**MEDIA ADVISORY**

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**Release Nr**: 2102-01

**MEDIA ADVISORY**: “D” Series Winter Challenge

**WHAT**: The 10th Mountain Division hosts the “D” Series Winter Challenge to test the Mountain Soldiers’ tactical and technical skills in an arctic environment and to reinforce the division’s mountain toughness.

**WHEN**: Wednesday 10, February 2021

**WHERE**: Fort Drum, New York

**BACKGROUND**: Over 100 nine-person teams of 10th Mountain Division Soldiers, will compete in several events across the installation: team rope climb, ahkio sled drag/carry, weapons station (M4, M249, M240), employ grenades and a stress shoot. Event will begin at 6:00 a.m. with all events scheduled to be complete by 5:00 p.m.

The challenge was created to commemorate a month-long exercise known as D-Series that 12,000 10th Mountain Division Soldiers undertook in March of 1944 in Colorado. The Soldiers equipped with 90-pound packs, skis, and snowshoes, marched to an altitude of over 13,000 feet. Over the duration of the exercise, eight feet of snow fell, and the temperature got as low as 30 degrees below zero. D-Series was often regarded by those who participated as the most difficult training of any division in World War II.

Note: Media interested in attending should RSVP to harold.huff16.mil@mail.mil by 12:00 p.m Monday, 8 February. Media will meet representatives from Public Affairs Office by 9:30 a.m. on the morning of the event at Media Ops on NYS RTE 26.