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3RD BDE Operation Order 25-04 Ranger Buddy Challenge (RBC)

References:

- a. EIB Pamphlet 350-6, 30AUG23
- b. MOI 28th Annual Ranger Buddy Competition

Time Zone Used Throughout the OPORD: Romeo (R) (Central Daylight Time)

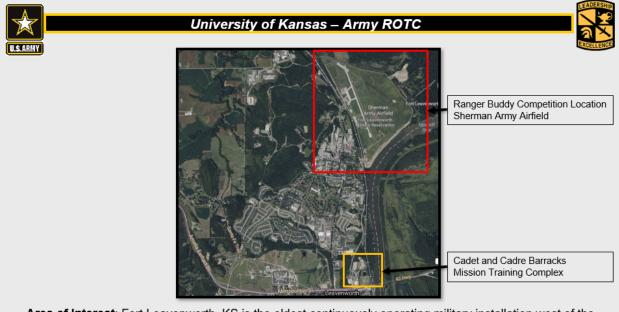
Task Organization:

3RD ROTC Brigade

Task Force Leavenworth Task Force Leonard Wood Task Force Marseilles Task Force McCoy TF Ripley

1. Situation

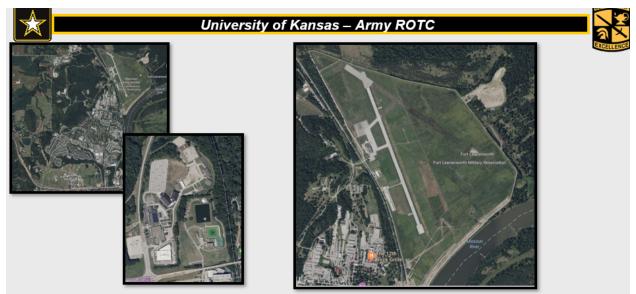
a. Area of Interest.



Area of Interest: Fort Leavenworth, KS is the oldest continuously operating military installation west of the Mississippi River. Fort Leavenworth is home to The US Army Combined Arms Center (CAC). Fort Leavenworth is home to all "Field Grade Officers" and runs the US Army Command and General Staff College. Fort Leavenworth is home to about 2,892 active-duty Soldiers, 1,130 students, and 5,175 APF and NAF Civilians.

b. Area of Operations (AO).

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Area of Operations: Mission Training Complex. Located at the southeast corner of Fort Leavenworth, the facility offers 45,000 feet of configurable indoor training space, a DFAC, and on-site barracks that can house up to 560 Soldiers.

Sherman Army Airfield/ Chief Joseph Loop. The primary area of ops. is bounded to the South by the Missouri River, to the West by Fort Leavenworth railway, to the North by the 61 Easting, and to the East by the 37 Northing. The Chief Joseph Loop is a dirt and gravel road capable of holding single way traffic that encircles all of Sherman Army Airfield. The largest identifiable feature is the Sherman Army Airfield.

- (1) Terrain.
- (a) Avenues of Approach: The primary avenue of approach is McClellan Ave. McClellan Avenue is an asphalt road that facilitates two-way traffic. McClellan Ave. runs parallel to the Ranger Buddy Training site. Chief Joseph Loop encircles the training area. Chief Joseph Loop is a hard packed gravel road. It will facilitate one-way traffic but will be closed off during the competition.
- (b) Obstacles: Parallel to Chief Joseph Loop and to the west of the training site is a railway. The rail crossing is the only entry to the Ranger Buddy Competition area. This crossing does not have a functioning gate and is trafficked regularly by trains.

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

c. Enemy Forces. N/A

d. Friendly Forces. N/A

f. <u>Civil Considerations</u> .				
Line of Effort	Action Officer	Message	Description	

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All local JROTC programs	Mr. Jenkins ROO	"Firsthand Experience of Tomorrow's Leaders in Action"	"One ROTC". All local JROTC programs invited to see and participate in an event and receive ROTC information from up to 47 different programs at the competition. Showcasing the strongest and smartest Cadets across 3rd BDE.
Local Recruiters/National Guard	SFC Dudley OCR in conjunction with local recruiters	Ability to provide informative brief with Leavenworth recruiters to local JROTC Cadets on the benefits of the Army and ROTC.	Booth with table that is catered around 2 times during the competition (recommend AM/PM brief). This booth would include informative flyers from all respective Universities attend. Potential for KSNG static display if available. *Free stuff*
Leavenworth Community		Ability to provide informative brief with Leavenworth recruiters to local community on the benefits of the Army and ROTC.	This LOE focuses on HS principals, guidance counselors, and local leaders who know their population's interest in ROTC. The selling point for them attending would be similar to the JROTC population for a wide spectrum of recruiters and Universities attending.
Families	KU RBC Registration ROO	Through RSVPs, KU Army ROTC publishes that families are highly encouraged to attend to watch RBC.	Utilize RBC RSVP distribution to disseminate family attendance is welcome.
USACC PAO	BDE POC	Overall media plan.	Figuring out the best possible way to broadcast from USACC, BDE, KU Army ROTC, and local media outlets to develop speaking points for potential VIPs attending.
VIPs	SFC Lynn		VIP plan to watch competition and present awards at the end of the competition.
Garrison	MAJ Nash	Army community support for military competitions such as RBC.	Messaging to schools and units such as CGSC who may want to watch the competition to support alumni or the Army community as whole. Deconflicting non- DOD ID holding personnel coming onto FLTV through the visitor center.
AUSA	LTC Taetzsch	Building community relationship between FTLV, Leavenworth, the military, and local High Schools.	Leveraging Judy Bauer as an additional resource at the Leavenworth AUSA chapter to broadcast to the wider AUSA audience.
FIRST COMMAND	LTC Taetzsch	Preparing future leaders for financial readiness	First Command plans to sponsor awards similar to last year with increased support with food and beverages during competition. They plan to have an informational table available to cadets during in processing.

2. <u>Mission</u>. 3RD Brigade conducts Ranger Buddy Competition, under the direction of Task Force Leavenworth at Fort Leavenworth, KS from 281800MAR-291830MAR2025 to instill a culture of winning and excellence across Cadet Command while maximizing the event as an ROTC marketing opportunity.

3. Execution.

a. <u>Commander's Intent</u>. Safely conduct a rigorous competition to test Cadet critical thinking, physical endurance, mental toughness, and teamwork while marketing ROTC opportunities for future competitors.

(1) Key Tasks:

a. Complete tactical tasks aligned with CG policy letter 9 to build proficiency prior to CST 25.

b. Maximize participation of all Cadets by fielding teams across as many categories as possible.

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c. Market opportunities outside of ROTC to grow this competition and other ROTC events.

d. Compete and win.

(2) <u>End State</u>: Cadets safely conduct RBC and recognized for their achievements. Positive experience for all competitors and competing schools.

b. <u>Concept of Operations</u>. This operation is conducted in three phases. Phase I-RSOI, Phase II- Execution, Phase III- Awards Ceremony and Dismissal. Decisive to this operation is execution of warrior tasks during PH II. This is decisive because it will carry the most weight for competing teams in the competition.

- <u>PH I- RSOI-</u> Critical to this phase is the reception of all competitors at Fort Leavenworth, KS NLT **281800MAR25**. Prior to the reception of competitors all teams must register at Link. Competitors and coaches are invited to attend IPR's held by BDE.
- (2) <u>PH II- Execution-</u> Critical to this phase is the execution of tactical lane tasks. This phase begins with a written land navigation exam on **28MAR** and ends with the completion of tactical lanes on **29MAR**. During this phase competitors will complete 15 tactical tasks and a series of road marches that equal around 13.5-miles.
- (3) <u>Ph III- Award/Recovery-</u> This phase begins o/a **291800MAR25** after the completion of tactical tasks and road march events. Critical to this phase is the recognition and awarding of best Ranger Buddy teams.
- b. Scheme of Movement and Maneuver

(1) <u>Phase 1-RSOI</u>: This phase begins with the receipt of this OPORD. Critical to this phase is the reception of all Cadets at Fort Leavenworth, KS. During this phase all Cadets will register, schools will attend in progress reviews (IPRs), TF Leavenworth will lead rehearsals, resourcing of events, and all in-processing is complete. This phase ends when teams receive the coaches brief.

(a) Registration: The registration window opens on **20JAN25**. During this phase JROTC and ROTC Battalions register their teams through the attached <u>website</u>. Registration closes on **01MAR25**. Schools may register up to 10 teams for the competition, however schools within 3rd BDE are guaranteed that they will receive 4 competition teams for the event. Schools will provide rank order all the teams they register and we will prioritize team selection by this OML until we have 250 teams registered for the event. We will announce the selection of teams during the IPR #2.

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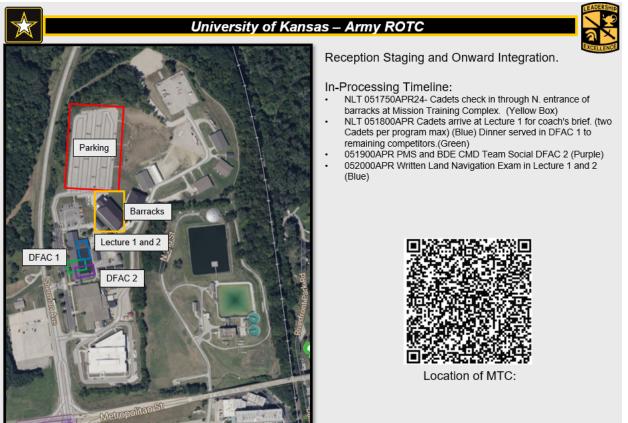
(b) IPRs: TF Leavenworth hosts a series of IPRs to facilitate questions and logistics prior to the execution of Ranger Buddy. IPRs take place according to the timeline published inside this OPORD. Everyone is welcome to attend the IPRs. IPRs will be held on the Teams channel at **BDE created Ranger Buddy Competition Teams Channel**.

(c) Rehearsals: TF Leavenworth leads the execution of rehearsals leading up to Ranger Buddy Competition. KU executes Rehearsal of Concept drill on **131500MAR25**, event will be broadcast on MS Teams. Lane Rehearsal is conducted on **1600 28MAR24** with assigned Lane OICs present. Train the Trainer and station preparation is executed on **28MAR25** with TF Leavenworth Cadre.

(d) Resourcing: Occurs throughout this phase. All resourcing requests are processed through BDE S4. All resource requests must be submitted NLT **24FEB24**. 3RD BDE Teams are provided barracks at Fort Leavenworth, KS. Teams outside the 3RD BDE will resource lodging on the economy.

(e) In-Processing: The final list of teams is published to all schools on **15MAR24.** All requests for changes must be made and approved through KU operations officer, MAJ Nash, following this date. Teams arrive to Fort Leavenworth Mission Training Complex **NLT 28 1800 MAR 25**. Teams receive packets and room assignments upon arrival to the barracks.

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(f) Coaches Brief: **28 1800 MAR 25** Cadets will receive a coaches brief in Lecture 1 of the mission training complex. Only one representative from each school is required to be at this meeting. During the coaches brief, dinner will be served in DFAC 1.

(g) BDE Social: Cadre attending the event will have the opportunity to meet with COL Cruz. All 3rd BDE Cadre will attend the BDE Social at "tentatively" Willcott Brewing **28 2000-2100 MAR 25.**

(2) <u>Phase 2- Execution</u>: This phase begins following the coaches brief on **28MAR25** and ends when all teams have finished their final iteration of lanes or road march on **29MAR25**. Critical to this phase is the execution of tactical lane tasks. During this phase competitors will complete 15 tactical tasks and a 13.5-mile road march. Each competitor will be assigned a control group. Each control group will start at different areas of the course. Competitors will undergo three iterations of the lanes (red, white, and blue). At each lane, competitors complete 5 tactical tasks, and a 4.5 mile road march.

(a) Written Land Navigation: Following the coaches briefs competitors will have 1 hour to answer as many questions as possible on a written land navigation exam. This exam will replicate the ones given at Cadet Summer Training-Advanced Camp. This event will account for 10% of the overall ranking of the competition.

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(b) Tactical Lanes: Decisive to competitors' operations is the successful execution of the 15 tactical tasks. This is decisive because it holds the most weight in the competition. 50% of Cadets scores are based on the correct completion of each tactical task. The tactical tasks are governed by EIB Pamphlet 350-6, 30AUG23. Reference Attachment. Knots are governed by TC 3-21.76 Ranger Handbook, while testing standards are from Army Mountain Warfare VT 05465-9796 (Time Standards).

Red		
Task	Task #	Time
		Standard
M4	071-COM-0032	5
M249	071-COM-4025	6
	071-COM-4026	
M240	071-025-0001	6
	071-025-0002	
Hand Grenades	071-440-0031	4
	071-COM-4407	

White			(C
Task	Task #	Time Standard	
Fracture	081-831-1034	5	
Bleeding	081-COM-1054 081-COM-1048 081-COM-0099	5	
Shock	081-COM-0099 081-COM-1005 No Collar Required	9	
Care Under Fire	081-COM-1001 081-COM-1048 081-COM-1046	9	
9 Line	081-COM-1001 081-COM-0101	2	

Blue			
Task	Task #	Time	
		Standard	
Call for fire	061-COM-1000	5	
	071-326-0512		
Radio and Spot	171-300-0063	10	
	171-COM-4080		

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Knots	TC 3-21.76	3
Move under fire	071-COM-0502	3

(c) Road March: The road march event occurs at the same time as the tactical lane event. Cadets are assigned either to the lane or to complete the 4.5 mile loop for the road march course. In total, Cadets will travel this route 3 times.

University of Kans University of Kans 13.5-Mile R	sas – Army ROTC Road <u>March</u>	EACERLEA	言いて
PH II- Execution (Road March) This phase occurs simultaneous to the color lane tasks. During this subphase competitors complete three (3) 4.5-mile-long road marches. Each road march will increase in difficulty as the event progress. Event Analysis: • Weigh in occurs prior to each loop during Competition • Competitors are divided onto three separate lanes (Red, White, Blue) • Up to 30 teams are placed at each of the three lanes. • 16 teams execute the color lane tasks • 16 teams execute the color lane tasks • 17 the tasks execute road march in a counterclockwise movement • Times are taken by Red Dirt Racing • All three times are consolidated and the best time wins • Each iteration competitors are tasked with carrying an item • At the 1.5-hour mark Cadets rotate either to lane tasks or the road march • Codets still on the course lose time to conduct color lane tasks • Cod Sketch • Color lane staging areas • Road march staging area	Start Cad March Start Line	255 m 265 m 265 m 265 m 227 m 207 m 100 m 125 m 125 m 125 m 125 m	
Sustainment: Classes of Supply: I: MRE (B), Boxed Meal (L) VI: Weights (Iterations I/II Road March Transportation: Red Dirt Racing Timing solution for Road March Golf Cart provided for lead and trail Medical: Medical: Golf Cart Dedicated to Medical Recovery Tent Golf Cart Dedicated to Medical Recovery	 Standards: Cadets will complete each 4.5-mile lap in the 1.5 hours provided. Times are recorded via a timed solution. Fastest overall course time receives the max amount of points 35# ruck weight without water 	Command and Control: Command: • Lane OIC- SFC Lynn (KU)	A

(d) <u>JROTC 7K Race</u>: JROTC Competitors arrive NLT 1300hrs, in-process, and receive competition tour (to include recruiting tables) prior to 7K execution. Competitors 8

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begin 7K race in conjunction with final Road March interval. Registration information to be published.

(3) <u>Phase 3- Awards Ceremony, Recovery, Release:</u> This phase begins after all personnel have completed the last iteration of road march or tactical lanes. During this phase, distinguished quests are allowed to make remarks. Following remarks, COL Cruz, 3rd BDE Commander, will award the top 3 teams from each category and the top school. Schools are dismissed upon completion of the ceremony to return to the barracks or return to their host schools.

b. Tasks to Staff.

(1) BDE S3

- (a) Establish the BDE IPR through MS teams in accordance with IPR schedule to validate planning azimuth, resource shortfalls, and provide brigade assistance.
- (b) Provide one staff representative to assist operations in Task Force TOC.
- (2) <u>BDE S4</u>
 - (a) Provide one member of staff to attend IPR's and assist with resourcing the training event.
 - (b) Process PRAs submitted from program.
 - (c) Provide one staff representative to assist with local purchases during week of event.
- (3) BDE Nurses
 - (a) Provide a Nurse to serve in the TOC and establish and run a casualty collection point (CCP).
 - (b) Coordinate with KU and BDE S4 to request CL VIII to support the competition.
- (4) <u>BDE RMID</u>: Provide one staff representative to assist with social media posts and disseminate information on "how" to build up social media promotion of the event.
- (5) BDE JROTC Liaison: Disseminate JROTC 7k event across BDE Calendar(s).
- c. Tasks to Subordinate Units.

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- (1) Task Force Leavenworth.
 - (a) Plan and execute RBC in conjunction with the 3RD BDE.
 - (b) Provide 9x Cadre to serve as OICs for Red, White, and Blue Lanes.
 - (c) Coordinate for supply requests for Red, White, and Blue lanes with BDE S4 during IPRs
 - (d) Sign up here Cadre Sign Up_RBC_2025.xlsx Google Sheets
- (2) Task Force Leonard Wood
 - (a) Provide 9 x Cadre to assist with grading.
 - (b) Attend lane Rehearsals on 1600 28MAR25.
 - (d) Sign up here Cadre Sign Up RBC 2025.xlsx Google Sheets
- (3) Task Force Marseilles
 - (a) Provide 9 x Cadre to assist with grading
 - (b) Attend lane Rehearsals on 1600 28MAR25
 - (c) Sign up here Cadre Sign Up RBC 2025.xlsx Google Sheets
- (4) Task Force McCoy
 - (a) Provide 9 x Cadre to assist with grading
 - (b) Attend lane Rehearsals on 1600 28MAR25.
 - (d) Sign up here Cadre Sign Up RBC 2025.xlsx Google Sheets
- (5) Task Force Ripley:
 - (a) Provide 9 x Cadre to grade lanes for the event.
 - (b) Attend lane Rehearsals on 1600 28MAR25.
 - (a) Sign up here <u>Cadre Sign Up_RBC_2025.xlsx Google Sheets</u>
- (6) ALL Participating Schools

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- (a) Critical to the successful execution of Ranger Buddy is having enough Cadre graders for the testing lanes. Last year was successful because of the support from visiting schools. In addition to the TF Cadre tasking above, provide one (1) Cadre to assist with grading if you have any teams participating in the competition. Provide one (1) additional cadre for any number of teams over four (4). Sign up here <u>Cadre Sign</u> <u>Up RBC 2025.xlsx - Google Sheets</u>
- (b) All CADRE complete DTS authorization **NLT 18MAR25**, to include lodging after the competition.
- (c) Submit travel meal requests on PRA to BDE S4 **NLT 18MAR25**. A POC and contact information from the vendor must be included.
- (c) Register your teams at the link <u>website</u>. Ensure teams are entered on an OML for your school from 1 to 10. Teams with an OML 1-4 are guaranteed to compete. Teams OML 5-10 will be selected in OML order starting with OML number 5.
- (d) Schools will assist 3RD BDE PAO and RMID with building the "hype train" for Ranger Buddy Challenge 2025 according to attachment 6.
- d. Coordinating Instructions.
 - (a) <u>Uniform:</u>
 - (1) Worn:
 - a. OCP top/ bottom (duty uniform)
 - b. Patrol Cap (Cover)
 - c. Boots
 - d. Eye protection
 - e. Gloves
 - f. FLC- (2x 1 QT Canteens)
 - g. Rubber Duck
 - h. Ruck Sack
 - i. Pen, Pencil, Paper
 - j. 2 x MRE (breakfast and lunch) (KU will not inventory this item)

(2) Rucksack: Must weigh 35 pounds excluding drinking water.

(3) Rucksack is worn during the Ruck March. Cadets will not wear rucksacks on tactical lanes. Competitors must carry their own equipment. Teams are disqualified if caught carrying their teammate's equipment or out of prescribed uniform. Rucksacks are inspected prior to and after execution of each iteration of ruck march.

(b) IPR Timeline:

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- a. IPR # 1: 241030JAN2025
- b. IPR # 2: 071030FEB2025
- c. IPR # 3: 211030FEB2025
- d. IPR # 4: 071030MAR2025
- e. IPR # 5: 141030MAR2025
- f. Final Checks: 211030MAR2025

(1) Event Schedule: See MOI (para 3)

(c) <u>Rules:</u> See MOI (para 5)

(d) Participants register **NLT 01MAR25**. Link: <u>https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1SmOMOnxSuFCAQg2Fjq8l8pSHmA5JhyBkTWCSpK</u> <u>LDxuE/edit</u>

(e) Risk Mitigation: See attachment Deliberate Risk Assessment:

4. <u>Sustainment</u>.

- a. Logistics.
 - (1) Classes of Supply.
 - (a) Class I: Schools will coordinate for and/ or supply meals traveling to and from the event. Schools will bring 2 x MRE for each competitor for breakfast and lunch on 29MAR25.

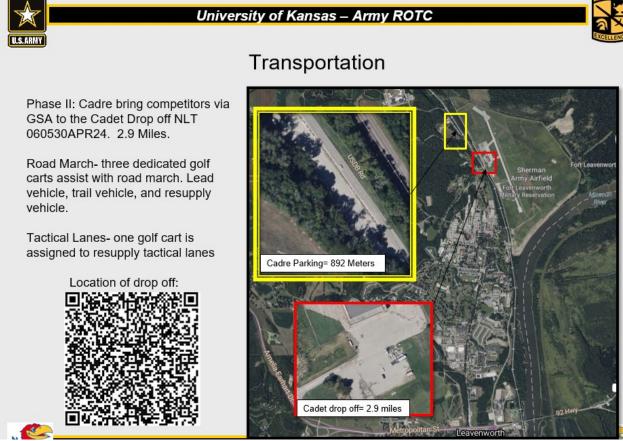
	27MAR25	28MAR25	29MAR25
Breakfast	N/A	MRE (25)	MRE (510) Fruit and Protein (500)
Lunch	N/A	Boxed Lunch (TF Support)	MRE (510) Boxed Lunch (TF Support)
Dinner	Dinner Local Restaurant (25 ADVON)	Competition dinner catered (510) BDE Social catered (45)	Boxed to go Dinner (510)

(b) Classes II thru IV: Materials required to support the overall competition will be purchased by the host program using GPC sources. PRAs are due NLT **12MAR25**.

(2) Transportation/Travel Lodging. Host school provides GSA for transportation to/during RBC. No POV's are authorized or allowed on the Ranger Buddy Competition

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Course. For those Cadets arriving prior to the check-in day, lodging will be paid for by GUTC, a PRA will be provided to the BDE S4 **NLT 18MAR25** and CADRE will create DTS authorizations **NLT 18MAR25**.

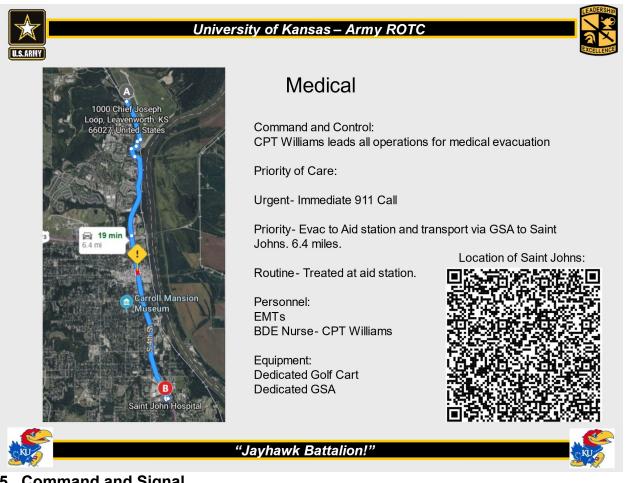


b. Competition Lodging: Lodging is provided for all 3RD BDE competitors at the Mission Training Complex at Ft. Leavenworth, KS. Competitors outside of BDE will have to source lodging on the economy. Teams must select during registration whether they will stay in the provided lodging. Lodging includes bunk bed style accommodations, showers, latrines, and lockers.

c. <u>Personnel support</u>. None.

d. <u>Health System Support</u>. Medical Treatment: EMTs and BDE Nurse are located at CP, EMT will be dispatched to provide aid for non-life-threatening injuries if necessary. Medical Evacuation: Casualty Collection Points (CCP) is located at CP. For medical emergencies call 911. If non-life threatening, a CASEVAC to Saint Johns hospital is available.

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- 5. Command and Signal.
 - a. Command.
 - (1) Location of Commander. The TF Leavenworth Lead is located in the CP.

(2) Succession of Command.

(a) The OIC for Ranger Buddy Challenge is MAJ Dustin Nash at dustinanash@ku.edu or at 785-845-0279.

(b) The NCOIC for Ranger Buddy Challenge is MSG Aaron Moffett at aaron.moffett@ku.edu or at 785-864-8232.

- b. Control.
 - (1) Control Posts. N/A

(2) Reports (formats and times for submission). Primary reporting for the event will be via the Signal chat. TBP This will be the primary location for periodic score updates.

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(3) RFI's during the competition will be submitted through separate RBC signal chat.



RFI Group Chat

c. <u>Signal</u>.

(1) Primary POC for this ORDER is MAJ Dustin Nash at <u>dustinanash@ku.edu</u> or at 785-845-0279

- (2) Reference **ANNEX C**
- (3) Primary means of communication. Signal Group Chat
- (4) Alternate. Cell Phone
- (5) Contingency. Handheld radios
- (4) Emergency. Runner

ACKNOWLEDGE:

CRUZ COL

OFFICIAL: KOZAK MSG

ANNEXES:

ATTACHMENT 1: EIB Pamphlet 350-6, 30AUG23 ATTACHMENT 2: TC 3-21.76 Ranger Handbook APR2017 ATTACHMENT 3: 2025 RBC MOI ATTACHMENT 4: RBC TASKS ATTACHMENT 5: DELIBERATE RISK ASSESSMENT ATTACHMENT 6: PAO and RMID Pamphlet ANNEX C: Concept of Operations Brief Slide Deck

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PAO RMID Pamphlet.pdf

PDF

V2 Annex C_RBC 2025 CONOP.pptx

2025 RBC 2025 RBC Tasks MOI_20241219.docx

2025 RBC Tasks.xlsx DD2977_RBC_25 (Signed).pdf