

*VOL. 1*

*MAY, 2021*



# *BATTLEGROUND*

*EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY*  
*PUBLICATION*



*EIU, BLEED BLUE!!!*





## **WORDS FROM LTC LOY**

**THIS YEAR HAS BEEN ANYTHING FROM NORMAL, YET IT HAS ACTUALLY BEEN A GREAT YEAR FOR THE PANTHER BATTALION. EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY ALLOWED OUR PROGRAM TO RUN AS CLOSE TO NORMAL WHILE STILL MANAGING ANY RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH COVID-19 OUTBREAKS. THROUGH HARD WORK FROM BOTH OUR CADETS AND CADRE WE KEPT OUR INFECTIONS MINIMAL WITHOUT ANY SERIOUS SYMPTOMS AND CONTINUED TO TRAIN AT A HIGH LEVEL. WE WELCOMED A NEW MILITARY INSTRUCTOR, SSG JULIAN PACHECO ALONG WITH OUR NEW HUMAN RESOURCE ASSISTANT, SARAH DOUGHERTY. WE ARE ALSO WELCOMING A NEW ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF MILITARY SCIENCE, AN EIU PANTHER BATTALION ALUMNI, CPT WILLIAM COMSTOCK. WE BEGAN THE YEAR IN PERSON, NAVIGATING THE NEW RULES OF THE ROAD. WITHIN A FEW WEEKS WE WERE RUNNING AT OUR NORMAL PACE. OUR CADETS WERE EXCITED TO GET BACK INTO THEIR CLASSES AND**



**CONTINUE BUILDING THE TEAM WITHIN OUR PROGRAM. WE WENT INTO THE FALL SEMESTER GOING QUICKLY INTO THE FALL FIELD TRAINING EXERCISE. WE CONDUCTED A QUALIFICATION RANGE, LAND NAVIGATION AND AN OBSTACLE COURSE. THIS EVENT WAS SUCCESSFUL ACROSS THE BOARD. THIS WAS THE FIRST TIME IN MANY MONTHS OUR CADETS WERE ABLE TO GET OUTSIDE OF THEIR COMFORT ZONE AND CHALLENGE THEMSELVES, WHICH WAS IMPRESSIVE TO SEE. AS WE GET OUTSIDE OUR COMFORT ZONE, WE INTEGRATED THE ARMY COMBAT FITNESS TEST INTO OUR TRAINING, WHICH IS A REPLACEMENT OF OUR ARMY PHYSICAL FITNESS TEST. THIS TOOK US FROM THREE EVENTS TO OUR SIX EVENT TEST. WE BEGIN WITH A DEADLIFT, THEN A 10 LB. MEDICINE BALL THROW, TO HAND RELEASE PUSHUPS, A 90LB SLED DRAG AND CARRY WITH 45 LB KETTLEBELLS, TRANSITIONING TO THE LEG TUCK, COMPLETING ALL OF THIS WITH A 2 MILE RUN. OUR CADETS ENJOYED TAKING THIS TEST AND CONTINUED TO IMPROVE EACH MONTH. WE WENT INTO THE SPRING**



**SEMESTER FOCUSED ENTIRELY ON TACTICS. WE HAD SOME COLD WINTER MONTHS AS YOU WILL SEE IN THE PHOTOS, YET WE CONTINUED TO TRAIN. THIS TRAINING PAID OFF DURING OUR SPRING COMBINED FTX WITH WESTERN ILLINOIS, ILLINOIS STATE AND UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS ROTC PROGRAMS, OUR CADETS WERE WELL PREPARED AND SHOWCASED THEIR MENTAL AND PHYSICAL TOUGHNESS. WE BUILT A SMOKELESS RANGE WITHIN OUR AREA WHERE OUR CADETS WERE ABLE TO TRAIN ON THE NEW BASIC RIFLE MARKSMANSHIP STANDARDS. WE BEGAN TO WIND DOWN OUR YEAR WITH OUR AWARDS CEREMONY AND OUR MILITARY BALL, WHICH WERE TWO GREAT SUCCESSES FOR OUR PROGRAM. THE FINAL EVENT OF OUR YEAR WAS THE COMMISSIONING OF SEVEN GREAT SECOND LIEUTENANTS WHO ARE ABOUT TO START THEIR JOURNEY IN THE ARMY. WE HAD THE PLEASURE OF WELCOMING AS OUR GUEST SPEAKER, AN EIU ALUMNI, RETIRED BRIGADIER GENERAL WILLIAM WEIR WHO COMPLETED HIS CAREER AS THE DEPUTY COMMANDING GENERAL OF**

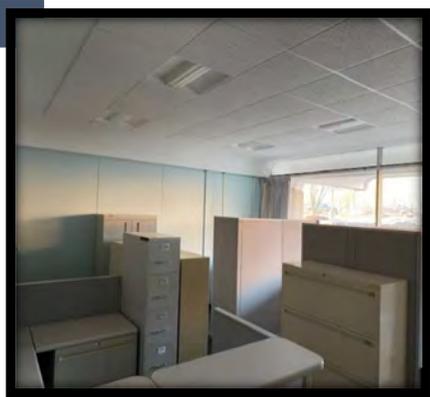


**35<sup>TH</sup> INFANTRY DIVISION AND ALSO SERVED AS A JUDGE FOR THE 16<sup>TH</sup> JUDICIAL CIRCUIT. WE HAD FIVE DISTINGUISHED MILITARY GRADUATES, TWO TOP 10% CADETS ACROSS THE NATION, AND ALL RECEIVED THEIR FIRST CHOICE IN BRANCHES. WE WERE AWARDED THE BEST TRAINED PROGRAM WITHIN THE 41 PROGRAMS IN THE BRIGADE AS AND CAME IN SECOND FOR THE MOST IMPROVED PROGRAM. THESE ACCOMPLISHMENTS ARE A TESTAMENT OF THE QUALITY OF CADETS WE HAVE AND THE STRONG TEAM THAT SUPPORT THEM. WE WERE ABLE TO USE SOME OF OUR DONATED ALUMNI FUNDS TO PURCHASE GYM EQUIPMENT FOR THE SOLE USE OF OUR CADETS. THE GYM WE BUILT FOR THEM IS THERE TO ASSIST CADETS BUILD NEW TRAINING PROGRAMS TO IMPROVE THEIR PHYSICAL FITNESS LEVELS. THIS WOULD HAVE NEVER HAPPENED WITHOUT THE DONATIONS WE RECEIVE FROM OUR PARTNERS. WE ARE ALSO EXCITED ABOUT THE ADVENTURES THAT AWAIT US NEXT YEAR, OUR CADETS ARE FUNDRAISING TO SEND A TEAM TO THE ARMY TEN MILER FOR**



**THE FIRST TIME IN QUITE A WHILE. WE HAVE SOME BIG PLANS AND CANNOT WAIT TO START.**

Prior to becoming our Gym



Initial Gym



Weight Rack with Bench and bar



TRX Bands and Bowflex dumbbells



Training in the winter





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ROTC, OR THE RESERVE OFFICERS' TRAINING CORPS, IS A PROGRAM SPONSORED BY UNITED STATES ARMY CADET COMMAND (USACC), AND IS DESIGNED TO EDUCATE ASPIRING CADETS TOWARDS DEVELOPING LEADERSHIP



QUALITIES, WHICH THEY CAN USE THROUGHOUT A CAREER IN THE MILITARY, AS WELL AS IN ANY OTHER AREA OF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT. MANY OF ITS APPLICANTS COME FROM A WIDE VARIETY OF BACKDROPS, UPBRINGINGS, AND CULTURAL INFLUENCE. THE ARMY AS A WHOLE IS AN ORGANIZATION THAT INCREASES IN EFFECTIVENESS DUE TO ITS OVERTLY DIVERSE WORKFORCE,

ROTC CADETS PERFORM PREP DRILLS IN ANTICIPATION OF PT SESSION.

AND ROTC IS NO DIFFERENT. UNDER THE CAREFUL INSTRUCTION OF SENIOR MS4 (MILITARY SCIENCE 4) CADETS, AND CERTIFIED CADRE PERSONNEL, STUDENTS EMBARK ON A TRANSFORMATIVE JOURNEY IN WHICH THEY BECOME COGNIZANT OF THEIR ACADEMIC, AS WELL AS THEIR PROFESSIONAL, STRENGTHS AND WEAKNESSES. THIS ALLOWS THEM TO UNDERSTAND WHAT THEY NEED TO IMPROVE UPON THROUGH BASIC SOLDIER SKILL DEVELOPMENT, MENTORING, AND ACADEMIC DEVELOPMENT; AS WELL AS AN OVERALL UNDERSTANDING OF ARMY DOCTRINE, TACTICS AND CULTURE.

ROTC'S MAIN DIFFERENCE, HOWEVER, IS THAT IT IS DESIGNED WITH THE HECTIC SCHEDULES OF COLLEGE STUDENTS IN MIND. IT IMPLIES GROWTH WITHIN ACADEMIA, AND EVEN ENCOURAGES STUDENTS TO CONCENTRATE ON THEIR SCHOOLWORK, WHILE BEING ABLE TO TRAIN WITH ROTC ON THE SIDE. THIS HYBRID METHOD OF LEARNING ASSURES THAT STUDENTS' UNIVERSITY PROGRESS IS KEPT WITHOUT DISRUPTION, WHILE STILL DELIVERING THE VERY BEST MILITARY EDUCATION THAT THE ARMY CAN POSSIBLY PROVIDE. STELLAR CADETS CAN EVEN QUALIFY FOR SCHOLARSHIPS WHICH CAN EASE THE FINANCIAL BURDEN OF TUITION COSTS. IN SHORT, ROTC IS AN ENVIRONMENT THAT IS BENEFICIAL TO ANY AND ALL WHO CHALLENGE THEMSELVES ENOUGH TO SEE IT THROUGH TO THE END, WITH GREAT EXPERIENCES AND EVEN GREATER FRIENDS MADE THROUGH THE PROCESS. WE HOPE THAT YOU ENJOY THIS NEWSLETTER, AND THE MANY ACCOMPLISHMENTS OUR CADETS PERFORM.



EIU



MS4's

PANTHERS



## KELLY CHAPMAN (BATTALION COMMANDER)

I'M FROM VILLA GROVE ILLINOIS. MY MAJOR IS IN PHILOSOPHY AND MY MINOR IN MILITARY SCIENCE. I REALLY VALUE THE LEADERSHIP SKILLS I LEARNED ALONG THE WAY. THIS, COUPLED WITH THE FINE EXAMPLES OF LEADERSHIP THAT OUR CADRE HAVE SHOWN, PROVES THAT EIU ROTC HAS SET ME UP FOR MAJOR SUCCESS IN MY CAREER. WE HAVE ALL HELPED THE PROGRAM BY DEMONSTRATING LEADERSHIP TO BOTH THOSE BELOW AND ABOVE US, AND DEVELOPING THE NEXT ROUND OF ARMY LEADERS THAT GRADUATE AFTER US! MY GOAL AS A FUTURE ARMY OFFICER IS TO HOPEFULLY GET A CHANCE TO EXPLORE AND SEE THE WORLD, BUT ULTIMATELY, I'M HERE TO SERVE MY COUNTRY AND

THAT'S MY ONLY GOAL AT THE END OF THE DAY. SHOUT OUT TO THE FINE EXAMPLES OF LEADERSHIP I HAVE SEEN IN MY BRIEF CAREER THUS FAR IN THE ARMY. YOU ALL HAVE HELPED MOLD ME INTO WHO I AM TODAY.

## SHAWN SHIELDS (BATTALION XO)

I GREW UP IN TWO TOWNS ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF CHICAGO. I AM FROM HOMEWOOD IL AND MOKENA IL. I AM CURRENTLY MAJORING IN CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT AND HAVE A MINOR IN MILITARY SCIENCE. I PLAN ON USING MY SKILLS FROM MY MAJOR TO COMMISSION AS AN ACTIVE-DUTY ENGINEER OFFICER. MY GOALS AS A FUTURE ARMY OFFICER ARE TO ATTEND MANY ARMY SCHOOLS, GAIN AS MUCH EXPERIENCE AS A LEADER AS POSSIBLE, AND TRAVEL AROUND THE WORLD. I THINK I POSITIVELY IMPACT THE PROGRAM BY ALWAYS GIVING 100% INTO EVERYTHING. WHENEVER I AM TASKED TO HELP WITH SOMETHING, I WILL GO OUT OF MY WAY TO MAKE SURE IT IS COMPLETE ABOVE THE NORMAL STANDARD. MY FAVORITE THING ABOUT EIU ARMY ROTC IS THE FAMILY AND FRIENDS YOU CAN MAKE. THERE ARE MANY PEOPLE IN THIS PROGRAM I WILL FOREVER CALL MY FRIENDS AND/OR FAMILY.





## JASE KIEFER (BATTALION S-3)

I'M FROM FAIRFIELD, ILLINOIS. MY MAJOR IS POLITICAL SCIENCE, AND I GOT SELECTED FOR ACTIVE DUTY AS AN OFFICER WITHIN THE INFANTRY BRANCH. MY GOALS AS AN OFFICER ARE TO POSITIVELY MAKE AN IMPACT ON EVERY SOLDIER THAT I COME IN CONTACT WITH. I BETTER THE PROGRAM BY SHARING MY KNOWLEDGE OF TACTICS, FITNESS, AND MARKSMANSHIP THROUGHOUT PANTHER BATTALION.

## STEPHEN GIBSON (BATTALION S1)

I AM FROM A SMALL TOWN HERE IN ILLINOIS CALLED MARTINSVILLE. DESPITE HAVING MORE CORNFIELDS THAN PEOPLE, THERE WAS NO LACK OF GREAT RELATIONSHIPS, AND IT WILL ALWAYS REMAIN MY HOME. MY CURRENT MAJOR IS CRIMINAL JUSTICE SINCE I WAS ORIGINALLY LEANING TOWARDS THE LAW ENFORCEMENT FIELD. HOWEVER, MY PRIORITIES HAVE SHIFTED SINCE AND SO I WILL LIKELY PURSUE A CAREER ELSEWHERE. MY FAVORITE THING ABOUT ROTC WAS THE RELATIONSHIPS THAT I MADE BETWEEN OTHER CADETS AND CADRE. THE TIME IN THE PROGRAM REALLY HELPED ME TO DEVELOP A SENSE OF CONFIDENCE THAT I HAVE BEEN MISSING IN MY LIFE WHICH WILL HELP ME TO BE A SUCCESSFUL LEADER IN THE FUTURE. I LIKE TO THINK THAT I POSITIVELY IMPACT THE PROGRAM THROUGH ACCOMPLISHING TASKS ASSIGNED TO ME AND BY LEADING THROUGH EXAMPLE. THOUGH I'M NOT VERY OUTGOING, I INSERT MY KNOWLEDGE WHENEVER I CAN SO THAT I MAY ASSIST OTHERS. AS FOR MY FUTURE, MY ONLY GOAL IS TO ASSIST THE ARMY WHERE THEY FEEL THAT I AM BEST SUITED. I'VE ALWAYS BEEN A TEAM PLAYER AND EXPECT NO CHANGE WHILE JOINING ONE OF THE GREATEST TEAMS IN THE WORLD.



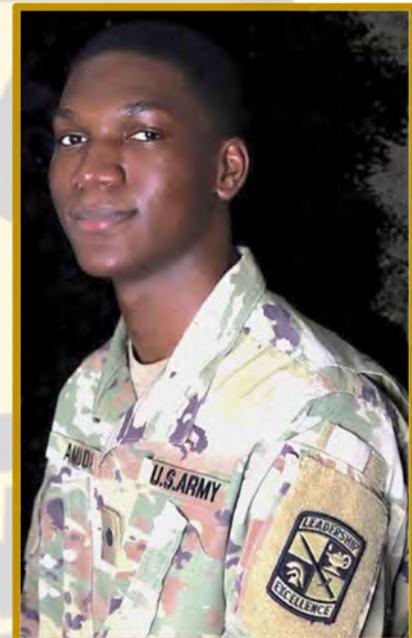


## NORBERTO LUGO RIOS (BATTALION S2)

I'M FROM MANATI, PUERTO RICO. I AM A GREEN TO GOLD CADET PURSUING A MASTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY DEGREE, WITH A MAJOR IN TECH MANAGEMENT; AND A CERTIFICATE IN WORKFORCE PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENT. MY FAVORITE THING ABOUT ROTC HAS BEEN THE INVALUABLE LEADERSHIP PERSPECTIVE THAT I HAVE ACQUIRED WHILE BEING HERE, AND HOW IT CORRELATES TO EVERYTHING I HAVE LEARNED IN THE COURSE OF MY PROFESSIONAL BUSINESS CAREER. I POSITIVELY IMPACT THE PROGRAM BY BRINGING OUT THE BEST IN PEOPLE, AND ALLOWING THEM TO SEE HOW MUCH STRONGER THEY TRULY ARE. THIS, I BELIEVE, IS PARAMOUNT IN AN OFFICER'S DAILY DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES. I ALSO DESIGNED THIS VERY NEWSLETTER! I HOPE YOU'RE ALL ENJOYING IT!

## SODIQ AMUDA (BATTALION S4)

MY NAME IS SODIQ AMUDA. I GREW UP IN NIGERIA AND MOVED TO THE UNITED STATES IN 2014. I GRADUATED HIGH SCHOOL IN CHICAGO AND CURRENTLY RESIDE IN RIVERDALE ILLINOIS. MY MAJOR IS CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT. I JOINED THE EIU ROTC PROGRAM WHEN I WAS A FRESHMAN AND I'VE ALWAYS HAD A DESIRE TO JOIN THE MILITARY, AND DEVELOP INTO THE LEADER, AND PERSON, I HAVE ALWAYS ASPIRED TO BE. MY FAVORITE THING ABOUT THE PROGRAM IS HOW I WAS ABLE TO PUSH BEYOND MY PHYSICAL AND MENTAL LIMITS, GAINED LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE, AND MADE LIFELONG FRIENDS; CREATING MEMORIES ALONG THE WAY. MY GOAL IS TO COMMISSION AS AN ENGINEERING OFFICER IN THE US ARMY. THE ROTC PROGRAM HAS GIVEN ME THE FOUNDATION OF ALL THE NECESSARY SKILLS NEEDED TO BE SUCCESSFUL IN LIFE.





## JACOB BAYNE (BATTALION A-S4)

MY NAME IS JACOB BAYNE, I AM FROM PORT CHARLOTTE FLORIDA. MY BACHELOR'S DEGREE IS IN POLITICAL SCIENCE AND I AM CURRENTLY PURSUING MY MASTER'S IN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION. ROTC IS UNLIKE ANY OTHER COLLEGE EXPERIENCE. I THOROUGHLY ENJOY THE OPPORTUNITY TO LEAD MY PEERS AND SUBORDINATES, WATCHING THEM ALL GROW AND DEVELOP INTO THE LEADERS OF TOMORROW. FITNESS IS A PASSION OF MINE AND I TRY TO PROVIDE ALL OF THOSE AROUND ME WITH ROUTINES PERSONALIZED TO THEIR SPECIFIC NEEDS. AFTER I COMMISSION, I HOPE TO

MAKE AN EVERLASTING IMPACT ON THE LIFE OF MY SOLDIERS; THAT WHEN THEY LOOK BACK TO THEIR TIME WITH ME AS THEIR LEADER, THEY KNOW I DID EVERYTHING I COULD TO ENSURE THEY WERE SUCCESS IN ALL ASPECTS OF LIFE.

## MACKENZIE MASLOWSKI (BATTALION S-5)

HELLO EVERYONE! I AM FROM OLNEY, IL AND MY MAJOR IS IN PSYCHOLOGY, WITH A MINOR IN MILITARY SCIENCE. I HAVE BEEN SELECTED TO BE AN ARMY NATIONAL GUARD MEDICAL SERVICE OFFICER. I JOINED THE ARMY NATIONAL GUARD ON FEBRUARY 29TH, 2016, AND HAVE BEEN SERVING TO THIS PRESENT DAY. MY PLANS ARE TO OBTAIN MY MASTER'S AND PHD IN



PSYCHOLOGY IN ORDER TO BECOME A CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGIST, AS WELL AS RECLASS WITHIN THE GUARD. WHAT I LOVE THE MOST ABOUT ROTC ARE THE LEADERSHIP SKILLS LEARNED AND THE MANY DIFFERENT PERSONALITIES OF PEOPLE IN THE PROGRAM. I LIKE HELPING PEOPLE AROUND ME AND BEING PRESENT. I'M AN APPROACHABLE PERSON AND ENJOY LISTENING TO OTHERS WHILE THINKING OF SOLUTIONS FOR THEM. I INTEND TO ALWAYS IMPROVE MYSELF AND HELP OTHERS ALONG THE WAY.



## ROBERTO GALINDO (BATTALION S6)

WHAT'S GOING ON, EVERYONE? I'M FROM MIAMI, FL. I AM A GREEN TO GOLD CADET, AND I'M PURSUING A MASTER'S DEGREE IN POLITICAL SCIENCE. WHAT I LIKE MOST ABOUT THE PROGRAM ARE THE FRIENDSHIPS I'VE MADE IN THESE PAST FEW YEARS, WHILE LEADING AND PROVIDING GUIDANCE AND PURPOSE TO THE YOUNGER CADETS. MY GOALS AS AN OFFICER ARE TO GO TO AIRBORNE SCHOOL, BE SELECTED FOR COMMAND, AND MENTOR MY SOLDIERS. I HAVE HELPED THE PROGRAM GROW BY PROVIDING EXPOSURE THROUGH INSTAGRAM AND SHOWCASING ALL THE GREAT THINGS WE HAVE BEEN DOING SO FAR.

## SARAH GOMPERS (BATTALION S8)

I AM FROM FAIRVIEW HEIGHTS, ILLINOIS. MY MAJOR IS BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES WITH A CONCENTRATION IN PRE-PHYSICAL THERAPY AND A MINOR IN MILITARY SCIENCES. MY FAVORITE THING ABOUT ROTC IS THE LONG-LASTING FRIENDSHIPS AND CONNECTIONS I HAVE MADE THROUGHOUT THE YEARS. ALSO, BEING IN ROTC MADE ME FEEL LIKE I WAS A PART OF SOMETHING BIGGER THAN MYSELF. THERE ARE ALSO MANY OPPORTUNITIES TO DEVELOP YOURSELF AND OTHERS. I AM MOST PROUD OF THE IMPACT I HAD DEVELOPING AND MENTORING OTHERS WHILE ALSO SETTING A "LEAD BY EXAMPLE" PRESENCE. I SERVED IN THE PANTHER BATTALION AS A SQUAD LEADER, COMPANY COMMANDER, BATTALION XO, AND BATTALION S-9. CADET COMMAND HAS AWARDED ME AS A DISTINGUISHED MILITARY GRADUATE (DMG) AND SELECTED ME FOR THE EDUCATIONAL DELAY PROGRAM. UPON COMPLETING A DOCTOR OF PHYSICAL THERAPY DEGREE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA, I WILL CONTINUE MY SERVICE IN THE MEDICAL SPECIALIST CORPS AS A PHYSICAL THERAPIST.





## PT/LABS

PT, OR PHYSICAL TRAINING FOR SHORT, IS THE BREAD AND BUTTER OF ALL CADETS. IN ORDER TO GET THE MOST OUT OF ROTC AND THE EXPERIENCES THEREIN, THEY MUST BE IN GOOD PHYSICAL SHAPE. SOME OF THE TASKS AND LESSONS REQUIRED TO PROGRESS THROUGH THE PROGRAM REQUIRE THAT CADETS PERFORM TASKS UNDER PHYSICAL DURESS; AND IN ROTC WE ARE CONSTANTLY MAINTAINING PHYSICAL READINESS IN ORDER TO ACCOMPLISH THAT MISSION. LABS ARE SUCH CHECKPOINTS FOR ALL CADETS TO TEST WHAT THEY HAVE LEARNED IN THEIR MILITARY SCIENCE CLASSES, AND PROVE THAT THEY UNDERSTAND THE WHY AND THE HOW OF WHAT IT IS AND HOW IT WORKS. THEY ARE USUALLY LED BY A SENIOR STUDENT WHO HAS ALREADY BEEN TESTED IN A TACTICAL ENVIRONMENT, AND IS CAPABLE OF PASSING IT DOWN IN A MANNER THAT IS CONSISTENT, EFFICIENT, AND FUN.



CADETS FROM VARIOUS CLASSES AFTER A VIGOROUS PT SESSION

THIS IS THE SECRET TO THE PROGRAM'S EFFECTIVENESS IN DEVELOPING TACTICAL LEADERS THAT ARE ABLE TO EXECUTE THEIR ROLE AND SHOWCASE THE PROFESSION OF ARMS AS ONE OF INTEGRITY, AND DEDICATED WORK ETHIC; THAT DEVELOPS ALL INVOLVED AS A TEAM. OVERALL, THE PREMISE OF HYBRID MILITARY/ACADEMIC TRAINING HAS BEEN USED THROUGHOUT HISTORY IN ORDER TO ENSURE THAT TOP QUALITY STUDENTS ARE DEVELOPED INTO THE BRIGHT MEN AND WOMEN OF TOMORROW.



FROM TOP TO BOTTOM, WE SEE CADETS ENGAGING IN DIFFERENT EXERCISES RANGING FROM CARDIOVASCULAR EXERCISES, TO STRENGTH TRAINING.



## FTX (FIELD TRAINING EXERCISE)

ROTC HAS AS AN END GOAL TO PREPARE ALL CADETS FOR THE CHALLENGES THAT WILL UNDOUBTEDLY BEFALL UPON THEM AS A RESULT OF THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES AS ARMY LEADERS AND DECISION-MAKERS. IN THIS RETROSPECT IS WHERE FTXs, OR “FIELD TRAINING EXERCISES” COME INTO PLAY. THROUGH THESE TRIALS, CADETS PUT INTO APPLICATION ALL LEARNED SKILLS THAT ARE ATTAINED THROUGHOUT THE SEMESTER, IN ORDER TO ASSESS WHERE THEY ARE AS SOLDIERS AND TO DETERMINE HOW BEST TO CONTINUE DEVELOPMENT. SENIOR CADETS AND CADRE ARE ON CONSTANT VIGILANCE FOR THEIR SAFETY TO ENSURE THAT NO CADET GOES BEYOND ESTABLISHED SAFE PARAMETERS, WHILST STILL MAINTAINING AN EXCEPTIONAL, AND FUN, TRAINING ENVIRONMENT THAT ENSURES THE FOSTERING OF CAMARADERIE AND POSITIVE EXPERIENCES.



EIU ROTC PLAQUE FOR “BEST-IN-TRAINING EXCELLENCE 2020”, RECEIVED IN COMMEMORATION OF THE EFFORTS PERFORMED BY PARTICIPATING CADETS THROUGHOUT THE OPERATION AGILE LEADER EXERCISE, HELD AT CAMP ATTERBURY, INDIANA FROM AUGUST 2 TO 11, 2021.

FTXs CONSIST MAINLY OF BASIC TASKS SUCH AS LAND NAVIGATION, FIREARMS QUALIFICATIONS, OBSTACLE COURSES, AND EVEN LESSONS IN FIRST AID, ARTILLERY, PATROLLING, TACTICS AND RADIO COMMUNICATION. THESE SKILLS ARE ESSENTIAL TO SURVIVAL IN TACTICAL ENVIRONMENTS, AS WELL AS TO EFFECTIVE LEADERSHIP CAPABILITY FROM OUR DISTINGUISHED CADETS. IT IS A FULFILLING EXPERIENCE FOR MOST AND HELP DRAMATICALLY IN THEIR OVERALL TRANSFORMATION AND IMPROVEMENT.





FTXS ARE VITAL TO THE SUCCESS OF CADETS. THEY EXERT THE CORRECT AMOUNT OF MOTIVATION FOR THEM TO BE ABLE TO ASSESS THEIR IMMEDIATE ENVIRONMENT AND ACHIEVE THEIR DESIRED LEVEL OF SUCCESS THROUGH THEIR OWN EFFORT AND INDEPENDENCE; THROUGH COOPERATION AND TEAMWORK, OUR ORGANIZATION GROWS AS A COHESIVE TEAM THAT CAN SOLVE PROBLEMS AND ACTIVELY THINK OUTSIDE THE BOX.



VARIOUS CADETS ARE EXECUTING BRIEFING AND PLANNING TASKS IN DURING THE ANNUAL OPERATION AGILE LEADER TRAINING EXERCISE HELD IN CAMP ATTERBURY, FROM AUGUST 2 TO 11 OF 2020.



CADETS ENGAGE IN PRELIMINARY MARKSMANSHIP INSTRUCTION. OFTENTIMES, CADETS HAVE NEVER EXPERIENCED THE USAGE OF A WEAPON, WHICH MAKES ADDITIONAL TUTELAGE VALUABLE.



ABOVE: CADET JASE KIEFER GIVES AN EXPLANATION REGARDING LINING UP A TARGET WITH REAR AND FRONT SIGHTS.

LEFT: A CADET IS EVALUATED ON THEIR PROFICIENCY WITH AN M4 ASSAULT RIFLE.



# WEEK 1- WELCOME BACK! (01/14/2021)



Dean's List Award			
Semester GPA 3.80-4.00			
• Joshua Anderson	• Tyler Jones	• Jase Kiefer	
• Michael Barnes	• Jase King	• Cherraine Linker	
• Jacob Bayne	• Benjamin Lugo Rios	• Norberto Nugent	
• Joshua Capleton	• Nataleigh Patterson	• Tess Spangler	
• Kelly Chapman			
• Roberto Galindo			
• Stephen Gibson			
• Ethan Gilbert			

EACH SEMESTER BEGINS WITH A WELCOME BACK! PART OF THIS WELCOME IS RECOGNIZING THE EXCELLENCE THAT OUR PROGRAM BRINGS TO THE TABLE, YEAR AFTER YEAR.

WE HAD OVER 30 CADETS MAKE THE DEAN'S LIST!

PICTURED LEFT: CADETS BEING RECOGNIZED FOR BEING MEMBERS OF THE DEAN'S LIST

**WELCOME BACK PANTHER BATTALION!**

THIS WEEK'S WELCOME BACK LAB INCLUDED MUCH-DESERVED RECOGNITIONS! NOT ONLY DID WE WELCOME BACK MEMBERS OF THE BATTALION, BUT WE ALSO WELCOMED NEW CADETS INTO THE RANKS! THIS MEANT THAT THERE WAS TIME TAKEN TO INTRODUCE THE CADRE, SENIOR CADETS, AND ACTIVITIES AND GROUPS THAT WOULD BE AVAILABLE FOR THE SEMESTER.

WE ALSO SPENT SOME TIME BREAKING THE ICE!

THIS HELPED EACH OF OUR CADETS BECOME MORE COMFORTABLE WITH THE OTHERS IN THE RANKS AND TO NETWORK AMONG EACH OTHER.

UNDERCLASSMAN CADETS ALSO RECEIVED MENTORS! THESE MENTORS HELP TO ENSURE THE SUCCESS OF EACH AND EVERY CADET AND ARE VITAL TO THE SUCCESS AND COMRADERY OF THE PROGRAM!





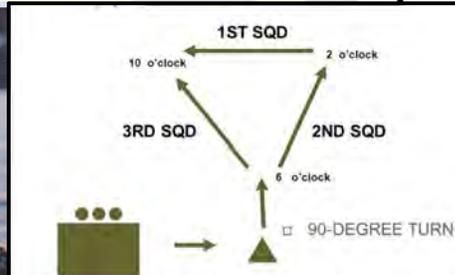
# WEEK 2 - PATROL BASE (01/21/2021)



ABOVE: CADET HOSKINS TEACHES A CLASS ON THE FUNDAMENTALS OF A PATROL BASE.



THIS WEEK'S LAB FOCUSED ON THE PATROL BASE. WE FIRST LEARNED THE FUNDAMENTALS OF SETTING UP A PATROL BASE. LATER AFTER A DEMONSTRATION, CDT'S EMBARKED INTO THE COLD AND HAD A CHANCE TO WITNESS WORKING IN A PATROL BASE FIRST-HAND.





# WEEK 3 - SQUAD ATTACK (01/28/2021)



DURING THIS WEEK'S LAB, CADETS BECAME ACQUAINTED WITH THE SQUAD ATTACK. CADETS WERE ASSIGNED POSITIONS.

LEFT: A REHEARSAL THROUGH THE ROLES THAT EACH OF THEM WOULD PLAY IN BATTLE DRILL 1A. CADET ANDERSON INSTRUCTS FELLOW CADETS ON HOW TO PERFORM A SQUAD ATTACK.

RIGHT: CADETS MARCH TOWARDS THEIR RESPECTIVE ASSEMBLY AREA TO RECEIVE ADDITIONAL BLOCKS OF INSTRUCTION.

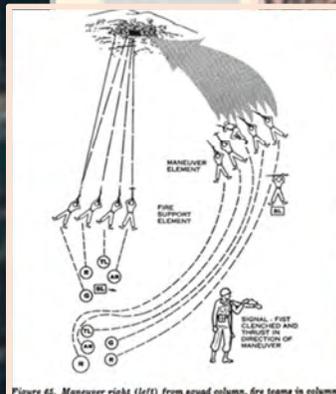


Figure 65. Maneuver right (left) from squad column, fire teams in column.

THIS LAB WAS THE FIRST LAB OF THE SPRING WHERE OUR CADETS WERE OUT IN THE "FIELD". EIU'S INTRAMURAL FIELDS PROVIDED PLENTY OF SPACE IN WHICH TO OPERATE. OVER THE COURSE OF THIS SEMESTER, CDTs WILL BECOME FAMILIARIZED WITH SQUAD AND PLATOON LEVEL OPERATIONS.





# WEEK 4 - SQUAD ASSAULT (02/04/2021)

**STEP 1. PLAN ACTION UPON ENEMY CONTACT.**

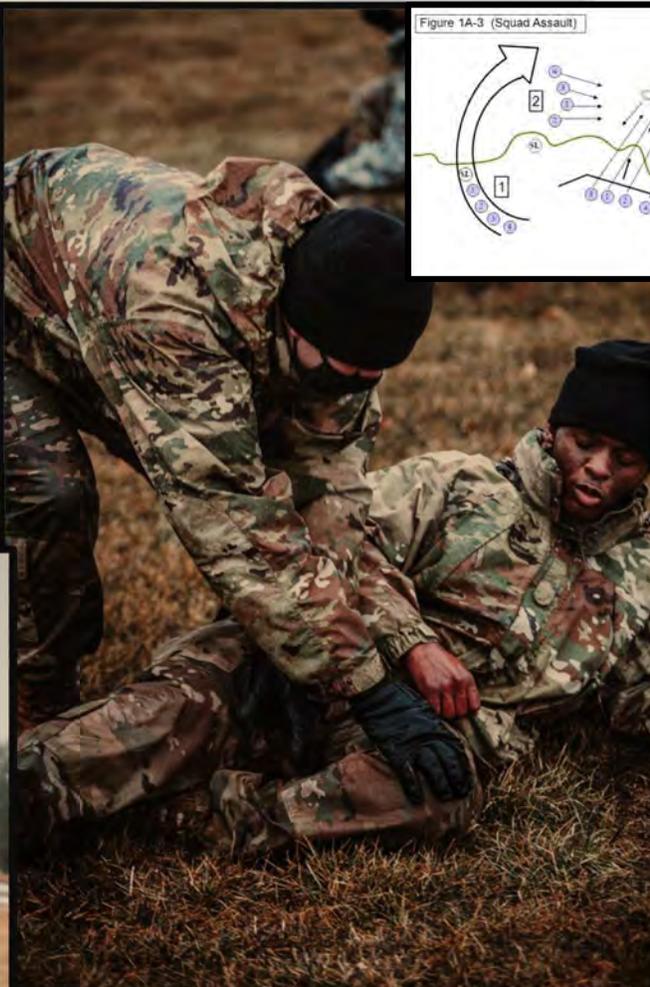
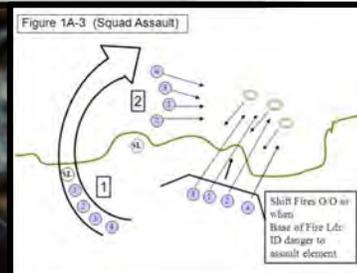
**STEP 2. LOCATE THE ENEMY.**

**STEP 3. SUPPRESS THE ENEMY.**

**STEP 4. FLANK AND ATTACK.**

**STEP 5. CONSOLIDATE AND REORGANIZE.**

**A HASTY OR DELIBERATE ATTACK IS DIFFERENTIATED BY PLANNING**



**ABOVE:**  
A CADET ASSESSES A CASUALTY AFTER TAKING FIRE DURING THE ASSAULT.



**LEFT: CADET GOMPERS AND CADET KING.**

**THIS WEEK THE PANTHER BATTALION CONDUCTED THE PRACTICAL PORTION OF THE SQUAD ASSAULT. IT WAS FRIGID COLD, BUT WE TRAIN RAIN, SNOW, OR SHINE. THIS WAS AN OPPORTUNITY FOR THE MS3S TO LEAD OTHER CADETS IN A FIELD SETTING TO FURTHER PREPARE FOR CAMP.**



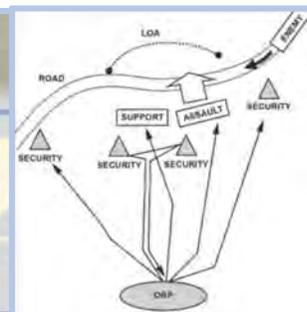
# WEEK 5 - SQUAD AMBUSH (02/11/2021)



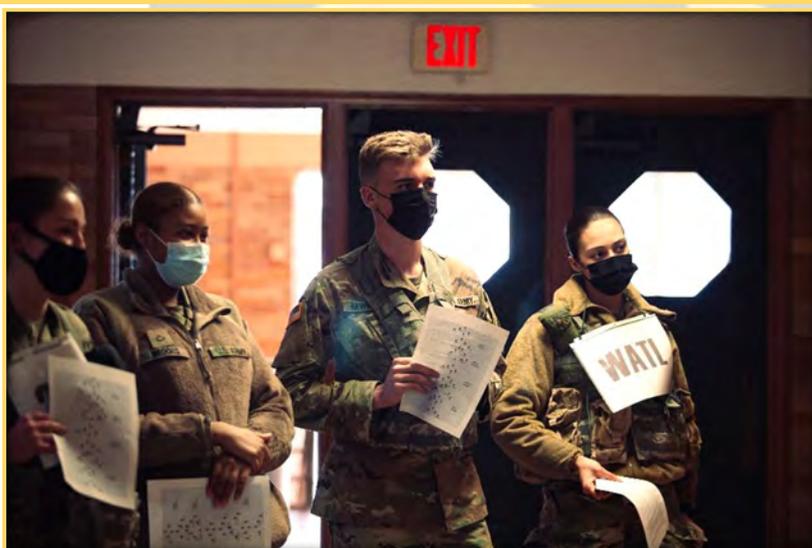
## SQUAD AMBUSH

“A SURPRISE ATTACK ON A MOVING OR HALTED ENEMY FROM A COVERED AND CONCEALED POSITION WITH THE INTENT TO ENGAGE AND DESTROY THE ENEMY FORCE.

LEFT: A CADET MAINTAINS A WATCHFUL EYE. SECURITY HELPS TO FACILITATE THE MISSION. THIS BATTLE DRILL PRACTICE FURTHER AIDS MS3S IN PREPARING FOR CAMP AND AIDS IN THEIR CONFIDENCE.



# WEEK 6 - PLATOON OPERATIONS (02/18/2021)



PLATOON LEADERS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR EFFECTIVELY USING THE PLATOON’S RESOURCES AND FOR EMPLOYING, ORGANIZING, AND DIRECTING THE PLATOON DURING COMBAT OPERATIONS.

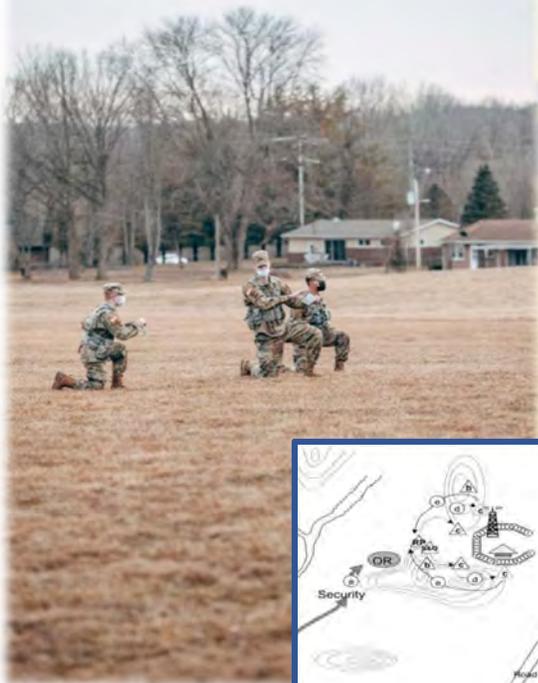
ABOVE: CADETS ARE ASSIGNED ROLES THAT THEY WILL PLAY DURING THE PLATOON OPERATIONS. THIS METHOD AIDS IN ALLOWING JUNIOR CADETS TO SEE THE BIGGER PICTURE AND FOR THE PLATOON LEADER TO GUIDE STEP BY STEP THROUGH THEIR ACTIONS.





# WEEK 7 RECON (02/25/2021)

FOCUSED ON OBTAINING DETAILED INFORMATION ABOUT THE TERRAIN OR ENEMY ACTIVITY WITHIN A PRESCRIBED AREA OR POINT. THIS OFTEN PRECEDES A "RAID" AND IS VITAL TO THE MISSION PLANNING PROCESS.



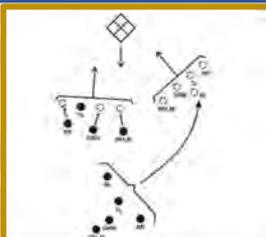
LEFT:  
THE BEGINNINGS OF A RECON. THEY HAVE EYES ON THE OBJECTIVE AND ARE READY TO WRITE DOWN PERTINENT INFORMATION.

RIGHT:  
A SNEAKY ENEMY GOES UNDETECTED.



# WEEK 8 - PLATOON RTC/MTC (03/04/2021)

REACT TO CONTACT/ MOVEMENT TO CONTACT ARE MANEUVERS DESIGNED TO RESIST ENEMY THREAT BY UTILIZING FORMATIONS TO MOVE TOWARDS ENEMY PRESENCE TO EITHER DELIBERATELY ATTACK, OR SIMPLY REACT TO A THREAT.



RIGHT:  
SELECTED CADET LEADERSHIP DELIBERATE ON THE BEST COURSE OF ACTION AND MOVEMENT TYPE. WHEN IT COMES TO THESE TYPES OF OPERATIONS, TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE.



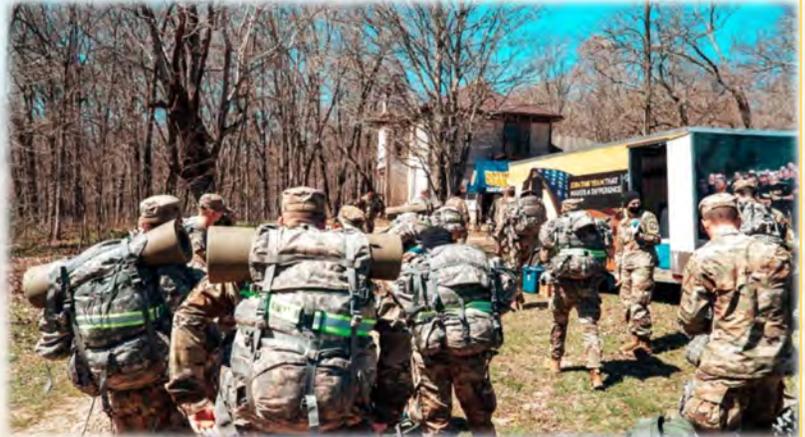




## WEEK 12 - SUPER LAB DAY 1 (04/02/2021)

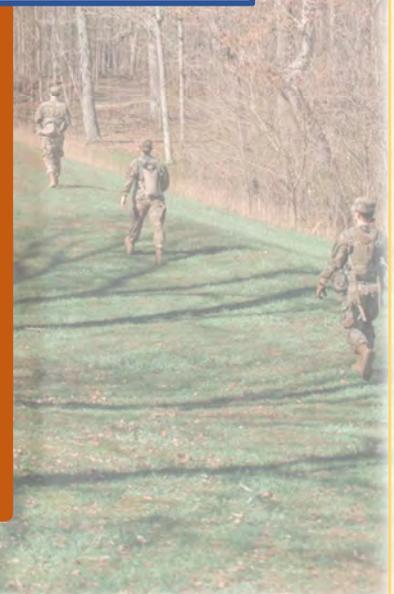
SUPER LAB THIS YEAR WAS A 2-DAY EVENT HELD AT SGT'S FARM, CHARLESTON, ILLINOIS.

THE 1<sup>ST</sup> DAY CONSISTED OF 1S AND 2S GETTING TO PRACTICE MISSIONS AND NIGHT LAND NAVIGATION WITH THE ASSISTANCE FROM CADRE AND MS4s.



(PICTURED BELOW)  
A GROUP OF CADETS GATHERED AROUND A CAMPFIRE ROASTING SMORES!

MORALE WAS HIGH, IN PREPARATION FOR NIGHT LAND NAVIGATION!





## SUPER LAB DAY 2 (04/03/2021)

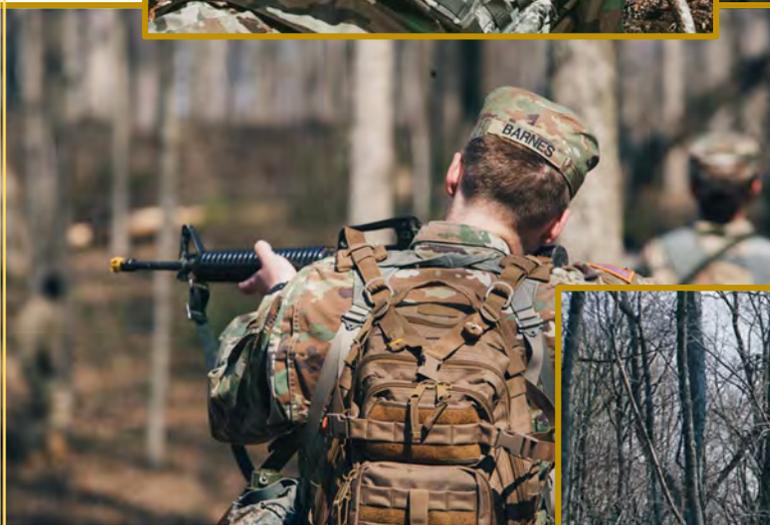


THE 2<sup>ND</sup> DAY BEGAN WITH THE 1S AND 2S CONDUCTING EARLY MORNING NIGHT LAND NAVIGATION!

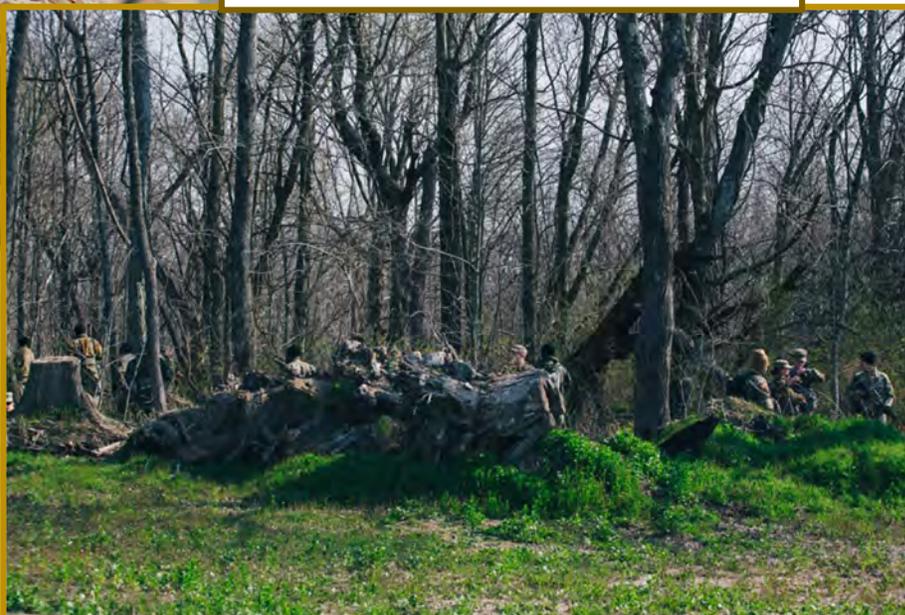
AFTER A SHORT TIME, THE REST OF THE MS3S ARRIVED TO BEGIN LEADING MISSIONS.

BELOW: THE AFTERMATH OF A LINEAR AMBUSH MISSION. THE EPW (ENEMY PRISONER OF WAR) TEAM SEARCHES THE ENEMY FOR INTELLIGENCE THAT WILL AID IN FOLLOW ON MISSIONS. TO THE RIGHT, CADET GRIFFITH PULLS SECURITY.





CADETS WERE INVOLVED IN A VARIETY OF MISSIONS. FROM RECON AND AMBUSH, TO DELIBERATE ATTACK AND RAIDS. ALL CADETS WERE GIVEN SOME TYPE OF LEADERSHIP EXPOSURE IN ORDER TO PREPARE THEM FOR ADDITIONAL FUTURE TRAINING.



EXC

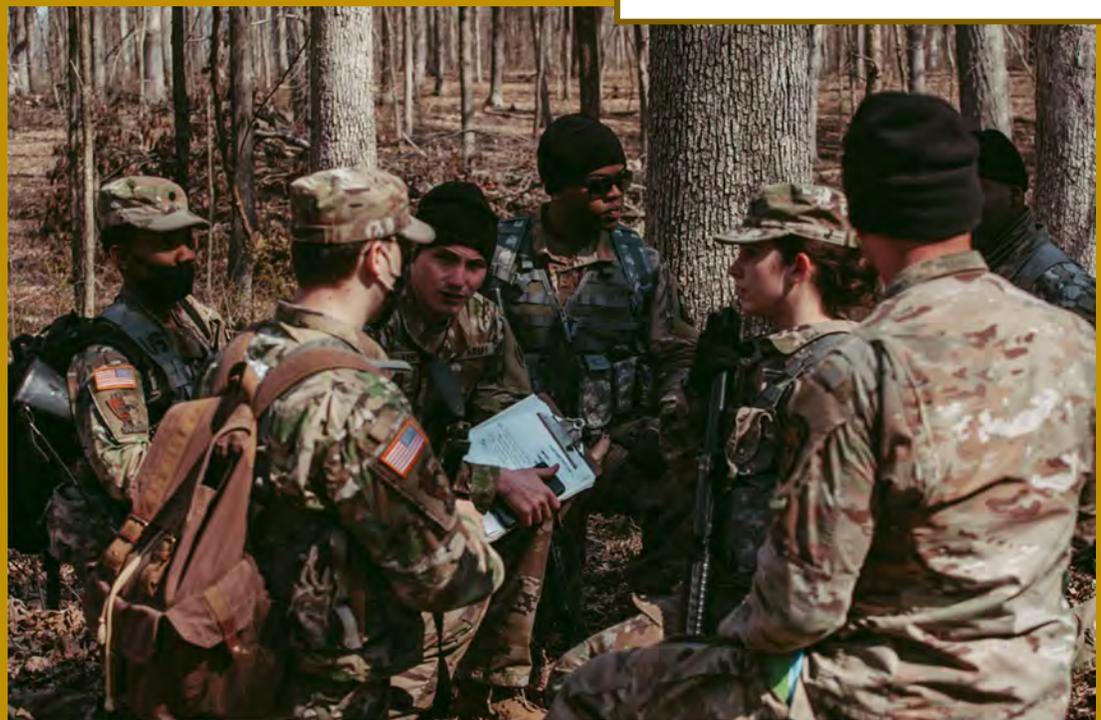


OVERALL, CADETS DISPLAYED ENTHUSIASM AND DISPOSITION TO LEARN AND IMPROVE ACROSS A WIDE VARIETY OF TESTS, ALL WHILE DEMONSTRATING THE HIGHEST LEVEL OF PROFESSIONALISM AND DEDICATION TO THE PROFESSION OF ARMS.



LEFT: ACROSS THE BEAUTIFUL LANDSCAPE THAT IS SGT'S FARM, CADETS CARRY OUT MOVEMENT TO AN AMBUSH. MOVEMENT IS TACTICAL IN NATURE.

BELOW: ASSIGNED CADET LEADERSHIP DISCUSS THE BEST COURSE OF ACTION IN REGARDS TO THE CURRENT MISSION

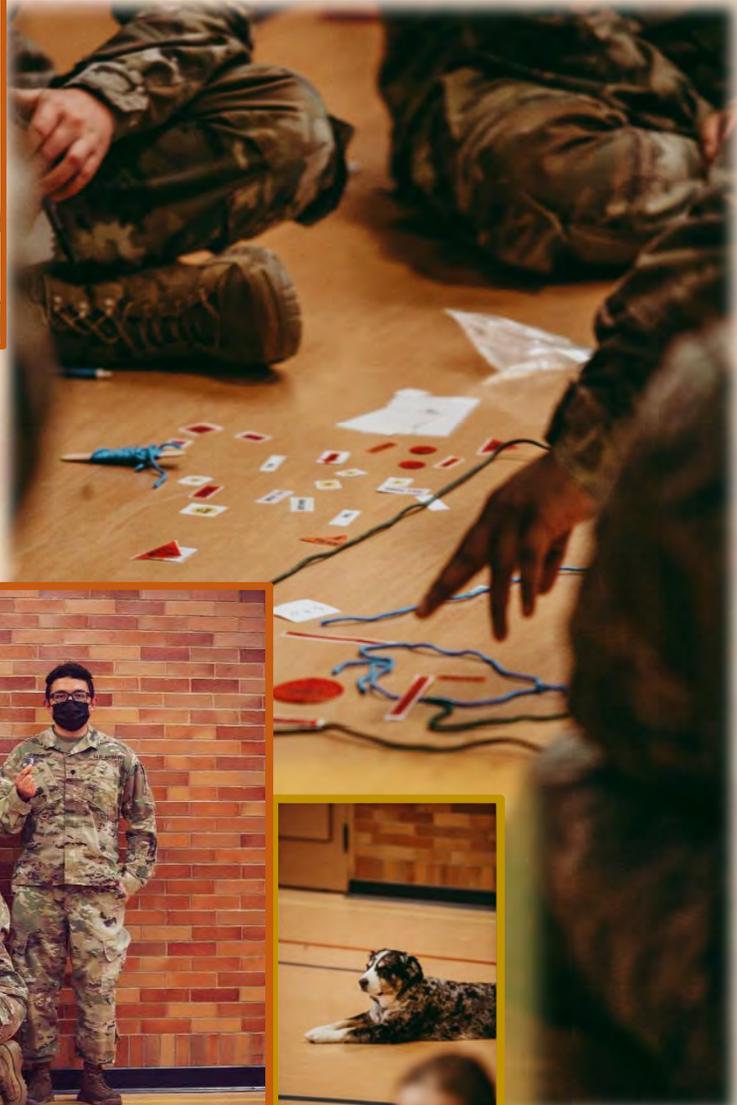




## WEEK 13 – TROOP LEADING PROCEDURES

THE TLPs (TROOP LEADING PROCEDURES) ARE A METHOD OF MANAGING TIME, PEOPLE, AND RESOURCES TO PLAN, INFORM, AND EXECUTE ON A MISSION.

LAB THIS WEEK ALLOWED FOR MS3S TO PRACTICALLY APPLY THE TLPs IN PREPARATION FOR THE SPRING FTX.



BELOW:  
CADETS WITH THE HIGHEST ATTENDANCE TO LEADERSHIP EXCELLENCE CLUB MEETING WERE AWARDED CUSTOM POKER CHIPS!





## WEEK 16 – AWARDS CEREMONY (04/29/2021)

AT THE END OF EVERY SEMESTER, CADETS ARE COMMENDED FOR THEIR OUTSTANDING EFFORTS, ALL THROUGHOUT THE SEMESTER. IN THIS SPECIAL LAB, DISTINGUISHED CADETS IN ASPECTS SUCH AS GPA, ATHLETIC PERFORMANCE, AND EVEN OVERALL IMPROVEMENT WERE NOTED. THIS ONE IN PARTICULAR HIGHLIGHTED THE EFFORTS OF THE 2020-2021 CLASS, IN WHICH 5 CADETS EARNED THE COVETED “DMG”, OR DISTINGUISHED MILITARY GRADUATE; WHOM ARE CADETS OF PRESTIGIOUS TALENT, LEADERSHIP, PHYSICAL FITNESS, AND OVERALL OFFICER CHARACTERISTICS WHOM ARE FIT FOR DUTY AND RESPONSIBILITY WITHIN THE UNITES STATES ARMY.



LIEUTENANT COLONEL ENRIQUE LOY GIVES AN OPENING SPEECH IN WHICH HE COMMEMORATES EFFORTS BY CADETS, ALL THROUGHOUT THE YEAR.

CADETS WERE EXCITED TO FINALLY END THE SEMESTER ON A HIGH NOTE, AND IN THIS RETROSPECT CERTAIN CADETS WERE EVEN AWARDED MONEY BY THE DEPARTMENT OF ILLINOIS AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY, AS WELL AS THE AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY, DISTRICT #19. OUR GUESTS OF HONOR, MS. LINDA OAKLEY AND MR. JIM PHELPS WERE PRESENT TO AWARD OUR DISTINGUISHED CADETS. AMONGST THE AWARDS GIVEN WERE THE BATTALION COMMANDER’S ATHLETIC AWARD; THE AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY, DEPARTMENT OF ILLINOIS, DISTRICT #19 AWARD; THE AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY, DEPARTMENT OF ILLINOIS, MILITARY EXCELLENCE AWARD; AS WELL AS EVEN A SCHOLASTIC EXCELLENCE AWARD.

ORGANIZATIONAL AWARDS GIVEN WERE THE EWINGTON CHAPTER, SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION ILLINOIS SOCIETY AWARD, THE USAA SPIRIT AWARD, THE VETERAN OF FOREIGN WARS AWARD, THE ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES ARMY (AUSA) AWARD, THE NATIONAL DEFENSE TRANSPORTATION AWARD, THE SUPERIOR CADET DECORATION AWARD, THE DISTINGUISHED MILITARY GRADUATE HONOR, AND FINALLY THE GEORGE C. MARSHALL LEADERSHIP AWARD. CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL CADETS AWARDED!

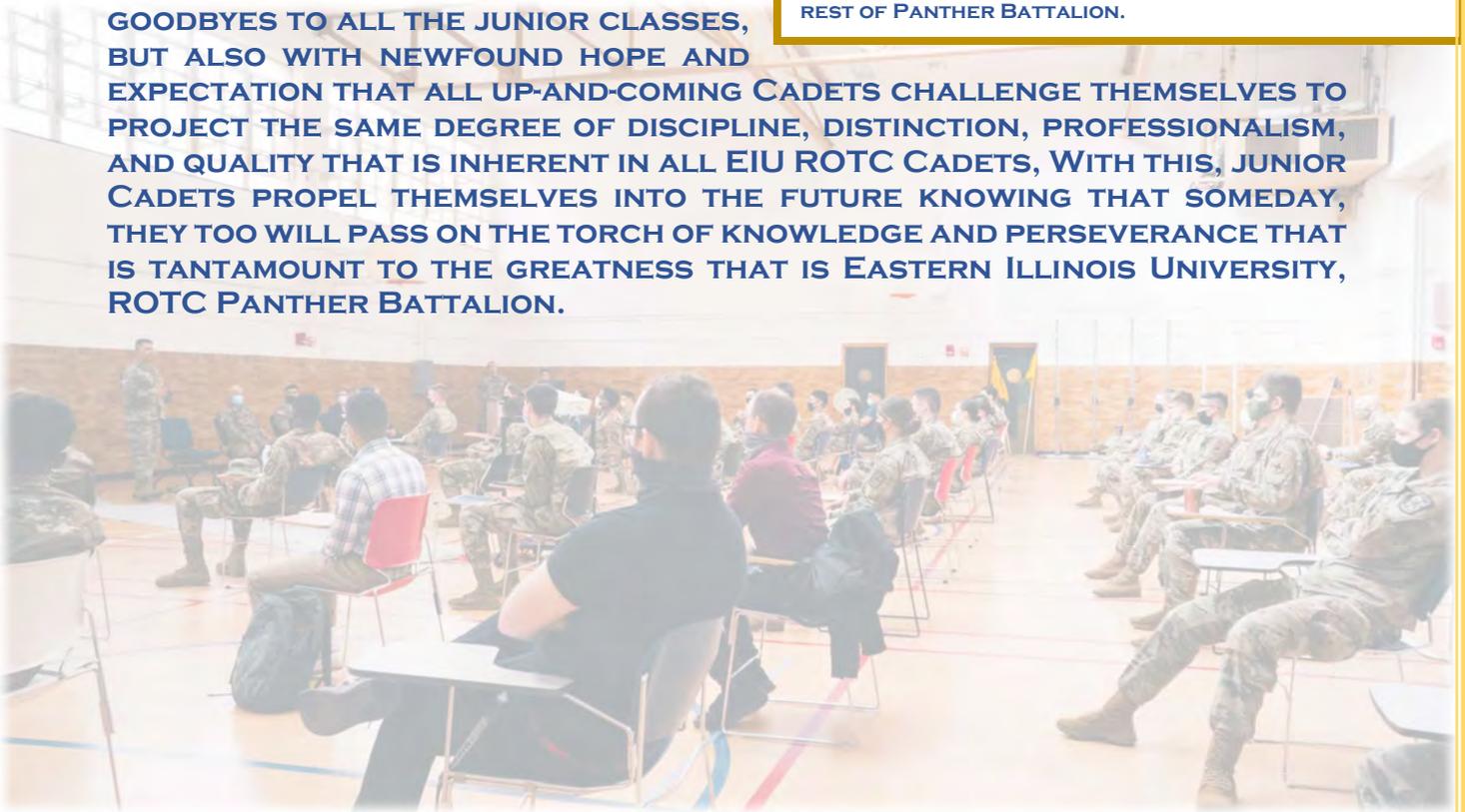




AT THE END OF THE CEREMONY, AND AFTER LTC LOY'S CLOSING REMARKS, IT WAS TIME FOR THE COMMISSIONING MS4'S OF 2021 TO GIVE THEIR FAREWELLS TO THE BATTALION. ALL CADETS ARE IN SOME WAY, SHAPE, OR FORM; INDIRECTLY, OR DIRECTLY, AFFECTED BY THE LEADERSHIP OF OUR SENIOR CADETS. IT WAS NOT WITHOUT REGRET THAT MS4'S SAID THEIR FINAL GOODBYES TO ALL THE JUNIOR CLASSES, BUT ALSO WITH NEWFOUND HOPE AND EXPECTATION THAT ALL UP-AND-COMING CADETS CHALLENGE THEMSELVES TO PROJECT THE SAME DEGREE OF DISCIPLINE, DISTINCTION, PROFESSIONALISM, AND QUALITY THAT IS INHERENT IN ALL EIU ROTC CADETS, WITH THIS, JUNIOR CADETS PROPEL THEMSELVES INTO THE FUTURE KNOWING THAT SOMEDAY, THEY TOO WILL PASS ON THE TORCH OF KNOWLEDGE AND PERSEVERANCE THAT IS TANTAMOUNT TO THE GREATNESS THAT IS EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY, ROTC PANTHER BATTALION.



CLASS OF 2020-2021 GIVES THEIR FINAL FAREWELLS TO THE REST OF PANTHER BATTALION.







## SOCIAL EVENTS

ROTC IS AN ORGANIZATION THAT FOSTERS UNITY AND DIVERSITY, WHILST MAINTAINING A LEVEL OF DISCIPLINE THAT IS DIGNIFIED OF MILITARY SERVICE AND RECOGNITION. WE EXERCISE PRESENCE THROUGH DIFFERENT ACTIVITIES. WHETHER IT IS THROUGH MENTORSHIP/ TUTORING EVENTS, VOLUNTEER COMMUNITY SERVICE, OR THROUGH FULL BLOWN REPRESENTATION OF OUR PROGRAM, AND OUR NATION’S, DISTINGUISHED COLORS VIA COLOR GUARD AT ANY ONE OF OUR UNIVERSITY’S PRESTIGIOUS SPORTS EVENTS; OR EVEN AT SOCIAL EVENTS FROM THE VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS (VFW), AND OTHERS.

WE RECOGNIZE THAT WE ARE NOT AS STRONG AS WE COULD BE WITHOUT THE ENGAGEMENT OF OUR COMMUNITY. IT IS IN THIS REGARD THAT WE EXCEL AS ADVOCATES OF CHARISMATIC INVOLVEMENT AND ENGAGEMENT FROM THOSE IN OUR COMMUNITY, AS WELL AS OUR CADETS. WE HOPE TO SEE YOU SOON IN ONE OF OUR VARIOUS SOCIAL ACTIVITIES!

BELOW: CADET NOAH HILE STANDS AT PARADE REST IN FRONT OF OLD MAIN. HE IS SHOWCASING THE EIU COMPANY FLAG.





OUR CADETS ALWAYS STRIVE TO ENJOY LIFE TO THE FULLEST, EVEN WHEN NOT ACTIVELY TRAINING, AND WE WANT ALL WHO JOIN TO UNDERSTAND THAT THEY ARE A PART OF SOMETHING BIGGER WHEN THEY JOIN OUR TEAM.



ABOVE: CADETS ARE ENGAGED IN SEVERAL TYPE OF ACTIVITIES DURING THE SOCIAL LAB, WHICH IS NORMALLY HELD AT THE END OF EACH SEMESTER.

BELOW: COLOR GUARD AND CANNON CREW PRESENT ARMS AT ONE OF EIU'S FOOTBALL GAMES.





## GIVING BACK...

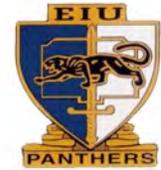
OUR NATION WOULD NOT BE WHERE IT IS TODAY HAD IT NOT BEEN FOR THE SACRIFICES MADE BY THE MILLIONS OF MEN AND WOMEN WHO HAVE MADE THE ULTIMATE SACRIFICE IN THE DEFENSE OF OUR GREAT COUNTRY. IN THIS REGARD, IT IS OUR PRIVILEGE TO BE ABLE TO GIVE BACK IN REMEMBRANCE OF THESE VALIANT HEROES THAT STEPPED UP, AND MADE THE CHOICE TO PRESERVE THAT WHICH MAKES OUR WAY OF LIFE THE WAY IT HAS BECOME TODAY. WE WILL NEVER FORGET THOSE WHO, IN THE NAME OF HONOR, COURAGE, AND BRAVERY, PUT AN END TO TYRANNY AT ITS CORE.



ABOVE: CADETS ARE ENGAGED IN VOLUNTARY SERVICE AT THE VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS ASSOCIATION. RIGHT: CADET MACKENZIE MASLOWSKI AND CADET NORRERTO LUGO PREPARE THE NATIONAL ENSIGN

WE OWE OUR FREEDOM TO THESE INDIVIDUALS, AND HOPE THAT SUCH A LEGACY MAY CONTINUE ON THROUGH OUR NEW GENERATION OF LEADERSHIP THAT ARE BEING BROUGHT UP FROM THE GROUND, UP.





## CADET SPOTLIGHT: MS1 BENJAMIN LINKER

I AM FROM CHARLESTON, ILLINOIS. MY MAJOR IS CRIMINAL JUSTICE/CRIMINOLOGY. MY FAVORITE THING ABOUT ROTC IS THAT EVERYONE WORKS TOGETHER IN A UNIFIED OUTFIT. I'D LIKE TO POSITIVELY IMPACT THE PROGRAM BY DOING THE BEST I CAN AND ENCOURAGING FUTURE NEWCOMERS ARRIVING AT THE PROGRAM. MY GOALS AS A FUTURE ARMY OFFICER ARE TO CONTINUE TO GROW MY LEADERSHIP SKILLS, GAIN MORE EXPERIENCE AND WISDOM, AND

SIMPLY DO A GOOD JOB CORRESPONDING TO THE CURRENT TASK. SHOUTOUT TO FELLOW CADET JOSH HOH FOR GIVING ME A HEADS UP AND INFORMING ME ABOUT THE PROGRAM A FEW YEARS AGO.

MY FAVORITE LAB IS EASILY THE ORIGINAL LAND NAVIGATION LAB BECAUSE I FEEL IT SETS A SOLID FOUNDATION THAT EVERY TYPE OF OPERATION BUILDS OFF OF. WITHOUT THE PROPER SKILLS OF LAND NAVIGATION, SOLDIERS WON'T KNOW HOW TO REACH THEIR AREA OF OPERATION AND ULTIMATELY WON'T BE ABLE TO REACH THE OBJECTIVE POINTS. NOT ONLY DOES THIS APPLY TO THE US ARMY, BUT IT APPLIES TO CIVILIAN LIFE AS WELL. LAND NAVIGATION IS A GREAT SURVIVAL SKILL THAT EVERYONE NEEDS TO LEARN. THE EIU ARMY ROTC PROGRAM DOES A GOOD JOB BY INTRODUCING INDIVIDUALS TO LAND NAVIGATION AND THE NEED TO USE IT, WHICH IS ULTIMATELY WHY THE ORIGINAL LAND NAVIGATION LAB IS MY FAVORITE LAB.





## MILITARY BALL

ON SATURDAY, APRIL 24, THE MILITARY BALL WAS HELD AT THE BALLROOM OF THE BRICKHOUSE BAR AND GRILL. THE MILITARY BALL, OR MIL BALL FOR SHORT, IS A NIGHT IN WHICH CADETS GATHER AND CELEBRATE THEIR TRIUMPHANT SUCCESS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR AT PANTHER BATTALION. THIS YEAR'S MIL BALL WAS NO DIFFERENT, AND IT WAS DEFINITELY A NIGHT TO REMEMBER. FIRST WAS THE RECEPTION, IN WHICH CADETS AND THEIR DATES ARRIVED AT THE EVENT, GREETED EACH OTHER, AND STARTED MOTIONING TOWARDS THE FESTIVITIES THAT WERE AHEAD. AFTER THE RENDERING OF COLORS AND COURTESIES, SINGING OF THE NATIONAL ANTHEM, HONORING OF PRISONERS OF WAR, AND MISSING IN ACTION; AS IT IS TRADITION IN ALL EVENTS OF THIS NATURE, GUESTS PARTOOK IN THE Grog CEREMONY. SUBSEQUENTLY, THE EVENT CAKE WAS CUT, AND THEN EVERYONE PROCEEDED TO ENJOY THEIR FIVE-STAR MEAL OF CHOICE. THERE WAS LAUGHTER, JOY, MUSIC, GOOD FOOD AND EVEN BETTER COMPANY AND CAMARADERIE, AS CADETS FROM ALL MS CLASS LEVELS WERE PRESENT. AFTER CLOSING STATEMENTS, CADETS ENJOYED ONE LAST HURRAH BEFORE THE END OF THE SEMESTER.









# ARMY ROTC PANTHER BATTALION EAST ILLINOIS



# ARMY ROTC PANTHER BATTALION







***EIU, BLEED BLUE!!!***

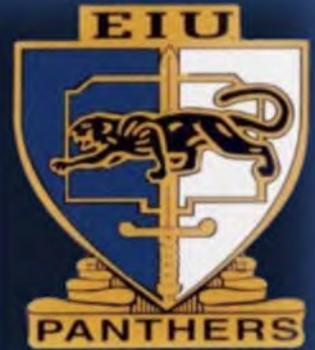


EIU PANTHER BATTALION'S

**SPIRIT WEAR**

**ONLINE STORE**

**(OPENING SOON)**



■ ■ ■ ■ ■  
Heavy Blend Crewneck  
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■ ■ ■ ■ ■  
Ultra Blend 50/50 Long Sleeve  
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■ ■ ■ ■ ■  
Core Performance Long Sleeve  
Shirt

■ ■ ■ ■ ■  
Gildan Heavy Cotton 100%  
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Adult Bio-Washed  
Unstructured Cap

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Unisex Sponge Fleece Jogger  
Sweatpants

■ ■ ■ ■ ■  
Adult Heavy Blend™ 13.3  
oz./lin. yd., 50/50 Hood

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**EIU,  
BLEED BLUE!!!**



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