

THE RECOIL

EXCELSIOR BATTALION

FALL 2019

NEWSLETTER CONTENTS

- Welcoming New Cadre
- Summer Training Schools
- Cadets Around the World
- 2019 Field Training
- Fall 2019 Photo Book
- Supporting Our Program
- Social Media

A Note From the PMS

Welcome to the alumni, family, and friends of the Excelsior Battalion. I would like to start off by welcoming two new members to our cadre. Our new Assistant Professor of Military Science, CPT Lindsey Kozuch is coming to us from command of a field artillery unit in Hawaii. I am also happy to welcome our new Senior Military Science Instructor, MSG Andrew MacVey. He is coming to us from a first sergeant position at Fort Riley and has recent operational experience from a deployment to Europe.

As I start my second year as the PMS, I wish to continue our outreach to our extended family. Alumni and family play an important part in the development of our Cadets and I encourage you to follow us on social media. As you discover all the wonderful things our Cadets do, I welcome your messages of support. I know our Cadets would love to hear about stories from your time as Cadets and your time as lieutenants.

Lieutenant Colonel James Tully
Professor of Military Science

Welcome to the Fall 2019 edition of *The Recoil*, the newsletter of the Army ROTC Excelsior Battalion. The Excelsior Battalion is headquartered at Cornell University and contains students from Cornell, Ithaca College, Binghamton University, SUNY Cortland, Elmira College, and Wells College. This newsletter gives us an opportunity to celebrate the successes of 2019's Summer and Fall and share some of the opportunities that we are excited for in 2020.

Although our MSIV (fourth-year Military Science) class is small, we have received notable recognition for our efforts in ROTC. Four cadets were rated in the top 20% of the graduating class of cadets nationwide, two of which ranked in the top 10%. On the younger side of the Battalion, we continue to experience explosive growth in enrollment. The current MSI class is the largest I've seen in my time in the program and they have demonstrated an admirable eagerness to take on additional duties and responsibilities.

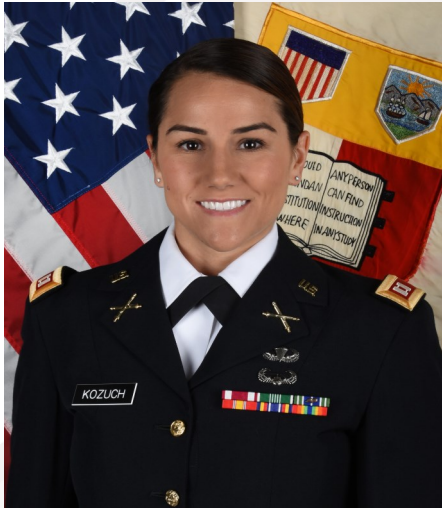
The Latin word "Excelsior" is translated into English as "Ever Upwards." I hope that this newsletter shows you why the name "Excelsior Battalion" is perfect for describing the trajectory of our program.

Cadet Chris Schoenherr



WELCOMING NEW CADRE

CPT Kozuch



**S3/Operations Officer
Assistant Professor of Military Science
MSII Instructor**

Captain (CPT) Lindsey M Kozuch graduated the United States Military Academy with a Bachelor of Science in Psychology. After completing FABOLC, she was assigned to 2nd Battalion 4th Field Artillery Regiment at Fort Sill, Oklahoma. Her assignments at Fort Sill include being a Platoon Leader, Battalion Logistics Officer (S4), and Battalion Assistant Operations Officer. CPT Kozuch then was assigned as the Battalion Assistant Operations Officer until transitioning to the Field Artillery Captain's Career Course.

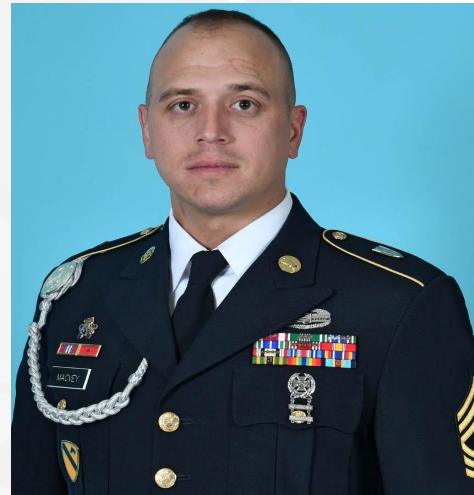
After the Captain's Career Course, CPT Kozuch was assigned to 25th DIVARTY Headquarters as the Fire Control Officer. She was then assigned to 3rd Battalion, 7th Field Artillery as the Assistant Operations Officer. Currently, CPT Kozuch serves as an Assistant Professor of Military Science at Cornell University.

CPT Kozuch's military education includes: Basic Airborne Course, FABOLC, M270A1 Launcher Transition Course, Unit Movement Officer Course, Field Artillery Captain's Career Course, Cavalry Leader's Course, Air Assault School and Commander/First Sergeant Course.

CPT Kozuch's awards and decorations include the Parachutist Badge, Air Assault Badge, Gold German Armed Forces Badge, Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal (2OLC), National Defense Service Ribbon, Army Service Ribbon, and Global War on Terror Service Ribbon.

CPT Kozuch is married to CPT Anthony Nash of Buffalo, NY.

MSG MacVey



**Senior Military Science Instructor
MSI Instructor**

Master Sergeant (MSG) Andrew P. MacVey trained at Fort Knox, Kentucky in November 2004 as a Cavalry Scout. His assignments include the 1st Cavalry Division, the 1st and 4th Infantry Divisions, and the Joint Multinational Readiness Center. He has served tours in Germany, Kuwait, and three tours in Iraq.

MSG MacVey's military education includes the Equal Opportunity Leader Course, Sexual Harassment and Assault Response and Prevention Leader, Army Reconnaissance Course, Small Unmanned Aircraft System Master Trainer, Battle Staff NCO Course, Cavalry Leaders Course, and Computing Technology Institute of America (COMPTIA) Security Plus.

MSG MacVey's awards include the Meritorious Service Medal (3 OLC), Army Commendation Medal (4 OLC), Army Achievement Medal (2 Silver and 2 Bronze OLC), and Combat Action Badge. He is a Draper Armor Leadership Award recipient, a member of the Order of Saint George and holds both Gold and Silver spurs.

MSG MacVey is married to the former Alissa Grist of San Antonio, Texas. Together, they have two daughters, Eve and Lily, and one son, Colton. MSG MacVey's oldest son John lives with his mother in Ohio.



SUMMER TRAINING SCHOOLS

Air Assault



Cadets and cadre who were selected to attend Air Assault School were put through a rigorous training program designed by LTC Vinh Nguyen and graduates of previous iterations of the course. Trainees practiced rucking, attention to detail, the Air Assault Obstacle Course, and sling load inspections. Air Assault School is a 10 day course and consisted of 3 phases: Combat Assault Phase, Sling Load Phase, and Rappel Phase. Air Assault training focuses on the mastery of rappelling techniques and sling load procedures, skills that involve intense concentration and a commitment to safety and preparation. Graduates of Air Assault School from this summer include: 2LT Steinbroner, CDT Schoenherr '20, CDT Sanford '20, CDT Margiotta '20, CDT Lossing '21, CDT Harrelson '21, CDT Rogers '22, and CDT Petrilli '22.

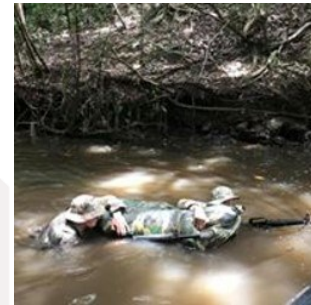
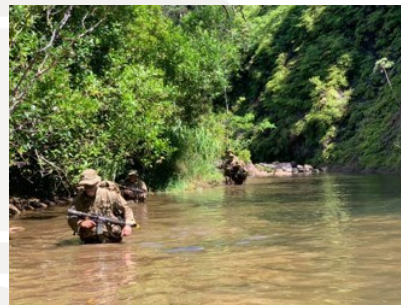
Airborne School's mission is to qualify individuals in the use of the parachute as a means of combat deployment and to develop leadership, self-confidence, and an aggressive spirit through mental and physical conditioning. CDT Smart attended Airborne School, graduating in the class of 31-19. He described his experience as such: "Throughout the three weeks of Airborne School, we were taught the essentials of Army paratrooping. The first two weeks, referred to as Ground Branch and Tower Branch, consisted of PT, classroom instruction, and practice on various mechanisms designed to teach students how to properly exit an aircraft, control a parachute, and land safely. The third week, Jump Week, was focused on executing five jumps from a C-130, including combat jumps, night jumps, and a combat night jump. Airborne school was an incredible opportunity." Slots for Airborne School are very competitive among the program and getting your "wings" is a very prestigious accomplishment.

Airborne



SUMMER TRAINING SCHOOLS

Jungle School



This past summer, CDT de Peyster had the unique opportunity to attend Jungle School located at Schofield Barracks, HI. During the first week of the 19-day course, classroom blocks of instruction on jungle first aid, tracking, and rope systems to aid in mobility in a jungle environment were taught to the trainees. During Week Two, CDT de Peyster applied the skills he learned previously in a tactical setting. He demonstrated this by building poncho and ruck rafts to flow down river systems and practicing battle drills unique to a jungle environment. A battle drill describes how platoons and squads apply fire and maneuver to commonly encountered situations. They require leaders to make decisions rapidly and to issue oral orders quickly. The last week of the rigorous course was a 3-day field training exercise which consisted of Situational Training Exercises. A Situational Training Exercise (STX) is a short, scenario-driven, mission-oriented, limited exercise designed to train one collective task, or a group of related tasks or battle drills, through practice. CDT de Peyster successfully passed the course and earned his Jungle tab.



Advanced Camp

Cadets attend Advanced Camp the summer following junior year to demonstrate the leadership skills and tactics they have learned. Advanced Camp is at Fort Knox, KY and is a 37-day grueling course that challenges each cadet physically and mentally. There are a variety of events that cadets have to qualify in or pass in order to graduate Advanced Camp. These events include qualifying on the shooting range with a M4, passing the Physical Fitness Test, passing the grenade range, CBRN (gas chamber), rucking 6, 8, and 12 miles, passing the first aid course, day/ night land navigation, properly utilizing field artillery, and rappelling. Additionally, cadets conduct a 12-day long FTX (Field Training Exercise). Platoons conduct an average of two missions per day in various leadership rotations. For example, a cadet could be a platoon leader for an area defense mission and following that, could be a squad leader for an attack. The purpose of changing leadership after missions is to grade cadets ability to adapt in different settings. The FTX is split up into 3 phases: Wolverine, Panther, and Grizzly. As you move on to the next phase, the terrain gets tougher, adversity rises more often, and the enemy is better equipped. Following the FTX, platoons go back to the barracks to start out processing. Graduation Day soon comes, concluding a significant accomplishment bringing cadets one step closer to officership.

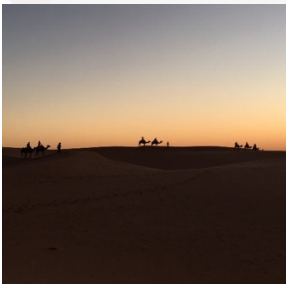


EXCELSIOR BATTALION CADETS AROUND THE WORLD

CULP



CDT Casson, an MSIII, was selected to attend a three week mission in Romania as part of the Cadet Coalition Warfighter Program, or CCWP. His group included 20 other ROTC cadets from across the country, and he traveled to the Romanian cities of Brasov, Sibiu, Timisoara, Bucharest, and Constanta. His journey involved touring the infamous “Dracula’s Castle” and working on a Romanian shepherd’s farm. When asked what he gained from the experience, CDT Casson wrote: “Visiting the cultural sights and traveling the country gave me valuable life experience and broadened my understanding of the cultural differences between the United States and Romania. Furthermore, training and speaking with their military servicemen and women gave insight into what it would be like to serve in another country. ”



Project GO

Project GO provides scholarships for cadets to study critical languages domestically and abroad. The program focuses on the languages and countries of the Middle East, Asia, Central Asia, and Africa. Cadets become immersed in a new culture by traveling to foreign countries to learn a critical language for eight weeks. CDT Koch had the opportunity to study at Al-Akhawayn University in Ifrane, Morocco this past summer. He studied level 3 Arabic and he described his experience as the following: “Learning a new language on its own is an amazing experience, and offers a unique way to experience and learn about a different culture and set of traditions. Getting to learn that language in a country where it is natively spoken took that experience to an entirely new level. For two months this summer, I was in an intensive language course in Morocco, studying Arabic. While the classes were challenging, every week I could see noticeable improvements in my ability to communicate in Arabic as well as connect with people on a cultural and personal level.”



2019 FIELD TRAINING



This past Fall, Cornell ROTC held its FTX, at Mount Pleasant, a forested area owned by the University and located just outside of Ithaca. The FTX is an exercise held over the course of a weekend during which cadets use skills previously learned during leadership labs such as Land Navigation and Troop Leading Procedures. Cadets spend 1 to 2 nights in the field receiving additional training in classes such as first aid, weapons familiarization, etc. Battle drills are practiced in squad elements to prepare for eventual platoon sized operations. Reacting to contact, breaking contact, and reacting to ambush are some examples of basic battle drills. The intent of the FTX is to create an environment that replicates Advanced Camp, a training event which all cadets will go for summer training prior to their senior year.



FALL 2019 PHOTO BOOK

MSIV Staff Ride



Veteran's Day Parade

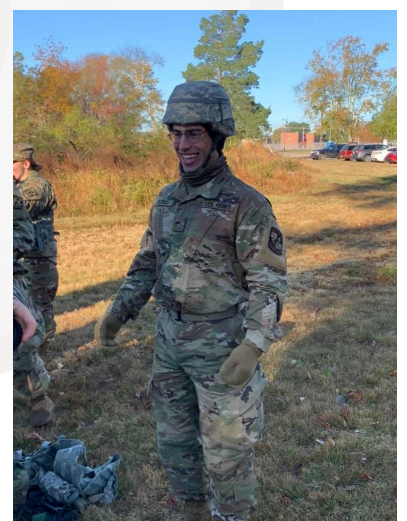


FALL 2019 PHOTO BOOK

Army 10 Miler



Ranger Challenge



CLASS OF 2020 ASSIGNMENTS



Active Duty:

Zach Margiotta | Ordnance

Kathryn Offner | Educational Delay

Connell Rae | Armor

Chris Schoenherr | Engineer

Michael Scott | Infantry

Jonah Smart | Military Intelligence

National Guard:

Landon Miller | Field Artillery

Katherine Taylor | TBD

Reserves:

Stephanie Kay | TBD

Mitchell Sanford | Engineer

Sam Springer | Medical Services

SUPPORTING OUR PROGRAM

Please remember the Excelsior Battalion as the Cornell Giving Day quickly approaches!

Cornell Army ROTC beat both the Navy and Air Force with donations last year, and we hope to keep that trend going this year!

Keep an eye out on social media for updates with when and how to donate!

SOCIAL MEDIA

Follow Cornell Army ROTC on Social Media to stay up to date



@armyrotccornell



Cornell Army ROTC

