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U.S. ARMY MANEUVER SUPPORT CENTER OF EXCELLENCE FT. LEONARD WOOD, MISSOURI



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Engineers converge on Fort Leonard Wood to be named Army's best Sapper team

FORT LEONARD WOOD, Mo. – In a gruesome three-day battle, covering more than 50 miles, lasting more than 50 hours, some 96 engineers will put themselves to the test, physically and mentally, in the 2015 Best Sapper Competition at Fort Leonard Wood, April 21-23.

The 48 teams, hailing from as far as Alaska and as close as Missouri, come to compete and be named the best Sapper team from across the Army.

The 9th annual event will challenge the teams as they function on minimal sleep in events like a ruck march, land navigation, physical fitness, and engineer tactics.

Each team member must currently serve in the engineer career field, and at least one who is a graduate of the Sapper Leader Course.

The Best Sapper Competition is open to the public for viewing; however, observers are asked to stay back from the competitors as not to impede them during any event.

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Media interested in covering the Best Sapper Competition, should contact the Fort Leonard Wood Public Affairs Office at 573.563.4145, no later than 12 p.m., April 20.

Encl(s): Photos (3)

Soldiers helocast and then swim to shore as a part of the Best Sapper Competition, sponsored by the U.S. Army Engineer School's Sapper Leader Course.

Competitors pull a HMMWV (humvee) to test their strength and endurance during the Best Sapper Competition's X-mile run.

A Best Sapper competitor uses a battering ram to breach through a door during the Best Sapper Competition's X-mile run.

About Fort Leonard Wood

Fort Leonard Wood is a thriving and prosperous installation that has evolved from a small basic training post 70 years ago to a premier Army Center of Excellence that trains about 80,000 military and civilians each year.

Home to the Maneuver Support Center of Excellence, Fort Leonard Wood now trains and educates service members and develops doctrine and capabilities for the Training and Doctrine Command's U.S. Army Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear School, U.S. Army Engineer School, and U.S. Army Military Police School, three gender integrated Initial Military Training brigades, and the Army's largest Noncommissioned Officers Academy.

Over the past several years, Fort Leonard Wood has received numerous additional responsibilities to include supporting the 4th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade, a large Forces Command unit that is responsible for all deployable capabilities at Fort Leonard Wood. A colonel-commanded Marine Corps Detachment and an Air Force Detachment, which are both the largest on any Army installation, are located on Fort Leonard Wood; a large Navy Seabee Detachment and elements of the Coast Guard train here as well.
