Royal Warrior Battalion
April 2013

Camp Smith Field Training Exercise
By MS IV Sean Kulaga—University of Scranton

From April 15-17, the Royal Warrior Battalion conducted its Spring Field Training Exercise at Camp Smith, New York. While most cadets had experienced at least one such event in the fall, and others as many as eight, the weekend at Camp Smith turned out to be no ordinary training exercise. Unforeseen circumstances, particularly weather, forced much of the weekend’s training to be improvised. This did not, however, reduce the effectiveness of the training. Rather, it tested the adaptability, endurance, and mental strength of the entire battalion more than any training event before it.

Like most Field Training Exercises, the scope of the weekend’s training was varied. On Friday, Military Science Level IV Cadet’s arrived early at Camp Smith to zero and qualify with the M16 rifle. With the arrival of the remainder of the battalion that afternoon, Cadets established themselves in barracks and were administered a written Land Navigation test. However, the first serious test of each Cadet’s strength began on Saturday morning with a 5K ruck-march uphill to the battalion training area. Unfazed by intense cold, Cadets successfully conducted Land Navigation and Squad STX training throughout the day. However, continuous snowfall through the afternoon forced a major change of plans. Rather than stay overnight in the training area, the battalion moved back to the barracks for the remainder of the weekend. This led to a hasty, though successful, revision of plans by the MSIV staff and command group, who then had to designate and organize new locations for Sunday’s training. Impressively, Cadets who had carried their ruck-sacks 5K uphill that morning and walked through dense forest and snow all day, returned to the barracks without any serious injuries.

In spite of being organized on very short notice, Sunday’s training was as effective and valuable as what had been originally planned. While MSII and III Cadets conducted Patrolling, Military Science Level Cadet’s competed in the “Warrior Ride” event, which tested their knowledge and ability at various military skills. By midday, the weekend’s training was completed and the battalion prepared to return to their campuses or, in the case of East Stoudsburg University, begin their Spring Break.

In the end, the Royal Warrior Battalion successfully completed all its training at Camp Smith without incident in the face of adverse conditions. Although the previous FTX was held in December, there was heavier snowfall at Camp Smith than at any FTX in the past four years. Significantly instrumental to the weekend’s success were the Battalion’s MSIV Cadets who were able to react quickly to numerous changes and develop new plans on short notice. For each and every cadet, and maybe the Cadre as well, it was an FTX unlike any other.

Cadets of the Royal Warrior Battalion kickoff their Spring Field Training Exercise with a written examination on map reading and land navigation.
The Month In Pictures

(Photo: left) Military Science Level II Cadets Ryan Caviston, Jacob Randazzo and Alexandra Nachtman are presented Battalion Certificates of Achievement following Physical Training on Friday, 08 March. The Cadets were recognized for their support of The University of Scranton’s Exercise Science Health Fair.

(Photo: right) Royal Warriors assist a high school student from the University of Scranton’s Operation Success across a one-rope bridge. Cadets and Cadre of the Royal Warrior Battalion partnered with Operation Success on Saturday, 02 March, to help students learn more about the opportunities available through Army ROTC, as well as take part in several team building events.

(Photo: left) Military Science Level IV Cadet Kevin Demko takes aim as he prepares to zero his weapon on the M-16 rifle range at Camp Smith, New York.

(Photo: bottom) Military Science Level I Cadet Peter Loven carries the guidon for his Company as they begin the 5K ruck-march on the Spring FTX.

(Photo: left) Military Science Level II Cadet Billy Lacroix of East Stroudsburg University and Military Science Level III Cadet Nguyen Le of Wilkes University focus on weapons cleaning at the conclusion of the Battalion Spring FTX.
Royal Warrior Happenings

Project GO Selects Royal Warriors

Congratulations to Wilkes University Military Science Level I Cadet Alex Rodino on his selection to participate in Project GO this summer at North Carolina State University. Cadet Rodino will spend the summer studying Russian.

Congratulations is also in order for Military Science Level II Cadet Graham Henderson from The University of Scranton. Cadet Henderson was selected to participate in a Project GO program in Morocco hosted by Kansas University. Cadet Henderson will study Arabic during the course of his Project GO experience this summer.

Project GO is a program in which the U.S. Army Cadet Command partners with select colleges and universities around the nation and overseas to afford Cadets the opportunity to participate in Foreign Language and Cultural Understanding Programs.

Royal Warrior Baseball Outing Set

On Friday, 26 April, the Royal Warrior Battalion in will gather at PNC Field in Moosic, PA to support the Scranton/Wilkes-Barre Railriders as minor league baseball returns to Northeastern Pennsylvania. Prior to the game, members of the Battalion will take part in pre-game activities to include presentation of the National Colors. During the game, the Railriders will conduct a special recognition of a member of the Royal Warrior Battalion. A post-game fireworks display will also be a part of the evening. Tickets are available for all Cadets, Cadre and friends of the Battalion. Tickets are $8 and can be purchased by contacting the Battalion at 570-941-7457.

MS III Cadet Selected For Summer Internship Program in Germany

University of Scranton Cadet Hope Oliver was recently selected by U.S. Army Cadet Command to take part in a medical internship at the U.S. Medical Center in Landstuhl, Germany. Following the completion of the Leader Development and Assessment Course at Joint Base Lewis-McChord this summer Cadet Oliver will travel to German for the three week internship with various medical units assigned to Landstuhl. Cadet Oliver is a member of the Battalion Ranger Challenge Team and Army Ten-Miler Team.