

2d Cavalry Regiment *THE DRAGOON*



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JUNE- AUG 2012



COL Keith Barelay RCSM Malcolm Parrish



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2nd Lt. Alec Thew , assigned to Eagle Troop, 2nd Squadron, 2d Cavalry Regiment , the M240 squad automated weapon (SAW) during the Expert Infantryman Badge (EIB) testing on August 13, 2012 at Grafenwoehr, Germany Training Area. (Photo by Gertrud Zach, Training Support Center)

Highlights in 2d Cavalry History

10 August 1861 – Early on the morning of August 10th Wilson’s Creek, near Springfield, Missouri. Company C, 2d Cavalry MAJ Sturgis’ detachment attacked the enemy from the front, COL Sigel’s detachment (with Company C, 2d Dragoons) made a wide movement and approached the enemy from the rear. The attack was a complete surprise and threw the confederates into confusion. This was done so well that the enemy was not aware of their approach until they were within sight of their tents. During the engagement the cavalry was placed on the flanks while the main force of the army attacked and made good progress in driving the enemy south toward Springfield.

9-10 August 1877 – Late in July at Big Hole Basin, Montana. Det. Co. L, 2d Cavalry reported that Native Americans had moved east into Montana with the intention of escaping into British Columbia. Having heard this information, COL Gibbon organized a small force at Fort Ellis consisted of 180 men including eight men of Company L, 2d Cavalry. Beginning the next morning, a desperate engagement lasted two days, during which COL Gibbon’s force was so crippled he was unable to follow the Native Americans when they withdrew on the night of the 10th. In this encounter, SGT Edward Page, Company L, was killed, and PVT Wilfred Clark of the same company was cited for gallantry and decorated with the Congressional Medal of Honor.

History Highlights cont...

7-10 August 1918 - PFC Adamshock was the first casualty of I Troop on August 7, 1918 . His injuries were severe and he was very badly shell-shocked while on the patrol with the French Army on August 7. On the morning of August 8th at 3:30 a.m., the first American cavalry patrol went out. 1LT James S. Rodwell was in command and the others in the patrol were: SGT Woods, CPL Drapalik, PFC Rupprecht, PFC Smolen, and PVT Rutkowski. Their work was excellently done, and the patrol returned without a casualty. On the 9th, SGT Cleary's patrol ran into a very heavy barrage and a lot of gas. PFC Edward Dupont's leg was shot off that day, and several of the men were gassed. On the 10th SGT Benson's Patrol was out in the morning and he and CPL Drapalik, drew a lot of rifle and machine gun fire while crossing the broken bridge at Fismette, France. CPL Drapalik was shot through a hand, but their mission was successful.

1-4 August 1863 – The First Cavalry Division of Brandy Station, Virginia, was ordered to conduct a reconnaissance mission on the August 1 to determine the strength of the enemy. The reconnaissance was pushed forward to Brandy Station where a severe engagement took place. 2d Cavalry took a prominent part in the charges and counter charges. In these series of fights the Second Cavalry sustained seven killed, 28 wounded, and five missing.

September Regimental Events

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		(STRYKER GUNNERY); (U' REFMB Prep/validation)				
		2/2 MGS Gunnery				
		TGS (DE-CGS) NET				
		4/2 M2 RNG				
		End of OAS				
		1 st 90 - Day Review of USAREUR CCR Reporting Matrix				
		Saber Guardian IPC, Romania				
WK49	Sep 2	Labor Day 3	FRG Night 4	5	6	7
		(STRYKER GUNNERY); (EFMB prep)				
		TGS (DE-CGS) NET				
		2d CR LTP				
		EOSB (T)				
WK50	9	10	11	12	13	14
		(EFMB TESTING); (SQDN LTP (T))				
		TGS (DE-CGS) NET				
		DATE REG OPORD				
		FRG Steering Comm				
		Sexual Assault Review Board (SARB)				
		1/2 CR Staff Ride Market-Garden				
		New Leaders Inbrief (E8T)				
		REGT Spur Call				
WK51	16	17	18	19	20	21
		1/2 CR Staff Ride Market Garden				
		FASQDN Staff Ride				
		EOSB (T)				
		REGT SoQ/NCQ Boards				
		Fall Clean-Up				
		1/2 CR Spouse Spur Ride				
		JMTCComm Huddle				
		2/2 Squadron Ball				
		NCOPD				
WK52	23	24	25	26	27	28
		MI CoC				
		1/2 CR Staff Ride Market Garden				
		FASQDN Spur Ride				
		NCOPD				
WK52	23	24	25	26	27	28
		1/2 CR Spouse Spur Ride				
		JMTCComm Huddle				
		2/2 Squadron Ball				
		NCOPD				
WK51	30					

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Best Warrior Competitions



1LT Jeremy Gilbert, an officer with 1st Squadron, 2d Cavalry Regiment, fires his M16A2 rifle on July 23, 2012. Gilbert competed in the U.S. Army Europe's Best Junior Officer competition at Grafenwoehr training grounds.



Staff Sgt. Elliott Robbins, an infantryman with 2nd Squadron, 2nd Cavalry Regiment, demonstrates passing the guard during the combatives portion of the Best Warrior competition at Grafenwoehr, Germany August 2, 2012. Non-commissioned officers and soldiers from units in Europe came to participate in the event to compete for the title.

Story by SPC Joshua Edwards

2CR Public Affairs

The U.S. Army Europe's Best Junior Officer Competition started July 23 in Grafenwoehr training area where junior officers competed in various events to be named Best Junior Officer of 2012.

Among officers competing for the prestigious title is 1LT Jeremy Gilbert of 1st Squadron, 2d Cavalry Regiment, a native of Jackson, New Jersey. He has won multiple competitions to earn the right to represent 2CR and hopes to win the competition.

"I went to a competition about three weeks ago with all the best officers in our regiment and there were a lot of very good officers there and I happened to come out on top," Gilbert said. "I'm coming here and representing my regiment and I don't want to let them down, I really want to come out on top so we can hold out as the reigning champions two years in a row."

The winner of the Best Junior Officer



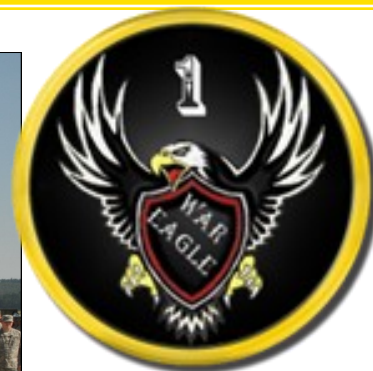
Pfc. Alex Vanroekel (right), an infantryman with 2nd Squadron, 2nd Cavalry Regiment, takes his opponent to the mat during the combatives portion of the Best Warrior competition at Grafenwoehr, Germany 2 August 2012. Non-commissioned officers and soldiers from units in Europe came to participate in the event to compete for the title.

Competition in 2011 was also from 2CR claiming the title among U.S. Army Europe's best.

"Three or four years from now, I would like to be at the 75th ranger regiment as a

company commander," Gilbert said. "It takes a lot of work to get there so we will see how it goes, but that is where I would like to be."

War Eagle Update



CSM Jeremiah Inman relinquished responsibility of 1st SQDN to CSM Martin Celestine July 27, 2012.

The months of June and July were formative for the War Eagles. In addition to a high paced training cycle, Soldiers were given the opportunity to rest and recover during a much-deserved leave and used the opportunity, while living in Europe, to experience the variety of sights and cultures throughout the continent and beyond. Upon return from leave it was again time for an azimuth check as the squadron pushed towards two major objectives, Excellence in the Expert Infantryman Badge (EIB) testing, and the regimental DATE rotation.

Through a density of small arms and crew served weapons ranges Apache, Bull, Comanche, and Mustang troops prepared and certified their vehicle crews for kinetic operations and a focus on conventional tactics. All troops were able to increase their proficiency and awareness of Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear environments in the gas chamber in early July. The squadron also trained on land navigation, preparing every War Eagle for the demanding tasks included in EIB testing.

Select War Eagles were provided the opportunity to partner with their German counterparts in the 112th Panzer, located in Regen, to compete for the coveted German Proficiency Badge and Schutzenschnur. There they completed various running, jumping, swimming, and track events, as well as marksmanship with German weapon systems over the course of a week. While it was physically demanding, the dedicated time spent with our partner unit fostered a strong connection that will only continue to improve in the future.

1LT Jeremy Gilbert was selected from 1st squadron to participate in the regimental Best Junior Officer Competition, and after rigorous testing he proved himself to be the Best in 2CR. He was then given the opportunity to compete in the United States Army Europe's Best Junior Officer Competition held at Grafenwoehr and won it as well.

The War Eagles continued to build our relationship with our partner city of Hirschau throughout July as well. The monthly Hail and Farewell ceremony was held at the Hirschau city hall thanks to Bergermeister Hans Drexler, and beer was provided at the Hirschau Fest from Franz

Dorfner and his 200 year old Schlossbrauerei. War Eagle Soldiers and families were able to enjoy good food, beer, and games that made for a memorable evening. Through all the fun there was a tinge of sadness though, as we prepared to say goodbye to a long standing example of what it means to be a War Eagle, and a Soldier, CSM Jeremiah Inman.

On July 27, CSM Jeremiah Inman relinquished responsibility of 1st squadron to CSM Martin Celestine. We are very proud of the amazing impact and example that was set by CSM Inman, and wish him the best on his next assignment in Ft. Benning, Ga. where he will be able to raise the next generation of Soldiers with the uncompromising attitude of duty and professionalism that he displayed every day as CSM of 1st squadron.

We are also very proud to welcome CSM Celestine as he sets out to lead the War Eagles to success in every endeavor we will face in the next few years. As the War Eagles continue to look ever forward into EIB and the DATE rotation, we continue to prove that in 2CR, if you ain't first, you're last.

Cougar Update



Cougar Soldiers surmount obstacles along the Cougar Spur Ride's bayonet assault course.



Soldiers of Ghost Troop maneuver along the water obstacle course at the Cougar Spur Ride.

Cougar Families and friends, The Cougars have been training hard in July and August, 520 Troopers now have earned the right to wear their Silver Spurs. In August, Cougar's Infantry Troopers took their best shot at the Expert Infantryman Badge (EIB). Now select Cougars may wear the coveted award. Next month continues our preparation for the Regiment's October deployment to the Decisive Action Training Environment (DATE).

The Spur ride consisted of several events based on the Regiment's long and rich history. First, Troopers conducted a water crossing in zodiac boats to represent the many water crossings during the Seminole Wars in the Florida Everglades. Second, Troopers conducted an obstacle course representing fighting in the trenches during

WWI. Afterwards, a bayonet assault course in honor of the cavalry charges of days past. In honor of the regiment's battle during Operation Desert Storm, the battle of 73 Easting, Troopers conducted a land navigation course. Finally, Cougars attended a board presided over by CSM Spivey, the senior enlisted member of the Cougar family. Troopers answered questions about the unit's rich history.

The testing requirements for earning the EIB are some of the most rigorous in the Army. Successful candidates proved that they were physically and mentally strong, experts in infantry Soldier tasks, and experts in the maintenance, operation, and employment of equipment. After all tasks were complete, 13 candidates earned the right to wear the Expert Infantryman Badge from the Cougar Squadron. The success of Cougar's EIB training and testing could not have happened without

the support of the personnel who were not testing. These Soldiers assisted by running lanes, providing training and logistics, and offering moral support to Cougar's Infantrymen.

Having demonstrated a very high level of skill in individual tasks during previous events, Troops will execute crew and troop level training in preparation for the upcoming DATE. The Mobile Gun System and Stryker crews will execute a series of day and night gunnery ranges in order to test their proficiency on assigned weapons. Afterwards, Troops will use the German countryside in Weiden to refine coordinated troop movements prior to the DATE. The final event before the DATE, will not be a major training event, but a Squadron ball. I look forward to updating you all next month as we complete final preparations for the big event of the DATE in October.

Wolfpack Update



SGT Tuft instructs an Expert Infantryman Badge candidate on the proper completion of a range card.

Wolfpack Families and friends, Since returning from a much needed block leave July 24, the Soldiers of 3rd Squadron, 2d Cavalry Regiment "Wolfpack" have been busy preparing for the Expert Infantryman Badge (EIB) Competition starting on Aug. 11 and ending on Aug. 29.

The Wolfpack has 426 Soldiers participating in the EIB and is applying maximum effort to ensure that every Soldier has the proper training needed to succeed.

The Wolfpack set up individual stations consisting of the most difficult EIB tasks. EIB candidates cycle through the stations in squad-sized elements and receive in-

struction on individual EIB tasks from qualified EIB holders in a round-robin format.

After the instruction portion of the station is complete, each Soldier must demonstrate the given EIB task before moving on to the next station.

In addition to the EIB round-robin training, Soldiers of Wolfpack received instruction on land navigation and completed several land navigation practice tests at the Grafenwoehr Training Area's land navigation site.

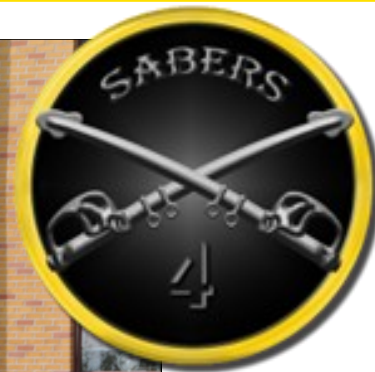
The EIB candidates are required to find 3 out of 4 points on the day and night EIB land navigation test.

As always physical training is paramount in the Wolfpack. This has especially been the case in the weeks leading to the EIB. Candidates have been preparing for the EIB physical fitness test and the EIB 12-mile foot march. Iron, Lightning, and Killer Troops have each completed an 8-mile foot march with the standard for completion in 2 hours. EIB candidates will have to complete the 12-mile EIB foot march in 3 hours.

It has been a fast and furious return from block leave. The unit is looking forward to the EIB completion and is aiming for the maximum recipients of the Expert Infantryman Badge.

Always Ready!

Saber Update



1SG Delfin J. Romani takes responsibility from 1SG Robert P. Reed during the Sapper Troop change of responsibility ceremony Aug. 7.

On July 27, 4th Squadron, 2d Cavalry Regiment left the Hohenfels Training Area at Hohenfels, Germany, as the squadron completed a five-day training exercise, known as Saber Shakeout. Upon returning from Block leave at the beginning of July, the Sabers face a challenging schedule full of training. This challenging schedule has a focus in preparation for the Decisive Action Training Exercise (DATE) during the month of October. Although the focal point for the Sabers is the DATE in October, 4th Squadron has been and will continue to be a busy unit.

About thirty days from completion of Saber Shakeout, the Sabers will conduct another five-day training exercise in the Weiden Maneuver Rights Area in Weiden, Germany, known as Saber Sharpener. The exercise will serve as 4th Squadron's final opportunity to prepare for the DATE. During the last few weeks of August, the Sabers will conduct Troop Gunnery to allow platoons to test their skills with vehicle

weapon systems. The Sabers will also be conducting a Spouse Spur Ride on 16 August to allow spouses the opportunity to earn their Cavalry spurs.

Spouses will compete in a variety of events that present challenges to test them physically and mentally. At the same time, several Sabers will be conducting Expert Infantryman Badge (EIB) and Expert Field Medical Badge (EFMB) testing.

Sabers competing in these events will test their knowledge and proficiency on Infantry and Medical skills in the attempt to earn the coveted EIB and EFMB. The Sabers of 4th Squadron, 2d Cavalry Regiment are also host to an Reserve Officer Training Corps Cadet from Texas A&M University. Cadet Lambert Borgardt will be training with Sabers until the end of August. In addition to Saber Shakeout, the Sabers have been conducting multiple training exercises and events with personnel from other countries. During Saber Shakeout, the Sabers were host to three

staff officers from the Bulgarian Army's 61st Mechanized Infantry Brigade.

The three officers visited with Saber staff officers during the Saber Shakeout training event to observe US methods for command and control during operations. At the same time as Saber Shakeout, three Sabers traveled to Croatia to help train the Croatian Army in the development of a unit very similar to a Stryker organization. With so many events and training exercises completed in recent weeks, one might think the Sabers are ready to take it easy for a time. However, the Sabers will continue to train and train hard. 4th Squadron will continue to hold high standards of readiness with eyes focused on the training coming up in just a few short weeks.

Artillery Hell



Field Artillery Soldiers of Alpha Battery fire during the Squadron Base Piece Exercise.



The Bavarian summer is quickly coming to a close for Fires Squadron. It was an intense summer of training for the Artillery Hell Soldiers as they continued to support and train on a multitude of missions. Following the Squadron's outstanding support of the maneuver squadron's live fire exercises, the entire squadron conducted a maintenance stand down, imperative to maintaining the operational readiness of the squadron's howitzers and the Military Intelligence Troop's crucial collection equipment.

After a much deserved leave period at the end of June, Fires Squadron Soldiers were back ready to begin training again. As a part of recurring training, the Squadron's batteries conduct howitzer certifications which are pivotal to maintaining operational readiness. In July, each battery began the process of training their Soldiers to conduct the certifications, ensuring each howitzer section is proficient in all of their artillery tasks and drills. Many of the newly formed howitzer sections exceeded the standard during July's week long gunner's testing conducted by the squadron's master gunner.

Following certification training and Gunner's testing, Fires Squadron conducted the Base Piece Live Fire Exercise at the end of July. Each

Battery fired over 200 rounds during three days of firing. MI Troop's UAS Platoon supported the squadron during the exercise utilizing the Shadow. Through their concurrent training, the squadron TOC trained on airspace de-confliction and provided a real-time visual of round impact.

Fires Soldiers have also continued to train on the squadron's air assault mission. Alpha Battery conducted sling-load training early in July, ensuring that each section maintains proficient on howitzer sling-load procedures. HHB's COLT platoon simulated small recon team infiltration and landing zone security, utilizing UH-60 Blackhawk support from A/1-214th Aviation Regiment. The COLT teams now stand ready beside their battery counterparts to meet the squadron's air assault mission's intent.

Military Intelligence Troop's intelligence analysts have been working hard to maintain their excellence both in the field and in the classroom. As part of a regiment-wide rotation, the troop's analysts have been able to spearhead 35F training, ensuring that analysis at the regiment and squadron levels is practiced and standardized. 1st Platoon's A.C.E. (Analysis Control Element) also spent a week in the field, refining their field craft and

ensuring the correct operation of their intelligence processes.

The warm summer days have allowed the squadron to continue to strengthen the entire Fires Family. HHB held a successful golf tournament at Gerhelm Golf Club to boost morale, esprit de corps, and unit cohesion. The golf tournament was a huge success among the Soldiers and Family members, and it was a much needed pause from the intense training cycle before the squadron moves into the Hohenfels D.A.T.E. rotation.

Finally, the summer has also been a season of change. Alpha Battery welcomed CPT Alexander Tesar and said goodbye to CPT Matthew Jensen; Bravo Battery is now lead by CPT Riley Redus and 1SG Torres-Garza after giving a reluctant farewell to CPT Graham Genrich and 1SG Irving Domenech-Torres; HHB welcomed 1SG David Harris; and at the end of the month, Charlie Battery will farewell CPT Nicholas Taran as he changes command with CPT Jesse Kadel.

Through all of the Fires Soldiers intense training over the past summer months, the squadron stands ready to excel at all its missions as it moves into the fall.

Artillery Hell and Toujours Prêt!

Muleskinner Update



An aerial view of the regimental support Area, taken by Medics during MEDEVAC training.

Regimental Support Squadron Returns to Basics

The Regimental Support Squadron (RSS) recently returned from a weeklong exercise in which it focused on key tasks and drills to prepare for Full Spectrum Operations.

The RSS deployed into the Grafenwoehr training area on July 17 in order to establish a Regimental Support Area (RSA), the base for all logistical operations within the Regiment.

Troopers from the RSS focused their efforts on security, establishment of communications, battle command systems, logistical and medical support. One of the major training events that the Squadron executed was live Medical Evacuation (MEDEVAC) training with a UH-60.

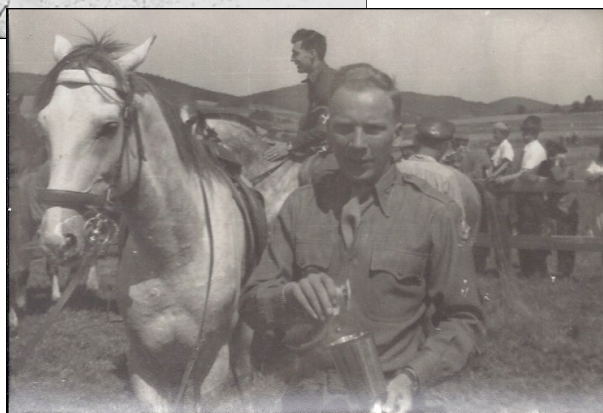
Troop C medics took part in live 9-line MEDEVAC training that also focused on how to stabilize patients and load them into the aircraft correctly. Each medic

squad had the opportunity to load the aircraft with litter and ambulatory patients.

In addition to medical training, Troopers from the RSS simulated entry control point operations, contact with simulated local population, perimeter defense and field feeding operations.

The training enabled the Squadron to become more familiar with fast moving combat operations in a return to basics of Army operations.

LTC (R) Robert C. McCaleb



LTC Robert Carroll McCaleb, (ret.) peacefully passed away on Wednesday, June 27, 2012 in Scottsdale, Arizona. Born April 7, 1917 in Harrisburg, PA, to William C. McCaleb and Hilda McCaleb, Robert is survived by his sister Mary, his son Gary, seven grandchildren, and ten great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his son Robert and by his wife of 62 years, Lorma. LTC (R) McCaleb enlisted in the Pennsylvania National Guard in 1938 as a horse cavalryman, later serving with the 2d Armored Cavalry Regiment "Patton's Ghosts" in World War II, during which he was twice wounded and helped rescue the famed Lipizzaner horses. Wounded twice more in Korea, he finished the conflict as an interpreter at the truce talks.

Upon retirement in 1961, he worked at Judson School and various civil engineer firms and was a long-time member of Scottsdale Bible Church. He was a Christian marked by integrity, boundless love, and profound devotion.

The Soldiers and Families of the 2d Cavalry Regiment wish to extend our condolences to the Family and friends of LTC (R) Robert C McCaleb.

