



STORY RELEASE



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Fox Sports, MLB athletes team with U.S troops in Europe to promote resiliency

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ROSE BARRACKS, Germany – Fox Sports' former and current Major League Baseball athletes along with the Fox Sports Girls enjoyed a day with the Troops of the 2nd Cavalry Regiment, Feb. 7 at Rose Barracks, Germany.

The Directorate Plans Training Mobilization Security (DPTMS) Operations, Family Morale Welfare and Recreation and Grafenwoehr Public Affairs in cooperation with Installation Management Command Europe, IMCOM Houston and U.S. Army Europe coordinated the visit.

The leadership with USAREUR and IMCOM-E concurred that the Bavaria Military Community and U.S. Army Garrison Grafenwoehr was the ideal location to host the visit based on the installation's unique mission as the largest training command outside of the continental United States and Rose Barracks as the home the 2CR, the soon-to-be only remaining brigade combat team in Germany. The Soldiers, Family members and civilians of the community were a good representation focusing on the resiliency acquired through the diverse challenges met in Europe.

The purpose of the visit, which was called 'Training with the Troops,' was to amplify the U.S. Army's campaign regarding physical fitness through the use of inspiration and motivation. The visit promoted resiliency and education not only for the Troops of the Regiment, but to the visitors as well. It also showcased the spirit of 2CR Troops, Families and civilians, and their daily contribution to the National Defense.

Fox Sports also brought eleven young women know as the Fox Sports Girls who promote various sports to fans in the United States. These ladies announce live-game schedules to fans, as well as other programming on Fox Sports in multiple regions throughout the U.S.

The day began with physical training with the Troops. Exercises included circuit training and multiple calisthenics followed by a run where cadences were called, which help the formation stay in step.

“We got up bright and early and we came out here to do some circuit training, running logs across the field and pulling chains,” said Luke Gregerson, a player with the San Diego Padres. “We did some core work, you name it we did it right here and right afterward we did a mile and a half run.”

Rollie Fingers, a hall of famer talked about his learning experience he gained from the visit.

“I’m just learning a lot and it’s so technical now,” said Fingers. “When I was in the Army we didn’t have all this technical stuff. I think it’s a lot better the way it’s done now. You can really save lives.”

Col. James E. Saenz, Bavaria Military Community and U.S. Army Grafenwoehr Commander, explained why the visit from the baseball players was important and what type of experience the event presented to the players.

“I think it’s a great experience for the Major League Baseball players to see what the day to day life of a Soldier is,” said Saenz. “It’s been really eye-opening for them and just helps build that mutual respect and understanding.”

Pfc. Cody Pflughoeft with Bravo Troop, Regimental Support Squadron, 2CR, and native of Houston, explained how well the visit went and how he enjoyed the experience.

“It’s exciting to me because I am a baseball fan,” said Pflughoeft. “The organization was quite nice and I was surprised at how enthusiastic they all were, including the players and Fox Sports Girls. They were all just excited to be here and have fun. Even though they were tired they kept going and had a blast. I’m thankful I got this opportunity.”

Saenz expressed his gratitude and appreciation for being able to host the visit from the Fox Sports Girls, MLB players and Hall of Famers.

“I think we are very honored here in the Bavarian Military Community that they chose our location to come and spend time with our Troops,” said Saenz. “For them to choose this as the place to come to spend time with our young Troops and exchange about physical fitness and what it means to be resilient, I think it’s a win-win for both sides.”

Gregerson explained how thankful he is for the opportunity to come to Germany and spend time with the Troops.

“Thank you for everything you guys do for us and thank you for supporting our country,” Gregerson said. “It’s a privilege and an honor to be here to experience this.”

The day concluded with a ride-along in a Stryker vehicle to the Reed Museum where the visitors were given a tour of the museum and a presentation of Regimental historical uniforms for the period of 1836 to present.