

2d Cavalry Regiment *THE DRAGOON*



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Troopers with 1st Squadron, 2d Cavalry Regiment prepare to participate in the Decisive Action Training Exercise, Operation Saber Sharpener Oct. 13 through the 31 in Hohenfels and Grafenwoehr Germany.

Highlights in 2d Cavalry History

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November 1, 1944; 31st Colonel of the Regiment, Charles H. Reed, reassumes Command of the 2d Cavalry Group after he checks himself out of a field hospital. COL Reed was severely wounded during the Battle of Luneville, France September 15-17 1944.

November 3-6 2010; On the 3rd, Iron Company with attached engineer assets, conducted a two day long breaching operation and tenaciously fought their way down Route Edmonton in Zharay District, Kandahar Province in order to establish the Company CP in an old British fort. Over the course of the next 72 hours, 21 IEDs were found and cleared on the route and in the fort. Wolfpack Troopers were struck by nine IEDs during this period, killing one Soldier and wounding three. By the 6th, Iron Company reached, cleared, and occupied "Fort Iron". From the 6th until the 25th, Iron Company was completely isolated from all ground lines of communication and received all classes of supply via parachute drop. Despite being isolated for 20 days, Iron Company seized the initiative while aggressively patrolling in the vicinity of Fort Iron and priming the area for an ANA presence.

November 08, 1863; The 2nd Cavalry supports 1st Cavalry Division, 5th and 6th Corps' of the Army of the Potomac during offensive operations across Rappahannock River. The Regiment frequently engaged the Cavalry and rear guard of the Army of Northern Virginia in vicinity of Culpeper and Muddy Run, Virginia.

November 08, 1990; The 2d Armored Cavalry Regiment was in the process of redefining its post Cold War Mission when they were alerted for deployment to Saudi Arabia in support of Operation Desert Storm.

History Highlights cont...

November 10, 2010; B Company, 1st Squadron launches OPERATION BOSTON to extend Afghan National Police (ANP) jurisdiction into an area of Uruzgan Province which had been neglected for the last several years. In partnership with the ANP, Bull Troopers conducted clearing operations in West Dorafshan in order to hold ground and initiate the construction of a new security checkpoint, Kakarak CP. The new ANP quickly proved eager to conduct joint and independent patrols. During patrolling, the ANP gathered actionable intelligence leading to over 15 cache finds within the first three months of establishing the Checkpoint. Additionally, the ANP hosted monthly shuras at the Kakarak CP with a healthy level of participation from the local community. The level of participation from the local villagers had originally been unheard of within the Kakarak area.

September 26 to **November 11, 1918;** The Meuse-Argonne Campaign; the final Allied offensive. The Second Cavalry was attached to the 35th Infantry Division, playing an important role as the left flank element for eight divisions, and later as the main effort between the Meuse River and the Argonne Forest. The objective was to shatter all German positions before Sedan. Once the Germans were driven across the Meuse, the stage was set for the Armistice Agreement on November 11th, ending the Great War. Today, November 11th is most notably remembered and celebrated as Veteran's Day.

November 14, 1983; William W. Crouch assumes Command as 62d Colonel of the Regiment. General Crouch went on to become Commander, United States Army Europe in 1994 and assumed Command of Allied Land Forces Europe (LANDCENT) in 1996, the first American Commander since the organizations conception in 1993. Prior to his retirement in 1998, General Crouch served as the US Army Vice Chief of Staff.

December Regimental Events

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
UNIFIED ENDEAVOR 13-1						
(Leader Reset, CO Level CoCs); (AR 350-1 TRNG) (Gunnery Training Program and Scenario Development)						
1/2 CR and 112 th Panzer Partnership Week						
Inspector General, HQDA DV (Graf/GTA)					1/2 CR and 112 th Panzer Dining Out	
RSS Spur Ride			DV-CG, V Corps			
DV-BG (P) Owens (Graf)						
WK10	Dec 2	3	FRG Night 4	5	6	7
						8
UNIFIED ENDEAVOR 13-1						
Rear-D Activation/Test Run						
(Leader Reset, CO Level CoCs) EVAL/ADMIN Counselings						
DV-CG, V Corps						
O + AA Troops CoC (4 th SQDN)		EOSB		K + L Troops CoC (Bd SQDN)		B Troop and C Troop CoC (1 st SQDN)
HHT + G Troop CoC (2d SQDN)		HHT CoC		HHT CoC		Signal, A and C/RSS CoC
				RSS Birthday/Org Day		
Max Leave (1/2 Day Schedule)						
EVAL/ADMIN COUNSELINGS						
WK11	9	10	11	12	13	14
						15
Max Leave (1/2 Day Schedule)						
WK12	16	17	18	19	20	21
						22
Max Leave (1/2 Day Schedule)						
TRNG HOLIDAY		TRNG HOLIDAY				
Christmas Eve 24		Christmas 25		Boxing Day-St Stephen's Day (GM) 26		
WK13	23	24	25	26	27	28
						29
Max Leave (1/2 Day Schedule)						
End of GRF						
TRNG HOLIDAY						
WK14	30	New Year's Eve 31				

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Saber Junction

**Story and photos by SPC
Joshua Edwards
2CR Public Affairs**

A great way to gain a wider perspective on tactics and skills that must be had in order to overcome obstacles and challenges on today's modern battlefield could be to train with military forces from other countries.

The 2nd Cavalry Regiment and other units with U.S. Army Europe participated in a Decisive Action Training Environment (D.A.T.E.) rotation with multinational partners Oct. 13 through the 31 between the Grafenwoehr and Hohenfels Training Areas.

The exercise, Saber Junction, had a maneuver-rights area that expanded approximately 2,200 square kilometers and hosted more than 3600 2CR troops and 1700 foreign military personnel from 18 countries which makes it the biggest training event of this type for USAREUR since 1989. More than 10 million dollars was contributed by the U.S. Government to ensure the successful training of USAREUR troops and their partner nations.

Along with 2nd Cavalry Regiment, USAREUR units who participated included Europe's 12th Combat Aviation Brigade, 172nd Infantry Brigade, 173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team, 16th Combat Sustainment Brigade, 18th Military Police Brigade and 19th Battlefield Coordination Detachment from Ramstein Air Force Base.

Multinational partners who trained with USAREUR in Saber Junction included Belgium, Bosnia, Bulgaria, The Czech Republic, France, Germany, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Romania, Serbia, Slovenia, Sweden, The Ukraine and the United Kingdom. During the exercise, Slovenian armed force teamed up with 2CR and contributed anti-air assets which were essential for the security of the coalition forces. This effort gave the Slovenians an opportunity to train in an unfamiliar environment.



U.S. Army Troops with 2nd Cavalry Regiment hold a security position during Operation Saber Junction Oct. 17, 2012 near Fuchsstein, Germany. The Regiment engaged in a Decisive Action Training Environment (D.A.T.E.) rotation with multinational forces to train interoperability for future contingency

"Without air defense some [damage] will happen to the command post, it is a high value target for the enemy," said Capt. Bosan Leskovar, a Slovenian commander with the 9th Air Defense Battalion. "It's a very good experience for us because our country is a small one and we know every position, so it's a challenge for us because we don't know the terrain. We must do a recon to find the best position [here]." U.S. Army Capt. Joshua Frye, the provost marshal for 2CR and native of Blountville, Tenn., used his German-speaking skills to interact with the local population and talked about the effect this type of training had on the German population.

"The Germans have been so receptive to this whole exercise and I think it's wonderful to see the little kids walk right up to the concertina wire with a big smile on their face and taking pictures, their minds are full of questions," Frye said. "We are shaping a generation of Germans. They are getting used to seeing us out there and they know that we're their neighbors."

The opportunity to train outside the confines of a military base allowed U.S. and multinational troops to be exposed and adapt to real-life challenges they might encounter in a deployed environment including interaction with the local community, moving through unfamiliar terrain and maintaining battle rhythm safely while adhering to host country laws.

"It's been really incredible, seeing all these different forces out here and maneuvering across such a large very diverse battlefield, I don't think you could do this anywhere else," Frye said. "We see partners from all sorts of other countries and it's a really valuable experience."

Sgt. Maj. of the Army (ret.) Kenneth O. Preston visited 2CR before the start of Saber Junction. The visit was an opportunity to get a look at the training from a senior-leader's perspective.

"We have always had a close working relationship with our allied partners here and as I walk through and see the operations today, I see how that relationship has become much more refined," Preston said. "I think that's something all of us can be very proud of and it's all part of our professional development." During the rotation Leskovar expressed his gratitude for being able to partner with U.S. forces for the training.

"It's good experience to cooperate and train with U.S. troops and to see how they fight," Leskovar said. "It was good to get a feel for how they work and move."

Training with troops from countries other than their own, in a foreign country, creates a new learning environment for U.S. soldiers.

"The value of this training can't be overestimated," Frye said. "This is the most complex environment you can find yourself in and replicating that here in the middle of Bavaria is incredible after all these years."

Frye explained the benefits of being able to train with multinational partners, not only for U.S. forces but other countries as well.

"Just the other day we had a group of Feldjäger, which are German military police, who made the long trip down to visit us out here in the field," Frye said. "It was a morale booster for me and our military police and it was very valuable for them to see how we operate."

War Eagle Update



Strykers with 1st Squadron, 2CR move to a tactical position in the maneuver rights area during the Decisive Action Training Environment event, known as, Operation Saber Junction



During the recent Decisive Action Training Environment (DATE) rotation, the War Eagles operated in a Maneuver Rights Area (MRA) from Grafenwoehr to Hohenfels, Germany. This MRA is unique because it was the first training exercise conducted alongside coalition forces since the Return of Force to Germany (REFORGER) in 1989. There were over 20 coalition countries that participated in the DATE rotation. 1st Squadron 2nd Cavalry Regiment participated in countless engagements against German, Czech, Norwegian, and opposing United States Soldiers posing as opposition forces (OPFOR).

The DATE rotation was designed to evaluate Soldiers' performances in real world situations. Multiple Integrated Laser Engagement System (MILES) gear was used to aid in this. MILES detects when Soldiers have come under enemy fire and have been hit. This system can simulate all battery damage by all ammunition types from AK-47, to tank rounds to improvised explosive devices (IEDs). War Eagles operated in diverse locations across the German countryside and within the

Hohenfels Training Area where realistic opposing forces, role players, mock villages, and non-government agencies conducted operations.

Given adverse weather conditions and limited rest, War Eagles were tested on their ability to perform offensive defensive operations, and wide area security against enemy forces mounted and dismounted. All of this was accomplished while maneuvering through uneven terrain under often foggy or pitch black conditions. The training simulated all aspects of what we do in the Army. It consisted of planning, executing and sustainment. This realistic training prepares our Soldiers for combat operations anywhere that USAREUR sends them.

Examples of the real world situations that War Eagles had to execute were deliberate combat operations, combined arms maneuvers (where artillery, aircraft, and Stryker units operated together simultaneously), medical evacuation of fellow War Eagles, engaging with local nationals to gain more secure information about the local population and enemy combatants, executing attacks against

enemy tanks, ICVs, and dismounted forces, all while coordinating with other squadrons within the Regiment.

The DATE rotation MRAs allowed Soldiers to operate in a large environment while adding more realism to the exercise. It was not uncommon for Soldiers to interact with local nationals going on about their everyday lives. In the MRA many German nationals not associated with the formal exercise participated by providing information on enemy activities in the area, this added realism and demonstrates the German support of Coalition training events within the MRA. The environment provided complex and realistic training which helped War Eagles develop into a more flexible force one that recognizes how unique and significant this training opportunity was. War Eagles returned to Rose Barracks on 28 OCT and immediately prepared for a strenuous and exciting Squadron Live Fire Exercise that occurred from 04-06 November. All War Eagle Soldiers and their families should be extremely proud of their performance, dedication, and teamwork over the past few weeks. WAR EAGLES!

Cougar Update



Cougar Squadron celebrates veteran service of our German partner town of Sorghof.



Always ready for the challenge, the Cougars continued their string of successful training operations from October into November. Following their achievements at the Decisive Action Training Environment (DATE), the Cougars concluded a period of intensive training with a Squadron Live Fire Exercise before starting recovery operations. Looking forward to next month, December will offer Cougars the opportunity to spend more time with family and friends.

Only 18 months ago, the Cougars began the process of resetting after post-deployment exodus. The training cycle over the past year and a half has been especially intense, because it entailed training in accordance with the Army's doctrine of unified land operations, which calls on units to be equally proficient in combined arms maneuver and wide area security. The Cougars trained to do both kinds of operations, simultaneously. The proof that the Cougars met this training objective was evident by their success during October's DATE throughout the areas between Grafenwoehr and Hohenfels. November allowed the Cougars the chance to show that they can deliver

direct and indirect fires in a safe, accurate, timely, and lethal manner.

Returning once again to the Grafenwoehr Training Area, the Cougars conducted the largest live-fire exercise of the last several years. The seasonal morning fog did not delay the Cougars as they moved to their assault positions, dismounted, and attacked hostile forces. The Cougars' movements were fast, complex, and decisive; while the artillery and mortar fire were effectively synchronized.

After securing their dismounted objectives, Cougar Soldiers mounted their Strykers to defend against a large simulated armored force. At this point the fog was so thick that observers could not see more than a few hundred meters to call for indirect fire, but without delay the Mortar Platoon adjusted so that their rounds were observed safely and accurately using radar and Troops did not miss even a moment of indirect fire coverage. With the successful completion of the Squadron Live Fire Exercises, the Regiment is now certified as a worldwide contingency response force.

Even though a period of intensive training came to an end in November, the

Cougars' work was not finished. Considerable time and effort were required to bring equipment back to the state of readiness it had before the field exercise. But once recovery was complete, the Cougars could finally celebrate their successes with two events. The first event was solemn, as Cougars participated in parades and a ceremony to commemorate the veteran service of our German partner town of Sorghof. The Squadron marched in a silent parade to the local church, where a special mass was held to honor the day. Afterwards, a quiet ceremony was held with the local military, police, and fire departments. Cougar Squadron also hosted a day dedicated to families, friends, and football. The Turkey Bowl required all the energy the Cougars had left in them to lead their teams in flag football to be named best in the Squadron.

Now that December has arrived, the Cougars are starting to look ahead to winter block leave and the holidays. Just as planning and safety considerations have been crucial to the Cougars' success in preparing its mission, these same elements are critical for having a safe and happy holiday season.

Always Ready... Second to None!

Wolfpack Update



Soldiers plan 3rd Squadron, 2CR's next move at the unit's tactical operations center during the Decisive Action Training Environment field exercise, known as, Operation Saber Junction.



Wolfpack Families and Friends,

The operational tempo picked up significantly over the past month. The Wolfpack conducted the Decisive Action Training Environment (DATE) exercise at Hohenfels Training Area (HTA). Additionally, the Wolfpack conducted a Squadron Live Fire Exercise (05-08 NOV 12,) at Grafenwoehr Training Area (GTA). The good news is that Thanksgiving is right around the corner to give everyone a much deserved break.

The DATE was an excellent training event that provided the Squadron an opportunity to train on critical individual and collective tasks at all levels. Over the course of the training 3/2 CR conducted a screening operation during a Command Post Exercise (CPX), simulating our units on computers and interacting "live" while the bulk of the regiment maneuvered across Bavaria. Following the CPX, the Squadron transitioned units to Hohenfels to maneuver "in the box"

3/2 CR conducted defensive operations from 22-25 OCT 12. Our Soldiers spent nearly 72 hours preparing a defense for an attacking tank heavy force which is no easy task for the lethal but lightly armored Stryker family of vehicles. The Wolfpack put up a valiant effort, accomplishing the mission given by the Regiment command preventing the penetration of the enemy while protecting the town of Aghabadi. Unfortunately, the Wolfpack suffered heavy losses in the process, allowing the administrative and logistics elements to train on required tasks.

After a brief reset, 3/2 CR conducted a hasty attack on 27 and 28 October. The Squadron was reorganized, attaching Task Force Puma, an Italian Airborne unit. The Squadron sent 1LT Teague with them to act as a Liaison Officer during the operation.

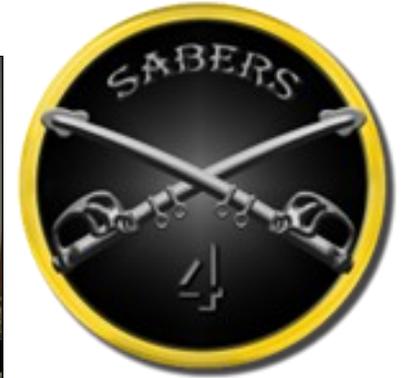
Task Force Puma conducted a simulated airborne insertion while Killer and Lightning Troops moved throughout the night (and morning) to attack an enemy

objective approximately 30 kilometers away. The attack was highly successfully with the regiment freeing the town of Kibirli from enemy control. The Regiment then directed the squadron to expand their area of control and 3rd Squadron was given Aghabadi City as its area of responsibility.

3/2 CR conducted stability operations from 29 through 30 October with Agjabadi as the focal point. The Squadron Information Operations Officer, and the Civil Affairs Officer, worked together to gather information on the city and key individuals. This allowed 3/2 CR to bring the provincial governor back to the city and reunite with the mayor of Agjabadi. The Squadron XO conducted a key leader engagement with both the governor and mayor where at the conclusion of the meeting they agreed on a course of action to assist the city and its people. The people of Agjabadi Province were much better prepared when the Wolfpack rolled out of on the town on 30 October.

Always Ready!

Saber Update



U.S. Army First Sgt. Alexander G. Heller with 4th Squadron, 2nd Cavalry Regiment is inducted into the 2nd Cavalry Regiment Honorary Squadron Nov. 8, 2012 at Rose Barracks, Germany.

With the Decisive Action Training Environment, (DATE), complete, the Sabers of 4th Squadron, 2D Cavalry Regiment look forward to Winter Block Leave and some well earned time with family and loved ones.

The month of October 2012 was extremely busy for the Sabers and the entire Regiment. While the movement part of the DATE kicked off on 12 October, the beginning of the month was particularly busy for Sabers with the DATE preparation. From 12 to 26 October the Sabers of 4th Squadron conducted maneuver missions from the Grafenwoehr Training Area to the Hohenfels Training Area with Soldiers from many other countries to include Bulgaria and Serbia. The Sabers conducted these missions during the day and the night and always acted like the professionals that they are.

At times the Sabers seemed overwhelmed, but they continued to push themselves and strive for excellence. The command group of 4th Squadron could not be more proud of the performance of the Sabers during the DATE. It is a testament to their devotion to duty.

Although the DATE has completed, the Sabers are not finished training. The first week of November was the Squadron's Live Fire Exercise in the Grafenwoehr Training Area. This Live Fire Exercise, or LFX, will allow Soldiers and leaders to exercise their engagement skills that were honed during the DATE and the training leading up to the DATE. Following the LFX, Sabers will begin the recovery process which will include OCIE layouts, property layouts, and weapons and equipment maintenance. Also, following the LFX, the Saber Squadron will experience some leadership changes.

Moving into late November, the Sabers will conduct the 1st Annual Saber Turkey Bowl before Thanksgiving. The Saber Turkey Bowl will include a touch football tournament where Troops face off against each other and a game that puts Saber Officers against Saber NCOs.

Following Thanksgiving, the Sabers will conduct the Saber Squadron Spur Ride allowing Saber Soldiers the opportunity to compete for their Silver Spurs. In December, the Sabers will conduct a Spouse Orientation Day to help new spouses in Saber Squadron become familiar with the Squadron and become part of the family.

Winter block leave is only a few short weeks away and the Sabers have earned time with family and friends. Following block leave the Sabers will transition to Deployment preparation.

Artillery Hell



Muleskinner Update



On November 14th the 2nd Cavalry Regiment's Regimental Support Squadron conducted a formal Dining-In ceremony returning to an age-old military tradition that has been largely forgotten over 10 years of warfare.

The event took place at the Tower Inn on Grafenwoehr and included the traditional mess protocol with 2LT Jessup Meng serving as the Vice and RSS's commander, LTC Dennis Wedding, serving as the President of the Mess. The evening also featured skits, the honorary toasts, and the infamous grog bowl: a mix of spirits, each symbolizing one of the

battles or campaigns fought by the 2nd Cavalry Regiment over its nearly 200 year history.

'I have been in the military a long time,' said Captain Jason Jones of RSS. 'It was a great way to return to old traditions and especially the opportunity to share them with a new generation of officers and NCOs.' Indeed, RSS's 2nd Lieutenants were given complete creative control over the event; creating the script, the skits, planning the location, selecting the dinner menu, and creating anti-DUI measures. The junior officers, many of them platoon leaders, were given guidance from their NCO counterparts, bringing a breadth of

enthusiasm and experience in planning and executing the event.

The Dining-In is a celebration that is designed to be both fun and light-hearted but also recognize the sacrifices of war. As the Army makes the gradual transition back to peacetime, events like the Dining-In are a way for units to return to the old traditions while still recognizing their fallen comrades. 'We work so hard at training events and day to day operations, said 2LT Anthony Cramer of RSS. 'It is great to step back to some of our old rituals; it really helps with the camaraderie and makes you reflect on who we are as an Army.'

Philip A. Connelly Award



Troops with Headquarters and Headquarters Troop, Regimental Support Squadron, 2nd Cavalry Regiment pose for a photo Oct. 1 2012 at Rose Barracks. The 2nd Cavalry Regiment Stryker Inn Dining Facility was awarded this year's U.S. Army Garrison, Grafenwoehr Philip A. Connelly Award.

Story and photos by SPC
Joshua Edwards
2CR Public Affairs

The 2nd Cavalry Regiment Stryker Inn dining facility earned this year's United States Army Garrison, Grafenwoehr, Philip A. Connelly Award Oct. 1 at Rose Barracks.

The USAG Philip A. Connelly Award is given to dining facilities for being among the best in customer service, food preparation and serving. The competition allows for food service personnel to refine their skills and show they have what it takes to be the best in garrison.

"The Philip A. Connelly Award encompasses excellence in food service," said Warrant Officer Kenneth Robertson, food advisor for the Regiment. "It promotes quality assurance in food service and has the soldiers go back to the basics of learning key tasks they need to perform during day-to-day operations like nutrition and proper measurements. They worked

non-stop trying to develop and hone their skills"

The competition gave the dining facility personnel a chance to show the quality of their organization and dedication to maintaining high standards.

"The importance of winning this award is to show the food service program we can put out an excellent meal and have a dining facility on the same caliber as a civilian restaurant," said Staff Sgt. Rodney Jordan, a shift leader at the Stryker Inn. "We work on our job everyday and try to keep the standard high."

Personnel who work at the Stryker Inn set themselves above the rest by showing they prepare food differently than most dining facilities.

"We prepared a lot of our products from scratch, we didn't do a lot of boxed products or anything that was pre-made,"

Jordan said. "What makes us better is not just our customer service, but a lot of our fresh foods and the way we prepare it."

Three Soldiers were recognized from Headquarters and Headquarters Troop, Regimental Support Squadron, 2nd Cavalry Regiment and one civilian. These personnel were awarded with a certificate of appreciation and a coin.

"I really believe every single one of them should have been awarded because they all had an important part in the success of Stryker Inn," Robertson said. "I compare it to the Olympics, you can be the best in the world, but if you don't perform that day nothing else matters.

The judging was fair across the board and the standards were high. It was very important because I believe it brought a little more attention to food service. I felt my guys worked real hard leading up to the evaluation and it was well deserved."