



96th Regional Support Command

DEADEYE

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Wasatch Warrior Trains Troops



Soldiers of the 786th Quarter Master carry Spc. Jeremiah Perry during a field training exercise.



Staff Sgt. Regina Olivares, with the 172nd Medical Logistics Battalion, performs a sling load operation for training with a Blackhawk helicopter at Camp Williams, Utah.

*Story and Photo by
Spc. Scott A. Holdsworth
358th MPAD*

Enemy forces have infiltrated a country being protected by the United States. Units of the 96th RSC are attacked only two hours after the Operation Wasatch Warrior begins.

Several units from the 96th RSC took part in a three-day training exercise which involved many different wartime scenarios in a fictitious country called Kazar. The training was created to help the soldiers practice their MOS skills while in the field.

“It gives all the units practice with their mission while together,” said Lt. Col. Craig Odekirk, the 650th S3 operations director and a tactical operating center commander for the exercise. “It helps the troops get into the mind set and the skills will become more automatic as they practice more in the field.”

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Operation Wasatch Warrior Trains 96th RSC

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From simple tasks, like setting up a tent and camouflage to MOS specific tasks, the soldiers were involved in full time training to get them ready in case of a deployment.

The soldiers assisted with peacekeeping operations in Kazar, an imaginary country in the scenerio. Gordo, a country to the West, infiltrated Kazar. The soldiers did their jobs in the field, but also had to deal with attacks from the people of Gordo and other problems that came up.

The participating units from the 96th RSC stretched from Logan to Ogden, Utah. These soldiers took part in the complicated collaboration of many different units and soldiers.

“I just got back from basic training and it was interesting for me how everything comes together,” said Pvt. John E. Lauritzen, a radio operator and tech support for the 650th Area Support Group Headquarters.

“They need to bring everything together,” said Odekirk. “They know their MOS skills and they know the soldier skills, but when you put them together it’s more difficult.”

“We know our MOS mission, but now we are focusing on survival,” said Maj. Patrick Sheehan, 307th Quartermaster Battalion executive officer.

Though the exercise is smaller than first planned, according to Oderick, it has involved many different people.

According to Sheehan, this is only the beginning of the trainings that will be more complex and more real to life.



Sgt. Daniel L. Delao (left), section sergeant of the 438th Military Police, takes watch as Pvt. Laurie Ungricht (right), also of the 438th, checks identification of a visitor. The 438th guarded the perimeter of the camp.

“This is the first step for bigger and better things,” said Sheehan.

When the 786th Petroleum Supply unit was attacked the second day those who were wounded were sent to the field hospital. This brought in training from both the 786th and the 328th Combat Support Hospital (CSH).

It helps to have living, breathing people in the training instead of dummies to practice on, according to Spc. Wade T. Burkman, a medic for the 328th CSH.

“They know their MOS skills and they know the soldier skills, but when you put them together it’s more difficult.”

- Lt. Col. Craig Odekirk

“It’s getting a lot closer to reality,” said Sheehan. “We deal with civilians and refugees. This training covers political aspects, as well the physical aspects.”

From soldiers that had specific jobs to the leaders that made sure things went the way they were planned, all involved learned from the exercise.

“We’re learning a lot of deficiencies in our training, so it will help us in the future exercises we will have,” said Sheehan.

Finance Battalion Attends Golden Eagle 2002



Sgt. Kristina Winters briefs Col. Grant L. White, commander of the 650th Area Support Group, on possible areas where nuclear, biological, and chemical attacks may take place during Operation Golden Eagle.

***Story and photo by
Spc Engels Tejeda
358th MPAD***

Reservists with the 395th Finance Battalion out of Salt Lake City, Utah, upheld their motto “Pay with Pride” while they participated in Operation Golden Eagle 2002 at Fort Hood, Texas.

Early in July, reservists and service members from the national guard from several finance battalions joined efforts to bring about one of the most action-packed finance training of the year: Operation Golden Eagle.

The operation was coordinated and controlled by the 13th Finance Group out of Fort Hood, and its goal was to evaluate how different elements could operate under the command of their headquarters.

Capt. Michael Venardi, detachment commander with the 395th FB, explained that in case of war, finance battalions from the Army Reserves and sometimes from the National Guard are

mobilized as “Wartrace” battalion under the 469th Finance Group out of New Orleans. He said the training helped to evaluate how the units would handle such situations.

The 395th FB Command Sgt. Maj. Gary Christensen said, the soldiers passed through seven different lanes, which included MOS specific training such as training on accounts payable, commercial vendors’ contracts, and allowances for prisoners of war. In addition, the soldiers also participated in lanes training that emphasized soldier skills such as how to react to NBC threats and

how to react to an ambush, Christensen said.

“This training has given us the chance to evaluate ourselves on other units,” said Sgt. 1st Class Brent M. Bosh, operations non-commissioned officer with the 395th FB. “It has been very effective training because we don’t get a chance to (combine MOS and Soldier’s skills) like this at home,” added Sgt. Jason Gardner.

The ability to combine these skills is of up most importance for all reservists whether they are finance soldiers or mechanics, doctors or engineers. It is for this reason the 650th Area Support Group, the command to which the 395th falls under during peacetime, believes that training operations like Golden Eagle are important.

“The NBC training, for example, is invaluable because that’s the first line of defense for the soldiers,” said 650th ASG Command Sgt. Maj. Alan Elwood.

“This training gives the NCOs the confidence they need to lead the soldiers,” he said.



Reservists of the 395th Finance Battalion out of Salt Lake City, Utah, participated in Operation Golden Eagle at Fort Hood, Texas, this summer. The operation was a training exercise that coupled finance specialties with soldier skills.

Soldier in the field

How has operation Wasatch Warrior helped prepare you for a deployment?



Spc. Justin C. Taylor, Petroleum Supply Specialist with the 786th Petroleum Supply Quartermaster Company
"Real life training has helped prepare and educate me for a real war-time scenerio."



Staff Sgt. John A. Santoro, Motor Sergeant for the 419th Transportation Company
"For our unit we've been able to practice our move-out and convoy techniques."



Spc. Benjamin R. Sink, Mechanic for the 419th Transportation Company
"I learned how to camouflage a tent, set tents up better and how to cooperate with the many other units that are in this exercise."



Spc. Kaipua A. Blackburn, Mechanic for the 328th Field Hospital
"Practicing setting up temper tents and the Medical equipment"



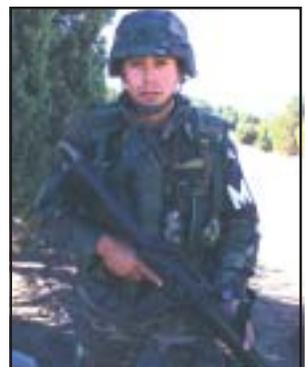
Pvt Laurie Ungricht with the 438th Military Police Detachment
"The night patrol helped me a lot because I learned really fast that my eyes play tricks on me at night."



Spc. Mitch H. Hooper, Military Police Intelligence, 438th Military Police Detachment
"It's helped me become a little more mentally prepared."



Spc. Wade T. Birckman, Medic for the 328th Field Hospital
"Having live patience rather than dummies which is what we usually train with."



Sgt. Daniel L. Delao, Section Sergeant of 438th Military Police Detachment
"Bringing us out to a field environment teaches us a lot about the positive and negatives of the job."

Sling Loaded Adrenaline

*Story and photo by
Spc. Marshall Thompson
358th MPAD*

Grass smashed to the ground, gravel flying haphazardly, electricity fills the air, a soldier reaches up from her perch on a small trailer and touches a wand to the bottom of the Blackhawk helicopter that hangs ominously close to her head.

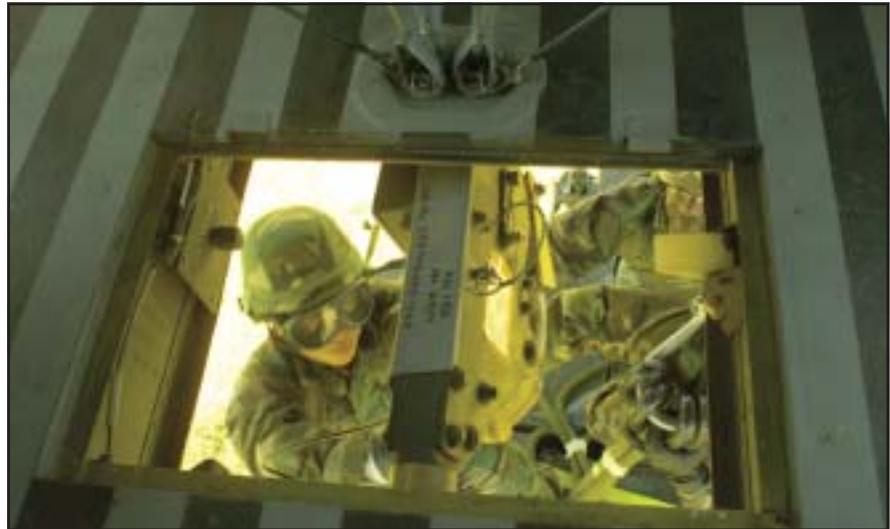
“It was a rush,” said Staff Sgt. Regina Olivares, a training NCO for the 172nd Medical Logistics Battalion (MedLog). “It was something else.”

Olivares was showing other soldiers how to properly sling load a trailer to a Blackhawk helicopter. A team stands on a trailer that is roped up and ready to be hooked to the bottom of the helicopter. As the helicopter gets closer the rotor wash from the blades almost blows them off. As the hook on the bottom of the helicopter is within range, a soldier reaches up with a wand and touches it.

“There’s static electricity created by the helicopter,” said Spc. Brandon Wagner, a combat medic with the 934th Forward Surgical Team (FST). “You have to get rid of it by grounding it with the wand.”

Wagner said the pressure was intense when he handled the grounding wand for the first time. “If I screwed up, I would have killed my commanding officer.”

After the electrical charge is safely grounded the team hooks up



Spc. Brandon Wagner, a soldier for the 172nd MedLog, assists fellow soldiers in attaching a trailer to the bottom of a Blackhawk helicopter during a sling load mission.

the trailer and gets off quickly. The helicopter raises and when the team is sure everything is going right, they run to safety accompanied by the cheers of their fellow soldiers.

“Pure adrenaline,” Wagner said. “You know

what you have to do and there is only one option to get it done. And as soon as you get it done, you get out of there.”

As fun as all this sounds, it’s a necessary part of these soldiers’ mission.

“As a forward surgical team, this is what we do,” said Spc. Chris Jensen, a combat medic with the 934th FST. “If we can’t drive all of our supplies and all of

our equipment to a location, they have to get dropped by helicopter.”

Jensen and Wagner had their first experience with sling loading operations thanks to Olivares and a National Guard helicopter unit out of Camp Williams, Utah.

“It was a new experience,”

Jensen said. “Any experience is good if it’s the first time.”

“It’s exciting to be able to show others how to do this,” said Oliveras, who recently completed the sling loading instructor’s school. “It’s intimidating when you see the helicopter coming toward you. You start to see the grass pressing down. And it’s windy, really windy. But when you hook it up, it’s a total triumph.”

“You know what you have to do and there is only one option: to get it done.”

- Spc. Brandon Wagner

Helena Celebrates New \$25.3

**Story and photos by
Cpt. Mark Jacobsen
358th MPAD**

Helena, Mont. -- The U.S. Army Reserve and the Montana National Guard hosted a joint ceremony dedicating the newly constructed Helena Armed Forces Reserve Center, Sunday, July 21, 2002.

The \$25.3 million, 234,000 square foot facility was constructed by the Montana National Guard at Fort Harrison and is the centerpiece of a \$109,908,489 statewide National Guard construction program.

The complex is occupied by the state of Montana's Department of Military Affairs, which consists of the Montana National Guard

headquarters, Disaster and Emergency Services, Veteran's Affairs and Operational Support, the U.S. Army Reserve and the Montana Highway Patrol's central dispatching center.

Sen. Conrad Burns was the moving force behind the procurement of \$21.7 million in federal funds that were contributed to the overall construction costs of the structure. As the ceremony's featured speaker, Burns expressed his commitment to the completion of the project.

"This day has been a long time in coming, here at Fort Harrison, Montana," said Burns. "What we dedicate here today is not bricks and mortar, however."

"It is a commitment to our warriors—that may we have not only the best of facilities but the

best of equipment, the best of technology and fitness," said Burns.

"The building is phenomenal," said Maj. Wayne Thares, Director of Logistics for the U.S. Army Reserve's 652nd Area Support Group, located in the new center.

According to Thares, the facilities have provided a considerable improvement in physical infrastructure for the U.S. Army Reserve units in Helena and Montana, adding to an already good working relationship shared with the Montana National Guard.

"It is a joint-use armed forces reserve training center. It is the National Guard at its best, it is the Army Reserve at its best," said Thares.

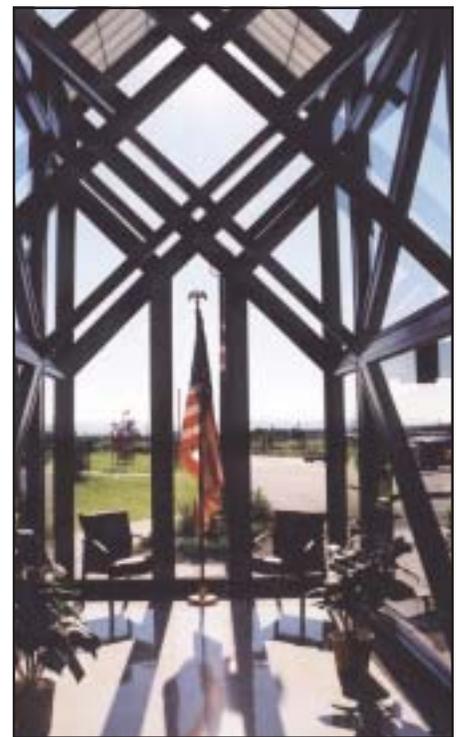
Maj. Gen. James P. Collins, Commander of the U.S. Army Reserve 96th Regional Support Command, reinforced the positive impact the improved facilities at Fort Harrison will have on reservists in the Montana area and their relationship with the National Guard.

"Fort Harrison has turned out to be just an excellent training facility for everybody in the military," said Collins.

"In the long term, it really helps in bringing the Army reserve and the Army National Guard just that much closer together," said Collins. "There's plenty of opportunities for training together, we can certainly learn from each other and I think as a result the readiness level of the Army Reserve units is going to be just that much higher."



Armed Forces Reserve Center



Top Left: A local cavalry troop serve as color bearers for the dedication, representing a link to the past.

Top Right: An inside view from a foyer in the Helena Armed Forces Reserve Center.

Center: Maj. Gen. James P. Collins addresses attendees and troops during the dedicatory service.

Bottom Left: The U.S. Army Reserve wing front entrance of the Helena Armed Forces Reserve Center.

Bottom Right: Original members of the "Devil's Brigade" stand by for the official ribbon cutting ceremony.



Protecting Their Patients



Spc. Marcus Nixon, a combat medic with the 328th Field Hospital, helps an opposition force soldier during a training exercise at Ft. McCoy, Wis.



Spc. Jasson Kirby, a light wheel mechanic with the 328th Field Hospital, targets opposition force soldiers.

*Story by Pfc. Mike Todd Photos by
Spc. Marshall Thompson
358th MPAD*

Annual training for the 96th RSC's 328th Field Hospital began July 13 and ended July 27 at Fort McCoy, Wisconsin. The mission of the Radiology Unit was to practice for a deployment by setting-up and running a field radiology center as well as conduct auxiliary duties with the rest of the 328th.

The NCOIC of Radiology, Staff Sgt. Tab M. Andersen, explains from within the white walled International Standards Organization (ISO) shelter, "We're here to take care of the patients and protect ourselves from the enemy." Each member of the Radiology team must conduct guard duty and KP in addition to their radiology duties. Also, the soldiers rotate positions on the Quick Reaction Force (QRF) to help defend the patients and staff from Opposition Force (Op For).

When soldiers become injured in the field they are taken to the field hospital. X-ray films help the doctors determine what is wrong with the soldier. Radiology is equipped with a

stationary X-ray machine, a portable X-ray machine, and a fluoro machine. These three pieces of equipment in addition to a daylight film processor help facilitate the needs of the field hospital.

In the ISO, X-ray technicians, Sgt. Brian P. Johnson and Sgt. Katie L. Perry prepare to transfer a radiographic dummy patient from a stretcher to the X-ray machine. The X-ray machine operates like a flash bulb on a camera. Instead of light, X-rays are flashed through the soldier and onto a piece of film. This allows the staff to see what's

inside the patient. The radiographic dummy patient, affectionately called a 'pixie,' is equipped with internal injuries that show-up on developed X-ray films. As the sergeants move the pixie, the observer/ controller simulates its distress by yelling out to them. "The training has been more realistic," Johnson said between the patient's simulated yelps of pain. "We can actually take X-rays and develop them."

"In the last 2 hours we treated 16 Emergency Medical Treatment (EMT) patients," said Staff Sgt. Andersen as he demonstrated the capabilities of the fluoro machine. "A stop at radiology can happen anytime throughout treatment at the hospital." The fluoro machine is used to display a constant picture of the soldier's innards on a screen, much like turning on a light in a dark room and looking around for what you want.



Staff Sgt. Ryan Swallon, the new member orientation NCOIC for the 328th Field Hospital sets record of force protection.

"With the fluoro machine you can see into the body and take stills of organs and arteries," he said. Patient care isn't all the soldiers have been focused on during this operation. Op For has been an all but constant presence throughout the training.

"This AT (Annual Training) is giving us a taste of how it is to be worried about the medical side

and the defensive posture side," said Perry. Moments later she was called away as part of the QRF responding to an Op For attack. Fortunately, she returned unscathed.

During a slow period Andersen sat down to take a breather, "The training is going well," he said, "it has helped us iron out the kinks."



Staff Sgt. Keith Anderson, an NCOIC with the x-ray department of the 328th Field Hospital takes aim at enemy soldiers during their training exercise in Ft. McCoy, Wis.

Life Support Area Secured



Spc. Cora Roe, postal specialist with the 155th Postal Battalion out of Fort Douglas, Utah, covers her perimeter as part of Operation Wasatch Warrior. The three-day operation provided training for soldiers in all fields.

***Story and photo by
Spc. Engels Tejeda
358th MPAD***

Reservists with the 650th Regional Support Command turned a small auto mechanic shop in Ogden, Utah, into a secured Life Support Area (LSA) as part of Operation Wasatch Warrior in mid September.

Nearly 225 reservists joined efforts to transform the Business Depot Ogden into LSA Iron. The

soldiers were from seven different units, including the 146th Transportation Company, the 478th Personnel Support Battalion, the 155th Postal Detachment, and the 438th Military Police Detachment. The soldiers put into practice both MOS specific, and basic soldier skills.

“This exercise has provided me a lot of valuable training,” said Spc. Ron G. Clark, a military police specialist with the 438th MP detachment.

“We had several training

instances where we were attacked.”

The exercise challenged the reservists to practice their basic soldiers skill. Simulated opposition forces attacked the soldiers throughout the 24-hour exercise.

For example, Spc. Cora Roe, a postal specialist with the 155th, was challenged to react to a mailed bomb. She was also called to guard a perimeter and to secure the mail area.

Overall, the reservists said that the training was excellent.

Supplying Soldier's Demands

*Story and photos by
Spc Marshall Thompson
358th MPAD*

An Army Reserve quarter-master unit received some first hand experience during a training exercise for all the reserve units on the Wasatch Front.

The 854th Quartermaster (QM) were ready to provide soldiers at Wasatch Warrior, the training exercise, with anything from MREs, to water, to concertina wire, to fuel.

However, with the fuel came more than just a training exercise, but a real world experience. A gasket blew on a fuel filter and sprayed about five gallons onto the dry dirt of Camp Williams, Utah.

"If this was a [civilian] construction site, we probably wouldn't have to worry about it," said Spc. Todd Smith, a petroleum supply specialist with the 854th QM.

He said they shoveled up the spill, put the contaminated dirt into bag, which would later be incinerated. Smith said this was all done "because we're responsible and economical."

The learning opportunity was not lost on the soldiers of the 854th QM.

"It helps us try to think of ways to get around problems – make back up plans," said Spc. Earl Fish, a petroleum supply specialist with the 854th QM.



Soldiers in the 854th Quartermaster unit download MREs for their fellow soldiers during a training exercise called Wasatch Warrior at Camp Williams.

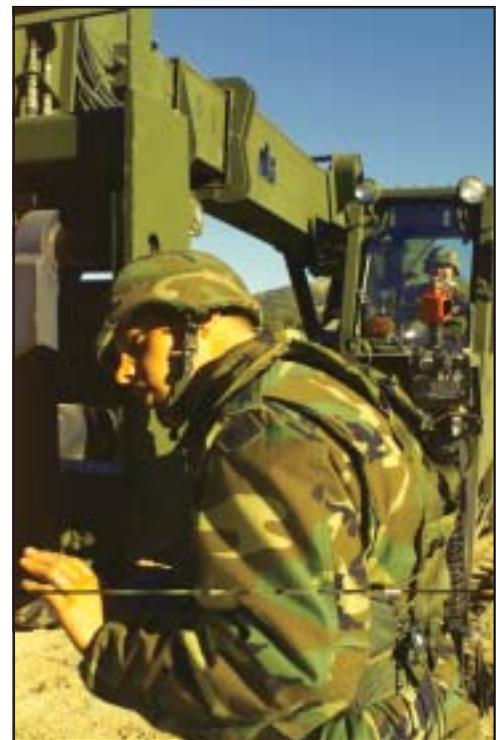
Not everything was a learning experience for the 854th.

All the other tasks were extremely well prepared and rehearsed.

"I think it's great," said Spc. Tim Whitesides, an automated logistics specialist with the 854th QM. "It seems like it's pretty organized. A lot of good people getting things done."

"The enlisted men and the NCOs (non-commissioned officers) have been the key to our success out here," said Cpt. Scott Jones, the commander of the 854th QM.

"They really came together to make these missions come together in time," he said.



A soldier from the 854th QM helps guide the tines of a front loader underneath a pallet of MREs.

Maintenance Ready to Roll

*Story and photo by
Spc. Engels Tejada
358th MPAD*

The mission was top secret, and the destination was unknown. Yet a group of 14 reservists with the 872nd Maintenance Company (SD) out of Ogden, Utah, was ready to deploy at a moment's notice to anywhere on earth.

In mid-September the soldiers were given an alert notice, which meant that in just a few days they would go anywhere in support of Operation Enduring Freedom – America's war on terror. Capt. Bryan Brokate, the 872nd Commander, explained the deployment status of the soldiers.

"The 872nd is experiencing its fourth deployment in the last year in support of Operation Noble Eagle and Operation Enduring Freedom. The first two groups were deployed in support of the Salt Lake Winter Olympic Games. The third group went in July to Uzbekistan, and they are supporting a fire base out there that (houses) about 500 people," Brokate said.

Brokate said that while the company had not received the exact location of where the latest group of soldiers would be deployed to, the reservists were ready to go anywhere to serve their country. Pvt. Brian K. Svedin, a small arms repair specialist with the 872nd, agreed with Brokate and said that it didn't really matter



Pvt. Brian K. Svedin gets a blood sample drawn for HIV testing. Svedin, a small arms repair specialist with the 872nd Maintenance Company (SD), is one of 14 soldiers on alert for deployment.

whether he would go to Salt Lake City, Germany or Afghanistan. He said the important fact was that he would have the chance to serve his nation.

"I'm kind of exited [about the deployment]. I don't know where I'm going but I really don't have a preference," said Svedin. "The important thing is that I'll be able to help out for a great cause – the war on terror and America's freedom."

According to Svedin he and his unit were prepared for the challenge ahead. The reservists were all mechanics with different specialties. Some were small weapons repairers, others were light wheel vehicles mechanics, and a few were power generator repair specialists. Brokate said that the reservists were professionally ready for the deployment and that the greatest challenge they had

faced to date, was getting all the logistics done for the group.

"The biggest challenged we've had has been making sure that their packages are ready; that their paperwork [is good to go]," said Brokate. "Most of them are mechanics in their civilian trade, so a lot of them have much more experience than some of their active duty counterparts. They come from a wide variety of backgrounds because we do a lot of cross training here."

Some of the reservists were students. Svedin, for example, is majoring in architecture at Salt Lake Community College in Utah. He said that he would probably have to drop out of the fall semester to go on the deployment, and that he understood that he would have to make sacrifices like this to serve in the nation.