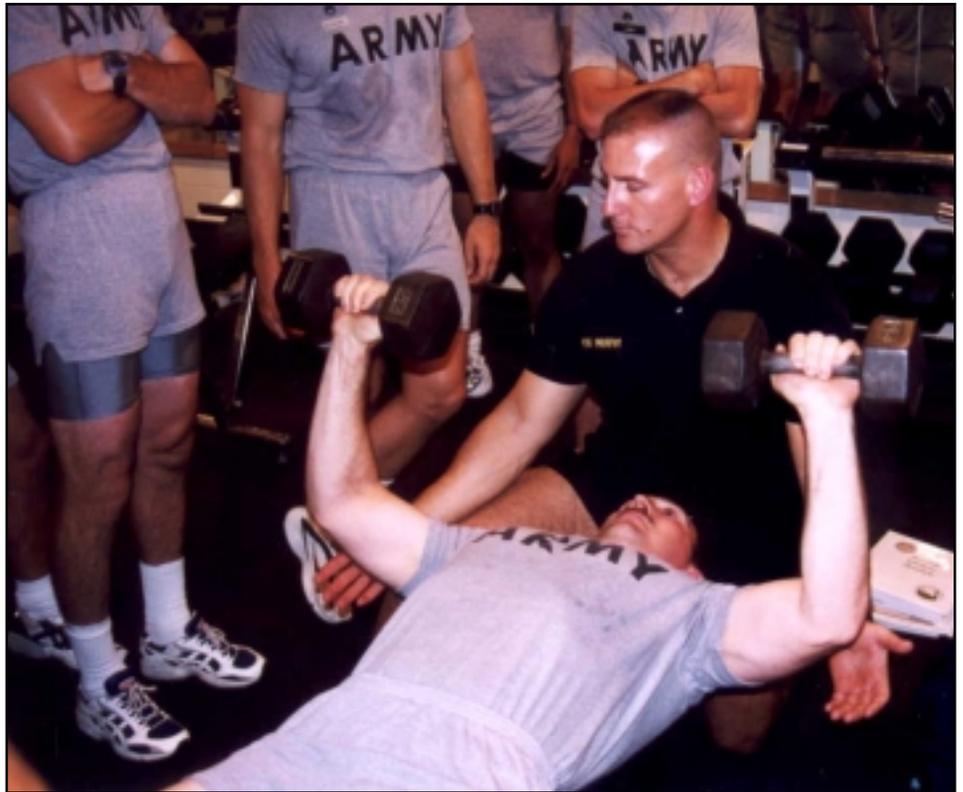
**“The most important issue** that I came away with from the MFT course was that improving one’s own fitness level should not be viewed as an inconvenience,” said Huelsbeck.

“Soldiers should view the new APFT standards as a measure of their overall fitness and well being, not just for the military, but as an assessment of their quality of life off duty as well.

“Now that the Army fitness program is moving towards being more battle-focused, I see it as an opportunity to enhance our readiness at all levels of command,” said Huelsbeck.

“I wanted to go through the course for a number of reasons,” Huelsbeck added. “I am the fitness instructor at St. Norbert College/University of Wisconsin-Green Bay for the ROTC program,” he explained. “Being more knowledgeable about building both individual and unit programs to accomplish fitness goals is my job.”

Often there are situations where unit training is not possible or practical, such as for those serving only one



**Master Fitness Trainer Instructor Master Sgt. Kevin Murphy shows Sgt. 1st Class Jeffrey Huelsbeck proper arm alignment during a weight training class.**

weekend a month, soldiers working odd shifts, and those on headquarters’ staff. Fitness then falls into individual responsibility, regardless of job or duty position.

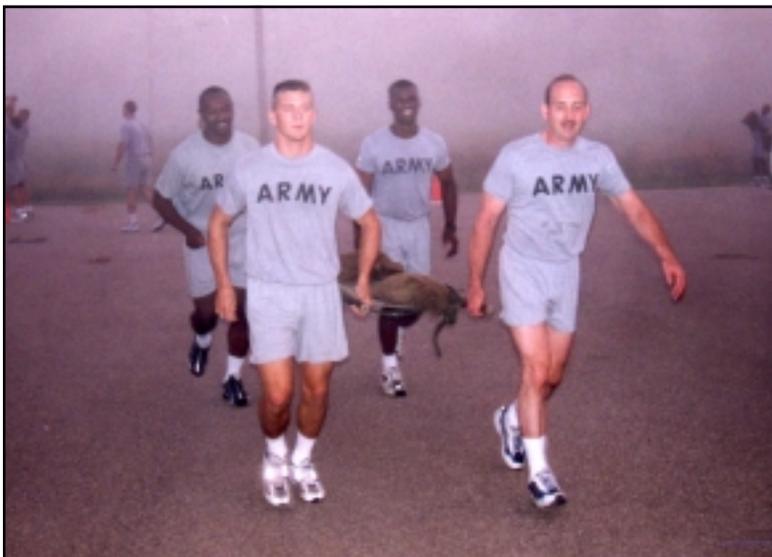
Instructor Sgt. 1st Class Galen House stressed that the future of Army PT will de-emphasize programs based on building and maintaining fundamental military skills. Medicine ball drills, plyometrics, war clubs, combatatives, and inversion training will soon be more common than the usual routine of pushups, sit ups and two-mile run.

“The APFT is a measuring tool,” said House. “Just because one can pass a APFT does not mean that they are ready for combat.”

The physical fitness school was created at Fort Benjamin Harrison, Ind., in 1982 and relocated to Benning in 1992. The cadre’s responsibilities include advising Army staff on fitness policy as well as teaching selected soldiers in the MFT program.

“I would tell anyone considering attending the MFT course to be prepared to be physically and mentally challenged from sun up to sun down” said Huelsbeck.

But, “the reward you’ll take from the course can significantly affect your health, the health of your family and your unit members,” he added.



**Candidates practice PT based on a medical units’ mission essential task list.**

# Instructors support Hawaii Reservists

Story and photo by John J. Saari  
2nd Battalion (MI), 3rd Brigade

Instructors in the 84th Division (Institutional Training) will go anywhere to get the job done.

Sgts. 1st Class Jay Marcotte and John Saari, 2nd Battalion (Military Intelligence), 3rd Brigade, 84th Division (IT) at Fort McCoy, Wis., recently traveled to Hawaii to teach the intelligence analyst course to 15 Army Reservists in the U.S. Army Reserve Japan Support Unit of the 9th Regional Support Command located at Fort Shafter.

"This type of support provided by Reservists for Reservists helps the whole Army," said Col. John Thorpe, 9th RSC chief of staff. "The professionalism portrayed by all instructors was top notch and helped focus and mold the intelligence division."

Marcotte and Saari ended up in Hawaii after a former division soldier, Chief Warrant Officer Scott Gagnon, told USARJSU about the division trainers. Gagnon is currently a member of the 368th Military Intelligence Company, 9th RSC.

The Army Japan Support Unit then requested that the 84th send a team of instructors to Fort Shafter, which is on the island of Oahu, to expand its intelligence support capability.

Marcotte and Saari said they were more than willing to perform the 33 days of duty. Both soldiers have been members of 2nd Battalion (MI), 3rd Brigade since August 1996, and say they are always ready to do what they can to help soldiers in need. In July 1997, Marcotte and Saari were both deployed as intelligence analysts for nine months in support of Operation Joint Guard.

Most of the instructors in the unit serve several more tours than required in order to help meet the intelligence community's demand for trained analysts, Saari explained.

"There is a little self-interest involved here," said Saari. "The more analysts we train, the pool of analysts grows. Consequently, we're increasing the amount of time before we are called to serve on another deployment."

"But all joking aside," said Marcotte, "We both enjoy working with the students." Adding that it is pleasure to see students understand how things fit together.

"When they are able to step away from the maps and information and see the 'big picture' is when we know we've succeeded in our job. That is true satisfaction as an NCO," he said.

The majority of the students were new to the intelligence arena, only three soldiers had trained in other military intelligence specialties. However, all eagerly learned the new material despite the often stressful academic pressure, the instructors said.

The students studied a variety of topics including map reading, security, threat, intelligence preparation of the battlefield, collection management, and support and stability operations.

They demonstrated their proficiency through a series of cumulative exams and then completed two exercises: one "heavy exercise" with armor and infantry



U.S. Army Reserve Japan Support Unit's newest military intelligence analysts.

simulations and a "light exercise" with guerrilla actions dominating the scenario before earning their new military occupational specialty.

Not only did the 84th Division soldiers help USARJSU increase the number of soldiers qualified to be intelligence analysts, they also saved the Army some money.

"It is less expensive for the Army to pay for two instructors to come to Hawaii than to send 15 students to the mainland," said Sgt. 1st Class Kay McCarthy, USARJSU's administrative supervisor. Only three of the students flew from Japan, the other 12 soldiers are residents of Oahu.

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## CAS-3 from page 5

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"We had to pull Berlin Brigade Wall duty," he recalls, guarding and patrolling areas near the infamous Berlin Wall erected by the Soviets in the early 1960s.

"Going through 'checkpoint charlie' (into Soviet-controlled East Berlin) was a trip, too," Augustus says. Most of all Augustus reflected upon history, noting that "the history of Berlin is the history of Germany."

In 1976 Augustus left the service, attending Eastern Michigan University in Ypsilanti in pursuit of a masters degree in chemistry. In

1981 he began working for the federal government in the U.S. Army Tank and Automotive Command in Warren, Mich. Today he's the systems acquisition manager in the project manager's office of the petroleum and water division.

Augustus has also served as a part-time instructor for military science at the University of Detroit.

Augustus was among the first to become involved in CAS-3 instruction at the Reserve level. That began back in 1989. Although his military teaching is soon to end, Augustus' disciples are spread thick throughout his unit. His message, then, promises to last much longer.

# RTS-M holds integrated training at McCoy

**By David Spence and Richard Neely**  
Regional Training Site-Maintenance

The "one" Army concept is at work once again, this time at Fort McCoy, Wis., where 19 active duty soldiers recently received classes from 84th Division (Institutional Training) instructors.

The active duty airborne and air assault soldiers are members of First Corps Support Command, XXVII Airborne Corps from Fort Bragg, N.C., and Fort Campbell, Ky.

They traveled to McCoy to receive two weeks of instruction on the heavy equipment transporter system for the M1 main battle tank.

The class was hosted by the U.S. Army Tank, Automotive, and Armaments Command from Warren, Mich. The TACOM instructors also provided technical instruction.

It was held at the 84th Division's Regional Training Site - Maintenance and division soldiers, Sgts. 1st Class Charles Bush, Tim Hutchinson and David Gravunder trained the soldiers on tractor and trailer transporter systems.

The purpose of the course was to

provide a basic introduction of the system. Topics of instruction included: electrical troubleshooting; limited direct and general support; maintenance; tracing wire, hydraulic and air schematics; and an introduction to the engine and transmission power train.

The active duty students all work in the maintenance field, but had not been trained on the HETS.

The instructors did an outstanding job teaching the course, said Chief Warrant Officer 3 Graydon Field. Field is a member of Fort Campbell's 101st Corps Support Group. And added that the training provided was good overall.

He said he looks forward to receiving additional training on transmission and engine removal from the school.

For more information on scheduled classes, access the Army Training Requirements and Resource System, or ATRRS.

Units with special training needs may call the RTS-M school operations at (608) 388-3938 or DSN 280-3938.

The RTS-M concept was created in 1989 and classes began in 1990. The Fort McCoy facility is one of four U.S. Army Reserve Command maintenance facilities in the U.S. Army, with additional sites aligned in the Army National Guard. On Oct. 16, 1995, the organization was aligned under the command and control of the 84th Division, (Institutional Training), headquartered in Milwaukee. On Sept. 1, 1996, it was designated as RTS-M, Company B, 10th Ordnance Battalion, 84th Regiment, 84th Division.

The RTS-M now is part of the Total Army School System and is accredited by the Combined Arms Support Command. The six permanently assigned instructors at the RTS-M and instructors assigned to the 10th Battalion provide the course instruction. The other seven full-time support staff provide command and control of \$25 million worth of training aids.

## Chaplain's Corner

**By Chaplain Jim DeCamp**  
Assistant Division Chaplain

The Learning Kingdom recently featured an intriguing word: gumshoe [n.GUM-shoo].

We rarely use it nowadays. "Gumshoe" describes a person who works as a private investigator or detective. Yet the original gumshoe was something people wore on their feet.

Gumshoes in the late 1800's were shoes, or boots, made of gum rubber.

Precursors to contemporary sneakers, these shoes were soft-soled and quieter than other shoes available at the time. At the start of the 1900's, "to gumshoe" meant to sneak around quietly.

Later the word referred either to thieves, or to the police who caught the crooks. By 1908, the word almost exclusively described the good guys, the people who investigated crimes by acting stealthily or surreptitiously.

The Army carries out varying degrees of detective work by the military police and the Criminal Investigation Division.

Some of their efforts are up front; some, behind-the-scenes. Almost anything that inhibits illegal or immoral behavior is good for us. (Just the sight of a policeman with a radar gun sends many drivers glancing at their speedometer, and toward a safer speed.

Yet self-discipline is more effective for a society—and an Army—than external control. While there is still a role for the "gumshoe," there is a much greater need for people to police themselves!

The summer months afford more opportunities for activities, both close to home and far away. At the root of our conduct should be an integrity that reins in inappropriate behavior before it grows. In fact, "integrity" is one of our seven Army values. Doing what is right, legally and morally, is our charge to pursue and our responsibility to perfect.

With God's help, may each of us reach for that higher rung on the ladder of behavior, and be a stimulus for someone else to do the same.

# 21st Century marksmanship exhibit captures attention of all



**Sgt. 1st Class Curtis Demuth, SATT, instructs a young Air Force Reserve officer in the fundamentals of marksmanship.**

**Story and photos by Rob Carlson and Don Riley**

84th Division Operations

While Chechen forces were inflicting heavy casualties on the Russian army with accurate small arms fire on one side of the world, the attention of Reserve officers at a convention in Washington, D.C. was captured by lasers and 21st century weapons training.

The exhibit, at the Reserve Officer Association's Mid-Winter Conference and Military Exposition, was hosted by the 84th Division (Institutional Training), USARC's Marksmanship Executive Agent.

The 84th is currently involved in reengineering small arms training in the USAR. Visitors were greeted by some of the Army Reserve's finest marksmanship instructors from the Small Arms Training Team, or SATT, and the 84th Division. They provided a brief overview of the Army Reserve's marksmanship training strategy followed by a step by step introduction to the methodology they helped develop for employing the Beamhit™

Laser Marksmanship Training System, or LMTS.

With a M16 rifle or a M9 pistol, visitors were led through the training steps that introduce and reinforce the four fundamentals of marksmanship, steady position, aiming, breath control, and trigger control. From the host of marksmanship-training systems available today, the 84th has found the LMTS has an exceptional ability to concentrate on these fundamentals. This provides a more effective training system at lower cost.

An innovative partnership between the Internet and LMTS was demonstrated using the Distance Learning Marksmanship Training System. On the control console located in the booth, visitors observed real-time shots appearing on the display targets as soldiers fired on LMTS targets at remote locations in Milwaukee, Londonderry, Conn., Fort Gillem, Ga., Columbia, Md., and two loca-

tions in the exhibit hall.

Voice communication was available between the trainers at the exhibit hall and the remote locations as a demonstration of the systems ability to be utilized in a distance learning mode.

Maj. Robert Carlson, the 84th's program manager for weapons training strategy said, "There was one question asked of me by almost every visiting officer, 'how and when can I get this system for my soldiers.'

"It made me realize that the leadership of the Army Reserve is eager to acquire a training system and methodology that provides the best training for their soldiers in a time of limited resources."

The 84th Division is the first unit in the Army Reserve to initiate a program where every soldier assigned a weapon will qualify using the LMTS alternate course-C target.

Maj. Gen. Robert Smith, commander of the 84th Division directed this program to compensate for a significant shortfall in ammunition allocations to the 84th Division this fiscal year.

"Since the 84th is the executive agent for the USAR Command, and we are engaged in a proof of principal using this system, it only makes sense to employ it within the division," Smith said.



**Maj. Gen. Robert Smith III discusses the benefits of the system with Col. Yossi Gez, ground forces attache from the Israeli Embassy.**

“We have the equipment and the trainers, let’s validate a marksmanship training model for use across the Army Reserve.”

In this model, senior trainers from the 84th and SATT will validate the division’s current marksmanship instructors in the use of the LMTS. These instructors will then deploy across the division between April and September, conducting LMTS “qualification” for soldiers of member units.

Though not yet officially recognized as an official alternative to live fire qualification, Smith believes that his soldiers will benefit from this program by maintaining their marksmanship skills through this period of resource constraints.

The display also captured international attention with the visit of the ground forces attaché from the Israeli Embassy, Col. Yossi Gez, and the Israeli liaison officer to Training and Doctrine Command, Col. Uzi Zaguri.

Both officers agreed that the methodology and system provides extremely effective marksmanship training. They were impressed with the USAR’s course of instruction and the high degree of realism and fidelity offered in a system where a soldier trains with his own weapon.

The LMTS also held their interest as a potential means to enhance marksmanship training within their own reserve forces.

“The LMTS promises to be the core marksmanship skill building and sustainment system for the USAR of the 21st Century,” according to Master Sgt. Donald Riley, weapons training strategy program coordinator.

“The system will provide soldiers with the opportunity to train year round at home station and in spaces that can be as short as 15 meters for rifle, or 3 meters for pistol,” Riley said.

With USAR centers being forced to close their indoor ranges to live-fire, reductions in ammunition allowances, and travel time to remote ranges, this system and methodology would allow soldiers to maintain their marksmanship skills at home station in preparation for mobilization and deployment.

The current sustainment training plan incorporates the philosophy that unit NCOs and first-line leaders would

best conduct marksmanship training for their own soldiers. They have ultimate responsibility for the performance of

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**“We do not ever intend to replace live fire, but with this system we may be able to reduce the frequency for some types of units,”**

**-Maj. Gen. Thomas Plewes**

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their soldiers and would deploy with them, where these skills are ultimately most important.

To build and maintain skills as marksmanship trainers, these NCOs would be initially trained and mentored by drill sergeants from the seven institutional training divisions. The drill sergeants would be trained and mentored by instructors from the division basic rifle marksmanship committees.

A typical USAR sustainment-training scenario begins with soldiers performing a grouping and zeroing exercise on the LMTS TR-900 target. The exercise is performed in the same manner as live fire, except the “ammunition” is a laser beam. The target senses shot location which is shown on a laptop screen. Failure to achieve Army regulation, FM 23-9, standards identifies the soldier as a candidate for remedial training.

After remedial training and/or meeting grouping and zeroing standards, the soldier moves to the LMTS alternate

course C target where the course of fire replicates the live fire course found in FM 23-9, except, once again, the “ammunition” is a laser beam.

To add realism to the experience, a special upper receiver called the “Blazer” device can supply full live-fire functionality (without the projectile). It supplies nearly 100 percent of the recoil at 50 percent of the noise using a specially designed non-toxic theatrical blank. Once again, failure to meet the standards for this course of fire identifies the soldier as a candidate for remedial training.

Testing is currently being conducted in partnership with the Army Research Institute to determine if there is sufficient correlation between the LMTS course of fire and live fire. A robust correlation would suggest that the LMTS Alt C could serve as an alternative to live fire.

Maj. Gen. Thomas Plewes, chief, Army Reserve discussed this possibility with the crew at the ROA exhibit, saying, “We do not ever intend to replace live fire, but with this system we may be able to reduce the frequency for some types of units.”

Smith summed up the exhibit, “The weapons training strategy rollout was a major hit in D.C.”



**Sgt. 1st Class Joe Carlos from the SATT explains the operation of the M9 pistol.**

# The Sergeants Major Academy first hand

## ■ 84th Division Reservist shares his school experience

By Kim Michalowski  
84th Division (IT)

I have been a student at the U.S. Army Sergeants Major Academy resident course since July. There are two of us from the 84th Division attending the school, Sgt. Maj. Beth Benn, from 7th Brigade Headquarters, and myself. I had to report on my 48th birthday.

I had been notified of my selection to the academy in February and accepted it after a long discussion with my family. The decision to accept the selection was a difficult one for my family and me.

After a long deliberation, it was determined that I would attend the academy as a geographical bachelor. The final decision was left to my son and he really wanted to complete high school with his friends and at the school he had attended for three years.

Class officially started August 12 with an opening ceremony. There was a big deal made out of the ceremony because our class is Class 50, the millennium class.

Our class started with 562 students, after two were eliminated for not meeting Army weight standards. There are approximately 45 reserve component soldiers in the academy, 30 are Army Reservists.

Classes then began the following Monday with a six-week phase called common core subjects and referred to as group life one. This would be our base group. There are five group life's in all.

The class was divided into three divisions, leadership (where I started), military operations, and resource management. All divisions started with the same six-week session and then switched to their respective division areas for the next eight weeks.

About every eight weeks we switch to another area of emphasis. For example, after going through group life two in leadership our division rotated into group life three and entered the resource management phase of the program.

We will finish up with military operations (group life four) and finally group life five, where we return to our base groups and conduct a command post exercise and then out-process. In each group life the groups change within the divisions so you get a different class mix each time.

**The course is demanding. There are various** research and writing assignments required, three book reports based on a thesis statement each student

chooses. You must give an oral briefing on each book, showing how it supports your thesis. There are also five other briefings that are required and a staff study.

One of the research papers is a group project and requires a 15 to 25 page report and a group oral defense of the report. In addition to all these requirements, there are 12 written examinations and students are also tested on graphics and overlays using a map to plot positions.

Any student that does not have at least an associate degree must attend what is termed extension studies and work on the degree in addition to the regular course work. Others can work on higher degrees if they chose to.

However, I have a bachelors degree and decided not to take any college courses, so I was placed on a "special project".

Luckily I volunteered for what I wanted to do. During my free time I have been helping coach baseball and teach physical education at Austin High School in El Paso, Texas.

One part of the course that shifts between interesting

and drop dead boring, are the mandatory briefings. These include presentations from every major command sergeant major, the Army's Chief of Staff, the sergeant major of the Army and the sergeant major of National Guard Bureau.

Our graduation is set for May 25. I must say I am looking forward to that date because I will be able to re-join my family again. I have seen my wife and son at Thanksgiving and Christmas, and am anxious to get back home permanently. On the other hand, it will be a bitter-sweet moment because I have made a lot of friends and contacts.

Many active duty personnel have a jaundiced view of reserve component soldiers, but I believe many of us here have done a lot to refute that reputation.

Several people told me they would never have known I was a Reservist because of the knowledge I have, the way I carried myself, and the physical shape I was in. This should be our goal across the board at every level.

I am glad and proud that I chose to attend the resident course at USASMA. My reserve component counterparts and I have proven that we can do the same job as proficiently and sometimes better than our active component colleagues.

One thing I have tried to foster is that we are "One Army" and all components need to work more closely together for the Army to be successful in the 21st century.

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**- Sgt. Major Kim T. Michalowski**