



Inside SWCS

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**“The library is the temple of learning,
and learning has liberated more people than all the wars in history.”**
- Carl T. Rowan, former American journalist and public servant

Take a look. It's in a book!

Students can go anywhere at the Marquat Memorial Learning Resource Center



Copies of books on the commander's reading list sit in the Marquat Memorial Learning Resource Center in Bank Hall on Fort Bragg, N.C. The LRC offers academic support to all SWCS students and USASOC Soldiers.

By Caroline Goins
SWCS Public Affairs Office

Special-operations units around the world maintain dedicated physical fitness centers filled with weights and treadmills to help keep their Soldiers sharp and fit.

At Fort Bragg, N.C., the U.S. Army John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center and School maintains its own facilities where special operators can go to exercise a different muscle: their brains.

The Marquat Memorial Learning Resource Center is made up of two mental fitness centers available to the entire Army special-operations forces; specifically the students and instructors assigned to SWCS.

Browsers won't find any Danielle Steele or James Patterson in this library; just a full collection of curriculum and educational resources from foreign language materials to the commander's reading list.

To aid language and regional education, there are more the 25 foreign newspapers and another 20 foreign periodicals available. Foreign films and audio books pre-recorded to MP3 files are a popular, relaxing way for students to study while giving their eyes a break from the books.

While perusing the shelves, patrons travel the world finding books on all subjects relevant to spe-

cial operations. From "World Religion" to "The Imperial Frontier Tribe and State in Waziristan," students don't have to travel far to find what they need.

Supported by a full-time staff of dedicated civilians, the LRC includes its main center at Bank Hall and a medical branch at the Joint Special Operations Medical Training Center.

"Customer service is the best part of my job," said Eva Davis, the LRC's circulation manager.

"These Soldiers work so hard and have a rigorous schedule, so if I can get them as much information as I can, I feel good about that," she said. "If there's anything we can do for them we will."

The Learning Resource Center is a curriculum-based learning environment offering 50,000 books, 119 journal articles, and many public access computers with more than 30 databases to assist students' academic development.

Even following Soldiers' initial Civil Affairs, Military Information Support Operations or Special Forces training, SWCS offers advanced courses in language, culture, human dynamics and adaptive thinking.

Additional resources such as international magazines, anatomy flashcards, and books on propaganda, military history and foreign cultures are helpful supplements for students as they progress through their qualification courses and specialty training, such as the medical training in the JSOMTC.

The LRC offers its services to more than SWCS students; it also reaches throughout USASOC as part of the command's education and training matrix. Library resources are open

to all Soldiers, whether for specialty training, or in support of college degree completion.

"Only about 1 percent of the military population is serving overseas, but them and their Families suffer the burdens of fighting and the separation of deployment, so I feel privileged to work with these fine servicemembers who are serving the country," said Jane Crabill, a senior librarian at the LRC.

"I just want them to have all the resources they need to succeed in their courses here, and ultimately in their careers because no job is as important as the jobs these men and women do," Davis said.

"These Soldiers work so hard and have a rigorous schedule, so if I can get them as much information as I can, I feel good about that."

Eva Davis

Circulation manager, Marquat Memorial Learning Resource Center

Learning Resource Center enhances ARSOF education

By Margaret Harrison

Library Services Director, Directorate of Regional Studies and Education

Some readers may see the word “library” and think of a room filled with dusty books watched over by people in sensible shoes, “shushing” those who dare raise their voice.



Harrison

Perhaps it was that way in the past, but just like card catalogs and vinyl albums, outdated images and technologies are gone, replaced by an active, updated Marquat Memorial

Learning Resource Center.

This transformation was long in the making; the result of actively listening to what SWCS wanted for a library. “Shushing” was not it.

What SWCS wanted was a vibrant, active learning resource center to support innovative education initiatives benefiting all Army special-operations forces. Beyond training support, and definitely beyond Bank Hall, the LRC reaches throughout USASOC as an integral part of the education and training matrix.

The LRC is two libraries in one system: the Marquat Memorial LRC is the headquarters location, and the Joint Special Operations Medical Training Center library is a medical branch supporting the Special Warfare Medical Group (Airborne).

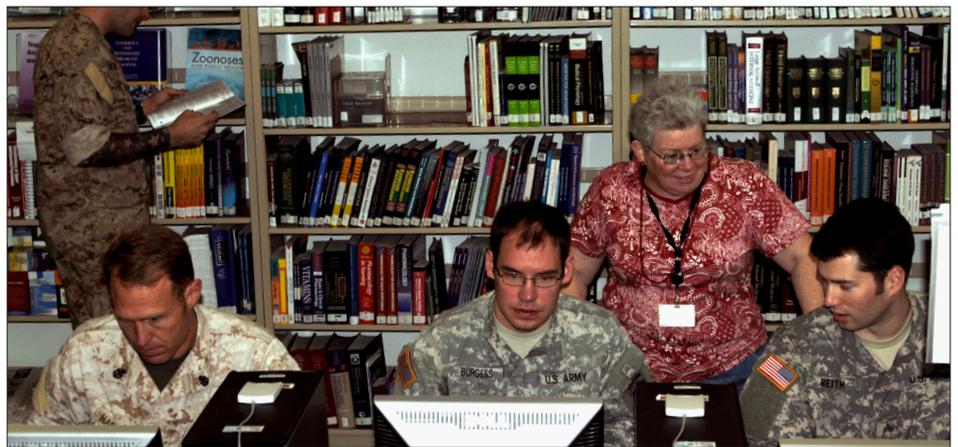
There are plans forming to open other branches where needed.

While the locations differ, the resources and expertise are the same. Librarians holding Master degrees from American Library Association-accredited programs make up the staff at both locations. Some are certified as North Carolina public librarians as well. Library paraprofessionals all have college educations and are familiar with academic environments.

This understanding and appreciation of academia is crucial as SWCS continues providing college-level classes leading to Associate, Bachelor and Master degrees. Through the LRC, all personnel with a soc.mil email address have access to databases including ProQuest’s Dissertations & Thesis, Military Library and Political Science Library; over 30 databases from Ebsco-Host including Multilanguage Health Database, PsycInfo, Tests in Print and ERIC. Online products from Jane’s Information Group, the Economists Intelligence Unit and Columbia University Press are also available.

New this year are dozens of foreign-language DVDs, newspapers and journals. Of course, the LRC has books — over 30,000 of them. Some are recent, some historic; all are relevant to the special-operations community.

New technologies, new materials and an extended reach into the special-operations community are the images the LRC wants you to see; not the old, not the dusty; and definitely, not the “shush.”



SWCS Staff Profile

Nancy Kutulas

Medical Librarian, Joint Special Operations Medical Training Center



Nancy Kutulas’s passion for guiding people through vast amounts of information has helped many students and academics during her 37 years as a librarian. For the last 10 years, she has helped the students and staff at SWCS find the materials they need to make the most of their assignments and prepare for their roles as special operators. Her enthusiasm for learning has helped her do more than locate articles for students; she strives to inspire students to consider their lives to be a continual learning process.

On the main responsibilities of her job:

The main thing is making available whatever resources we might be able to access for the benefit of the students. It might be in aiding them in their military-related courses or in their plans to continue their education later; or for the staff and instructors that are also taking college courses. I’m there to help them with whatever they might need.

On the resources available to students and instructors:

That means the resources not only of SWCS library services but any libraries available through the databases, or interlibrary loans from libraries all over the U.S. We’re not limited just to the services here in one room; there are even resources available through Army Knowledge Online and other Army sites. Instructors and staff members are using resources to improve their courses’ curriculum, by finding the latest research and studies in the medical field.

On the little things that make her job rewarding:

I’m always learning something new; it keeps things fresh. I work directly with people and I get to help them. When I hear, “Thank you, I passed the course!” or, “I made an A on this research!” it gives me great satisfaction to know I’m helping.

On sharing the wealth (of information):

Anyone within USASOC can use our databases and resources. I consider it my mission to let them know all these resources are out there. Also, AKO has resources for the whole Family: children’s books, online books, and information on genealogy, hobbies, crafts and a wide range of subjects that many people don’t know about.

On her contribution to the special-operations world:

I’ll do whatever I can do to help our Soldiers out, and I’m continuously trying to help students and instructors be aware of the services available. As part of that, when I see new information in the latest journals, I past it along.

I’m helping the students and helping my country. When I first started in the Army, Granada occurred and I can remember to this day Soldiers coming in and asking about travel books because they were getting ready to go. I feel like I’m making a contribution — it just makes life better. I’ve met a lot of interesting people from all over the world, and Fort Bragg is a very active place, so you feel like you’re making a difference.

Upcoming Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27	28	29	Robin Sage Ends	31	1	2
3	4	5	6	Special Forces Qualification Course Graduation 3 p.m. Crown Coliseum	8	9
10	Special Forces Regimental Week					16

