



Press Release

U.S. Army John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center and School
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Dive Tower Unveiling Ceremony to be held Dec. 7 at the Special Forces Underwater Operations School

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FORT BRAGG, N.C. – Media representatives are invited to attend an unveiling ceremony of the U.S. Army Special Forces Underwater Operations School's Dive Tower in Key West, Fla. at 10 a.m., Dec. 7.

The dive tower has been repainted and now features the Army's combat diver badge on all four sides of the tower. In addition, the Green Beret, which is the iconic symbol of the Army's Special Forces regiment, is painted on two sides, and the roof of the tower is inscribed with "U.S. Army Special Forces," which will be visible to all aircraft flying overhead.

The school was founded in October 1964 by Sgt. Maj. Walter Shumate. Over the years it has evolved from a handful of tents into a state-of-the-art maritime special-operations training facility. The tower and current facilities opened on July 26, 1994, when the dive tower was dedicated as the Sgt. Maj. Walter L. Shumate Free Ascent Diving Tower.

Col. Alan Shumate, the son of Sgt. Maj. Shumate and a graduate of the CDQC, will be the guest speaker at the unveiling ceremony.

The SFUWO School is run by C Company, 2nd Battalion, 1st Special Warfare Training Group (Airborne), and is part of the U.S. Army John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center and School, based out of Fort Bragg. SWCS is the premier training center for Civil Affairs, Psychological Operations and Special Forces.

The SFUWO School's main course is the Combat Diver Qualification Course which is a six-week program designed to train select DOD, interagency, and select foreign military personnel in surface and subsurface waterborne infiltration. The SFUWO School also teaches the Combat Diving Supervisor Course and Diving Medical Technician Course.

Ceremony attendance is closed to the general public; invitation and prior coordination is required for all attendees. Media representatives interested in attending this event are welcome to contact the SWCS Public Affairs Office at (910) 396-9394, or e-mail pao_swcs@soc.mil.