



Brigadier General Quantock addresses members of JTF 134 before the run.

Challenge at Lost Lake

By Command Sergeant Major Jeffrey Butler

As the sun set over Baghdad, Iraq, on 29 August 2009, most units were “calling it a day.” But Joint Task Force (JTF) 134 was just getting ready to start a new challenge. The U.S. Army Military Police Regiment had challenged military police units around the world to complete a 68-mile run in recognition of the 68th anniversary of the establishment of the Military Police Corps as a basic branch of the U.S. Army. The Camp Victory course consisted of a 1.6-mile loop around an area known as Lost Lake. To meet the challenge, JTF 134 personnel were required to run forty-three laps around the course.

Brigadier General David E. Quantock, commander of JTF 134, provided opening remarks and encouragement for the task ahead. The first lap, which began at about 7:15 p.m. (when the temperature was about 100°F), was completed by personnel representing all Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marine career fields assigned to JTF 134. The next forty-one laps were individual relay legs completed by Army military police officers, noncommissioned officers, and junior enlisted Soldiers; Navy masters of arms; Air Force security forces; and Marine military police at a rate of one lap every fifteen minutes throughout the night. The individual laps were followed by a final group lap, which was completed at 5:50 the next morning. The temperature remained above 85°F the entire night.

Leaders from Headquarters and Headquarters Company established and maintained a support area where refreshments, games, and movies were available for those who participated and those who supported the runners throughout the night.

The 68th anniversary challenge presented a great opportunity for our joint service team to work together and promote fitness. Mission accomplished! Return with honor!

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