

The 705th Battalion Competes in Mock Prison Riot Event in Moundsville, West Virginia

By First Lieutenant Henry S. Leung

The annual Office of Law Enforcement Technology Commercialization (OLETC) mock prison riot was conducted at the site of the former West Virginia Penitentiary in Moundsville, West Virginia, 7–11 May 2007. This event showcased emerging corrections and law enforcement technologies and gave corrections officers and tactical team members an opportunity to use and evaluate evolving tactics in riot training. The mock prison riot brings together corrections personnel from around the country to demonstrate tactics currently used in the field. Federal, state, and local corrections officials from agencies such as the Federal Bureau of Prisons and the Federal Bureau of Investigation annually attend this conference to learn from other participating organizations.

The 705th Military Police Battalion (Internment and Resettlement) Correctional Emergency Response Team (CERT), stationed at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, is responsible for countering special threat situations that could potentially develop within or involve personnel from the U.S. Disciplinary Barracks (USDB). This elite team represents the best-trained Soldiers in the corrections field. Thirteen members of the team traveled thirteen hours to attend the week-long mock prison riot.



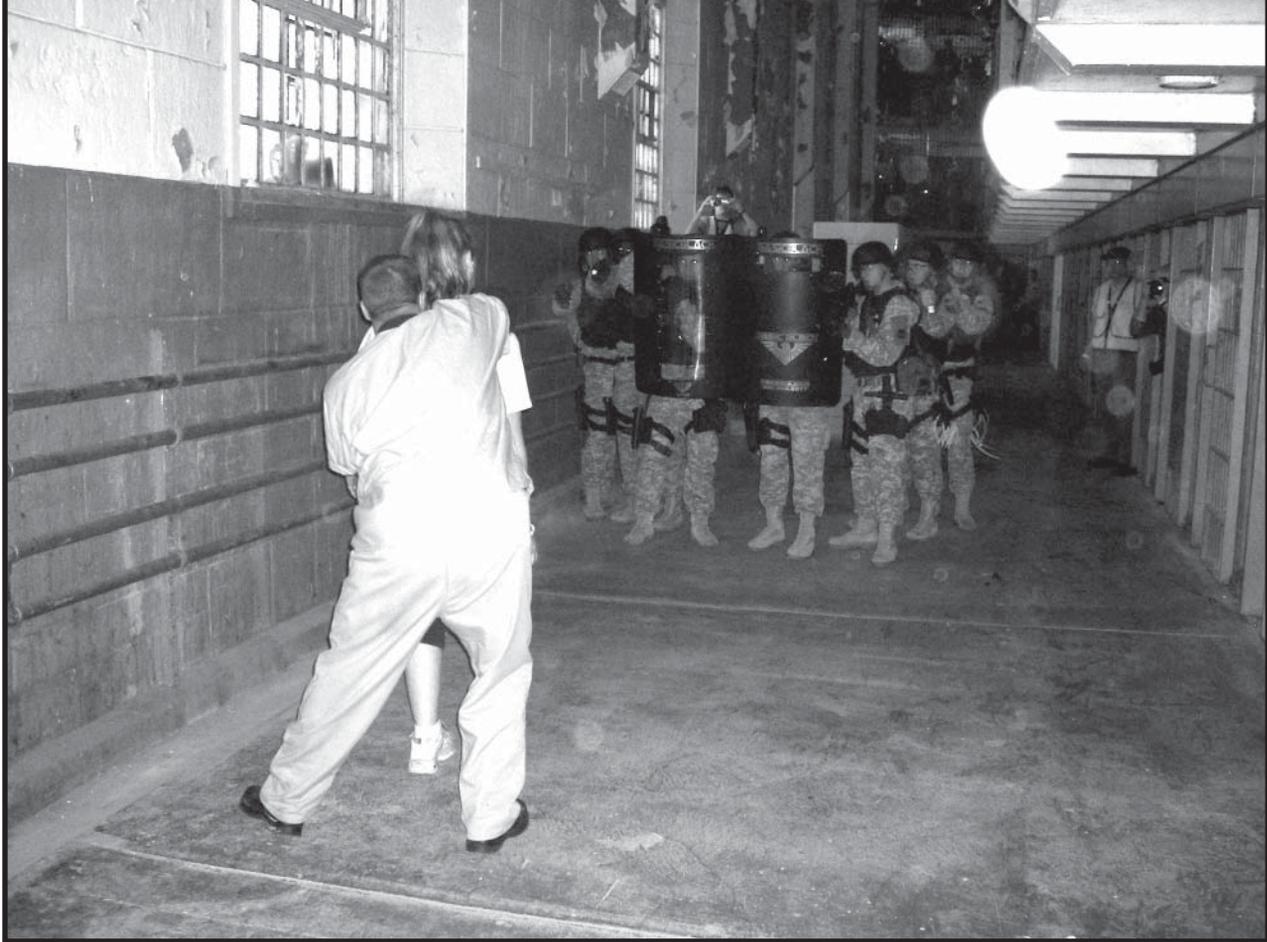
**705th Military
Police Battalion**

During the first three days of the conference, Soldiers attended workshops and conducted scenarios inside the former penitentiary. The workshops provided valuable information on emerging technologies that are currently used in the corrections environment. The 705th conducted various scenarios to showcase military counterdisturbance tactics to other agencies.

During the last two days of the conference, the team competed against eighteen other teams in five events. The events consisted of—

- A timed pistol course.
- A timed building clearing mission.
- A timed hostage rescue mission.
- An obstacle course.
- An individual “Super SWAT Cop” event.

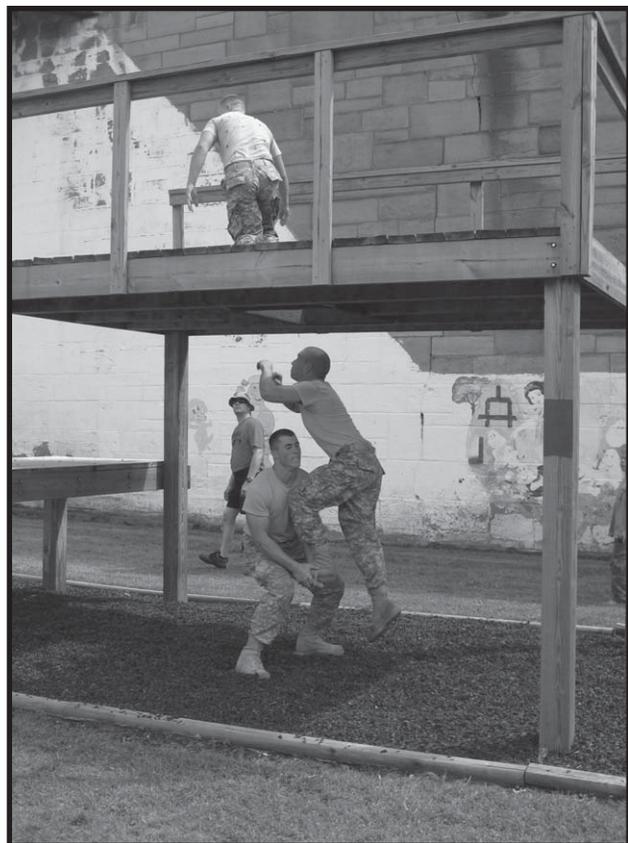
More than 2,500 spectators watched as the 705th Military Police Battalion competed in the events.



Team members react to a hostage situation.

Although this is only the second time the 705th has attended the mock prison riot, the team placed 6th out of 19 teams and won 3 trophies. Specialist Jerry Powell and Private First Class James Schultz took home 1st- and 2d-place trophies, respectively, in the individual Super SWAT Cop event, and the unit team placed 3d in the obstacle course. According to Randall Milks, training manager for the event, “The 705th Military Police Battalion is considered one of the highlights for the conference as they demonstrate different technical and tactical procedures in the corrections field.”

All in all, the OLETC mock prison riot was a success. The participating Soldiers received great training and set a new standard for future competitions. These young warriors represented the 705th Military Police Battalion, USDB, Military Police Corps Regiment, and U.S. Army with distinction. Next year, the team expects to place in the top three by refining its tactics, training, procedures, and training program to emulate the best practices in emergency response operations.



Team members compete in the obstacle course portion of the competition.