

PRESS RELEASE

409th Contracting Support Brigade

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Always Forward!

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409th Contracting Support Brigade's NCO's Battle in Competition

Story by Rachel Clark, 409th Contracting Support Brigade

Grafenwoehr, Germany. - Staff Sgt. Booker Jordan battled it out with other noncommissioned officers and was selected the 409th Contracting Support Brigade's NCO of the Year during an intense threeday competition here March 28-30.

Jordan, 903rd Contingency Contracting Battalion, will go forward and compete at the ACC NCO of the Year competition May 21-23 at Camp Bullis, Texas.

"The 409th CSB's Noncommissioned Officer of the Year competition was an outstanding event. It allowed me to get out of the office and literally, shoot, move and



Master Sgt. Gary Weir, 409th CSB, gives instructions on lanes training to competitors SSgt. Diana McInnis, SSgt Booker Jordan, and SSgt Victor, Huston, 903rd CCBN, for the 409th CSB of the year competition. The competition was held Mar 28-30 in Grafenwoehr, DE. Soldiers competed in events that included urban orienteering, formal board, essay, rifle marksmanship, day and night land navigation, an Army Physical Fitness test, and finished with a grueling 12-mile road march with the NCO's carrying a 40-pound rucksack.

communicate, like we're trained to do. It felt great to compete against outstanding and knowledgeable Soldiers," said Jordan.

"All the hard work really paid off... the competitors did a bang up job," said Master Sgt. Gary Weir, NCOIC of Mission Operations, 409th CSB.

The competitors were evaluated on their knowledge of several subject areas as well as proper wear of the uniforms and drill and ceremony.

"The most difficult part of the whole competition was the formal board. You have your senior NCO's scrutinizing you and asking you anything and everything from the NCO study guide," Jordan said. After the board, the panel met with me immediately and gave me verbal feedback. The members were



Command Sgt. Maj. Bentura Fernandez, 409th Contracting Support Brigade, pushes Staff Sgt. Booker Jordan, contracting specialist, 903rd Contingency Contracting Battalion, to finish the 12-mile forced road march. Jordan won the 409th NCO of the Year competition and now moves on to the Army Contracting Command - level competition at Camp Bullis in San Antonio, Texas

supportive enough to mentor on my shortcomings and I've been working on them every night since," said Jordan.

This is the second year the $409^{\,\mathrm{th}}$ has conducted its NCO of the year competition

"The 409th CSB is the only brigade within the Expeditionary Contracting Command that puts on an NCO competition of this magnitude. I want our Soldiers to represent the best that we have to offer," said Command Sgt. Major Bentura Fernandez, 409th CSB

(Story and Photo's Courtesy of 409th Contracting Support Brigade)