

THURSDAY AUG. 24, 2023

THE FORT JACKSON LEADER

"VICTORY ... STARTS HERE."

SCRUM OF A DIFFERENT SORT

RUGBY TEAM SAMPLES ARMY LIFE



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Special visitor

By **REGINALD ROGERS**
Fort Jackson Public Affairs

Fort Jackson played host to a special visitor Aug. 16, as U.S. congressman Joe Wilson and his staff members visited several locations on post. Wilson was greeted at the 2nd Battalion, 39th Infantry Regiment (Future Soldier Prep Course) by Brig. Gen. Jason E. Kelly and several members of the Fort Jackson senior leadership team. While at the FSPC, Wilson had the opportunity to speak with several Soldiers who graduated from the course and were preparing to move on to Basic Combat Training. Wilson, who was escorted by Fort Jackson Deputy Commanding Officer Col. Mark E. Huhtanen, also visited the Engagement Skills Trainer and the Drill Sergeant Timothy Kay Soldier Performance Readiness Center.



ON THE COVER

A student-athlete with the University of South Carolina Men's Rugby Team lowers himself down the vertical ladder at the Fort Jackson confidence-course, Aug. 19.



Photo by **ROBERT TIMMONS**

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THE FORT JACKSON LEADER

"We Make American Soldiers"

Fort Jackson, South Carolina 29207

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Photo by PAUL STAMPS

A unit ministry team listens to a briefing during a pause in recent training. The unit ministry team, that consists of a chaplain and religious affairs specialist, provides religious service support to Soldiers and their Families. They will go where Soldiers go and experience what Soldiers experience.

Institute sends forth new religious service support graduates after big week

By MEL SLATER
Institute for Religious Leadership

While the Army Chaplain Corps Regimental Week celebrated its 248th birthday July 25-28, the week of Aug. 14-18 was a big for the Institute for Religious Leadership for different reasons. It was just as large in terms of the future contribution to the Chaplain Corps and the Army.

The week featured multiple graduations of chaplains and religious affairs specialists who will soon be joining or re-joining units around the world to provide religious service support to America's Soldiers and their Families.

It was also the first big week for the new institute leadership that took over in July.

"It's been a busy week and we've had multiple graduations, kids are back in South Carolina schools, the Chaplains Basic Officer Leadership Course Dining Out, early mornings and late nights," said institute commandant, Chaplain (Col.) Louis Deltufo.

The chaplain leader course is the institute's flagship course. The CHBOLC Class 23-002 graduation was the culminating event for the week, held Aug. 18. The course held its dining-out at the Fort Jackson NCO Club, Aug. 16. Spouses of students in Class 23-002 met with Chaplain Corps spouses to

receive a welcome and to learn more about the Army, and the chaplain Family, Aug. 15-18. Course students and their Families also gathered at Fort Jackson's Patriots Park for fun, food and fellowship, Aug. 14.

"Today we are celebrating your accomplishments, and we're not just celebrating your accomplishments, but we are getting ready to send you forth," said Army Deputy Chief of Chaplains, Chaplain (Brig. Gen.) Bill Green. "It's one thing to receive all of this knowledge and education and go through the experiences that you've had. But now it's time to move on, to move forth."

Soldiers in the Religious Affairs Special-

ist Senior Leader Course Class 23-002 also graduated, Aug. 17. These are the newest senior noncommissioned officers of the Chaplain Corps.

Religious affairs specialist, Advanced Individual Training classes 23-012 and 23-013 also graduated, Aug. 17. These Soldiers will soon become an integral part of the unit ministry team that consists of a chaplain and religious affairs specialist. These teams go where Soldiers go and experience what Soldiers experience. They see to the religious service support needs of those Soldiers whether they share the same religious beliefs or not. If the UMT cannot see to a Soldier's religious support needs, they will find the support needed among other Chaplain Corps members.

The seemingly prophetic message of the day applied to all graduates.

"OK team, you guys look good, you sound good. Before you go out to the force, there's only one thing we have left to do, let's graduate," said Sgt Maj. Frederick Cohen, Task Force Integrator sergeant major.

A graduation for chaplains and religious affairs specialists in the Combat Medical Ministry/Emergency Medical Ministry Course was also held by the Chaplain Corps Graduate school, Aug. 17. The course is a combination of religious affairs specialists and chaplains training to provide short-term trauma intervention for combat casualties, stress and emergent/urgent care environments.

In addition to the graduation activity at the institute, staff members of the Senate Armed Services Committee visited the school as part of their visit to Fort Jackson, Aug. 17. They were greeted by Deltufo and Command Sgt. Maj. Evelin Montealegre, met briefly with Green and were given a brief tour of the campus and discussed training received by chaplain candidates and religious affairs specialists AIT Soldiers.

The week would not have been complete without an organization day type event. Enter the Chief of Staff Welcome Offsite.

The new institute chief of staff, Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Emmitt Furner hosted a meet and greet with lunch for all school staff at Heise Pond to provide an informal setting for a team building exercise, Aug. 18.

It was a good time had by all to round out a good week for the institute and Chaplain Corps.

Community Updates

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ArmyIgnitED 101

Are you new to tuition assistance or credentialing assistance? Maybe you are looking from some refresher training. The Fort Jackson Army Continuing Education System is holding ArmyIgnitED 101 briefs every second and fourth Mondays and Wednesdays of each month. The briefing are held virtually, starting at 10 a.m. Mondays, and in person at the Education Center (4600 Strom Thurmond Blvd.) beginning at 10 a.m. Wednesdays. To sign up email your attendance request to usarmy.jackson.93-sig-bed.mbx.dhr-jacksoned-center@army.mil. Walk-ins are welcome.

Guest Day at the Fort Jackson Golf Club.

Fort Jackson Golf Club members are now permitted to bring up to three guests. Also on guest days, green fees are waived for member's guest(s), but each guest must pay cart and user fees. Upcoming Guest Days are: Aug. 31; Sept. 2, 6, 14 and 28; Oct. 5, 14, 20 and 29; Nov. 2, 9, 16 and 26; Dec. 2, 8, 14 and 20.

Lunch Buffet at the NCO Club

Lunch Buffet at the NCO Club is served Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday, 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Tuesdays feature soul food. Wednesday the NCO Club now offers an all-American Buffet, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Thursdays are themed menus and Friday is all you can eat seafood. The NCO Club is open for breakfast Thursdays from 6:30-8:30 a.m. Ordering is easier than ever through Chow Now, jackson.armymwr.com/categories/social-and-dining.

Tuition Assistance Information

All tuition assistance requests for fiscal year 23 must be submitted and approved prior to 8 p.m. Sept. 7 due to the Army's fiscal year closeout. There will be no exceptions granted. Soldiers should make sure current contact information is in their ArmyIgnitED accounts in the event the

education center has questions regarding a submission and/or requires additional information. Soldiers using TA should regularly check their ArmyIgnitED accounts and respond to any messages received; messages are automatically emailed to the email address listed in the ArmyIgnitED account.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

FRIDAY

Paint and Sip - Pet Portait Watercolor

5:30-7:30 p.m., Solomon Center. Learn how to paint with watercolors as you create a pet portrait. Cost is \$45.

SATURDAY

Buddy Games

8 a.m., Vanguard Gym. Buddy Games is a CrossFit style competition. Teams of two people compete in a variety of events. Register your team by Aug. 23 in any gym or by calling 751-5839. This is a Commander's Cup eligible event.

Cars and Coffee

8-11 a.m., Solomon Center Parking Lot. Enjoy cool cars and hot coffee.

Adventure on the Congaree

Join Outdoor Recreation for a three-hour kayak adventure at Congaree National Park. Cost: \$60 per person. Include: transportation, kayaks, life vest and paddles. (bug spray recommended). For more information, call 751-3484.

SEPT. 1

First Friday Golf

11:30 a.m., Fort Jackson Golf Club. Brig. Gen. Jason Kelly, Fort Jackson commander, invites you to join him for First Friday Golf the first Friday of every month! This is a Captain's Choice event and will begin at 11:30 a.m. at the Fort Jackson Golf Club. You may enter your own team or sign up as a single and the FJGC PGA

Professionals will pair you with a group. Entry fee is \$45 for FJGC members and \$55 for non-members. The entry fee includes applicable greens fee, user Fee, cart, prizes, and a boxed lunch. Register ASAP by calling or stopping by the course.

SEPT. 7

Post Newcomer's Orientation

8 a.m. NCO Club. This orientation is mandatory for all Soldiers and Department of the Army Civilians arriving at Fort Jackson. Spouses are encouraged to attend. This will be a great opportunity for spouses to receive first-hand information about the valuable available resources on and around Fort Jackson. There will be no on-site childcare for this event. For additional information, call Army Community Service at 751-5256.

SEPT. 8

Spouse Federal Resume Workshop

9:30-11:30 a.m., Army Community Service Building, 9810 Lee Road. Are you seeking federal employment? Come learn everything you need to know about: transitioning from private industry to the federal government; writing a correct federal resume; creating effective Knowledge Skills and Abilities; answering "Self-Assessment Questionnaires; "formatting your resume to be noticed by reviewers; interviewing; and tracking the progress of your application. Topics covered are: USAJobs account, position classification standards and functional guides; breaking down the vacancy announcement adjusting your experience to the vacancy. Registration is required. Call 751-5256 to reserve a seat.

Post CSM 2nd Friday Skeet Shoot

1-5 p.m., Aachen Range. Join Outdoor Recreation and Post Command Sgt. Maj. Erick Ochs at the inaugural 2nd Friday range day. Cost is \$10 per round if you

See **EVENTS:** Page 10



Fort Jackson Movie Schedule

3319 Jackson Blvd.

Phone: 751-7488

AUG. 25

■ Gran Turismo (PG-13) 6 p.m.

AUG. 26

■ Gran Turismo (PG-13) 2 p.m.

AUG. 30

■ Gran Turismo (PG-13) 11 a.m.

■ Gran Turismo (PG-13) 3 p.m.

- Ticket sales open 30 minutes before each movie.
- Movie times and schedule are subject to change without notice.

THE FORT JACKSON LEADER

**SEND ALL
SUBMISSIONS TO**

usarmy.jackson.93-sig-bde.mbx.atzj-pao@army.mil

Deadline for events to be included in the Community Updates is one week before publication. Include the time, date and place the event will occur, as well as other necessary information.

If you submit an article on an event that already has taken place, please send it as soon as possible. Tuesday is the last day we will be able to accept an article for publication the following

Thursday. Include the date and place of the event, as well as a description of what took place. Please include quotations, if possible.

With any photo you submit, include IDs — rank, unit, and first and last names. All submissions will be edited and published using Associated Press Style

Questions? Call 751-6739.

Families of Korean War missing are still hopeful

By **DAVID VERGUN**
DOD News Service

Over 500 family members of U.S. service members missing in action during the Korean War and the Cold War gathered in Arlington, Virginia, last week to get updates on the status of their loved ones, hoping that the remains have or will be located and identified and so bring answers after more than seven decades of waiting.

Every year for the last 30 years, leaders and forensic experts from the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency have been briefing families of the missing on the status of searches and identification of service members' remains.

Each family is provided an individual case summary on the status of their missing loved one, said Kelly K. McKeague, agency director.

During these visits, family members who haven't yet done so are asked to provide DNA samples to further help in identification. Personnel are on hand to take DNA samples from cheek swabs, he said, noting that DNA samples from distant relatives are also useful in the identification process.

For some attendees, the agency will have much progress to share. For others, not so much, he said.

Lack of progress is mostly because the agency hasn't been allowed to search for remains in North Korea since 2005, although North Korea did turn over remains they excavated five years ago, he said.

Veronica Keyes, a forensic anthropologist with the agency and Korean War identification project leader, was one of four scientists who traveled to North Korea to repatriate the remains contained in 55 boxes that North Korea turned over in 2018.

It was the last time North Korea turned over remains to the agency, she said.

During her visit to North Korea, the North Korean soldiers and forensic anthropologists were very friendly and eager to chat with the American visitors. It's sad that the government of North Korea has cut off communications with the agency, she said, adding that she hopes there's a change of heart since it's a humanitarian endeavor.



Department of Defense photo

Veronica Keyes, forensic anthropologist with the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency, secures a box containing the possible remains of service members lost in the Korean War during a unilateral transfer in Wonsan, North Korea, July 27, 2018.

Donna Knox was one of the family members attending the Aug. 17-18 event. She was not yet born when her father, Air Force 1st Lt. Hal Downes, crashed over North Korea on Jan. 13, 1952. Two months later, she was born.

Lee Downes, Knox's mother, said that her husband, a navigator on a B-26 Invader was "vibrant, loving, devoted and the love of her life."

For years, the family expected Downes to show up at the door to their house, Knox said.

In 2001, Knox visited North Korea. A North Korean soldier pointed to a rice paddy where he said the airplane carrying her father crashed. Knox said she spent some quiet time at that site reflecting on the father she never knew.

Knox said that she stayed at a guest house by a river in North Korea where a flock of cranes had gathered. A North Korean soldier said the crane is a symbol of eternal life.

When Knox boarded her flight out of North Korea, a crane flew alongside her window as the plane took off. Knox said

that moment was very special for her.

Another attendee was Eugene Fulmore, nephew of Army Cpl. Bannie Harrison Jr., who died while a prisoner of war in North Korea on Jan. 7, 1951. His remains were never recovered.

Fulmore said he was too young to remember his uncle, but he heard from family that he and his brother were among their uncle's favorites.

Perhaps having an uncle who served and sacrificed led Fulmore to join the Army, he said. He served from 1966 to 1968, and in 1967, he was in South Vietnam.

Cynthia Grisham, another attendee, lost her father, Air Force Capt. David H. Grisham, on Sept. 3, 1950. He was flying an F-51 Mustang that crashed over the Sea of Japan en route to Korea. His remains were never found.

Grisham said she treasures photos of her father; she said he looked like actor Clark Gable. Capt. Grisham was also a B-24 Liberator pilot during World War II.

John Zimmerlee lost his father, Air Force Capt. John Henry Zimmerlee Jr., on March 21, 1952. Capt. Zimmerlee crashed

over Singye, North Korea, while flying in a B-26 Invader as a radar observer. His remains were never recovered.

Zimmerlee has spent countless hours at the National Archives, trying to find more information about his father and seeking closure. He said too many files there are still classified, making the job difficult. He has also been helping to find files of others missing in action from the Korean War.

Capt. Zimmerlee was also a pilot during World War II, serving in Europe.

McKeague said there are 7,491 service members still unaccounted for from the Korean War. Currently, 666 have been identified. Of the 7,491 unaccounted for, the agency estimates that around 5,300 are still in North Korea.

During the identification process, some are discovered to be Chinese, South Korean or North Korean soldiers, he said.

North Korea has not expressed an interest in repatriating the remains of its soldiers, he said, but China and South Korea have.

In a recent case, the agency turned over the remains of a South Korean private first class.

A repatriation ceremony was held in South Korea and attended by the South Korean president, he said.

Also attending the Arlington event was the nephew of the South Korean soldier who died. The nephew is a chief petty officer in the South Korean Navy, he said.

The younger brother of the fallen South Korean private first class read a letter during the ceremony.

"Welcome home, brother. It's been too long. I want you to know that your sacrifice enabled me to be raised in a prosperous, free country," the brother said, according to McKeague.

"You've often heard the Korean War called 'The Forgotten War.' It is not," he said.

South Korea invites the U.S. families of Korean War MIA to visit South Korea, all expenses paid. South Koreans are appreciative of the service and sacrifices made by U.S. service members. They want to make clear that those sacrifices were not in vain, the young man said.



A 2nd Battalion, 39th Infantry Regiment cadre member watches as members of the University of South Carolina men's rugby team help each other over an obstacle at the Fort Jackson Confidence Course, Aug. 19. The 2-39th led them through a variety of training Soldiers go through during Basic Combat Training.



Student-athletes help each other up the skyscraper at the Fort Jackson confidence course, Aug. 19.



Photos by ROBERT TIMMONS

The University of South Carolina Men's Rugby Team visited Fort Jackson to help build team cohesion.

Scrum of a different sort

USC rugby team samples Army life

By **ROBERT TIMMONS**
Fort Jackson Public Affairs

The University of South Carolina's men's rugby team ran into a scrum of a different sort when they visited Fort Jackson, Aug. 19.

The team was on post as part of its pre-season rugby camp.

"The boys all came back 10 days early to have practices and to endure some happy suffering that I call it," said head coach John Roberts while the team clambered up, climbed over, and pulled each other over a variety of obstacles at the confidence course on post. The team does it to "get to know each other and get ready for the season, which begins Labor Day weekend."

The tour is one part of the post's efforts

to connect with the surrounding community and the nation.

"Fort Jackson's role in our nation's defense is invaluable," said Reginald Rogers, community relations officer. "We are the Army's premier basic combat training center, as we train nearly 60,000 Soldiers annually. It's important for us to remain a valuable partner within the greater Columbia community."

"Hosting tours allows the taxpayers to see how their money is being spent and the significance of what we do here at Fort Jackson: We make American Soldiers. Tours also strengthen the civilian-military relationship, and it allows the local and national public to come and meet the Soldiers who fill the ranks of their Army."

The coordination between Fort Jackson and the team took four months of plan-

ning to pull off.

"This is a phenomenal event," Roberts said. "We start working on this thing for months before and it's just fantastic. The guys go through it, and it brings them together because this just instills confidence in their teamwork."

The confidence course is meant to do just that, instill confidence. While some of the obstacles require one to dig deep to build confidence within themselves, others require teamwork to get up.

Roberts watched as members of his team climbed the confidence climb, a vertical ladder designed to help Soldiers conquer their fear of heights. It can also make those watching a little apprehensive.

"I'm gonna be honest with you, some of the high winds when they got up there kind of makes me nervous because I'm

kind of weary of heights," he said. "But I'm not too concerned because they're under the expert care and the (2nd Battalion, 39th Infantry Regiment) staff do a great job with that."

The student-athletes were under the careful watch of 2-39th cadre as they navigated the obstacles.

Not only did the cadre watch them going through the course, but they also led them in other activities as well.

"We did a nice little foot march with the dumbbells, sandbags and weights to carry," Roberts said. The team was also led in a "great" warm up session on the physical training track and repelled down Victory Tower. They also ate Meals, Ready to Eat for lunch and finished off their day with a race through the Fit to Win 2 obstacle course.



A member of the University of South Carolina rugby team pulls himself up a rope while navigating the Fort Jackson confidence course, Aug. 19. The team was on post learning how to become closer as a team by going through training Soldiers go through.



A rugger with the University of South Carolina Men's Rugby Team, reaches the top of the confidence climb while navigating the Fort Jackson confidence course, Aug. 19. The obstacle makes one confront their fears and gain confidence in their abilities to overcome any obstacle they may face.

WHY I SERVE

**2ND BATTALION,
39TH INFANTRY REGIMENT**

SPC. JAMES KEMP, 24

Basking Ridge, New Jersey

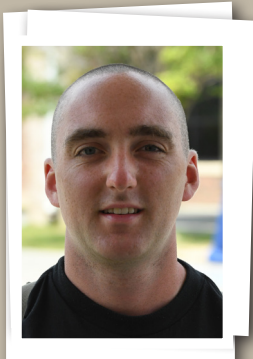
"I joined the Army because I wanted to push myself to be better than my peers and to improve myself mentally and physically."

"I imagined Basic Combat Training would be more physically intense and I thought we would dive more in depth into tactics."

The most challenging part of BCT was "leading peers. Many of my peers did not have my level of motivation and trying to push others to get better was the most difficult part of BCT."

Some good advice to those about to ship out to BCT is to "show up in shape. It allows you to focus on the mental side and makes the experience easier."

My MOS is "09S-Commissioned Officer Candidate. I did some ROTC in college and still aspired to be an officer after college."



SPC. DOUGLAS MCFARLAND, 17

Clearfield, Utah

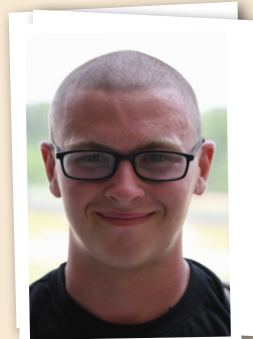
"My Family is the reason I joined the Army."

"I originally thought Basic Combat Training would be a little harder than what it was. I have always had the thought of joining, but I was asking my uncle what basic was like, and he told me how things have changed. So, I had hoped they left a little bit of the hard stuff in."

The hardest part of BCT was "dealing with other people's stupidity. I don't get why people think it's hard to stand at the position of attention for three minutes."

"Don't let the bad days get you down," is what I would tell someone about to start BCT.

"I am a 91B-Wheeled Vehicle Mechanic. I chose this job because of the bonus."



PVT. KATHLEEN MEDINA, 19

Raleigh, North Carolina

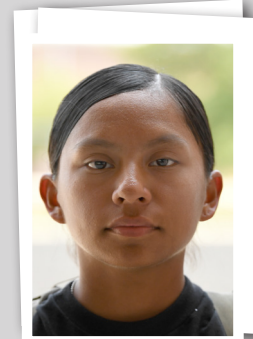
I enlisted because "I wanted to be different from my Family. My niece influenced me to be better so she wouldn't have to go through what I did."

"I imagined Basic Combat Training to be mostly all physical. Half of it was, but the other half was knowledge, being confident and leadership."

"I would say maintaining discipline," was the toughest part of BCT. "The Army is one, we are a Family. If one of us fails, we all fail. You are only as strong as your weakest link."

Here is some good advice. "Dig deep and remind yourself what or who you are doing it for. Imagine the outcome and think of short-term goals."

I am a "42A-Human Resources Specialist. I plan on getting a master's degree in social work because I love working with and interacting with others."



PFC. TATE HOOK, 17

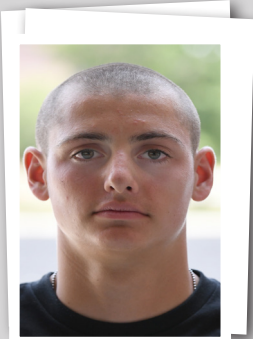
DeSoto, Iowa

"My brother joined the military and seeing the changes training made in him inspired me to do the same and join the military."

"I imagined 10 weeks of sucky day. I thought Basic Combat Training would be punishment and physical training 24-hours a day, seven days a week."

The most challenging part of BCT was "Reception. Being away from home for the first time and sitting around doing nothing meant for 11 long and not fun days."

My MOS is "68W-Combat Medic Specialist. I chose to be a 68W because of how it benefits me outside of the military. As someone who isn't active duty, having a medical based job in the military will make it easier for me to find a civilian job."



PVT. SYDNEY THORNE, 17

Creston, Illinois

"I joined the Army to make myself better physically and mentally, and to achieve bigger goals in life."

"I imagined Basic Combat Training to look like death. I assumed we would be running every day, and always on the go."

"The Night Infiltration Course was the most challenging for me. I was terrified to do it. I felt like I wasn't going to make it before the lights came on."

"Think clearly and don't give up on yourself," is the advice I would give.

"I am a 74D-Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear (CBRN) Specialist. I chose it because it would help me through my firefighter career in civilian life."



PFC. PETER DATISH, 20

Boston

I was influenced to join by "my grandfather, as well as the opportunity to better myself as a person and to give back to my country."

"I imagined Basic Combat Training would be strenuous and difficult because I had only heard stories from Family and friends."

"The most challenging part of BCT was staying mentally motivated during ruck marches because the duration the weight would take a toll on my body."

"I would advise those about to start BCT to stay motivated and take pride in completing each event."

My MOS is "09R-Cadet, but I chose 13B Field Artillery for the National Guard while I am in college. I chose 13B because my friend from high school chose that and he has only told me good things."



To read more why Soldiers serve visit: home.army.mil/jackson

George lays out vision for Army, National Guard

By **SGT. 1ST CLASS ZACH SHEELY**
Army News Service

The Army's senior leader conveyed his perspective on the state of the Army, his vision for its future and how the National Guard — one of its two reserve components — fits into the current environment on Aug. 20.

Army Gen. Randy A. George, the Army's vice chief of staff and nominee to lead the service, shared how essential the National Guard is to the Army.

"The Army Guard is nearly 40% of our operational force," George told an annual meeting of National Guard leaders. "We don't go anywhere with only 60% of our team. We're going to need everybody. I'm used to that because that's what I've seen over the last 20 years."

Since 9/11, more than 1 million Guardsmen have deployed overseas to theaters, including Iraq and Afghanistan.

In April, George, who served in the Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom operations, was nominated to become the Army's top officer. He shared his latest impressions of the Guard from a recent visit to Camp Grayling, Michigan — his first trip as nominative CSA — to observe exercise Northern Strike.

"What I saw up there was super impressive and very refreshing," George said. "I was impressed, but I wasn't surprised because every time I've deployed, I've had National Guard Soldiers right there inside my formations."

Northern Strike, held annually during the winter and summer, is one of the Guard's premier training events designed to validate the readiness of the joint force. Army Gen. Daniel Hokanson, chief of the National Guard Bureau, also visited Camp Grayling this month and called it an "incredible, complex training environment."

George was commissioned as an Army officer from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point in 1988 and

warned the current environment — with Russia's war on Ukraine, and the Indo-Pacific region with China as the pacing threat — is as complex and dangerous as he has seen in his time in service.

"The character of war has changed over the last two years," he said. "We talk about Europe. We talk about the Pacific. Our Army is global, and we're going to have to be ready to go wherever we need to go."

"Wherever we go, it's going to be a multi-component solution. It has always been that way. And it will continue to be and probably increasingly so."

The National Defense Strategy names allies and partners as crucial to America's integrated deterrence efforts. In July, hundreds of Guard leaders and international counterparts marked 30 years of the Department of Defense National Guard State Partnership Program during a two-day conference in the national capital region.

The SPP, established in 1993, now boasts security cooperation agreements between the National Guard of every state, territory and the District of Columbia and 100 countries on every continent and within every U.S. geographic combatant command.

"I've had a lot of experience with and seen the power of the state partnerships," George said. "They are very, very powerful for our country, not just our military."

Enduring partnerships are just one way the joint force can deter aggression. George outlined his four focus areas for the Army: warfighting, delivering ready combat formations, undergoing continuous transformation and strengthening the profession of arms.

As the combat reserve of the Army, the National Guard exists and is largely funded to fight and win the nation's wars, aligning with Army and DOD core missions.

George and the Army's senior enlisted leader favor keeping the ACFT as the Army's fitness test of record.

SALUTING THIS BCT CYCLE'S HONOREES 2nd Battalion, 39th Infantry Regiment

ALPHA COMPANY
SOLDIER LEADER OF THE CYCLE
Pvt. Kathleen Medina

SOLDIER OF THE CYCLE
Pfc. Tate Hook

BRAVO COMPANY
SOLDIER LEADER OF THE CYCLE
Spc. James Kemp

SOLDIER OF THE CYCLE
Spc. Douglas McFarland

CHARLIE COMPANY
SOLDIER LEADER OF THE CYCLE
Pvt. Sydney Thorne

SOLDIER OF THE CYCLE
Pfc. Peter Datish



STAFF SGT. LARRY BROADWATER

DRILL SERGEANT
OF THE CYCLE



Courtesy photo

On the defense ...

A trainee sets up a hasty defense during a recent field training exercise. Soldiers are taught to provide 360 degree defenses whenever their patrol may stop or when they are preparing a bivouac area.

Events

Continued from Page 4

bring your own shotgun and ammo and \$25 per round if you use ours. Each round consists of 25 clay targets launched from our two skeet houses. Whether you're an experienced shooter or it's your first time come and join the fun.

SEPT. 9
Run/Walk for the Fallen

8 a.m., Hilton Field. Fort Jackson honors service members from South Carolina who died serving the Nation since Sept. 11, 2001 with a run. Registration begins at 7 a.m. on Hilton Field with a ceremony at 7:30 a.m. The run begins promptly at 8.

SEPT. 12
Shred Day

9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Recycle Center. All types of paper with sensitive information will be accepted, but no classified documents. Shredding papers with your personal information provides a level of insurance against identity theft and misuse. For more information, call 751-4208.

SEPT. 22
Cars and Coffee

8-11 a.m., Solomon Center Parking Lot. Enjoy cool cars and hot coffee.

SEPT. 23
Flea Market

8 a.m. to noon., Solomon Center. Hurry and reserve your spot. For more information, call 751-4056.

'Do It in Pink' Aerobathon

10 a.m to 1 p.m., Solomon Center. Join us for this two-hour aerobathon. Early detection saves lives. Dress in pink to work out.

208th MP military working dog handlers ace annual certifications

By CAPT. DALE LANDRY
Headquarters, Headquarters Battalion

Staff Sgt. Coffey and Cpl. Connell, both members of the 208th Military Police Detachment, recently aced the annual Military Working Dog certifications at the 928th Military Police Detachment in Connecticut.

They underwent a rigorous assessment spanning one week, guided by Master Sgt. Kyle Fenstermacher, kennel master at Fort Gordon, Georgia, representing the certification authority, with enthusiasm and determination.

"Certification with the Connecticut National Guard Kennel's was an incredible experience that I'm grateful I was able to partake in," Coffey said. "While the certification was the same standard as anywhere else in the Army; getting to share thoughts, ideas, and even just the differences in our day to day lives as handlers was an



Courtesy photo
Spc. Brittany Browning, a military working dog handler with the 208th Military Police Detachment, walks a MWD during recent training.

eye-opening event that I feel not many active-duty handlers get to have as the CTNG kennels are the only non-active kennels in the Army."

Throughout the certification process, Coffey and Connell's skills in MWD handling, from obedience to scent detection and tactical deployment, shone brightly. Their expertise and seamless teamwork with their MWD partners demonstrated their unwavering commitment to maintaining top-notch readiness and professionalism.

"Fort Jackson's MWD teams consistently set themselves apart as a trusted go-to unit to support government interagency missions throughout the U.S.," said their battalion commander, Lt. Col. Claudia Peña. "They remain ready for any real-world force protection mission."

Their success in the MWD certifications reaffirms the 208th Military Police Detachment's dedication to ensuring the utmost readiness and capabilities of its personnel.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE	FAITH GROUP	DAY	TIME	PLACE
	CATHOLIC MASS	SUNDAY	9:30-10:30 A.M.	MAIN POST CHAPEL
	CATHOLIC MASS	MON-FRI	NOON	MAIN POST CHAPEL
	GOSPEL SERVICE	SUNDAY	10:30 A.M.	DANIEL CIRCLE CHAPEL
	GENERAL PROTESTANT	SUNDAY	11 A.M. TO NOON	MAIN POST CHAPEL
	INITIAL ENTRY TRAINING	DAY	TIME	PLACE
	ANGLICAN	SUNDAY	9-10 A.M.	LIGHTNING CHAPEL
	CATHOLIC MASS	SUNDAY	8-9 A.M.	SOLOMON CENTER
	PROTESTANT CONSOLIDATED SERVICE	SUNDAY	9:30-10:30 A.M.	SOLOMON CENTER
	THE BRIDGE (PROTESTANT)	SUNDAY	8:30-9:30 A.M.	ANDERSON CHAPEL
	CHURCH OF CHRIST	SUNDAY	10:30-11:30 A.M.	MAGRUDER CHAPEL
	HISPANIC PROTESTANT SERVICE	SUNDAY	8:30-10 A.M.	MAGRUDER CHAPEL
	ISLAMIC SERVICE	SUNDAY	8-9 A.M.	DANIEL CIRCLE CHAPEL
	JEWISH SERVICE	SUNDAY	10:15-11:30 A.M.	LIGHTNING CHAPEL
	THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS	SUNDAY	10:30 A.M. - NOON	ANDERSON CHAPEL



Army News Service photo

The Army prepares to launch a Tomahawk cruise missile from a prototype system.

Army test fires Tomahawk missiles

By **JOE LACDAN**
Army News Service

The Army recently took its next step in bolstering its top modernization priority with a successful launch of the Tomahawk missile from its mid-range capability prototype system, showcasing the potential of its newest, ground-based missile launcher.

Soldiers from the 1st Multi-Domain Task Force at Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Washington and Sailors from the Navy Program Executive Office Unmanned Aviation and Strike Weapons Office took part in the joint, live-fire exercise that demonstrated the system's full operational capability. Earlier this year, the Army fired an SM-6 missile from the mid-range capability named the Typhon Weapon System. The launches occurred at undisclosed test sites.

The Navy uses the Tomahawk, an intermediate-range, subsonic, cruise missile to strike targets from 1,000 miles away and can switch destinations in mid-flight.

The Army, which plans to deliver an MRC system by the end of fiscal year 2023, will field an MRC battery that will be assigned to a strategic fires battalion under a multi-domain task force. The battery's prototype design consists of four launchers and a control center.

Soldiers contributed to the design and testing of the mid-range capability weapon system, which the Army will use to augment its long-range, precision fires ca-

pability.

The MRC will be capable of hitting targets between the Precision Strike Missile's 300-mile maximum range and the 1,725-mile maximum distance of the Long-Range Hypersonic Weapon.

"From the start of the (mid-range capability) program, Soldiers and Sailors have collaborated to provide the Army with this important capability," wrote the Army's Rapid Capabilities and Critical Technologies Office at Redstone Arsenal, Alabama. "Soldiers have consistently participated in each phase of the development, training and testing of the MRC and continue to provide useful feedback."

The MRC system will eventually support the joint, multi-domain mission. The SM-6 missile can engage multiple threats including terminal ballistic missile defense, anti-air warfare and anti-ship strike roles.

Improvements by near peer adversaries in their long-range artillery systems present possible threats to U.S. forces. The Chinese military has leveraged unmanned aerial vehicles or UAV, to produce precision munitions and greater target acquisition. To help prepare for evolving threats, the Army has been modernizing its force in building the Army of 2030, a service-wide transformation that will help converge capabilities in the land, air, sea, space and cyberspace.


The Army made long-range precision fires its top modernization priority to upgrade and bolster its artillery and missile systems while developing hypersonic weapons and long-range cannons.



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can lead to actions that may STOP an act of terror

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MILITARY POLICE



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Or Dial 911 in an Emergency



If you
did not
drop it, do not pick it up!




VICTORY... STARTS HERE



Rugger players with the University of South Carolina Men's Rugby Team help each other up the skyscraper obstacle at the Fort Jackson confidence course, Aug. 19.

Photo by ROBERT TIMMONS