

### **3rde BDE Operation Order 21-XX Ranger Buddy Challenge (RBC)**

#### **(U) References:**

- a. USAIS PAM 350-6, 7 February 2020
- b. Memorandum of Instruction (MOI) – Subject: 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Ranger Buddy Challenge, 6 January 2021

**(U) Time Zone Used Throughout the OPORD:** Sierra (S) (Central Daylight Time)

#### **(U) Task Organization:**

3rd ROTC Brigade  
The University of Kansas Army ROTC

### **1. (U) Situation**

a. (U) Area of Interest. The area of interest is Lawrence, KS. Lawrence, KS, is a city with a population of 96,892 people located in the northwest corner of Kansas along the Kansas River and Interstate 70. The city is host to the University of Kansas and has one hospital, Lawrence Memorial Hospital.

b. (U) Area of Operations (AO). RBC Operations will occur on a collegiate cross country course at Rim Rock Farm, North of Lawrence, KS. The course is self-contained with barbed wire fence surrounding the area. The Western and Southern boundary is Republic Rd. The Eastern boundary is Mud Creek and the Northern boundary is a barbed wire fence.

(1) (U) Terrain. Consists of rolling hills, steep bluffs, densely wooded areas, valleys, creeks, dirt paths with rocks, roots and foliage, and small retaining ponds.

(2) (U) Weather. RBC is an outdoor event. The weather in the Lawrence area during the first week of April is historically mild with a chance of rain. The historic average high is 63°F with the average historic low of 41°F.

c. (U) Enemy Forces. N/A

d. (U) Friendly Forces. N/A

e. (U) Interagency, Intergovernmental, and Nongovernmental Organizations. The University of Kansas Army ROTC is a key part of the University of Kansas and the Lawrence community and as such will work in close coordination with community partners. All Cadets will follow all ordinances and laws associated with Douglas County and the City of Lawrence, enforced by the Douglas County Sheriff and Lawrence Police Department. Additionally, The University of Kansas Army ROTC is working directly with

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The University of Kansas Athletic department, Cross Country Team and facilities to ensure the land is legally reserved and ready to host the event.

f. (U) Civil Considerations. Cadets traversing the RBC course will remain considerate to the host institution and not intentionally break, destroy or remove anything from the event location. Cadets and Cadre will be considerate of the privately owned course and people living in the immediate area. Garbage from snacks will be stored on cadets during the duration of the ruck, and deposited in proper location, littering will not be tolerated.

2. (U) Mission. Jayhawk Battalion conducts Ranger Buddy Challenge IVO Rim Rock Farm from 10 0600-1600APR2021 IOT physically and mentally challenge competitors, build confidence, hone Army skills and foster Esprit de Corps.

### 3. (U) Execution.

a. (U) Commander's Intent. Safely conduct a rigorous competition to test Cadet critical thinking, physical endurance, mental toughness and teamwork.

(1) (U) Key Tasks:

(a) Safely conduct approximately a 9-mile ruck march and conduct three lanes that test technical proficiency in common Army tasks.

(b) Programs develop a robust training plan to ensure competitors arrived acclimated prepared for a long distance road march

(c) Coordinate for overlapping medical support and develop thorough accountability mechanisms to ensure any injuries are detected and attended to as early as possible.

(d) Ensure RBC is complete before hours of darkness IOT mitigate safety concerns.

(e) Establish a cap of 200 teams IOT manage course throughput.

(2) (U) End State: All Cadets safely competed in RBC and were challenged physically and mentally, as individuals and members of a team.

b. (U) Concept of Operations. This operation will occur in three phases: Phase 1 consists of planning and preparation. Phase 2 is RBC execution and Phase 3 consists of team and event reorganization.

Phase 1 begins NLT 000001DEC20. During this phase the OPORD, lane CONOP, team registration and equipment request/draw instructions are disseminated. The University of Kansas ROTC will consolidate all CC 122s, make local purchases and coordinate with outside agencies. Lastly, competing teams/programs will arrive. This phase ends NLT 082359APR21.

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Phase 2 begins on NET 091200APR21 when the RBC check-in procedures begin. During this phase teams will check in, participate in the Coaches Meeting, conduct a 15K ruck march, be evaluated on 15 individual tasks, run 5K and participate in the awards ceremony. Phase two ends NLT 101800APR21 or immediately following the awards ceremony, whichever event occurs first.

Phase 3 begins NLT 101800APR21 or immediately following the awards ceremony, whichever event occurs first and ends NLT 102200APR21. All lanes/individual task stations have to be broken down, the training site free of trash and all equipment and personnel have to be properly secured and accounted for.

(1) (U) Phase 1 Planning and Preparation:

(a) (U) Phase 1 begins NLT 000001DEC20 and ends NLT 082359APR21. The phase commences when The University of Kansas ROTC leadership team meets and discusses tentative dates and develops a general plan for the process. Team registration window is from 110800FEB21 to 191700MAR21. University Programs within 3rd BDE may register up to 3 male teams, 2 female teams and 2 COED teams. Programs outside of 3rd BDE may register up to 2 male teams, 2 female teams and 2 COED teams. Programs will utilize the following link to register their teams, [Ranger Buddy 2021](#). The link will not work until the registration window opens.

(b)(U) Altering teams is not authorized after check-in on 9 April 2021. Failure to adhere to this rule will result in team disqualification, if discovered during or after competition.

(c)(U) The University of Kansas will coordinate with all local agencies for traffic control during event, notification of local residents and awareness to the nearby businesses and parks. Program Cadre will coordinate and submit CC 112s for waste management, porta johns, food, rental tents, rental golf carts, timing solutions and trophies. Program Cadre will request NG support for additional graders, weapons, water buffalo and communication equipment. Cadets within the program will be assigned tasks to evaluate during the competition. The Cadet evaluators will be certified by KU's SMSI NLT 26MAR21.

(2) (U) Phase 2 Execution: Phase 2 begins on 091200APR21 when team check-in starts at the Military Science Building. At check-in, team captains/Cadre will verify their programs registered teams, pick up their team packets and view the course concept. The Coaches meeting begins at 1800 at a location **TBD**. The meeting will consist of an introduction of the University of Kansas Cadre, all task, condition and standards for the events, disqualification criteria, course concept and any questions. On 10APR21, two separate heats will complete a ruck march, 15 individual tasks (which include common Army tasks and ACFT events) and a 5K run. Teams must complete the 15K ruck and be in the top 50% to continue competing. USAIS PAM 350-6 dated 7Feb20 will be used for all task condition standards. All time constraints associated with the tasks will be removed and each team will have a maximum of two chances to

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complete a task. Once a team finishes all individual tasks, they will move to the 5k start point. Teams will have freedom of maneuver to complete any task in any order. The team with the fastest overall time, from the beginning of the 15K to the end of the 5K, will win their division. NET than 101430APR21 the awards ceremony will start. First place teams will receive plaques, Unit Coins and streamers for guidons; second place teams will receive plaques and Unit Coins; third place teams will receive plaques and unit coins. Phase 2 ends upon completion of the awards ceremony or NLT 101800APR21, whichever event happens first.

(3) (U) Phase 3 Reorganization: Phase 3 begins immediately following the awards ceremony. Teams are free to begin travel upon completion of awards ceremony. The University of Kansas Cadre and Cadets will break down all evaluation stations, conduct a police call of training area, properly account for all personnel and equipment and dismiss the unit. This phase ends when all equipment is accounted for and/or secured in the Military Science Building.

c. (U) Tasks to Staff.

(1) (U) BDE S1

(a). (U) Provide one staff representative to assist with final award ceremony and closing remarks.

(2) (U) BDE S3

(a) (U) Host brigade IPRs to validate planning azimuth, resource shortfalls and provide brigade assistance where needed.

(b) (U) Provide one staff representative to assist operations in TOC.

(3) (U) BDE S4

(a) (U) Process CC 112s submitted from program.

(b) (U) Provide one staff representative to assist with local purchases during week of event.

(4) (U) BDE Nurses

(a) (U) Provide a Nurse to serve in the TOC and establish and run a casualty collection point (CCP).

(5) (U) BDE RMID

(a) (U) Provide one staff representative to assist with social media posts.

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d. (U) Tasks to Units.

(1) (U) The University of Kansas

(a) Plan and execute RBC in conjunction with the 3<sup>rd</sup> BDE.

e. (U) Coordinating Instructions.

(1) (U) Uniform (worn): Competitors are required to remain in the prescribed uniform throughout the event -- duty uniform, eye protection, gloves, FLC and weapon (rubber duck). Rucksack will be worn during 15K Ruck March. After completion of 15K RM, teams will be allowed to discard Rucksacks in designated area; it will not be worn during the individual tasks, mystery event, or 5K Run. Competitors must carry their own equipment. Teams will be disqualified if caught carrying their teammate's equipment or out of prescribed uniform.

(2) (U) Timeline:

**9APR21 KU Military Science Building (MSB),1520 Summerfield Hall  
Drive, Lawrence, KS 66045**

1200-1800 Check-In at KU Army ROTC (MSB, 3d Floor)

1900 Coaches Meeting: Place **TBD**

**10APR21 Rim Rock Farm (1803 Republic Rd #1797, Lawrence, KS 66044)**

0600 Coed/Female Teams Start

0900 Male Teams Start

NET 1430 Award Ceremony (based on completion of events)

(3) (U) Rules:

(a) Rucksack must weigh 35lbs. KU Cadre reserve the right to verify weight at any time.

(b) Competitors are required to remain in the prescribed uniform throughout the event -- duty uniform, eye protection, gloves, FLC and weapon (rubber duck). Rucksack will be worn during 15K Ruck March. After completion of 15K RM, teams will be allowed to discard Rucksacks in designated area; it will not be worn during the individual tasks or 5K Run. Competitors must carry their own equipment. Teams will be disqualified if caught carrying their teammate's equipment or out of prescribed uniform.

(c) Competitors must complete Ruck March event as a team and be in the top 50% of their division to continue competing.

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(d) After completing Ruck March, competitors may proceed to any of the 15 Individual Stations. Below is the list of tasks that will be spilt up between the 15 stations.

1. No time penalties will be assessed during tasks. Teams who fail to successfully complete a task will be forced to the end of the line for re-evaluation. Teams have the option of staying at current task or attempt any other task but are required to have a "Go" on all tasks prior to 5K run.

2. Teams will have two attempts to complete a task, if a team double No-Go's a single task, the team is eliminated from competition.

3. If a team receives **Four** total No-Go's, they are eliminated from competition.

4. Unsportsmanlike conduct, inappropriate behavior or arguing with staff, medics or competition officials will result in disqualification of team. If a team is disqualified from an event (for any reason), that team is ineligible for awards. This includes all USACC Cadre outside of official protests. KU PMS is the official adjudicator of all official protests.

(4)(U) Tasks: Tasks will be graded IAW the performance measures associated with the Expert Infantryman Badge Pamphlet USAIS 350-6, 7 February 2020. Any in sequence task, must be performed in sequence according to EIB Badge Pamphlet. Use the following link to download a copy of the [EIB Pamphlet](#). *\* time constraints listed within each task have been removed.*

1. 071-100-0032 Maintain an M16-Series Rifle/M4-Series Rifle Carbine
2. 071-100-0029 Perform a function check on an M16-Series Rifle/M4-Series Rifle Carbine
3. 071-COM-4025 Maintain an M249 Machine Gun
4. 071-COM-4026 Perform a Function Check on an M249 Machine Gun
5. 071-025-0001 Maintain an M240B Machine Gun
6. 072-025-0002 Perform a Function Check on an M240B Machine Gun
7. 071-000-0005 Prepare a Range Card for a Machine Gun
8. 071-325-4427 Employ an M18A1 Claymore Mine
9. 071-325-4426 Recover an M18A1 Claymore Mine
10. 071-COM-4407 Identify and Employ Hand Grenades
11. 081-COM-0101 Request MEDEVAC
12. 081-831-1034 Perform First Aid for a Suspected Fracture
13. 081-833-0161 Control Bleeding
14. 081-COM-1005 Perform First Aid to Prevent or Control Shock
15. 131-COM-1001 Communicate by Tactical Radio
16. 071-COM-1000 Identify Topographic Symbols on a Military Map
17. 061-COM-1000 Adjust Indirect Fire
18. ACFT Events (Dead lift, Sprint Drag Carry, Leg Tuck, Standing Power

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Throw)

(5)(U) Awards:

(a) Top Team in each division (Male, Female, Coed) will receive a Team Trophy, individual plaques, streamer and University of Kansas ROTC Coin.

(b) The top three teams with fastest times in each division (Male, Female, Coed) will receive plaques.

(c) Best Battalion Award. All programs are eligible for the Best Battalion Award. Score is determined when teams finish the competition, i.e. if a team finishes in 15<sup>th</sup> place, their respective program is awarded 15 points. The program with the lowest total points wins Best Battalion Award.

(d) In the event not enough teams complete the entire event within the guidelines mentioned above, the fastest 15K time will be used for placing and Top BN purposes.

(6)(U) Safety:

(a) Coaches are requested to enforce safety rules and use general caution at all times.

(b) Report any accidents or incidents to the TOC or KU ROTC Cadre as needed. In case of an emergency, Cadets will be transported to Lawrence Memorial Hospital.

(7)(U) COVID: Battalions participating will have all Cadets and Cadre monitor their health and complete COVID Attestation Form prior to arrival. Proof of a negative test from all team members is required for teams to compete. The Attestation Form will be turned in for each Cadet at check-in. CDC Social distancing guidelines (six ft. spacing) will be followed at all times. Masks are required in the Armory's, on the University of Kansas Campus, in vehicles with Cadets, or when within six feet of others. Cadets do not need to wear masks while sleeping. Competitors do not need to wear a mask on the course unless they are within 6 feet of other Cadets/Cadre on the course. Team Captains will provide social distancing/COVID test attestation sheets signed by their Cadre upon check-in. Refer to Appendix 3, Tab A to ANNEX F.

(a)(U) In order to mitigate the risk of exposure, the National Guard Army and the Reserve Training Center will both be limited to 100 personnel including cadre (they have a capacity of 400 personnel, but COVID mitigation requires we limit use to 100 personnel). The MSB drill deck will be available with a maximum capacity of 40 personnel.

(b)(U) One entrance and one exit will be identified at each lodging location.

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Sleeping areas will be sectioned off for each team.

**4. (U) Sustainment.**

a. (U) Logistics.

(1) (U) Classes of Supply.

(a) (U) Class I: Water will be available at training site and along the route. Each Cadet must carry a water source with them. A boxed lunch will be provided on 10APR21.

(b) (U) Class II: all supplies for event will be purchased locally prior to competition, paper, laminate, markers, hole punchers used for score card and scoring.

(c) (U) Class III, V, VI: N/A

(d) (U) Class IV: paint to mark 15K/5K route, sand bags for fighting positions.

(e) (U) Class VII: Weapons: M4 x 4, M249 x 4, M240 x 7; Water Buffalo

(f) (U) Class VIII: Combat Lifesaver (CLS) Bag (for each 68W)

(2) (U) Transportation. Cadets will arrive via GSA van.

(3) (U) Services. None.

(4) (U) Maintenance. N/A

b. (U) Personnel support. None.

c. (U) Health System Support. Medical Treatment: Self/Buddy aid. Medics and BDE Nurse will be located at TOC, Medic will be dispatched to provide aid for non-life threatening injuries if necessary. Medical Evacuation: Casualty Collection Points (CCP) will be located at TOC. For minor injuries teams should attempt to transport their casualty TOC for evaluation by Medics. For medical emergencies call 911 to activate EMS. If non-life threatening, a CASEVAC to Lawrence Memorial Hospital emergency room located at 325 Maine Street, Lawrence, KS 66044.

e. (U) Lodging.

(1) Teams can use school funds to stay at civilian lodging.

(2) Teams can bivouac at Rim Rock Farm (site of competition), but no open fire pits or burn barrels are allowed.

(3) Teams can elect to stay in local armories or the Military Science Building

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overnight from 09-10 APR. If programs elect this option, RBC officials will direct the programs to the facility they will use. Both armories consist of large open bays. Teams must bring their own cots or bedrolls (spots will be marked to identify where teams will set up). The US Army National Guard Armory is located off I70 Exit 202, the address is 200 Iowa St, Lawrence, KS 66044. COVID mitigation requires we limit capacity to 100 personnel at this site. The US Army Reserve Training Center is located south of the KU's main campus on the corner of Iowa St and 21st St. The address is 2100 Iowa St, Lawrence, KS 66046. COVID mitigation requires we limit capacity to 100 personnel at this site. The third option is the Military Science Building, 1520 Summerfield Hall Dr., Lawrence, KS 66045. COVID mitigation requires we limit capacity to 100 personnel at this site. This is the same location as team check-in.

(2) Refer to paragraph 3e(7)(a) for limits at each location.

**5. (U) Command and Signal.**

a. (U) Command.

(1)(U) Location of Commander. The Commander is located in the TOC, at Rim Rock Farm.

(2)(U) Succession of Command.

(a) The OIC for Ranger Buddy Challenge is LTC John D. Finch

(b) The NCOIC for Ranger Buddy Challenge is MSG Joshua Richards at richards55355@ku.edu or 785-864-1111.

b. (U) Control.

(1)(U) Control Posts. N/A

(2)(U) Reports (formats and times for submission). N/A.

c. (U) Signal.

(1)(U) Primary POC for this ORDER is MAJ Jonathon Heller at jonathon.heller@ku.edu or 785-864-1112.

(2)(U) Alternate POC for this ORDER is MSG Joshua Richards at richards55355@ku.edu or 785-864-1111

(2)(U) PACE: Cell Phone, H/H Radios, Runner

**ACKNOWLEDGE:**

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PHILLIPS  
COL

OFFICIAL:  
Marrone  
LTC  
S3

ANNEXES:  
ANNEX A: RBC MOI  
ANNEX B: OPORD IPR SLIDES  
ANNEX C: EIB Pamphlet 350-6