

# ESC TODAY



## WHEN DISASTER STRIKES

**Will you be prepared?**

**Pg. 5**



**INSIDE**

## ARMY RESERVE BEST WARRIOR

**Pg. 12-13**



12  
The first day included an Army Reserve from Fort Knox, Ky. said Sgt. 1st Class to the stress, "learn quickly You



## << On the Front Cover

Cover photo: Aerial photo of flooded Naval Support Activity Mid-South, Millington, Tenn., after two days of rain dumped more than 14 inches in the area, causing a levee to fail, flooding the Cumberland River May 1. The flood damaged many homes and destroyed possessions, including those of Soldiers from the 655th Transportation Company, 640th Regional Support Group, 143d Sustainment Command (Expeditionary).

10 Photo by Mark Wilson, United States Navy

Inset: Spc. Walter Smith participates in the 10km road march at the 2010 Army Reserve Best Warrior Competition at Fort McCoy, Wis., July 28. Smith, representing the 143d Sustainment Command (Expeditionary), 81st Regional Support Command, is a native of Sarasota, Fla.

12 Photo by Timothy Hale, Warrior-Citizen magazine

## Inside This Issue >>

Messages from the top.....	3
Warrior 78.....	4
Employer Partnership.....	4
Family Programs Academy.....	5
Safety Gram.....	5
204th PAD trains in Hohenfels, Germany.....	6
When the flood waters rise.....	10
Finding a job through EPO job search.....	11
143d ESC represents at Best Warrior competition.....	12
Around the ESC.....	16-19

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## ESC TODAY



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# The Command Post

The Army Reserve's Best Warrior Competition was held at Fort McCoy, Wisconsin July 25-30, 2010. The 29 competitors come from a total force of more than 206,000 and qualify with victories at preliminary competitions at commands across the country. The 143d ESC proudly cheered on Sgt. 1st Class Marc Facunla, 861st Quarter Master Company and Spc. Walter Smith, 824th Watercraft Transportation Company throughout the competition. Events from the competition varied. Warriors took the Army Physical Fitness Test consisting of push-ups, sit-ups and a two mile-run; a written examination on general military topics, a graded essay on an assigned topic, firing M-4 rifles for qualification, negotiating day and night Urban Warfighting Orienteer-

ing courses, evaluation in a number of critical Warrior Tasks and Battle Drills, an Army Combatives tournament and a Mystery Event. We are proud of all Soldiers from the command that competed through different stages of the competition; and win or lose, you are true Warriors who deserve recognition.

Another kind of challenge lurks within the command. A challenge, if to overcome successfully, requires some planning and preparation to ensure our Soldiers and families are safe. Hurricane season has swept into a vast portion of the command's geographic territory. Many of you have experienced the power and devastation of events to date, and it's vital to prepare for the future. Remain vigilant and prepare accordingly for what experts are calling one of the



**Brig. Gen. Daniel I. Schultz**  
Commanding General  
143d Sustainment Command  
(Expeditionary)

most active hurricane season in years.  
Sustaining Victory  
Army Strong!

# The Bottom Line

The Department of Defense consistently and carefully reviews policy and procedure to ensure the morale and welfare of an effective fighting force. In light of current review of the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" (DADT) law, military leadership urges input from all its troops.

According to Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates, "I think it is very important for us to understand from our men and women in uniform the challenges they see." In response, an interdepartment, interservice working group was established to conduct a "fair, objective, comprehensive and dispassionate review of these issues."

Surveys were sent to 200,000 active duty Servicemembers and 200,000 reservists. These surveys are due by August 15. If you were sent a survey, I encourage

you to complete and return it. If you did not receive a survey, the DOD has set up an online inbox accessible with a common access card (CAC) for you to submit your opinion and suggestions: <http://www.defense.gov/dadt> This is your opportunity to let your voice be heard.

I caution you to remember the DADT policy is still in effect. Use discretion when discussing. Do not mention names or units within your submissions to the DOD. Finally, Army Reserve leadership will disseminate any new policy down the ranks. No matter your personal opinion on the decision reached, I expect you to maintain your professionalism and adhere to all policy, regulation, and procedure.

Sustaining Victory  
Army Strong!



**Command Sgt. Maj. James Weaver**  
Command Sergeant Major  
143d Sustainment Command  
(Expeditionary)

# 3500 reservists train, prepare for mobilization

■ BY SPC. ELISEBET FREEBURG  
204th Public Affairs Detachment

FORT MCCOY, Wis.—Since 2001, more than 200,000 U.S. Army reservists have deployed in support of the war effort in Iraq and Afghanistan. Annual training keeps these citizen Soldiers trained and mission-ready. More than 3,500 Reserve Soldiers participated in the 2010 Warrior 78 exercise held here July 11 to 31.

During the exercise, troops lived in five small, enclosed forward operating bases in the field, simulating a deployed environment.

Military occupational specialties represented included engineers, medical personnel, truck drivers, mechanics, cooks, maintenance, and many more. Besides honing their MOS skills, Soldiers also gained experience in more unfamiliar areas.

“It’s great cross-training,” said Spc. Kenneth Long, a Port Charlotte, Fla., native and truck driver for the 196th Transportation Company, 641st Regional Support Group, 143d Sustainment Command (Expeditionary). “It gives us an idea of how to handle combative situations and tactics outside of driving a truck.”

Soldiers carried out various tasks for building up a FOB, such as setting up tents, other structures, and even a field hospital.

Trainees also conducted drills and role-played in numerous exercises, often combat situations. Daily convoys rolled through mock-up Iraqi and Afghan villages, responding to ambushes and enemy fire. When troops spotted a simulated IED, they stopped and exited their vehicles, practicing security procedures.



Photo by Spc. Elisebet Freeburg | 204th PAD

Soldiers from the 1015th Ordnance Company (Maintenance), 787th Combat Support Sustainment Battalion, 642nd Regional Support Group, 143d Sustainment Command (Expeditionary), out of Forest park, Ga., react to “wounded” comrades during a base defense training exercise July 20.

In base defense training, Soldiers faced varied scenarios at the FOB entry control points like vehicle searches, angry mobs, enemy fire, or simply “locals” asking for food and water.

Troops responded with appropriate use of force, whether that was shouting warnings, hosing hostile crowds with water, or using deadly force, etc.

See Warrior 78, pg. 14

# EPO brings employers, reservists together

■ BY MAJ. JOHN ADAMS  
143d Sustainment Command (Expeditionary)  
Public Affairs Officer

ORLANDO, Fla. – Finding a job in today’s economy is no easy task. The 143d ESC Employer Partnership Office (EPO) and the programs they offer can help reservists across the command get the job their looking for.

According to the EPO, “Employer Partnership is designed to formalize the relationship

between the Army Reserve and the private sector, both of whom share the common goals of strengthening the community, supporting Army Reserve Soldiers and families, and maintain a strong economy.”

“I’ve met with over 189, 143d ESC Soldiers from Florida; 87 of which did not have jobs,” said Rachel Foster, Employment Program Manager, Florida and Puerto Rico. The Employment Program’s web site is designed

like many other job search engines, but this one is different. As a member of the Army Reserve you are more likely to have your resume reviewed

by potential employers. “Companies such as Wal-Mart, IBM, Schneider National, Inc., General Electric, and New York Life are national partners,” Foster said. In addition, the site allows a user to translate his or her MOS to industry jobs or sectors, obtain resume writing advice and other useful job hunt tools.

Private and government sector job recruiters see value in hiring qualified candidates, especially with military experience.

Tangible and intangible skills sets developed in the Army are invaluable assets to an employer. Soldiers are trained and battle-tested to make critical decisions with limited information, under extreme time restrictions; and, if made wrong, the decisions can end in catastrophic results.

See EPO, pg. 11

## DID YOU KNOW?

A new Veterans Affairs medical facility serving the East Central Florida area is scheduled for construction in 2012. This much needed facility will make it easier for East Central Florida veterans to access VA’s world-class medical center and relieve the burden of traveling long distances for their inpatient care. The current area hospital, Orlando VA Medical Center, serves an area of nearly 90,000 veterans. Find out more exciting news for veterans at <http://www.facebook.com/143dESC>

# 143d ESC hosts family programs academy

■ BY SPC. ELISEBET FREEBURG  
204th Public Affairs Detachment

ORLANDO, Fla. — The 143d Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) hosted a Family Programs Academy here July 28 to 30.

Seven instructors educated the 77 unit representatives on the fundamentals of starting a family readiness group.

“FRG is made up of volunteers who support Soldiers and their family members,”

said Annamaria Doby, the 143d ESC family programs coordinator. “They are a support group to the family members especially.”

FRG volunteers act as a liaison between the Soldier, unit command and family. This is especially important during deployment.

“That’s why it is important for them [FRG volunteers] to come to training,” said Doby.

With the tools they have gained at the academy, each unit representative can start their unit’s FRG correctly and efficiently.

“I’ve had training before,” said Constance Edmond, the 310th Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) civilian coordinator. “But this has been the most effective one. I’m taking a lot of this back to my unit.”

Areas covered in the training incorporated family sponsorship, volunteer recruitment and recognition, approved fundraising, education on family issues, and more.

About 42 units were represented, including the 824th Quartermaster Company (Heavy Airdrop), 678th Personnel Company (Human Resources), 812th Transportation Battalion, 912th Personnel Company (Human Resources) and the 595th Transportation Company Detachment.

Family Programs encourages any volunteers, family, or Soldiers to look for future training on the website [www.arfp.org](http://www.arfp.org)



Photo by Spc. Elisebet Freeburg | 204th PAD

Annamaria Doby jokes with attendees July 30 while instructing at the Family Programs Academy held here in Orlando July 28 to 30 and hosted by the 143d Sustainment Command (Expeditionary). The Academy gave 77 volunteers from about 42 units the tools to start up their unit’s family readiness group. An FRG is an important liaison between families and the unit command when their Soldier is deployed.

## 207TH RSG SAFETY GRAM: Lightning Safety Tips

### FACTS:

1. More lightning fires are report in July and August than any other month.
2. Lightning hitting structures is common. One out of every 200 houses in the US gets hit by lightning each year. (National Lightning Safety Institute).
3. Homeowners can not completely protect against a lightning strike but can reduce the chances with a properly installed lightning rod which grounds it without going through a building.
4. Surge protectors installed where electrical lines enter a house can reduce spark threats

- and on outlets can protect electrical devices.
- SAFETY TIPS:**
1. Pay attention to weather reports and schedule activities around times when storms are most likely.
  2. If storms are in the area, seek shelter in a large, fully enclosed building. An enclosed vehicle is a second choice.
  3. Use the 30-30 rule. If you see lightning, begin counting. If you hear thunder before you reach 30, seek shelter. Wait at least 30 minutes after hearing the last nearby lightning flashes before returning outside.
  4. Avoid tall objects such as

- trees, light posts and poles.
- WORST PLACES TO BE WHEN LIGHTNING HITS:** (based on lightning casualties)
1. Open areas, including sports fields--45%
  2. Under trees--23%
  3. Water-related activities to include: swimming, fishing,

- boating--14%
4. Golfing--8%
5. Farm and construction vehicles--5%
6. Indoors, talking on a phone--4%
7. Using radios or electronic equipment--1%



## DID YOU KNOW?

Through a nation-wide network of volunteer attorneys, Lawyers Serving Warriors provides free legal services to hundreds of OIF or OEF veterans and their families. For more information, visit [www.lawyerservingwarriors.com/](http://www.lawyerservingwarriors.com/) Find out more exciting news for veterans at <http://www.facebook.com/143dESC>  
Note: At this time, this service has reached full capacity and is not able to take any new requests for legal services.

## A MULTI-NATION EVENT

■ BY SGT. EDDIE REYES  
204th Public Affairs Detachment

Soldiers from the 204th Public Affairs Detachment, 143rd Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) based out of Orlando, Fla., recently provided public affairs support for the Joint Multinational Readiness Center (JMRC) in Hohenfels, Germany, during their annual training in June. This marks the second time in three years that the 204th PAD has traveled overseas in order to train and prepare its troops for real-life operations in combat or peace-keeping missions. >>



Photo by Pfc. Devin M. Wood | 204th PAD

Polish soldiers stop during patrol to “pull security” while training with American troops at the Joint Multinational Readiness Center (JMRC) in Hohenfels, Germany. Soldiers from the 204th Public Affairs Detachment, 143rd Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) based out of Orlando, Fla., recently provided public affairs support for JMRC during the 204th PAD’s annual training in June.



Sgt. Luis Delgadillo, 204th Public Affairs Detachment, 143rd Sustainment Command (Expeditionary), shoulders his camera gear, hustling to get a shot of a foot patrol at the Joint Multinational Readiness Center (JMRC) in Hohenfels, Germany. Soldiers from the 204th Public Affairs Detachment, 143rd Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) based out of Orlando, Fla., recently provided public affairs support for JMRC during the 204th PAD’s annual training in June.

Photo by Pfc. Devin M. Wood | 204th PAD



Photo by Pfc. Devin M. Wood | 204th PAD

U.S. troops from a civil affairs unit work with their Romanian civil affairs counterparts at the Joint Multinational Readiness Center (JMRC) in Hohenfels, Germany, to prepare them for deployment to Afghanistan. Soldiers from the 204th Public Affairs Detachment, 143rd Sustainment Command (Expeditionary), based out of Orlando, Fla., recently provided public affairs support for JMRC during the 204th's PAD's annual training this June.

The 204th PAD, which consists of news journalists and video broadcasters, contributed to the mission at JMRC by working with the JMRC public affairs office to provide news coverage of the various training exercises and disseminate the information to various military media outlets including the Department of Defense homepage, JMRC homepage and the National Alliance Treaty Organization (NATO) website.

"It was a successful mission," said Staff Sgt. Rael Tirado, noncommissioned officer in charge, 204th PAD, 143d ESC. "We were assets they don't normally have, so with our help they were able to accomplish a lot more."

Along with Tirado, Sgt. Luis Delgado, Sgt. Eddie Reyes and Pfc.



Photo by Pfc. Devin M. Wood | 204th PAD

A Ukrainian soldier rests after house-clearing training at the Joint Multinational Readiness Center (JMRC) in Hohenfels, Germany, this June. The JMRC prepares American troops and their strategic military counterparts for deployment to various locations like Afghanistan and Kosovo. Soldiers from the 204th Public Affairs Detachment, 143rd Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) supported the JMRC this June through news coverage and role-playing as international media.

Devin Wood also role-played as an international media team to help train a Puerto Rican National Guard unit getting ready to deploy to Kosovo. On their down time, the Soldiers from the 204th PAD were also able to establish and disseminate an internal newsletter to all the troops participating in the training.

In addition to learning the intricacies of their jobs, Soldiers from the 204th PAD had the opportunity to visit various historical sites including the Neusweinstein Castle in Regensburg, which is thought to have inspired the design for the Magic Kingdom Castle in Walt Disney World.

Visit the JMRC homepage to view photos and stories by the 204th PAD produced during their mission: <http://www.jmrc.hqjmtc.army.mil/>

Weapon in hand, a Polish soldier patrols during Joint Multinational Readiness Center (JMRC) training in Hohenfels, Germany. Soldiers from the 204th Public Affairs Detachment, 143rd Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) based out of Orlando, Fla., recently provided public affairs support for JMRC during the 204th PAD's annual training in June.

Photo by Pfc. Devin Wood | 204th PAD



# Army reservist rescues others as flood waters rise

■ BY SPC. ELISEBET FREEBURG  
204th Public Affairs Detachment

ORLANDO, Fla.—All through the night, rain poured down on residents of Millington, Tenn. Two levees north of town broke, sending the flooded Cumberland River's swift waters downstream toward Naval Support Activity Mid-South where more than 7,500 Servicemembers were stationed, including Soldiers from the 655th Transportation Company, 640th Regional Support Group, 143d Sustainment Command (Expeditionary).

Staff Sgt. Jason E. Simms, 655th TC, woke to his ringing phone at approximately 6:30 a.m. Saturday, May 1. His first sergeant and another Soldier, Sergeant 1st Class David W. Homan, were on the line, calling from Pittsburgh, Penn., where they were stationed on temporary duty.

Homan asked Simms to check on Homan's wife, Anna. Rain from the downpour had risen

high enough that water was ankle deep in their home.

"I was just a wreck," said Homan. "Here we were in Pennsylvania, and we couldn't really do a lot."

Since their neighborhood was not yet flood-

ing, Simms and his wife, India, left their two children and went to rescue Anna.

"When we went to get her, all that area over there was under water," said Simms. "That was just from the initial rain."

Meanwhile, the rain stopped. The three went to pick up the Simms' children, but their vehicle was barred by naval police entering the family housing area. Authorities were enforcing a mandatory evacuation.

"The water was gushing, gushing out of



Chief Petty Officer Vincent M. Soto | U.S. Navy

Streets in the family housing section of Naval Support Activity Mid-South, Millington, Tenn., are under water Saturday, May 1, during major flooding after heavy rains breached nearby protective levees, forcing mandatory evacuation. Soldiers from the 655th TC participated in the effort.

the housing area," said Simms. "I got out and walked to the house from that point."

India and Anna waited at the commissary.

"Once the levee broke, it [the water] was rising probably feet at a time," said Simms.

"From the time I walked in the house, got my stuff then walked out, it had already risen a foot and a half, and it wasn't slowing down at all."

Because Simms' son, Charles, had a broken leg, Simms

carried Charles over his shoulder, leading his daughter and the family dog to safety.

"By that time there was no way to get out," said Sims. "They were dragging boats up to get people out."

By the time Sims and his children reached the commissary, the rain had started again.

Simms, the supply noncommissioned officer in charge for the 655th TC, tried three times with the fire rescue to reach the motor pool to retrieve Light Medium Tactical Vehicles,

but the water was too high. With two other Soldiers whose names he does not know, Simms tried again.

"From the building to the motor pool, we basically had to swim and wade," said Simms. "The water was around 5 feet in areas."

Simms climbed over the motor pool gate and pushed on it, while the other two Soldiers pulled, struggling against the swelling water. Finally, they succeeded and drove

three LMTVs out of the motor pool, back to the commissary where U.S. Navy Seabees waited to join the rescue effort. Along with two Seabees, Simms drove his LMTV to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers building.

"We picked up 14 civilians stranded in there," said Simms.

A military gym directly off base, Northside gym was turned into a staging point. Designated personnel conducted briefings, head counts, and decontaminated people from the flood waters. Until the water rose too high, buses shuttled evacuees from the base commissary to Northside.

See *Flood*, pg. 16

EPO, cont. >>

Compare that with working daily in a local factory, retail chain, or other private or government sector position, and it becomes easy to see the advantages of hiring an Army reservist. Simply go to: <http://www.usar.army.mil/arweb/EPI/Pages/default.aspx> to begin your search and learn more about the program.

The company, firm or organization looking to hire qualified personnel will save time and money by using the EPO. A valued added return on investment gained by hiring a Army Reservist materializes with lower turnover, predictable moral

and ethical values, and a strong work ethic developed only by serving in the military. Employers looking to partner with the Army Reserve can apply using a simple process on-line to start hiring qualified and capable Army Reserve employees. Simply go to: <http://www.usar.army.mil/arweb/EPI/Pages/Partners.aspx> for details on joining the program.

So, good luck on the job search and WHEN you get hired, Rachel Foster asks that you send her the employers name and contact information, so she may congratulate you and the employer! ☺



Photo by Spc. Elisebet Freeburg | 204th PAD

Dan P. Allen, Director, Employer Partnership Office, Office of the Chief Army Reserve, stands with Rachel Foster, Employer Partnership Office, Program Support Manager for Florida and Puerto Rico.

## LOOKING FOR WORK?

EMPLOYER PARTNERSHIP OF THE ARMED FORCES

### JOB SEARCH STEPS:

1. TO BEGIN GO TO: [www.usar.army.mil](http://www.usar.army.mil)
2. On the Army Reserve Website, in the upper right side of the page, click on here under Armed Forces Employer Partnership
3. The page that comes up is the beginning of the job search. Select how you want to search for a job. There are four ways to search. Choose to make your job search by: KEY WORD, or OCCUPATION, or MILITARY MOS, or COMPANY
4. Enter your job search information in the blanks shown. For example, if you choose to search by occupation and NURSE is the occupation, type NURSE into the occupation blank.
5. Enter the geographic location where you want to work. Enter a state name, or a town and state name. After entering all information click on SEARCH JOBS .
6. When a list of jobs comes up, look at all jobs listed. Then Select One Job to apply for. Click on this one job.
7. On the next page enter your personal data that is requested. After entering all data, click on SUBMIT. You are now connected to the website of the employer that is advertising the job you selected.
8. You will now do an on-line application for the job you selected. It is important to understand that at this point you are connected to the website of the company that is advertising the selected job. Follow the instructions that the company gives for their job application process. The company now must contact you if they have questions or want to interview you.

This job search site can be used by all personnel with a military e-mail address. For more information on the Army Reserve Employer Partnership job search site contact [rachel.foster@usar.army.mil](mailto:rachel.foster@usar.army.mil)

## DID YOU KNOW?

Founded by an OEF veteran and his wife, Camaraderie Foundation, Inc. provides supplemental spiritual, emotional and counseling support for re-deployed or deployed Servicemembers and their families. Camaraderie provides financial support for counseling services, events to recognize Warriors, and public appearances to raise awareness. For more information, visit [www.camaraderiefoundation.com](http://www.camaraderiefoundation.com) Find out more exciting news for veterans at <http://www.facebook.com/143dESC>



**BRING IT**

Army Reserve Best Warrior competitors Sgt. 1st Class Marc Facunla, a parachute rigger assigned to the 861st Quartermaster Company (Aerial Delivery and Supply), and Spc. Walter Smith, a watercraft operator assigned to Detachment 1, 824th Transportation Company, negotiate an obstacle during the confidence course at Fort McCoy, Wis., July 29. Facunla and Smith represented the 143d ESC, 81st RSC.

Photo by Sgt. Joshua Risner | 372nd MPAD



Photo by Mr. Timothy L. Hale | WARRIOR-CITIZEN magazine

Sgt. 1st Class Marc Facunla, 861st QM Co., gets position on Staff Sgt. Jason Searcy during Modern Army Combatives at the 2010 Army Reserve Best Warrior Competition at Fort McCoy, Wis., July 29.



Photo by Mr. Timothy L. Hale | WARRIOR-CITIZEN magazine

Spc. Walter Smith exits a UH-60 Blackhawk during a helicopter insertion at the 2010 Army Reserve Best Warrior Competition at Fort McCoy, Wis., July 29. Smith, representing the 143d Sustainment Command (Expeditionary), 81st Regional Support Command, is a native of Sarasota, Fla.

# THE FIGHT FOR BEST WARRIOR

BY SGT. JOSHUA RISNER  
372nd Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

FORT MCCOY, Wis. --Soldiers from all over the country gathered in Fort McCoy, Wis., July 24, to compete in the 2010 Army Reserve Best Warrior Competition. The 29 Soldiers, among the best and brightest that the Army Reserve has to offer, subjected themselves to a grueling week-long test of their combat skills, military knowledge and physical fitness. Most days started well before sunrise and ended with only a few hours left to catch some sleep before getting back up to start again.

You learn quickly to think through the stress," said Sgt. 1st Class Jacquelyn Craig, a career counselor for the U.S. Army Reserve Careers Division, from Fort Knox, Ky. "Humor helps."

The first day included an Army Physical Fitness Test and a board evaluation which tested their knowledge in a variety of subjects.

Day two started in the predawn hours with a land navigation course. An injury from the day before had already forced one competitor to drop out. After a few hours of running through

woods, climbing hills and trudging through marshland, the competitors were checked out by medics and left to wonder what their next event, one of three "mystery events," would entail.

"It does a good job of testing the whole spectrum ... but there is no threat of combat and at night we know we are coming back to our tents," said Staff Sgt. Matthew Fries, an instructor for the Fort McCoy noncommissioned officer academy. "I compare [the competition] to basic training. There is a lot of draining on your body, but it is a good experience that tests your ... limits."

The next morning started with a 10 km. ruck march, followed by a qualification range for the M4 rifle. By the end of the day, only 25 competitors remained.

For Staff Sgt. Mark Mercer, an X-Ray specialist and drill sergeant assigned to 3rd Battalion, 378th Regiment, 1st Brigade, 95th Infantry Division, the hardships he and his fellow competitors have endured are indicative of their will to win and their inner strength to push on.

"Army Strong is a toughness that gets embedded in you," he said. "It's a mindset to

do whatever it takes to accomplish a task or mission, having the mental and physical strength to ensure success no matter what."

The last day of competition was capped off by the Modern Army Combatives tournament, in which the competitors gave their all in attempt to come out on top.

After several matches, Sgt. 1st Class Marc Facunla, a parachute rigger assigned to the 861st Quartermaster Company, and Sgt. Anthony Mitchell, a public affairs NCO assigned to the 3rd Medical Deployment Support Command, took the top honors in the lightweight and heavyweight divisions, respectively.

The following night placed the competitors in a very different setting than they had grown accustomed to in the week: in their dress uniforms, at the Sparta, Wis., VFW, eagerly awaiting the announcement of the winners.

This year's 2010 Army Reserve Command Best Warriors were: Sgt. David Rider, B company, 256th Support Hospital in Twinsburg, Ohio; and Spc. Joshua McDowell, of the 7246th Installation Medical Support Unit in Omaha, Neb. ☐



Photo by Sgt. Joshua Risner | 372nd MPAD

Sgt. 1st Class Marc T. Facunla, a parachute rigger assigned to the 861st Quartermaster Company from Nashville, Tenn., checks his Defense Advanced GPS Receiver during the land navigation portion of the 2010 Army Reserve Best Warrior Competition, Fort McCoy, Wis.



Photo by Mr. Timothy L. Hale | WARRIOR-CITIZEN magazine

Spc. Walter Smith tries to put Spc. Derek Michael in a choke hold during Modern Army Combatives at the 2010 Army Reserve Best Warrior Competition at Fort McCoy, Wis., on Thursday, July 29.

## DID YOU KNOW?

Effective July 1, 2010, Florida's state parks will offer special deals on Annual Entrance Passes to current Servicemembers, veterans, veterans with service-related disabilities, and surviving spouses of Servicemembers fallen in combat. For more information, visit [www.floridastateparks.org/thingstoknow/annualpass.cfm](http://www.floridastateparks.org/thingstoknow/annualpass.cfm) Find out more exciting news for veterans -including state park deals for our Tennessee, Georgia, and Kentucky Soldiers- visit the 143d ESC Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/143dESC>

For more Best Warrior Competition photos, visit <http://www.facebook.com/143dESC>



Photo by Spc. Ellisebet Freeburg | 204th PAD

Pfc. Eric Gemmell, from Coral Springs, Fla., and a transportation coordinator from the 839th Transportation Company Detachment, 332nd Transportation Company Battalion, 641st Regional Support Group, 143d Sustainment Command (Expeditionary), based out of Perrine, Fla., explains movement procedures July 21 to a convoy commander at forward operating base EPW2 during the 2010 Warrior 78 exercise here. More than 3,000 troops participated in the exercise.

WARRIOR 78, cont. >>

“At first we were doing really badly [at FOB defense], but we showed improvement every day, thanks to our leaders,” said Pfc. Mark Stahlman, a Eustis, Fla., native and truck driver for the 196th TC, 641st RSG, 143d ESC.

Soldiers called observer-controller/trainers enforce combat readiness by observing and evaluating the various training exercises, ensuring Soldiers stay safe and accomplish the task at hand.

“I feel good about the training,” said Staff Sgt. Anton M. Smith, a Macon, Ga., native and OC/T from the 352nd Combat Support Sustainment Battalion, 642nd RSG, 143d ESC. “We get Soldiers ready for the next step. They didn’t have this when I deployed.”

Besides preparing for combat, the reservists

also worked in their MOS, side by side with others in their unit, as they will when deployed.

For example, the 839th TC Detachment (Movement Control Team) operated as an MCT at FOB EPW 2, processing traffic coming in and off the FOB. They ran a 24-hour operation to keep convoys running smoothly.

“Overall it [the training] is a large success,” said 2nd Lt. Juan Fuentes, a Miami, Fla., native and commander of the 839th TC Det. (MCT), 332nd TC Battalion, 641st RSG, 143d ESC. “Everyone has a sense of how the MCT is run, so when they are mobilized, they have a general idea as to how the MCT operates.”

Like many of the units involved in Warrior 78, the 839th is slated to deploy next year.

Units from the 143d ESC took the lead on supporting the “players” in the exercise. The support element incorporated several different

components like water purification, maintenance, and logistics.

“We make sure all the participants in the exercise get food, fuel, hot showers, clean



Photo by Spc. Ellisebet Freeburg | 204th PAD

Soldiers from the 1015th Ordnance Company (Maintenance), 787th Combat Support Sustainment Battalion, 642nd Regional Support Group, 143d Sustainment Command (Expeditionary), out of Forest Park, Ga., clear their weapons of ammunition after a base defense training exercise July 20. Approximately 13 units of the 143d ESC participated in the 2010 Warrior 78 exercise here as annual training and, for many, to prepare for upcoming deployments.

laundry, and equipment fixed,” said Maj. Jeffrey Schmidt, the support operations officer for the 641st RSG, 143d ESC.

Numerous units from the 143d ESC took part, including the 641st RSG, 818 Adjutant General Co., 352nd CSSB, 812th TC (Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment), 658th Quartermaster Company, 647th TC, 94th TC Det., 839th TC Det., 196th TC, 787th QM Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1015th Ordnance Company (Maintenance), 319th TC, and 528th TC Det.

“We’ve had a lot of support from the training division, the OC/Ts, and sustainment brigade,” said Lt. Col. Michael Roache, a Dothan, Ala., native and commander of the 787th CSSB, 642nd RSG, 143d ESC. “The mentoring and morale combined with our Soldiers has created a great training environment.”

Initially called the Patriot Warrior and currently named after the 78th Training Brigade which facilitates the event, the Warrior 78 exercise has been held at Fort McCoy the last three years. ☒

Flood, cont. >>

From then on, the three LMTVs took over. Simms and the other drivers transported people to officer housing, the only dry point on base, said Simms. From there, buses carried them off base, the final stretch to the gym.

“Essentially, the rest of the day we were shuttling people back and forth, until everyone was gone,” said Simms.

Besides shuttling out first responders and anyone stranded on base, they moved key personnel to different locations across NAS Mid-South, like people who had to shut down power and check transformers.

Some personnel needed to check on computer systems, financial items, and classified documents.

“They would get a hold of us, and we’d take them wherever they need to go,” said Simms.

Simms also pulled fuel trucks off base, using chains procured by Navy personnel, hooked to the LMTVs.

“Right around the time when we started to leave, you could see through the LMTV headlights that the water was starting to go down,” said Simms. “Then, late night and early morning, it [the storm] came and dumped a whole bunch more water.”

They finished their last trip around 9:30 or 10:00 p.m., said Simms. That day he carried more

than 200 people to safety in his LMTV.

When the flood waters from the historic two-day rainfall receded, at least 2,000 people had been displaced from their homes in Millington, and 22 people across Tennessee had been killed from the substantial flooding. The National Weather Service reported that the Cumberland River crested Monday evening at nearly 12 feet above flood stage.

“We took the next couple of days pretty much as they came,” said Homan, who flew in that night. “We weren’t allowed back into our house for 4 or 5 days.”

Once allowed on base, Simms and Homan recovered the LMTVs and drove around base to assess damage, account for equipment, and to help those needing it.

The Simms’ furniture was ruined, and the Navy moved them into another house. The Homans also faced devastating destruction.

“My wife and I actually lost everything,” said Homan. “We had about 4 feet of water [in the house]. Everything that was on the countertop and below was deemed unsalvageable.”

The Homans lost their two vehicles as well.

“No matter how new your vehicle is, carry car renter insurance,” said Homan.

The two men now have several tips for others to be prepared



Chief Petty Officer Vincent M. Soto | U.S. Navy

Streets in the family housing section of Naval Support Activity Mid-South, Millington, Tenn., are under water Saturday, May 1, during major flooding after heavy rains breached nearby protective levees, forcing mandatory evacuation. Soldiers from the 655th TC were evacuated as well.

in case of similar disaster.

“Have all your stuff in a centralized location,” said Simms.

He suggested families have a game plan and rehearse it together, so each member understands their role in an emergency.

“Because getting kids to get stuff together, to unplug stuff, so they wouldn’t fry—it was kind of crazy,” said Simms.

Anna Homan, an avid photographer, lost many of her photos. She saved about half her collection that was located high in closets. Many of her photos were digitally saved on a hard drive, but that was under water as well.

“You know the whole thing about backing up [digital files]?” said her husband. “Well, you might want to back it up twice.”

Homan also recommended carrying renter’s insurance. In addition, buy a waterproof safe to store valuables, including important documents.

“You can’t guess everything,” said Homan. “But those are things I would suggest.”

For information on developing a family emergency plan, emergency kit checklist and other downloadable resources, visit Ready Army at <http://www.acsim.army.mil/readyarmy/index.htm> ☒

DID YOU KNOW?

The Department of Veteran Affairs has made available a new medallion to be affixed to an existing privately purchased headstone or marker to signify the deceased’s status as a veteran. Available in three sizes, the medallion will be inscribed with the word VETERAN across the top and the branch of service along the bottom. For information on the medallion and eligibility, visit [www.cem.va.gov/hm/hmtype.asp](http://www.cem.va.gov/hm/hmtype.asp) Find out more exciting news for veterans at <http://www.facebook.com/143dESC>

DID YOU KNOW?

Veterans Angel Flight facilitates no-cost or reduced-rate patient travel services for needy veterans and their families, using commercial airlines to provide charitable veteran patient travel. Patients use the charitable medical air transportation system to travel to and from distant specialized medical evaluations, diagnosis or treatments. For more information, visit <http://www.angelflightveterans.org/> Find out more exciting news for veterans at <http://www.facebook.com/143dESC>



Get A Kit.



[http://www.acsim.army.mil/readyarmy/ra\\_get\\_a\\_kit](http://www.acsim.army.mil/readyarmy/ra_get_a_kit)

# Around the ESC

**1** Spc. Robert Van Axen, Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 207th Regional Support Group, 143d Sustainment Command (Expeditionary), uses his LC-1 field pack as a flotation device, still able to fire his weapon if needed. Soldiers from the HDD, 207th RSG, 143d ESC, conducted water safety training during June this year to improve Soldier readiness and warrior skill sets.

Photo by Staff Sgt. Christine K. Rogers | 207th RSG

**2** Sgt. Ruth Diaz and Pfc. Yamile Pantoja distribute ammunition to Spc. Matthew Hatcher before he qualifies on his M-16 rifle at the firing range July 10 during the 143d Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) July battle assembly here in Orlando.

Photo by Spc. Elisebet Freeburg | 204th PAD

**3** Spc. Milo, a soldier from 1st Platoon, 282nd Quartermaster Company, 787th Combat Support Sustainment Battalion, 642nd Regional Support Group, 143d Sustainment Command (Expeditionary), out of Jasper, Ala., learns how to daisy chain a parachute during the 282nd's annual training held May 31 to June 28 at Fort Hunter Liggett, Calif.

Photo by Pfc. Aaron Ellerman | 1st Pl., 282nd QM Co.

**4** Soldiers from the 1015th Ordnance Company (Maintenance), 787th Combat Support Sustainment Battalion, 642nd Regional Support Group, 143d Sustainment Command (Expeditionary), out of Forest Park, Ga., scan the woodline during a base defense training exercise July 20. Approximately 13 units of the 143d ESC participated in the 2010 Warrior 78 exercise at Fort McCoy, Wis., from July 11 to 31.

Photo by Spc. Elisebet Freeburg | 204th PAD

**5** Pfc. Labranden Smith displays the proper uniform to receive fuel while Pfc. Jerondric Dortch operates the 350 GM fuel pump June 8 during annual training Quartermaster Liquid Logistics Exercise (QLLEX) 2010 held June 5 to 18 at A.P. Hill, Va. Both Soldiers are petroleum supply specialists assigned to the 894th Quartermaster Company, 365th Combat Support Sustainment Battalion, 207th Regional Support Group, 143d Sustainment Command (Expeditionary).

Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Anthony Morgan | 894th QM Co.



# Around the ESC



2



3

CW5 David Conrad, 143d Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) command chief warrant officer, is presented the 88th Regional Support Command outstanding warrant officer of 2009 award, June 5 at Fort McCoy, Wis.

Courtesy Photo

1

Pfc. Casey Reese, Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 207th Regional Support Group, 143d Sustainment Command (Expeditionary), learns to jump with his rifle and swim while still hanging onto his weapon. Soldiers from the HDD, 207th RSG, 143d ESC, conducted water safety training during June this year to improve Soldier readiness and warrior skill sets.

Photo by Staff Sgt. Christine K. Rogers | 207th RSG

2



1

Sgt. 1st Class Robert Cardines stands with his family as Sgt. Maj. Karium Edwards and fellow 143d ESC Soldiers congratulate Cardines for his promotion to senior noncommissioned officer July 30.

Photo by Spc. Elisebet Freeburg | 204th PAD

3



4

Soldiers from the 310th Human Resources Sustainment Center greet loved ones July 14 at Fort Jackson, S.C., following a one-year deployment. Deployed to Camp Arifjan, Kuwait, some 310th troops also worked in Iraq and Afghanistan as needed. The 310th was one of the first Reserve human resources units to deploy to a combat zone.

4

Troops from 1st Platoon, 282nd Quartermaster Company, 787th Combat Support Sustainment Battalion, 642nd Regional Support Group, 143d Sustainment Command (Expeditionary), out of Jasper, Ala., prepared parachutes and facilitated air delivery drops during their annual training, May 31 to June 28.

Photo by Pfc. Aaron Ellerman | 1st Pl., 282nd QM Co.

5

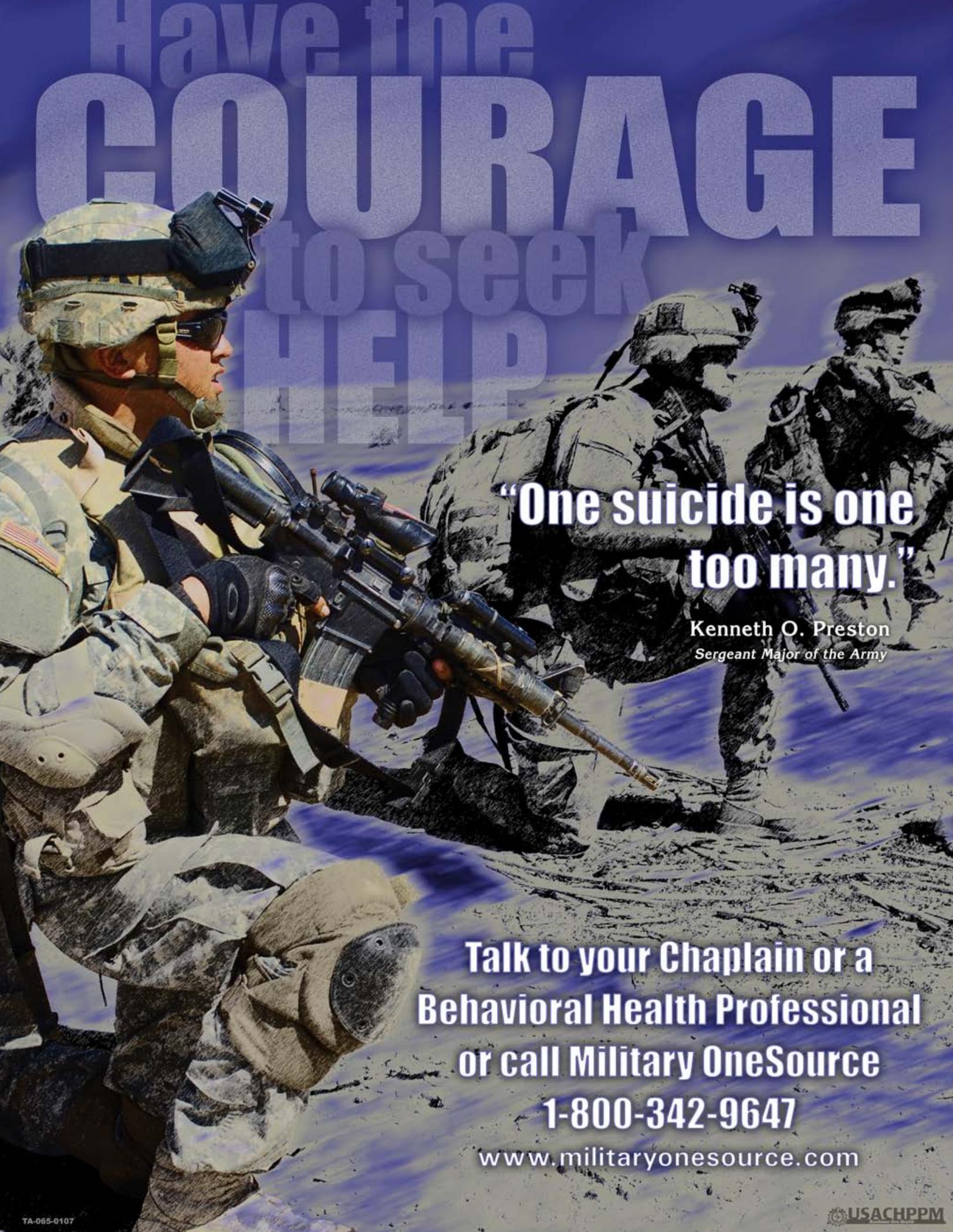


5

## UNIT PHOTOS WANTED

Seeking photos of Soldiers from your unit performing operational duties and/or basic soldiering skills. Include a basic caption with names, ranks, place, date and a short description of what is happening in the photo. Send photos and/or any questions you may have to

[john.adams16@usar.army.mil](mailto:john.adams16@usar.army.mil)



Have the  
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too many.”**

**Kenneth O. Preston**  
*Sergeant Major of the Army*

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