



The  
**DOUBLE**  
"Twice the Citizen! Army Strong!"

**EAGLE**

JULY 2016, Vol. 5 No. 4



**SERVING A  
VITAL ROLE  
IN POLAND**

**COVERAGE BEGINS ON PAGE 4**



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## COVER STORY:

U.S. Army Reserve Soldiers with the 361st Engineer Company (Multi-Role Bridge) from Warner Robins, Ga., sharpen their skills by constructing the Improved Ribbon Bridge (IRB), June 8, on the Vistula River in Chelmino, Poland, as a part of Exercise Anakonda 2016. The IRB is a sectional floating bridge that can be used to create a full bridge or to ferry vehicles and equipment across a body of water. Exercise Anakonda 2016 is a Polish-led, joint, multinational exercise taking place in Poland from June 7-17. This exercise involves more than 31,000 participants from more than 20 nations. Exercise Anakonda 2016 is a premier training event for U.S. Army Europe and participating nations and demonstrates that the U.S. and partner nations can effectively unite together under a unified command while training on a contemporary scenario. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Brad Miller/326th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment)

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**Master Sgt. Melissa Rolan**Acting U.S. Army Reserve Public Affairs  
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Chief, Internal Information

**Mr. Timothy L. Hale**

Editor, Double Eagle

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Correspondence can be sent via email to:  
[timothy.l.hale.civ@mail.mil](mailto:timothy.l.hale.civ@mail.mil).

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# U.S. Army Reserve Shines in Poland

Inside this issue is a sample of the stories representing the nearly 1,000 **U.S. Army Reserve** Soldiers who participated in **Exercise Anakonda 2016**, June 7-17 throughout Poland.

A Polish-led, multi-national exercise, Anakonda featured 31,000 participants from 23 nations. Of those, 13,000 U.S. Service members from the active Army, U.S. Army Reserve, and Army National Guard served alongside our European allies and partners.

For the U.S. Army Reserve, supporting all of these forces was a monumental task. From logistics, ordnance, medical, and civil affairs, the work of the U.S. Army Reserve didn't go unnoticed by our fellow Americans serving in Europe as well as our European allies.

The **364th Expeditionary Sustainment Command**, from Marysville, Washington, carried the bulk of the load, overseeing all combat service support operations in theater, under the umbrella of U.S. Army Europe's **21st Theater Support Command**.

Lt. Gen. Ben Hodges, commanding general of the U.S. Army Europe, has said many times that he can't do his job in Europe without the support of the reserve and guard. During an interview in Poland, Hodges said, "Everything that we need comes out of the reserve components. We have made it a particular emphasis in U.S. Army Europe because I don't have the capacity to do what I need to do without significant contributions from the guard and reserve.

"We have 30,000 Soldiers in Europe. We used to have 300,000 and we still have the same mission – to deter Russia. The guard and reserve fill so many gaps. It's essential (to meet our mission)."

One example of filling the gap came from the **716th Quartermaster Company** (Petroleum Supply) from Jersey City, New Jersey. They were the first U.S. Army Reserve unit to operate and maintain a 150,000 gallon bulk fuel farm on Polish soil.

"I didn't realize we were the first (U.S. Army Reserve unit) until we got here. Then it resonated with me that we have an amazing opportunity to showcase our unit and what the U.S. Army Reserve is all about," said Capt. LaTrecia Parker, commander of the 716th.

Throughout Anakonda, the U.S. Army Reserve showed the world what it means to be a Total Army.

The support each one of you at USARC headquarters provide every day, enable our Soldiers to achieve individual and unit readiness every time they put on their uniforms - whether it is in the U.S., Poland, or elsewhere across the globe. Collectively, we helped make the Anakonda mission a success. 🇺🇸



Timothy L. Hale  
Editor



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Timothy L. Hale, a U.S. Air Force veteran, is an award-winning photojournalist and editor of the USARC Double Eagle. He is member of a number of professional organizations to include: Nikon Professional Services, National Press Photographer's Association, and the North Carolina Press Photographer's Association. The views expressed in this column are expressly his own and do not necessarily reflect those of the U.S. Army Reserve Command, the Department of the Army, and/or the Department of Defense.



# COVER STORY: EXERCISE ANAKONDA 2016



**364th ESC  
PORT OPS**

**DRAWSKO POMORSKIE  
TRAINING AREA (DPTA)**

**MIROSLAWIEC**

**CHELMNO**

**TORUŃ**

## Poland

**364th ESC  
HEADQUARTERS**





# U.S. ARMY RESERVE PLAYS VITAL ROLE IN POLAND

Nearly 1,000 Warrior-Citizens provide multinational logistics, engineer, medical, and civil affairs support

Story by TIMOTHY L. HALE  
U.S. Army Reserve Command

## DRAWSKO POMORSKIE TRAINING

**AREA, Poland** – The last small arms and artillery rounds have been fired. The last drop of fuel has been distributed. The last hot meal has been served. The last U.S. and Allied equipment has rolled across the bridgeheads. And lasting relationships with local military and civil authorities have been forged.

Through it all, the men and women of the [U.S. Army Reserve](#) have accomplished their mission of combat service support during [Exercise Anakonda 2016](#).

U.S. Army Reserve Soldiers from across the United States have been in Poland preparing and participating in Exercise Anakonda 2016, a Polish-led, multi-national exercise held throughout the country, June 7-17.

See **ANAKONDA** Pg. 6





## ANAKONDA

from Pg. 5

### Major U.S. Army Reserve units in Poland

- **364th Expeditionary Sustainment Command** – Marysville, Washington
- **483rd Quartermaster Co.** – Marysville, Washington
- **592nd Ordnance Co.** – Billings & Butte, Montana
- **716th Quartermaster Co.** – Jersey City, New Jersey
- **361st Engineer Co.** – Warner Robins, Georgia
- **469th Quartermaster Co.** – Mountain View, California
- **328th Adjutant General Co.** – Fort Sam Houston, Texas
- **236th Transportation Co.** – Decatur, Illinois
- **129th Transportation Co.** – New Century, Kansas
- **380th Transportation Co.** – Riverside, California
- **228th Combat Support Hosp.** – Fort Sam Houston, Texas
- **457th Civil Affairs Bn.** – Grafenwöhr, Germany

*Of the more than 13,000 U.S. Army Soldiers participating in Exercise Anakonda 2016, the U.S. Army Reserve provided nearly 1,000 Warrior-Citizens. Many of these were smaller (20 persons or less) teams and detachments working throughout Poland.*

The U.S. Army Reserve provided logistics, engineer, medical, and civil affairs support to the active Army, the Army National Guard, and 24 Allied nations.

One of [U.S. Army Europe](#)'s premier training events, Exercise Anakonda 2016 demonstrated the U.S. is an active partner dedicated to regional security. It also tested the readiness and interoperability of U.S. and Allied forces and partners on a large scale.

For the U.S. Army Reserve, Anakonda further exercised individual and unit readiness to meet the operational needs of the Total Army – active, reserve, and National Guard.

#### Vitally Important

Brig. Gen. Phillip S. Jolly, [U.S. Army Reserve Engagement Cell-Europe](#) director and Deputy Commanding General for Mobilization and Reserve Affairs, said U.S. Army Reserve participation in the exercise has been essential to mission success.

“The U.S. Army Reserve has the primary enablers for the Army. We are the Federal Reserve,” Jolly said. “When we have events like this, it is absolutely essential that we include the U.S. Army Reserve.

“If we have any conflict in the future, we are going to operate as a Total Army, using all three components (active, reserve, and National Guard). They get to practice interoperability not only with our own forces but our international partners. If we have a fight in the future, and we fail to put the U.S. Army Reserve into an exercise like this (Anakonda), we’ll fall short in our overall readiness for the Total Army. It is absolutely critical that we train the way we fight,” Jolly said.

Maj. Gen. Duane Gamble, U.S. Army Europe’s [21st Theater Sustainment Command](#) commanding general, based in Kaiserslautern, Germany, said incorporating the U.S. Army Reserve and Army National Guard into Anakonda worked “wonderfully” to support the theater.

“We work with the guard and reserve everyday in Europe,” Gamble said. “We can’t do what we do in Europe without the support of the Total Army.”

Gamble said that despite Army-wide downsizing, especially in Europe, the mission of deterrence in Europe is expanding.

The guard and reserve give us the endurance and reach that we need to do the job,” Gamble said.

#### Setting the Stage

For many of the U.S. Army Reserve men and women participating in Anakonda, their planning and preparation started long before they ever left the U.S.

In late 2015, the [364th Expeditionary Sustainment Command](#) from Marysville, Washington, received notification they would be the



theater-opening unit for the exercise.

Mission planners from the 364th, working in conjunction with their European counterparts, identified the units needed to meet the mission.

By April, equipment started moving towards U.S. ports in Washington and Texas for the air and sea crossing to Poland.

By early May, 364th Soldiers and equipment started arriving in theater. Some 364th Soldiers moved to Warsaw where they set up their tactical operations center to serve as a hub for all theater logistics activities while others moved to locations throughout the country.

Brig. Gen. Greg Mosser, 364th Expeditionary Sustainment Command commanding general, said the size of an exercise like Anakonda can be challenging.

Mosser said there are about 1,000 U.S. Army Reserve Soldiers within the total of 31,000 from 23 nations participating in Anakonda across 15 different locations throughout Poland.

“An ESCs mission is to provide support over a large geographic area,” Mosser said. “Back in the U.S. we can simulate that to some extent but really never get to practice it live. We’re doing a real-world mission (here). If we don’t finish it through to execution, people go without food, they go without ammunition, they go without fuel. So our Soldiers are required to see it through. There really is no substitute for that real-world mission.

As the theater-opening unit, Mosser said the 364th did most of the work on the front-end of the exercise. Prepositioning supplies, fuel, and people in the right places.

“We were here about a month ahead of the exercise making sure that all of those things were taking place,” Mosser said. “Bringing a ship into port, unloading and staging vehicles is a very important mission for an ESC. It’s the same thing we would do if there was ever a war zone and we had to get something into a country we had never

See **ANKONDA** Pg. 8

“When we have events like this, it is absolutely essential that we include the U.S Army Reserve. ... They get to practice interoperability not only with our own forces but our international partners. ... It is absolutely critical that we train the way we fight.”

– **Brig. Gen. Phillip S. Jolly**

*U.S. Army Reserve  
Engagement Cell-Europe director*



## ANAKONDA

from Pg. 7

“*It (Anakonda) also does our Soldiers good because it increases training value. The real-world mission throws things at you that wouldn't come in a simulation. I see the training value here at Anakonda better than I would back in the U.S.*”

– **Brig. Gen. Greg Mosser**  
Commander,  
364th Expeditionary Sustainment Command

been in before. It (Anakonda) is a very realistic mission.”

The U.S. Army Reserve wasn't the only unit on the move. The [3rd Infantry Division's 1st Armored Combat Brigade Team](#), from [Fort Stewart, Georgia](#), arrived in Europe in April. After drawing equipment from the prepositioned European Activity Set, the Raider Brigade participated in a number of training events throughout Europe before moving into Poland. The Soldiers of the 364th provided food, fuel, and ammunition to the brigade once they arrived.

Col. Phil Brooks, commander of 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, was very pleased with the support the U.S. Army Reserve provided his unit.

“As an armored brigade combat team, logistics is the center of gravity,” said Brooks, a Fayetteville, Tennessee native. “The Army Reserve and National Guard units from throughout the United States are vital to sustain an armored brigade combat team. The [716th Quartermaster Company](#) is such an enabler here with bulk fuel. There have been no issues with fuel.”

### Honing Readiness

While this was an exercise, Anakonda gave the U.S. Army Reserve a chance to hone their individual and unit readiness.

“This plays right into getting them ready for the next fight,” Jolly said. “They can come into Europe, they can practice their deployment process, deploy out of their home station, and download and operate in a foreign country. There is no better place than Europe to practice interoperability.”

Jolly said that coming to Europe also builds individual readiness by having bringing Soldiers over for three to six months at a time work with U.S. Army Europe.

“They can take that (experience) back to their units and have that institutional knowledge that builds readiness for the individual and the unit.

“It (Anakonda) also does our Soldiers good



because it increases the training value,” Mosser said. “The real-world mission throws things at you that wouldn’t come in a simulation. I see the training value here at Anakonda better than I would back in the U.S.”

For Mosser’s Soldiers, he said Anakonda brings realism to their individual military occupational specialties.

“It’s not just moving an empty container box or empty pallet of ammunition. You’re really moving ammunition. You’re not just going through the checklist of distributing fuel, you’re actually doing it. They (Soldiers) get really excited ... knowing they are supporting another Soldier. It really gives them a sense of satisfaction.”

Maj. Gen. Mark Palzer, [79th Sustainment Support Command](#) commanding general, from Los Alamitos, California, said the hands-on experience gained during Anakonda is key to not only readiness but retention as well.

“The greatest benefit is long-term,” Palzer said. “We get Soldiers that want to come back – retention goes through the roof. This is the type of thing that makes a sustainable, long-term U.S. Army Reserve.

“It’s a great deal. I know, from looking at the smiles on these Soldiers’ faces, there is no way we want to give up on these types of exercises. These are the exercises that really make the day for our Soldiers.”

Palzer added that an exercise like Anakonda places further emphasis on the Total Army (One Army) concept.

“It is one Army. We, in the U.S. Army Reserve, have 55 percent of the logistics capability of the entire Army and you have another 25 percent in the Army National Guard,” Palzer said. “And each of those is unique to that component but the capabilities can be utilized in any other component. If we are not working as one, we cannot really serve the entire Army. The ‘One Army’ concept is the only way that we can exist.” 🇺🇸

“The greatest benefit is long-term. We get Soldiers that want to come back - retention goes through the roof. This is the type of thing that makes a sustainable, long-term U.S. Army Reserve.”

– **Maj. Gen. Mark Palzer**  
Commander,  
79th Sustainment Support Command



# Lt. Gen. Hodges: U.S. Army Europe needs reserve components

Story & photo by Sgt. DENNIS GLASS  
361st Press Camp Headquarters

“Everything we need comes out of the reserve components. We have made it a particular emphasis in U.S. Army Europe because I don’t have the capacity to do what I need to do without significant contributions from the guard and reserve.”

– Lt. Gen. Ben Hodges  
Commander,  
U.S. Army Europe

**DRAWSKO POMORSKIE TRAINING AREA, Poland (June 6)** – The commanding general of [U.S. Army Europe](#), Lt. Gen. Ben Hodges, said the [U.S. Army Reserve](#) and Army National Guard are providing important and significant contributions to American and multi-national units participating in [Exercise Anakonda 2016](#).

In a visit to [1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division](#), on June 8, Hodges said he couldn’t meet the expectations of the Polish-led, multi-national exercise without the support of the reserve components.

Anakonda, running from June 7-17, is designed to test the ability, readiness, and interoperability of the Polish Armed Forces with allies and partners while conducting a large-scale joint defensive operation.

With approximately 31,000 Soldiers, airmen, and sailors from more than 20 nations participating in the exercise, United States participation shows that America is dedicated to regional security and deterrence.

“We saw it as a great opportunity to do a large-scale, multinational, joint exercise,” Hodges said. “Our principle objectives were improving interoperability, large-scale logistics, freedom of movement, and all the things that are necessary for us to provide a credible deterrent force. (Coming to) Poland gave us an unbelievable opportunity.”

Hodges said 25 percent of the U.S. Soldiers serving during

Anakonda 16 are either U.S. Army Reserve or Army National Guard, with multiple states being represented.

He highlighted the contributions of the U.S. Army Reserve [364th Expeditionary Sustainment Command](#), whose Soldiers opened and continue to maintain the theater for all the forces, and the [412th Theater Engineer Command](#), who established bridge crossings on the Vistula River for maneuver units.

“Everything that we need comes out of the reserve components,” Hodges said. “We have made it a particular emphasis in U.S. Army Europe because I don’t have the capacity to do what I need to do without significant contributions from the guard and reserve.”

“We have 30,000 Soldiers in Europe. We used to have 300,000 and we still have the same mission – to deter Russia. The guard and reserve fill so many gaps. It’s essential (to meet our mission).”

Hodges said training events like Anakonda 16 also helps the Army achieve better individual and unit readiness not only within our own components but with our Allies and partners as well.

“We are not ever going to fight by ourselves,” he said. “We don’t have the capacity to do things by ourselves. Our president has made it clear we are always going to be with allies or in a coalition and our most reliable allies come from Europe, Canada and Australia. You’ve got to come here to be able to do that.”

# Interoperability is the key for reserve components in Exercise Anakonda 2016

Story & photos by Lt. Col. JEFFERSON WOLFE  
7th Mission Support Command

**KAISERSLAUTERN, Germany (June 16)** – Active-duty and reserve component forces from the United States are working with European allies and partners during [Exercise Anakonda 2016](#).

Brig. Gen. Arlan DeBlieck, deputy commanding general of the [21st Theater Sustainment Command](#) and commanding general of the [U.S. Army Reserve's 7th Mission Support Command](#), and six staff members visited more than a half-dozen training sites across Poland.

He and the staff spoke to active and reserve Soldiers about interoperability with each other, the Polish military and other European allies and partners.

Exercise Anakonda 2016 is a Polish-led training event that takes place every two years. The Polish national exercise seeks to train, exercise and integrate Polish national command and force structures into a joint, multinational environment.

This year, more than 31,000 service members from 23 countries are taking part in the exercise, including more than 13,000 from the United States.

“It was the Total Army in Europe leading an effort, establishing a baseline for how to do future operations in Europe,” DeBlieck said. “All the components were heavily involved and were doing a superb job.”

The exercise saw an integration of active duty and reserve

“It was the Total Army in Europe leading an effort, establishing a baseline for how to do future operations in Europe. All the components were heavily involved and were doing a superb job.”

– **Brig. Gen. Arlan DeBlieck**  
*Deputy Commanding General,  
21st Theater Sustainment Command  
& Commanding General  
7th Mission Support Command*

See **INTEROPERABILITY** Pg. 12



**MOVING OUT** - U.S. and Polish Soldiers get a convoy of vehicles from the U.S. Army Reserve's 361st Engineer Company (Multi-Role Bridge), 412th Theater Engineer Command, from Warner Robins, Ga., ready to leave the port, June 4, in Szczecin, Poland to take part in Exercise Anakonda 2016.



# INTEROPERABILITY

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component Soldiers from the U.S. Army Reserve and National Guard into a total force. The key to a successful exercise was interoperability.

“You couldn’t tell one component from another,” DeBlicek said.

Each component brings different skill sets to the exercise, said Lt. Col. Steven Dowgiewlecz, commander of the active-duty 39th Transportation Battalion (Movement Control), headquartered for the exercise in Toruń, Poland. A movement control battalion regulates Army movement on main supply routes and alternate supply routes using common-user transportation assets.

For example, many of the U.S. Army Reserve truck drivers from the 428th Transportation Company drive trucks all over the United States in their civilian jobs. They are very skilled at securing their cargo, because they lose money if the load arrives in less than perfect condition.

“It seems like small things, but that’s an expertise we don’t have,” he said.

Another instance of sharing best practices between Army component services happened last year.

In 2015, the 39th had some U.S. Army Reserve mechanics from the 66th Truck Company on an Overseas Deployment for Training mission work in their shop for two-and-a-half weeks. The 66th brought Soldiers, who had been mechanics in the civilian world for their entire careers.

The U.S. Army Reserve Soldiers from the 66th taught the active-duty Army mechanics new techniques that unit is still using.

“Mechanics in the summer time, ODTs, I’ll take them any day of the week,” Dowgiewlecz said.

However, reserve component Soldiers may not know theater-specific things that their active duty counterparts deal with every day, like how to get diplomatic clearances and customs clearances to travel from country to county in Europe, Dowgiewlecz said.

So exercises like this one allow the reserve and guard forces to learn, develop some expertise and

grow, he added.

For Anakonda, one such reserve unit has been the U.S. Army Reserve’s 635th Movement Control Team from Kansas, which is working at four locations around Poland, coordinating transportation by air, sea and rail.

“It’s a great opportunity for them,” Dowgiewlecz said.

Capt. Brenda Jamison is a member of a 4th Infantry Division Movement Control Team, which worked at the Polish port of Szczecin.

She said her team’s integration with National Guard Soldiers of the 230th Sustainment Brigade from Tennessee was outstanding. The active and National Guard Soldiers’ job was to ensure smooth movement of equipment from the port to the locations where it would spend the exercise.

“As soon as my team landed on ground we introduced ourselves to the 230th leaders and started discussing the process for port clearance and made certain we were synchronized with our operations,” she said. “In advance, we also began to talk over redeployment operations. The 230th SB provided billeting on the spot for my team and rolled us up under their head count for Class I support.”

The U.S. Army Reserve’s [364th Expeditionary Sustainment Command](#), as another example, was the tip of the spear for the 21st Theater Sustainment Command, working to ensure an organized flow of forces into Europe and providing sustainment to the troops, DeBlicek said.

The 364th is normally aligned regionally to United States Pacific Command, but came to Poland for Anakonda. The unit had to quickly become familiar with conditions in Europe.

The U.S. Army Reserve and Army National Guard headquarters staff members don’t work together on a daily basis as their active duty counterparts do, Dowgiewlecz said. When they arrive in theater, they have to get to know each other and the staffs from the units around them.

“For headquarters, you really need a spin-up period before they get here,” he said. “It becomes a



**SUSTAINING THE FORCE** - Sustainment and logistics Soldiers in the 364th Expeditionary Sustainment Command's 592nd Ordnance Company and the 483rd Quartermaster Company were responsible for managing supply yards and ammunition supply points for the more than 13,000 U.S. service members participating in Anakonda 16, June 7-June 17, in Poland.

step learning curve at the staff level.”

For reserve component units, home station training focused on warfighting functional skills is essential, said Maj. Ryan M. Wood, the executive officer for the 7th MSC's 209th Digital Liaison Detachment (DLD), in Bemowo Piskie, Poland for the exercise.

“If I don't know my craft as a Fire Support Officer, how can I liaison the complex tasks required

of the fires elements in both the U.S. and a foreign headquarters?” he said.

Reserve component forces should be brought into the planning process earlier, DeBlicek said. Many had only about six months advance notice.

Most units need at least a full year to “form, norm, and be ready to perform,” he added. This would give them time to work on roles and responsibilities, conduct

a thorough mission analysis and rehearse.

“They are doing very well, but they could be doing better if they were engaged in the planning process sooner,” he said.

Polish forces had to learn how to integrate U.S. and European troops into their exercise. In the past, Anakonda has been a command post exercise for Polish forces.

“They've made a commitment

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## INTEROPERABILITY

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to (European Allies and partners) and demonstrated their resolve by using Poland as an exercise venue,” DeBlicek said.

Wood has been working with Polish forces on a limited basis for this exercise, but has worked with them in the past.

“From my previous experience and interaction with the Polish military I have found that they are very mission focused and have a strong bias for action,” he said. “Gracious hosts and very welcoming, the Polish military are excellent partners.”

For Anakonda, the 209th was tasked to help interface with the Latvian military, Wood said.

“This is my first time working with them and I am very impressed with their discipline and professionalism,” he said. “It is nice to see how interoperable our armies really are in planning and execution of land component tasks.”

The 209th’s mission is to provide liaison between a U.S. headquarters, the 4th Infantry Division in Exercise Anakonda 2016; and a foreign headquarters, in this case the Latvian Light Infantry Brigade.

Their job is to ensure communication, mutual understanding and unity of purpose and action, Wood said.

“The ‘digital’ portion of our title comes in the fact that we use Army mission command (computer) systems in which to conduct our liaison mission,” he said.

Reserve component units already in Europe, such as those in the 7th, have a built-in advantage, Wood said.

“The DLDs have to be able to integrate with both the active component U.S. Army and a foreign headquarters,” he said. “This makes our integration challenging, but as a reserve force stationed in Germany, we build confidence in our ability to communicate with foreign partners each day.”

Further, Wood’s civilian job is in the G-6 staff at United States Army Europe, but his previous job was as an exercise planner for USAREUR, and he still knows the USAREUR exercise planning staff.

As a result, Wood leveraged his civilian skills and relationships to enhance his reserve job by writing

the taskings for the DLDs taking part in Anakonda.

Further, units in Europe can work together over a period of time.

The 7th and the 39th have developed a strong relationship since the summer of 2015, when the 7th stood up the 446th Transportation Battalion (Movement Control), which is a reserve counterpart to the 39th, Dowgielewicz said.

The 39th was experiencing a very high operational tempo, with many Soldiers being away from their home station nine months out of the year, he said. The 446th was able to reduce that to six months, by providing as many as 15-21 movement controllers at a time.

It was a balancing act, because the 7th Soldiers had to use multiple funding streams to stay on duty, but the reserve augmentation has been very successful, he added.

In addition, many of those reserve-component Soldiers had civil affairs skills, and were able to leverage experience in relationship-building and coordination to work with multiple countries and streamline the transportation and border crossing processes, Dowgielewicz said.

However, exercises like Anakonda will help European allies work together and build processes to overcome the challenges sovereignty presents, DeBlicek said.

Freedom of movement has been a challenge when working to cross multiple international borders, he said.

“Over time, we will find solutions to these problems and still maintain the sovereignty of all the countries involved,” DeBlicek said.

The bottom line is that everyone must use their skills to work together.

“If you have competence in your job, you will be confident in your performance,” Wood said.

Being able to do the job well is the key for reserve units working in cooperation with allies, partners or other components, he said.

“Everybody was doing an excellent job of working together, including allies, partners and multiple components,” DeBlicek said. 🇺🇸



**ROLLING** - A convoy of vehicles from the U.S. Army Reserve's 361st Engineer Company (Multi-Role Bridge), 412th Theater Engineer Command, from Warner Robbins, Ga., leave the port, June 4, in Szczecin, Poland to take part in Exercise Anakonda 2016.



# 364th ESC reaps benefits of Exercise Anakonda 2016

Story & photos by Maj. MARVIN BAKER  
364th Expeditionary Sustainment Command

**WARSAW, Poland (June 17) – [Exercise Anakonda 2016](#)** has been described by many in the Polish and U.S. military as a multi-national exercise that demonstrates an alliance between Poland and other European countries.

Furthermore, it tests the ability of approximately 12,000 U.S. troops spread across 15 sites in Poland and Germany, with an additional 12,000 allied nation troops ability to deploy to an austere environment in order to fend off any adversary. But even this all-encompassing description inadequately captures the complete benefits of Exercise Anakonda 2016.

The scale of the two-week exercise, which started June 7, was especially beneficial for the Soldiers with the [U.S. Army Reserve's 364th Sustainment Command \(Expeditionary\)](#).

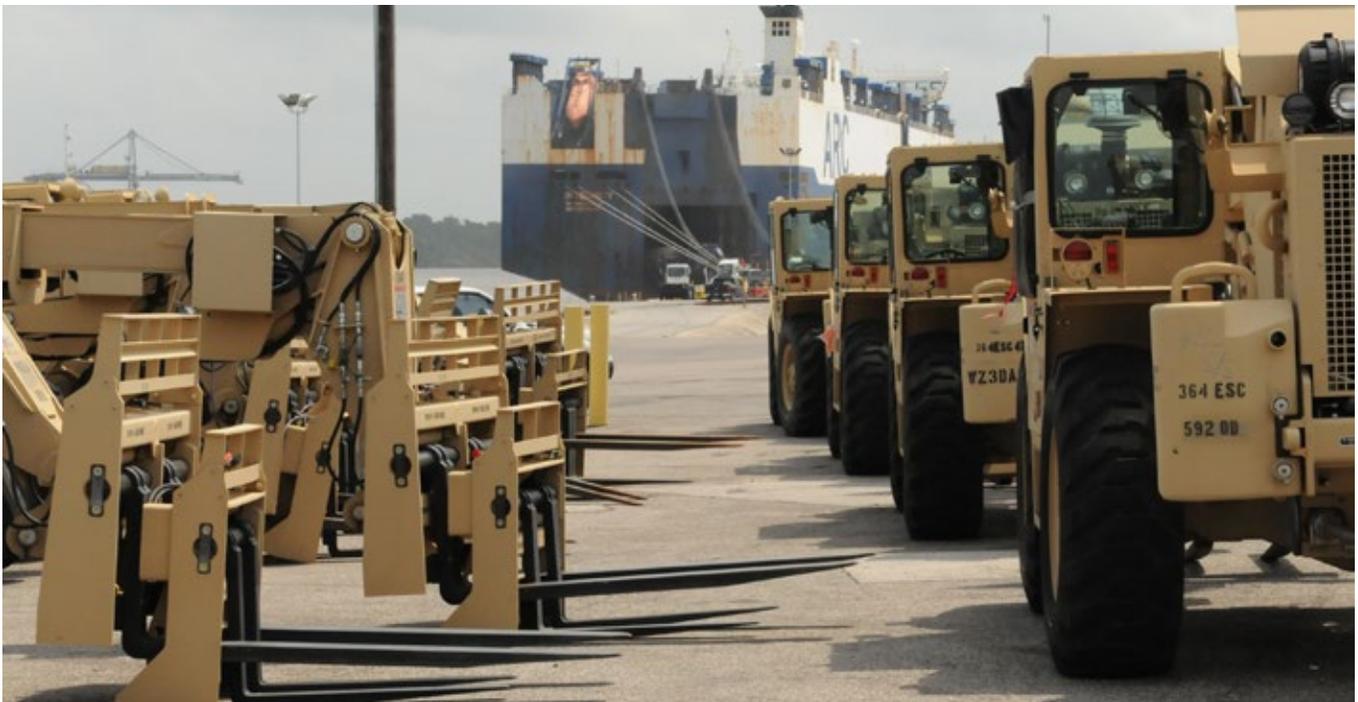
“The size of this exercise challenges an ESC,” said Brig. Gen. Gregory Mosser, 364th commanding general. “The training value of Exercise Anakonda 2016 is that we are doing a real-world mission. Here, if we fail to deliver our mission, people go without food and without ammunition.”

In order to set the stage for Exercise Anakonda 2016, logisticians in the 364th deployed to Poland nearly one month before the start of the exercise.

The mission began at their home station in Marysville, Washington where they prepared equipment for shipment by sea and air, carefully scheduling its arrival so Soldiers would be available in Poland to receive and process for movement forward. Once in country, they also established their theater operations center near Warsaw.

The ops center was the hub for all sustainment activity throughout Poland. The 364th's primary mission during Exercise Anakonda 2016 was command and control of all sustainment operations. It's a critical element of any military operation to know what, when, and where supplies are moving within the area of operations. Maneuver commanders rely on the critical life and combat-sustaining efforts of Army Reserve units like the 364th ESC. In fact, nearly 80 percent of all sustainment and logistics capabilities are held in the U.S. Army Reserve and Army National Guard.

Anakonda was truly a Total Army exercise,





especially for sustainment operations. One of the primary benefits included real-world training. When Soldiers are put in realistic situations that force them to think through all the nuances of their job, it can motivate them to remain in the military and increase enthusiasm for their work. Typically, logisticians practice their skills through computer simulations or small-scale exercises at a U.S.-based training center. “We are not just going through the checklist to establish a fuel farm. Our Soldiers are actually setting up a fuel farm,” Mosser said.

During the exercise, the 364th ESC were responsible for more than 35 sustainment units who managed supply yards and rail port operations in Zagan and Drawsko Pomorski; seaport operations in Szczecin; and ammunition supply points. The units came from the Army National Guard, active Army, and the U.S. Army Reserve and include three of the ESC organic subordinate units; the 483rd Quartermaster Company, the 909th Human Resources Company and the 592nd Ordnance Company.

The 592nd Ordnance Co., along with ordnance Soldiers from the 3d Infantry Division, were jointly responsible for receiving and maintaining all the ammunition used in the exercise.

Soldiers with the 909th worked their personnel management skills as they tracked every U.S. service member entering Poland in support of Exercise Anakonda 2016.

The contingent from 483rd Quartermaster Company kept Soldiers fed and housed as they ensured there was more than enough food available on the life support areas near Drawsko Pomorskie.

Exercise Anakonda 2016 is a prime example of the U.S. Army’s Total Force initiative. The exercise used the unique abilities all three Army components aimed at supporting an overarching goal. It also demonstrated the critical role sustainment operations plays in increasing combat unit’s ability to speed across the battlefield without concerns of supply lines keeping up the pace.

“This exercise caused us to do a lot more work than we might do during a simulation, but it also increased our training value more than anything we could have got in the U.S.,” Mosser said. 🇺🇸

**BY SEA AND BY AIR** - During the exercise, the 364th ESC were responsible for more than 35 sustainment units that were responsible for managing supply yards, rail port operations in Zagan and Drawsko Pomorski, sea port operations in Szczecin and ammunition supply points. The units came from the Army National Guard, active Army and the U.S. Army Reserve and include three of the ESC organic subordinate units; the 483rd Quartermaster Company, the 909th Human Resources Company and the 592nd Ordnance Company.



# U.S. Army Reserve Quartermasters fuel the force



**GAS AND GO** - Spc. Dan Bora, a petroleum supply specialist with the U.S. Army Reserve's 716th Quartermaster Company, Jersey City, N.J., fuels a 5-gallon gas can at the fuel farm during Exercise Anakonda 2016 at the Drawsko Pomorskie Training Area, Poland, June 4. Exercise Anakonda 2016 is a Polish-led, joint multinational exercise taking place throughout Poland June 7-17. The 716th is the first U.S. Army Reserve unit to operate a fuel farm in Poland. The exercise involves 31,000 participants from 23 nations. Exercise Anakonda 2016 is a premier training event for U.S. Army Europe and participating nations and demonstrates the United States and partner nations can effectively unite under a unified command while training on contemporary scenario.

Story & photos by **TIMOTHY L. HALE**  
U.S. Army Reserve Command

**DRAWSKO POMORSKIE TRAINING AREA, Poland (June 6)** – For the past two weeks fuel tankers, loaded with the life-blood for any piece of military equipment that moves on the ground, have been heading out to local training sites as the final stages of [Exercise Anakonda 2016](#) were put into place this week.

Exercise Anakonda 2016, a Polish-led, multinational exercise running from June 7-17, involves approximately 31,000 participants from 23 nations and is a premier training event for [U.S. Army Europe](#).

Approximately 1,000 [U.S. Army Reserve](#) Soldiers are part of more than 13,000 American

troops from the active Army and National Guard participating in Exercise Anakonda 2016.

U.S. Army Reserve Soldiers from the [716th Quartermaster Company](#), based in Jersey City, New Jersey, have been fueling the force at Drawsko Pomorskie Training Area with military-grade JP-8 gas at a 150,000-gallon bulk fuel farm.

Capt. LaTrecia Parker, commander of the 716th Quartermaster Company from Jersey City, New Jersey said being a part of Anakonda 16 is one of the best experiences for her unit.

“We are providing fuel to units at DPTA (Drawsko Pormorskie Training Area) in bulk and retail support. Bulk, being the fuel farm here for the

tanker trucks, and retail where Soldiers can pull up and fill gas cans and smaller military vehicles like you would at a regular gas station,” Parker said.

While there is another bulk fuel farm run by the 240th Quartermaster Company, an active unit near Torun to the south, the 716th is the first U.S. Army Reserve unit to set up and maintain a bulk fuel farm in Poland.

“I didn't realize we were the first (U.S. Army Reserve unit) until we got here. Then it resonated with me that we have an amazing opportunity to showcase our unit and what the U.S. Army Reserve is all about,” the Leavenworth, Kansas native said. “We have the capabilities to do the same tasks that an active Army petroleum unit can - we're just doing it in a different location during Exercise Anakonda 2016.”

Parker said many of the 716th Soldiers are on their first exercise, with some having recently graduated from the Petroleum Supply Specialist

course at Fort Lee, Va.

Spc. Sudine White, from Westmoreland, Jamaica, joined the unit after graduating from the course in February. She said being a part of Exercise Anakonda 2016 is very different compared to the school environment.

“I actually get to see the system in action in a real-world exercise and I've learned a lot from the other Soldiers in the unit,” said White. “It was actually a private that showed me how the system works and now I'm showing others. Teamwork makes a dream work.”

Exercise Anakonda 2016 further enhances individual and unit readiness to meet the operational needs of the Army's Total Force and the Soldiers of the 716th have taken advantage of the opportunity.

Parker said her unit conducted three Soldier Readiness Checks to include medical, dental, legal, and administration as well as practicing setting up a fuel farm at Fort Dix, New Jersey - minus the fuel in the bags.

See **FUEL** Pg. 20



**BULK FUEL STORAGE** - This 150,000-gallon bulk fuel farm was operated and maintained by the U.S. Army Reserve's 716th Quartermaster Company, Jersey City, N.J., during Exercise Anakonda 2016 at the Drawsko Pomorskie Training Area, Poland, June 4.



## FUEL

from Pg. 19

“We laid flat bags down there (at Fort Dix) filled with water but nothing beats having fuel in the bags - they look and feel different,” Parker said. “Everybody got hands-on training in fuel, maintenance, driver’s training, and even setting up tents. We tried to think of everything we could possibly encounter out here. The preparation was worth it.”

Staff Sgt. Richard DeJesus, is the assistant noncommissioned officer in charge of fuel distribution for the 716th, said all their training throughout the year has led them to this point.

“When it comes to exercises like this, we put all that training into practical use,” said DeJesus, a Kearney, New Jersey native. “Having the Soldiers put their hands on the equipment and distributing the fuel the way it’s supposed to be done as a team. The whole cohesion of it to see how it all flows and the training the training has worked out perfectly.”

Col. Phil Brooks, commander of [1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division](#), from Fort Stewart, Georgia, is very pleased with the support the 716th is providing his armored unit.

“As an armored brigade combat team, logistics is the center of gravity,” said Brooks, a Fayetteville,

Tennessee native. “The Army Reserve and National Guard units from throughout the United States are vital to sustain an armored brigade combat team. The 716th is such an enabler here with bulk fuel. There have been no issues with fuel and the units continue to train.”

Brooks echoed the assessment of Lt. Gen. Ben Hodges, U.S. Army Europe commanding general, of the need for the U.S. Army Reserve and National Guard in Europe.

“We continue to require multi-component units to sustain our armored brigade combat team,” Brooks said. “It is logistics heavy and we do require a lot of fuel and food that is not often organic to a brigade support battalion.”

Brooks added that Exercise Anakonda 16 is a prime example of the importance of the Army’s Total Force concept.

“This is exactly what the Chief of Staff of the Army (Gen. Mark Milley) envisioned,” Brooks said. “We’ve got multi-component units in one environment. This is the way we will fight and win our nation’s wars in the future and it takes a Total Army.” 🇺🇸

**RETAIL FUEL SERVICE** - Spc. Tatiana Watler, left, and Sgt. Melissa Vega, petroleum supply specialists with the U.S. Army Reserve’s 716th Quartermaster Company, Jersey City, N.J., monitor fuel distribution at the fuel farm during Exercise Anakonda 2016 at the Drawsko Pomorskie Training Area, Poland, June 4.

Spc. Dan Bora, opposite page-top, a petroleum supply specialist with the U.S. Army Reserve’s 716th Quartermaster Company, Jersey City, N.J., fuels a 5-gallon gas can at the fuel farm.

Pfc. Aung Kyaw, opposite page-bottom, a petroleum supply specialist with the U.S. Army Reserve’s 716th Quartermaster Company, Jersey City, N.J., fuels a Humvee at the fuel farm.







# 483rd Quartermaster Company feeds the force

Story & photos by Sgt. DENNIS GLASS  
361st Press Camp Headquarters

**DRAWSKO POMORSKIE TRAINING AREA, Poland (June 7)** – When Soldiers are far from home, comforts like a warm meal can help make a tough assignment tolerable. The [U.S. Army Reserve 483rd Quartermaster Company](#), based in Marysville, Washington, have been tasked with serving hundreds of Soldiers from a Mobile Kitchen Trailer (MKT) while participating in [Exercise Anakonda 2016](#), a Polish-led, joint, multinational exercise taking place June 7-17.

Exercise Anakonda 2016 is a premier training event that involves approximately 31,000 participants from 23 nations.

The 483rd has been supplemented with Soldiers from the 716th Quartermaster Company, based in Jersey City, New Jersey, in order to provide enough personnel to support the exercise. The two units are working together to proudly serve hot meals for breakfast and dinner.

“It makes me feel good! I like to serve anyway I can,” said Pfc. Gabriel Royz, who lives in Everson, Washington and is assigned to the 483rd. “I like how

it feels when I serve someone and I see them smile. The smile on their face when they get the hot chow; I just like that.”

Exercise Anakonda 2016 presents realistic training for Soldiers by placing them in a foreign environment with limited resources. The Army support units involved have planned months ahead to secure a successful mission.

“Prior to coming here we focused a lot on vehicle movement and prep, especially with the MHE (material handling equipment) like the forklifts, and training up to make sure we are good for the convoys,” said 1st Lt. Krissy Latimer, a platoon leader in 483rd. Latimer’s main mission is to run the MKT, but she also takes part in running the Class I supply yard.

“Anakonda 16 helped our unit readiness big time,” said Latimer. “We thought we were only serving our own units, however we had other units fall under us and it’s been valuable. We are serving upwards of 300 people rather than just 80, so these cooks are really getting their training.” 🇺🇸

**HOT MEALS** - Pfc. Gabriel Royz and Pfc. Babrah Mumeld prepare dinner from a Mobile Kitchen Trailer during Exercise Anakonda 2016 at the Drawsko Pomorskie Training Area in Poland. Exercise Anakonda 16 is a Polish-led, joint, multinational exercise taking place in from June 7-17. Royz is from Everson, Wash., and Mumeld is from Seattle, Wash., both Soldiers are assigned to the 483rd Quartermaster Company based in Marysville, Wash.





**DINNER IS SERVED** - Soldiers participating in Exercise Anakonda 2016 pass through the Mobile Kitchen Trailer (MKT) at the Drawsko Pomorskie Training Area.

**FRESH FOOD** - Pfc. Babrah Mumeld and Pvt. Zenetria Williams prepare dinner from a Mobile Kitchen Trailer.



**HANDLE WITH CARE** - Sgt. Victor William Pekah, an ammunition specialist, with the U.S. Army Reserve's 592nd Ordnance Company out of Billings, Montana, serves as the ground guide for a forklift driver during exercise Anakonda 2016, Polish-led, multinational exercise running from June 7-17. (U.S. Army photo by Spc. Miguel Alvarez/ 354th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment)

# 592nd Ordnance Company handles things that go boom

Story by:

Sgt. 1st Class **LLOYD SHELLENBERGER** | Spc. **MIGUEL ALVAREZ**  
79th Sustainment Support Command | 354th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

**DRAWSKO POMORSKIE TRAINING AREA, Poland (June 8)** – No matter the size of the ammunition, if Soldiers can shoot it, the men and women of the [U.S. Army Reserve 592nd Ordnance Company](#) can supply it.

The 592nd, based in both Billings and Butte, Montana, are providing ammunition support for [1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division](#), based in Fort Stewart, Georgia, the Albanian, Bulgarian, and Macedonian armies at Exercise Anaconda 2016, taking place throughout Poland, June 7-17.

[Exercise Anakonda 2016](#) is a Polish-led, multinational exercise with more than 31,000 military participants from more than 20 nations. The U.S. Army Reserve has approximately 1,000 Soldiers, of the nearly 12,000 U.S. troops, providing sustainment, logistics, engineer, and medical capabilities for the exercise.

The job of the 592nd is to maintain the ammunition supply point and provided on-time distribution of everything from small arms to larger tank and rocket ordnance.

With a little more than 30 Soldiers from the



529th on the ground, 1st Sgt. Marco Piedra, from Billings, Montana, said that many of them are serving with the unit for their first deployment. Getting them ready for the mission was a key to their success for individual and unit readiness.

“Most of the Soldiers are fresh out of Army Initial Training, Piedra said. “They come over here and start putting their hands on the live ammunition which helps give them the experience. So the next time they deploy, they will remember this experience and know what to do. It makes their job a lot easier.”

Sgt. 1st Class Josh Borner, from Billings, Montana, said the unit readiness is more than “dotting the I's and crossing the T's.

“Our unit hasn't deployed since 2010. A lot of our Soldiers don't get a lot of time to work in our MOS (military occupational specialty) so training events like this give us the opportunity to work in our MOS.

“They may get to see bits and pieces of it at AIT but here they get to see the whole picture.”

Part of that whole picture is working with the active duty ammunition supply specialists from the 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team.

Chief Warrant Officer 2 Demetrius Lewis, the brigade ammunition officer, said working with the 592nd Soldiers has been a great experience for them and his Soldiers as well.

“The Soldiers are getting the training that they need and they are learning,” Lewis said. “They usually don't get this training in the rear. They are managing inventory and learning the different types of ammunition.”

He said his six active duty Soldiers have been working with the 592nd Soldiers and the experience has been rewarding for both units.

“They (U.S. Army Reserve) blend in very well. Everybody is excited to do something. We are one team and we are going to figure it all out together. I told them (my Soldiers) if they don't know something you need to teach them and they may teach you something that you don't know. Everybody serves in a different way.”

“In our unit, we have Soldiers who work at hospitals, serve as police officers, work for oil companies, and we even have farmers and ranchers,” said Sgt. Victor William Pekah, an ammunition specialist assigned to the 592nd.

Pekah, a native of Worden, Montana, said for the younger Soldiers, this is an experience they will never forget.

“I know that years down the line I will be able to better recall my skills because of the experience I'm having here,” said Spc. Samuel Clinton Posey, an ammunition specialist with the 592nd.

Posey, a native of Roscoe, Montana, mentioned he had never participated in a training exercise out of the U.S. with the Army, so he knows this will help younger Soldiers like him gain a deeper understanding about their Army jobs.

Annual training usually serves as an opportunity for U.S. Army Reserve Soldiers to get more in-depth experience performing their jobs. For most, the training is usually held within the United States.

“When we first heard that our annual training might be in Poland, no one believed it,” said Posey, an ammunition specialist with the 592nd.

Posey said he is glad that his experience has become a reality because he can already see the growth from his unit. He said they are taking this opportunity to learn from their mistakes and become more confident leaders.

Pekah also said that he noticed the benefits in interoperability between the Polish and the U.S. troops. He commented that they have been able to become close with some Polish Soldiers during and after training for the day.

“They have been incredibly welcoming to us, and we now feel more comfortable working together,” said Pekah.

Overall, the experience for the 592nd at exercise Anakonda 2016 has served as a unique experience for a unit that travelled a long way to participate.

“Our bus ride from Billings to the Denver airport may have been longer than our actual flight from Newark to Europe, but this has definitely been worth it,” said Pekah.

Pekah said they have learned just how much they have in common with the Polish Soldiers, and this overseas experience has also brought together their Soldiers some of who lives as far as North Dakota and Washington.

“These Soldiers will take their knowledge not only into their Army careers, but they will also bring their Army discipline and leadership into their civilian lives as well,” said Pekah. 🇺🇸



**BRIDGING THE VISTULA** - U.S. Army Reserve Soldiers with the 361st Engineer Company from Warner Robins, Ga., sharpen their skills by constructing the Improved Ribbon Bridge on the Vistula River in Chelmno, Poland, as a part of Exercise Anakonda 2016. The IRB is a sectional floating bridge that can be used to create a full bridge or to ferry vehicles and equipment across a body of water.

# Building Bridges: U.S. Army Reserve Engineers span Vistula River in Poland

Story & photos by Staff Sgt. **BRAD MILLER**  
326th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

**CHELMNO, Poland (June 12)** – The [361st Engineer Company](#), a [U.S. Army Reserve](#) unit from Warner Robins, Georgia, sharpens its bridge-building skills by constructing an Improved Ribbon Bridge (IRB) on the Vistula River in Chelmno, Poland, as part of [Exercise Anakonda 2016](#), June 7-17.

The IRB can be used as a full

span bridge or to ferry vehicles and equipment across a body of water.

The U.S. Army Reserve Soldiers are working alongside bridging crews from Germany and the Netherlands and learning how bridge-building procedures are conducted by other militaries.

The bridging crews from multiple nations are cooperating

to build bridges not only on the water but also between their militaries.

"There should be no doubt in anybody's mind about the commitment of the United States in the security and stability in Europe," said U.S. Army Lt. Gen. Ben Hodges, commanding general, [U.S. Army Europe](#). "We have committed a large number



of Soldiers and capabilities to include a significant number of our reserve component Soldiers and our National Guard Soldiers from the States to participate in this exercise. So, in other words, the whole army is involved in Anakonda."

Sgt. 1st Class Martin Durst, an U.S. Army Reserve Soldier with the 549th Engineer Bridge Company, who is cross-training with the 361st, said this training opportunity offers him experience not easily obtained in home station.

"I haven't seen this in 26 years in the military," explained Durst. "I'm looking forward to taking all this bridging equipment and put it all together because, from the U.S. Army Reserve side, this is something that we never get to do. That's a huge motivator and I'm hoping we get to do this more moving forward."

Durst said the scheduling of events of Exercise Anakonda 2016 and communication from higher headquarters has made the mission go smoothly, considering there were many moving parts between equipment, personnel, and coordination with the other allied nations.

"That has all been arranged at the senior officer level and filtered down through our chain of command," said Durst. "Before we even arrive out here to do the work, we know where we need to be, who we need to work with, and every day's mission is conducted the same way."

Exercise Anakonda 2016 brings together land forces from more than 20 nations to train together as one military demonstrates that the United States and its partners are ready for and capable of dealing with any contingency. 🇺🇸



**BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS** - A Dutch soldier, right, on a Bridge Erection Boat gives U.S. Army Reserve Soldiers from the 361st Engineer Company, Warner Robins, Ga., guidance on how to maneuver the Improved Ribbon Bridge during bridge training on the Vistula River in Chelmno, Poland, as part of Exercise Anakonda 2016.



# Civil Affairs Soldiers build partnerships

Story & photos by Sgt. DENNIS GLASS  
361st Press Camp Headquarters

**WEGORZYNO, Poland (June 9)** – U.S. Army and Polish Army forces are developing improved relations that enhance the allied mission by conquering the uncertainty of local citizens.

Capt. Niels Madsen and Staff Sgt. Arthur Kleeb, of the [457th Civil Affairs Battalion](#) based in Grafenwoehr, Germany, partnered with members of the Civil-Military Cooperation (CIMIC) support team of the Polish Army to conduct civil affairs operations in Poland during [Exercise Anakonda 2016](#).

Large-scale exercises such as Exercise Anakonda 2016 send a clear message that the United States is capable of enabling and executing a full range of military missions in concert with our European Allies and partners to secure U.S. national interests and to support a Europe that is whole, free, prosperous, and at peace.

In meeting in the town of Wegorzyno, which is a few miles away from Drawsko Pomorskie, the team met with Mayor Monika Kuźmińska. Both teams sat with the Mayor and her council members to discuss the impact

**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT** - Capt. Niels Madsen and Staff Sgt. Arthur Kleeb, with the U.S. Army Reserve 457th Civil Affairs Battalion based in Grafenwoehr, Germany and members of the CIMIC Support Team of the Polish Army discuss concerns with Monika Kuzminska the mayor of Wegorzyno and other local town officials during Exercise Anakonda 2016, June 9.

Exercise Anakonda 2016 is having on the local citizens in the area.

“The towns that are surrounding the training area are affected both positively and negatively from the training that is happening here in the Drawsko Promorskie Training Area,” said Madsen.

The meeting between the Civil Affairs team and the civilians of Wegorzyno served as a way for locals to directly voice their concerns with an experienced team of servicemen, who can negotiate on their country’s behalf.

The meeting, spoken in Polish and translated to English by the CIMIC Support team, made the communication understandable for Madsen and Kleeb.

Keeping a positive relationship with the local community keeps forces safer and helps to complete the mission more effectively.

“When we touch base with

the local community, they can point out stuff to us that we don’t see, like convoy movements,” said Madsen.

Visits by the Civil Affairs team can bring out information that can help local towns that can lead to safer route for a convoy.

In a later meeting, the Civil Affairs team learned there are many residents who feel safer with the Polish Army and with other multinational forces nearby.

“It gives them a sense of security and a sense of comfort,” said Madsen.

The Civil Affairs team found that many of the people with the feeling of protection are older residents. Many of them still remember the life under previous decades of post-World War II Europe.

“Somehow, through our presence, they feel safer,” said Madsen. 🇺🇸



# An American in Poland:

## U.S. Army Reserve Soldier serves as unit translator

Story & photos by **TIMOTHY L. HALE**  
U.S. Army Reserve Command

**DRAWSKO POMORSKIE TRAINING AREA, Poland (June 14)** – For [U.S. Army Reserve](#) Pfc. James Hale, coming to Poland for Exercise Anakonda 2016 was like coming home.

Hale, a Transportation Management Coordinator with the [382nd Combat Sustainment Support Battalion](#), Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Washington, has been serving as a Polish translator for U.S. Army Reserve Soldiers participating in the Polish-led, joint multinational exercise. When he found out the unit was coming to Poland, he jumped at the chance to participate in Anakonda.

“I don’t have any Polish heritage but my parents, who are missionaries, moved to Poland

over 20 years ago,” Hale said. “I was born in Lublin, Poland but my parents moved around for their mission work. They still live in Poland – about 10 minutes from here.”

Hale grew up in Poland, attended and graduated from a Polish high school, then moved to Washington to join the U.S. Army Reserve two years ago. He is currently attending college in Washington, enrolled in ROTC at Saint Martin’s University in Lacey, Washington.

Serving as the unit translator has been a rewarding experience for not only Hale but the unit’s Soldiers. He has taken them to different locations away from the training area and shared the sights, sounds, tastes of Poland

with them.

“They’ve absolutely loved it!” Hale said emphatically. “Poland is over 1,000 years old, created in 977. The fact that Poland is four times older than the United States blows their minds. And the food is really good so they get away from field food to get really good, Polish food.”

Hale said that being in a country where the Soldiers can’t read the signs or understand the culture can put them out of their comfort zone. But, he said they have jumped right in to learning as much as they can.

His command of the Polish language has made many locals take notice – trying to figure out how an American is so fluent in their native language.

“It’s always fun walking up to somebody in an American uniform and start talking Polish,” he said. “It always takes them off guard. Then they want to know the story.”

He said that he has enjoyed being back in Poland and sharing his experiences of growing up with fellow Soldiers. But, he said the greatest benefit is closer to home.

“I’ll get to see my parents this weekend,” he said. 🇺🇸

**BACK HOME** - U.S. Army Reserve Pfc. James Hale, a Transportation Management Coordinator with the 382nd Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Washington, is interviewed by a Polish television reporter during Exercise Anakonda 2016 at the Drawsko Pomorskie Training Area.





# USAR medic gains valuable experience

Story & photo by Sgt. 1st Class JOHN FRIES  
326th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

## MIROSLAWIEC, Poland (June 11)

– A young female Polish soldier is wheeled into trauma bed number three in a make-shift emergency room set up by the [212th Combat Support Hospital](#) where [U.S. Army Reserve](#) Spc. Adriana Rosas awaits.

The next few decisions, over mere seconds, may just determine the outcome of this warrior’s life.

Even though the injuries are notional — a simulated mass casualty event that is part of [Exercise Anakonda 2016](#) — the decisions Rosas makes now will prepare her for decisions she may

have to make when the trauma is real.

When Ms. Adriana Rosas steps into her office in San Antonio, Texas, as a weight-loss clinical manager, her duties are important to her clients but are geared more toward administration and non-emergency patient care.

Spc. Rosas and Ms. Rosas are never seen together, yet one could not exist without the other. Rosas made the decision to enlist in the Army Reserve as a medic after looking for a change in her life.

She has been in the U.S. Army Reserve for more than five years and is currently assigned to the [228th Combat Support Hospital](#) from San Antonio, Texas.

Like the 198,000 U.S. Army Reserve Soldiers who serve, Rosas must find a balance of two separate and distinct lives — similar to comic book superheroes who transform when they done their capes and masks.

“I feel a little more important when I put my uniform on,” said Rosas. “Someone’s life could be in my hands.” 🇺🇸



**PATIENT TRIAGE** - U.S. Army Reserve medic, Spc. Adriana Rosas, center, from the 228th Combat Support Hospital, San Antonio, Texas, helps simulate the treatment of a Polish trauma victim at a mass casualty event during Exercise Anakonda 2016, June 11.

# Community run fosters new friendships

Story & photo by Capt. A. SEAN TAYLOR  
649th Regional Support Group

**SULEJOWEK, Poland (June 11) – U.S. Army Reserve** Soldiers with the **364th Expeditionary Sustainment Command**, stationed in Marysville, Washington, participated in a 10-kilometer run through the Polish town Sulejowek during **Exercise Anakonda 2016**.

Exercise Anakonda 2016 is a Polish-led national event that seeks to train, exercise and integrate Polish national command and force structures into an Allied, joint, multinational environment.

The event officially began with a celebration of a local hero, Jozef Pilsudski (1867-1935), regarded to be one of the founding fathers of the modern Polish nation.

As part of the celebration, Soldiers and local citizens marched down a road led by a Polish Army band to a statue of the hero, where local dignitaries laid flowers and welcomed distinguished guests, including the participants from the U.S. Army.

Retired Polish Col. Krzysztof Zielinska invited 364th Soldiers to participate in the run.

Zielinska showed the U.S. Service members around the town, explained Pilsudski's role in Polish history and talked about his late wife, Halina, a co-founder of the run and past principal of the local high school where the race began and ended. Three kilometers of the race were dedicated to her memory.

Being a retired Polish officer, he was excited that Polish and U.S. Soldiers could compete side by side in the 10K event and come together in honor of his wife.

A community run seems like an unlikely location to train U.S. Army Reserve troops on joint operations, but it serves as a way to build social bridges between countries.

"I think it is an awesome way to experience the culture," said Sgt. Jennifer Hoepfner, a human resource specialist with the 364th. "It puts a face to what you are supporting."

"They were really excited to see a bunch of U.S. Army Soldiers participating in the 10K run," said Sgt. 1st Class Sam Yang, also a 364th human resource specialist. "Everybody was cheering for us and taking pictures with us."

Overall, the participation in the race was a rewarding experience for the 364th team involved. They were able to interact with civilians along the race, practice Polish and learn more about the history of the people they were assisting in support of Anakonda.

The event enhanced the ability of U.S. Army Reserve Soldiers to effectively train and work alongside our Allies. 🇺🇸🇵🇱



**COMMUNITY FUN RUN** - U.S. Army Reserve Soldiers with the 364th Expeditionary Sustainment Command, Marysville, Washington, participate in a 10-kilometer run through Sulejowek, Poland, during Exercise Anakonda 2016, June 11.



# U.S. Army Reserve leaves lasting impression on Polish community

Story & photos by Sgt. KAYLA BENSON  
364th Expeditionary Sustainment Command

**WARSAW, Poland (June 16)** – Children lined the windows of the small elementary school in Warsaw, Poland, waving and smiling as five [U.S. Army Reserve](#) Soldiers approached the building. As soon as the front door opened, the troops were greeted by a group of students shouting in English, “Welcome to our school!”

The [364th Expeditionary Sustainment Command](#) Soldiers, training in Poland during the [Exercise Anakonda 2016](#), visited the elementary school June 16 to discuss the differences and similarities between the two countries and give the students an opportunity to practice English.

The five U.S. troops spoke to three groups of children between kindergarten and sixth grade at Tadeusz Kościuszko Elementary School #174.

They discussed where each of them lived in the United States, their hobbies, jobs and families. The children then asked the troops questions ranging from their favorite food to combat experience.

**SCHOOL VISIT** - U.S. Army Reserve Soldiers with the 364th Expeditionary Sustainment Command training in Warsaw, Poland, for Anakonda 2016, meet with Polish students at Tadeusz Kosciuszko Elementary School #174, June 16, to discuss the similarities between the two countries and give the children an opportunity to practice English.

“I loved the questions they had because it was funny to think that if I were a kid, I would totally ask the same thing like ‘What food do you eat?’ ‘What do you do for fun?’ ‘What’s your dog’s name?’” said Sgt. Jennifer Hoepfner, a human resource administrator. “I wish I was able to do that sort thing with other cultures when I was that age.”

“I thought it would be a good idea to have someone who speaks English come so the children could have some contact with the English language,” said Oscar Mazzotti, the school’s English and Spanish teacher who wrote a letter to the U.S. troops inviting them.

The teacher, a Peru-native, explained the importance of speaking multiple languages.

“My teachers were American teachers, actually, in Peru, and so with my own experience I know what it takes to learn another language,” said Mazzotti. “Even though I thought, ‘oh, I will never learn, and this and that,’ it stays in your mind, and that’s why it was very important for the children to have this contact with (the Soldiers).”

Tadeusz Kościuszko Elementary School #174 has a much smaller class size than traditional Polish schools and specializes in special and



behavioral needs, explained Mazzotti.

He also commented many of the children's parents or other family members serve in the Polish Army as either active duty or in a reserve component.

Capt. A. Sean Taylor, a medical logistician and public affairs officer, compared the farmland throughout Poland to his hometown of Ames, Iowa. Hoepfner demonstrated some of the Polish phrases she learned while participating in Anakonda 16.

"I had visited a lot of schools and done a lot of work with civil affairs (in Iraq) with donations and dropping off school supplies, that sort of thing, so I had worked with local populations from other countries before," said Hoepfner. "It's always exciting to see kids, and it's fun and challenging at the same time to talk to them."

The second and third graders presented the Reserve speakers with several drawings depicting Soldiers, tanks, U.S. Flags and other American themes.

After the final class, Mazzotti gave a book about Warsaw to the troops and a letter thanking them for

their visit. The Soldiers then explained the tradition of trading uniform patches and presented the 364th ESC unit patch, along with rank, nameplates and other insignia, to Mazzotti on behalf of the unit.

"The reaction was very positive, exciting for them, and I think they are very happy to have you," Mazzotti said to the Soldiers.

Before the Reserve Soldiers left the school, multiple students approached them and asked for autographs and photographs.

"I know the children will remember you. They will remember your faces also, maybe not your names, but they will remember your faces and the kind way you've been speaking to them," Mazzotti told the troops. "You're going to leave a very positive impression."

Whether or not the children could speak English or the Soldiers speak Polish, it was clear the similarities between the two nations were vast and the partnership built by opportunities like this one, provided by Exercise Anakonda 16, would leave a lasting impression on both parties. 🇺🇸



**SCHOOL ART** - Sgt. Jennifer Hoepfner, right, a human resource specialist with the 364th Expeditionary Sustainment Command during Anakonda 2016, shows off student art work during a visit with Polish students at Tadeusz Kosciuszko Elementary School #174 in Warsaw, Poland, June 16, to discuss the similarities between the two countries and give the children an opportunity to practice English.



(GRAPHICS courtesy of U.S. Army Reserve Command Safety Office)

# Communicating dangers with Safety Data Sheets

- **HAZMAT:** Hazardous Material is any substance or chemical that may harm your health or the environment.
- **Management:** Includes communicating ALL chemical hazards to ALL who may be exposed to them.
- **Employers:** Must have readily available information on any HAZMAT their employees may be exposed to (Workers must have easy access to labels and Safety Data Sheets for all HAZMAT they are exposed to during their work).

## Employees have the right to:

- Working conditions that do not pose risk of serious harm.
- Receive HAZMAT information and training.
- Review records of work related injuries and illnesses.
- Receive copies of tests done in the workplace to find and measure hazards.
- Request inspection of workplaces if they believe there is a serious hazard or that their employer is not following Occupational Safety and Health Administration rules.

## Hazard Communication Standard:

- Requires a written hazard communication plan that reduces exposure, substitutes less hazardous materials and establishes proper work practices.
- Employees must be trained to read and understand container labels and Safety Data Sheets (SDS).
- Employees must know the risk of exposure and ways to protect themselves, how to read and understand SDS and how information on the SDS can be used in the workplace to maintain safety.

## Employee training should include:

**(Train BEFORE beginning work with a HAZMAT)**

- Physical and health hazards of the HAZMAT.
- A list and description of the jobs/processes in which hazardous chemicals are used.
- The meaning of warning labels on HAZMAT containers and pipes containing HAZMAT.
- Where to find and how to read the Unit hazard communication plan and SDSs.
- The procedures, equipment and work practices that protect them from exposure.
- How to recognize emergencies involving HAZMAT.

**“Ready in 2016”** For more on HAZMAT, review the organizational hazard communication program, contact your Hazard Communication Officer and Safety Officer or contact the US Army Reserve Safety office at (910) 570-SAFE. 🇺🇸

# Truth will save your life

By CHAPLAIN (MAJ.) RAYMOND W. LEACH  
USARC Chaplain's Office

Recently on a flight from Fayetteville, I took a seat in the front of a small commuter jet bound for Atlanta. With plenty of room at my feet to stretch out, I listened to the flight attendant give the safety instructions as my eyes drifted to the EXIT sign just inches away up and to my left on the wall separating me from the first class cabin, designating our row as an exit row.

It certainly looked like an exit row, the seat didn't recline and there was extra leg room but what provided the most clarity was the EXIT sign. So I looked to my right for the exit door...then to my left across the aisle. I searched and searched, but there was no exit door to be found on either side. In fact, the nearest real exit row was several rows back. Simply put, the EXIT sign was false, a lie, an untruth.

I couldn't help but think of an expression we're all familiar with, "The truth will set you free," or in this case one of many possible corollaries, "The truth will save your life," or it's opposite, "Untruth can get you killed." Should there have been an accident or incident on the plane and we all needed to evacuate in the midst of the smoke, darkness and general confusion, some of us may have been drawn to the false exit row rather than the real one never making it off the plane to safety.

In life there are truths and untruths always floating around seeking to influence us. Truth sets us free, leading us in the right direction, keeping us on the high road, making us people of integrity and worthy of the fellowship of others. Deceptions are also powerfully at work, guiding us off the correct path, directing us to cheat and take shortcuts, undermining our character little by little until we fall into destructive behaviors and patterns, misleading others, and sometimes, quite literally, killing us.

Some might argue that there is no ultimate truth. "Follow your heart," or, "Do what is right for you," might be their advice as they live and mentor others to go for the gusto or operate with the popular "YOLO" philosophy.

Scriptures encourage us on the other hand to be wary of following our hearts: "The heart is deceitful

above all things, and desperately sick; who can understand it?" (Jeremiah 17:9 - American Standard Bible) The Bible also advises caution in regards to carelessly following our own plans and urges us seek God's guidance: "There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way to death...The heart of man plans his way, but the Lord establishes his steps." (Proverbs 14:12 and 16:9 - English Standard Version).

The truth is, no matter how passionate or well-intentioned or earnest or vocal someone might be about something that is false, it still remains false. Even if the flight attendant had argued with me when I pointed out the incorrect EXIT sign and insisted that I was indeed in an exit row, and that I should exit immediately to my right or left in an emergency, it still would have been impossible for me to penetrate the thick hull of the aircraft and exit. Where the real exit (the truth) would have given me a path to freedom, the false exit (the untruth) would have only led me to peril.

The good news is the flight attendant agreed with me that the sign was incorrectly placed and promised to check into it.

She took action to correct any misdirection and to ensure in the future that passengers would be pointed in the right direction, towards safety rather than further risk. She exemplified the positive side of Proverbs 14:8 (Living Bible), "The wise man looks ahead. The fool attempts to fool himself and won't face facts." The truth WILL set you free. Honestly evaluate yourself, your motives, your behaviors and patterns. If you find that you are being misled, consider alternative courses that are based on the truth, find wise navigators with dependable compasses to guide you back to the correct azimuth, and work tirelessly to rebuild your character and integrity as a leader in your family, community, the United States Army, and in the world. "Reverence for God gives a man deep strength; his children have a place of refuge and security. Reverence for the Lord is a fountain of life; its waters keep a man from death." (Proverbs 14:26-27 - Living Bible) 🙏





DRILL SERGEANTS STRENGTHEN THEIR MINDS.  
CHAPLAINS STRENGTHEN THEIR SOULS.



# Lt. Gen. Talley's Change of Responsibility



**FAREWELL TO THE CHIEF** - Lt. Gen. Jeffrey W. Talley, top left, Chief of Army Reserve and Commanding General of U.S. Army Reserve Command, is presented with the USARC flag by Command Sgt. Maj. Jim Wills, USARC Command Sgt. Maj., during the U.S. Army Reserve Command Relinquishment of Command Ceremony held at Marshall Hall, Fort Bragg, N.C., June 1. The ceremony recognized and honored the contribution the Talley family has given to the U.S. Army Reserve as Lt. Gen. Talley relinquishes his command with the exchange of the command flag.

Talley, right, gives his closing remarks, commenting on his service with the U.S. Army Reserve. (Photos by Lt. Col. Kristian Sorensen/U.S. Army Reserve Command)



# USARC participates in Urban Orienteering



**FRIENDLY COMPETITION** - Army Reserve Soldiers decide on their next point during an urban orienteering course during morning physical fitness training June 3, 2016 at Polo Field on Fort Bragg, N.C. More than 200 Soldiers, civilian staff and family members, in teams of four, spent the hour-long course running and walking to several dozen points in and around the Fort Bragg's North Post area. "What a great opportunity to do PT, have fun and build teamwork," said Maj. Gen. David Conboy, Deputy Commanding General (Operations) USARC to the mass formation after the training event. Afterwards, the Soldiers and civilians did 32, four-count pushups in honor of Lt. Gen. Jeffrey Talley, who relinquished his command of USARC earlier in the week. "Sixty four or 32, it's all the same when you are with family," Conboy said laughing as the formation was released. (Photos by Master Sgt. Mark Bell/U.S. Army Reserve Command)

# U.S. Army Reserve Soldiers combine civilian, Army skills to succeed at CSTX

Story & photos by Spc. DAISY ZIMMER  
367th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

**FORT HUNTER LIGGETT, Calif.**  
(June 16) – The [U.S. Army Reserve](#) transportation management coordinators, from the [385th Transportation Detachment, Fort Bragg, North Carolina](#), traveled across the country to participate in Combat Support Training Exercise 91-16-02 at [Fort Hunter Liggett, California](#). These Soldiers walk, talk, and perform at the same level as their active duty counterparts, with one exception: They also have full-time civilian careers.

As the largest U.S. Army Reserve training exercise, CSTX 91-16-02 provides Soldiers with unique opportunities to sharpen their technical and tactical skills in combat-like conditions. Soldiers from the 385th put their civilian lives on hold for this three-week exercise to report for military duty and provide transportation movement control to units at Tactical Assembly Area Schoonover.

“The Soldiers stop the vehicles, ask for trip tickets and log the time,” said Staff Sgt. Araina McCormick, from Fayetteville, N.C.

A seemingly simple task, this job keeps track of the times Soldiers depart and return from missions. Whether in a training



**CSTX** - U.S. Army Reserve Spc. Jahvar Billings, 385th Transportation Detachment, Fort Bragg, N.C., verifies a trip ticket at Tactical Assembly Area Schoonover during Combat Support Training Exercise 91-16-02, Fort Hunter Liggett, Calif., June 15, 2016. As the largest U.S. Army Reserve training exercise, CSTX 91-16-02 provides Soldiers with unique opportunities to sharpen their technical and tactical skills in combat-like conditions.

scenario or a combat zone, this is a critical point in the movement control process, providing information about which personnel or vehicles may be missing, and for how long.

The duty these Soldiers perform is essential for the safety and success of CSTX, and positively affects each Soldier's personal and professional development when they bring what the U.S. Army Reserve has taught them back into their civilian lives.

For Spc. Jahvar Billings, from Pembroke, North Carolina, that means utilizing the discipline and time management skills the Army has given him into his life as a full-time student.

"I'm a sophomore in nursing school," he said. "Being in the Army is hard work but I love serving my country, and I love what it's taught me."

Spc. Christopher Payton, from Southern Pines, North Carolina, exercises logistical skills and safety practices within the unit, and his civilian career gives him the chance to utilize those skills as well.

"In the civilian transportation world, I'm a bus driver," he said. "The Army Reserve has taught me to always check my equipment and to recognize when things are wrong with my vehicle. I can also teach others what to look out for."

Spc. Anthony Clark, from Raleigh, North Carolina, has learned communication and administrative skills while working in roadside

assistance for the American Automobile Association (AAA) which helps him perform his duties for the 385th, as well as using his military knowledge on the job at the AAA.

"Whenever we get a call about a vehicle at AAA, we have to go through a checklist and be very thorough to find out what's wrong," he said. "I hand off that checklist to someone else, so I can't make any mistakes. It can be stressful, but as a Soldier you learn how to stay calm in different situations."

These benefits are a two-way street. The unit also gains momentum when Soldiers bring their civilian skills to the field, helping their teams thrive in training and combat environments.

"I talk to a lot of customers at AAA, and customer service is really important," Clark continued. "Here, we're providing a service to the Soldiers that stop to see us and get a trip ticket. I love talking to the Soldiers from all different units and helping them out."

Thousands of Soldiers comprise the many different combat support and combat service support units participating in CSTX 91-16-02. With so many Soldiers moving around the over two hundred square mile training area, transportation management is a crucial piece that keeps everyone rolling.

"Nothing moves unless we say so," said Billings, "And I love being part of the bigger picture." 🇺🇸



**DOCUMENT CHECK** - U.S. Army Reserve Spcs. Jahvar Billings and Anthony Clark, 385th Transportation Detachment, Fort Bragg, N.C., inspect a trip ticket at Tactical Assembly Area Schoonover during Combat Support Training Exercise 91-16-02.

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