



V CORPS, NATO ALLIES CONDUCT ALLIED SPIRIT EXERCISE

U.S. Army story by Spc. Anthony Sanchez
7th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

POZNAN, Poland— V Corps and NATO allies conducted an exercise using simulation technology across three nations to assess their combined ability to respond to crisis or contingency operations.

The exercise, Allied Spirit 23, was conducted from March 2 through March 9, 2023, and was executed by personnel from the main command post at Fort Knox, Kentucky, V Corps forward command post at Camp Kosciuszko, Poland, and Grafenwoehr Training Area, Germany.

“Allied Spirit was a unique exercise for us,” said Maj. Matthew Hoffman, V Corps Forward chief of operations, “We only had one element that was a U.S. formation, and the rest were our international partners.”

Simulation support was provided by the 7th Army Training Command’s Joint Multinational Simulation Center alongside contributions from Germany, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, and the United Kingdom.

Allied Spirit was designed to test V Corps and their NATO allies’ abilities to employ rapid decision making while maintaining interoperability across a geographically dispersed area, as well as testing operating procedures against a realistic threat during a simulated tactical scenario.

“There are whole lot of human and procedural differences between the different nations,” Hoffman said. “Everything from doctrine and communication could vary, but we were able to successfully work around these problems together and completed a successful exercise.”



Grafenwoehr, GERMANY— U.S. Army Sgt. 1st Class James Clay, an aviation operations specialist assigned to V Corps, works with Poland forces for Allied Spirit at U.S. Army Garrison Bavaria Grafenwoehr on March 6, 2023. This training exercise was specifically designed to train and evaluate V Corps and NATO allies, enabling rapid decision making, validation of operating procedures, and synchronization of the staff across a geographically distributed construct between the U.S. and Europe. (U.S. Army photo by Pfc. Myenn LaMotta)

Hoffman expressed how impressed he was with the performance since it was the first time this team had conducted Allied Spirit.

“There’s a couple good things that come with having a young team,” said Hoffman. “People aren’t coming in with pre-established bad habits and we can mold a cohesive team with our leaders to ensure success.”

Master Sgt. David Singleton, V Corps Forward current operations sergeant major, shared a similar sentiment as well as observed some challenges that popped up along the way.

“This was a big learning curve for the team,” Singleton said. “But also, a great success. Integrating with our allies had

some challenges to it. We all have different lingo and acronyms for things and so that made getting on the same page a little difficult. Which made it rewarding when everything came together, and we cleared that hurdle.”

This is the first of many exercises planned throughout 2023 to provide accurate assessments of the interoperable systems built with several NATO nations as well as V Corps abilities to fight and win in a complex operational environment.

V Corps is working alongside NATO allies and regional security partners to provide command and control for rotational and assigned units in the European theater while building local community relationships.

IN THIS ISSUE:

A MESSAGE FROM V6 AND V7



Lt. Gen. John S. Kolasheski



Command Sgt. Maj. Raymond S. Harris

Victory Team,

And just like that, the second quarter of FY 23 is in the books with even more accomplishments and milestones under our belts.

We welcomed our newest Deputy Commanding General of Support, Maj. Gen. Timothy Thombleson, officially started the PCS process to Poland, and U.S. Army Garrison Poland was activated.

This month we will celebrate the opening of a NATO Long Term Equipment Storage and Maintenance Complex in Powidz, Poland; hosting the European Rocket Artillery Summit in Toruń, Poland, April 17-19, which will be a premier opportunity for our partners and allies to learn from U.S. and international rocket artillery experts, and to interact with some of the most senior military leaders in Europe; and saying goodbye to the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) as they hand over responsibility to the 10th Mountain Division.

Screaming Eagles, your time in Europe was historic. We are so proud of the work you have done and the relationships you built with our partners and allies. We hope that you will have the same sense of pride as you return home to your loved ones for some well-earned down time.

10th Mountain, welcome to the Victory team! We know that you will continue the legacy of the divisions before you and continue to forge the bonds we have with our allies and partner forces.

We have a lot of work ahead of us in the next quarter. Not only will we be seeing a lot of new faces with PCS season, we will also be participating in multiple large-scale exercises, like Defender 23. Defender-Europe is an annual U.S. Army-led, multinational, joint exercise designed to build readiness and interoperability between the U.S., NATO and partner militaries. These exercises will require your focus and dedication to ensure success and to further prove that our commitment to NATO is iron clad. You all play a vital role in our mission here in Europe and we need you to stay ready.

Part of that readiness is ensuring the safety and protection of you and your battles. April is Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month. This year’s theme is “Intervene. We are a Team.” Our team can’t operate effectively if our Soldiers don’t feel safe in their work environment. The Command Sergeant Major and I charge you to eliminate sexual assault and sexual harassment from our ranks. The SHARP program and by-stander intervention are important in our effort to eliminate these harmful behaviors from our ranks. If you see something, say something.

It Will Be Done.
Victory.

RAYMOND S. HARRIS
Command Sergeant Major, U.S. Army
V Corps Command Sergeant Major

JOHN S.KOLASHESKI
Lieutenant General, U.S. Army
Commanding

UNIT IN THE SPOTLIGHT



SOLDIERS RECEIVE NATO MEDAL FROM ESTONIAN MINISTER OF DEFENCE

U.S. Army story by Pvt. Jason Klaer
4th Infantry Division Public Affairs

TAPA ARMY BASE, Estonia – Soldiers assigned to Bravo Battery, 1st Battalion, 14th Field Artillery Regiment, 75th Field Artillery Brigade, supporting the 4th Infantry Division in Europe, were presented NATO medals from the Estonian military and civilian leadership during a ceremony, March 22, on Tapa Army Base, Estonia.

The medals were presented to recognize the Soldiers’ hard work and contributions to international military operations during their rotation to Estonia.

Hanno Pevkur, minister of defence of the Republic of Estonia, delivered a speech saying his gratitude for the United States’ presence in Estonia is reassuring.

“Dear friends, let me thank you all for your service, let me thank your families

that they are understanding of what kind of work you are doing,” Pevkur said. “The least we can do today is present these medals for your excellent contributions.”

Throughout their rotation, the Soldiers from the 1-14 FA trained Estonian allies on the M142 High Mobility Rocket Systems. The battalion also introduced the artillery system to Estonian officials, both military and civilian, while also displaying the M142 HIMARS throughout the country.

The award citation mentioned participation in international military operations through outstanding contributions towards strengthening security along the Eastern flank of NATO.

Gabrielle Cowan, deputy chief of mission at the U.S. Embassy in Estonia, also relayed her gratitude.

“I can’t tell you enough how happy I am to be here for all of you getting an award for all of the training you have been doing

with the Estonian Forces,” Cowan said. “Your work has enhanced inoperability with the other NATO allies that are here in Estonia as well.”

Staff Sgt. John Barnes, a HIMARS section chief assigned to 1-14 FA, was one of 54 Soldiers to receive the medal. Barnes says the recognition demonstrates the purpose of their presence in Estonia.

“To earn this medal really reinforces why we are here and the importance of that,” Barnes said. “It showcases just how important our work is here in Estonia in support of NATO and the mission.”

The 4th Infantry Division’s mission in Europe is to engage in multinational training and exercises across the continent, working alongside NATO allies and regional security partners to provide combat-credible forces to V Corps, America’s forward deployed corps in Europe.



VICTORY TIMES

Commanding GeneralLt. Gen. John Kolasheski
Command Sergeant MajorCSM Raymond Harris
Chief of Staff.....Col. J. Frederick Dente
HHBN Commanding Officer.....Lt. Col. Jordan Bradford
HHBN Command Sergeant Major.....CSM William Staun

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Congratulations



MASTER SGT. JUSTIN BOLIN
2D CAVALRY REGIMENT



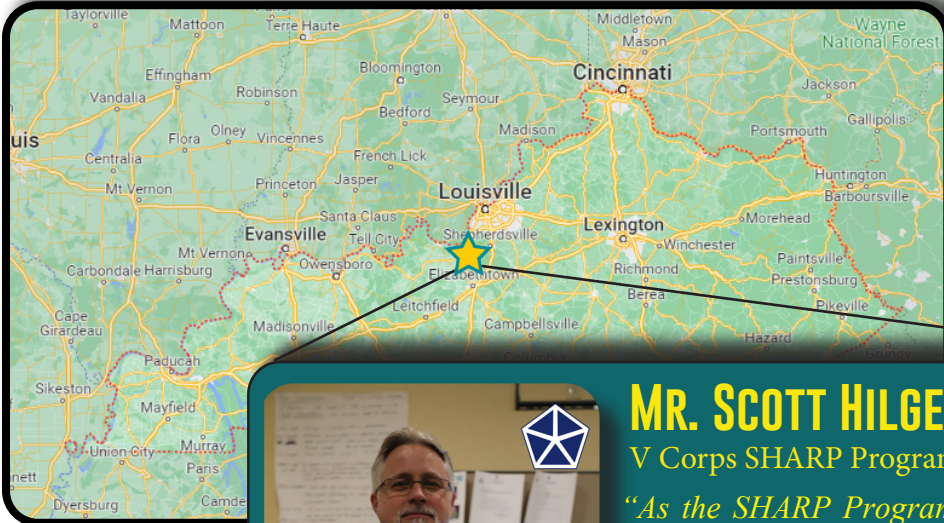
FOR BEING NAMED THE MILITARY TIMES FOUNDATION SOLDIER OF THE YEAR!

For the past 21 years, Service Members of the Year awards have honored one outstanding military member from each branch of service. They are selected based on exemplary military service that goes beyond the call of duty.

Nationwide, April is recognized as Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month. This year the Army’s theme for its campaign is “Intervene. We are a team: There is US in trUst. Can they trust you?” The 2023 SAAPM campaign highlights the importance of building a culture of trust through intervention and preventing unwanted sexual behavior. We should all play an active role in keeping one another safe by creating a culture of trust and stepping up when we witness distressing or inappropriate behavior.

V Corps has a SHARP representative at every location in our area of responsibility. If you have any questions, concerns or you need to make a report these are some of the people that can help.

SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS & PREVENTION MONTH



MR. SCOTT HILGENBERG

V Corps SHARP Program Manager

“As the SHARP Program Manager and Lead Sexual Assault Response Coordinator for V Corps, I serve on LTG Kolasheski’s special staff and serves as the principal authority, strategic advisor, and advocate for the SHARP Program and victims of sexual harassment, sexual assault, and associate retaliatory behaviors. This includes program elements such as the preparation of the command’s SHARP directives, prevention, education, and implementation of the SHARP reporting and compliance requirements.

Additionally, I ensure that victims and complainants have access to well-coordinated and highly responsive services. I am qualified and can perform as a SARC or Victim Advocate for restricted and unrestricted reports of sexual assault and complaints of sexual harassment.”



SGT. 1ST CLASS ASHLEY MCKINLEY

41st Field Artillery Brigade Victim Advocate

“I assist victims in making sound and informed decisions throughout their healing process. I standby my clients and support them throughout the entire process without judgement, just support. I keep my clients informed of the status of their case, if the report was unrestricted.”



SGT. 1ST CLASS ALLAN TRIPPLETT

V Corps Forward HHBN SARC

“I am always providing education to Soldiers at all levels. I provide the Company command team with knowledge to help them make informed decisions. I am a beacon for the SHARP program. As I go about my day, people the see my SHARP brassard and know that I am here to help.”



STAFF SGT. KERISSA NIELSEN

V Corps Forward HHBN Victim Advocate

“I empower the client to take control of their personal situation by providing accurate information about their reporting options so they can make an informed decision. I also support them through the entire process.”



SGT. 1ST CLASS VANCE YOUNG

4th Infantry Division SARC

“I stay ready, able, and willing to continue to serve our Soldiers who need that assistance! I will continue to be Selfless and put our Soldiers’ needs above my own!”



SGT. 1ST CLASS DANIELLE STANSELL

2d Cavalry Regiment SARC

“My responsibilities include being able to maintain continued growth and training of all assigned collateral duty SARC and VAs throughout the organization.”



STAFF SGT. ALSTON PLUMMER

V Corps HHBN SARC

“I provide emotional support, as well as help individuals understand their options and rights. I can connect them with medical, legal, and counseling resources.”

INTERVENE. WE ARE A TEAM.

877-995-5247
SAFEHELPLINE.ORG

MEET YOUR NEW DCG-S

MAJ. GEN. TIMOTHY THOMBLESON

On March 9, V Corps officially welcomed Maj. Gen. Timothy Thombleson, the new deputy commanding general of support, to the Victory Team. Cpl. Javen Owens, V Corps Public Affairs, interviewed him to get to know a little bit more about our new leader.

WHERE ARE YOU FROM AND WHAT WAS YOUR FAVORITE THING TO DO IN YOUR HOMETOWN?

I was born in Washington, Indiana. I currently have a home in Martinsville, Indiana, about 20 miles south of Indianapolis. My wife and I live in a wooded subdivision with wildlife, bird feeders and a small garden. When I can be outdoors I am, otherwise I'm reading or visiting friends and relatives.

WHAT IS YOUR ORIGINAL BRANCH AND WHAT DID YOU LEARN FROM THAT JOB?

I enlisted as an ammunition supply specialist then went to OCS and commissioned as an Infantry officer. There are a lot of leadership lessons to be learned in the Infantry.

WHAT ARE YOU MOST PROUD OF IN YOUR MILITARY CAREER?

The events where I was a member of a very solid team: A JRTC rotation in 2000, an OIF deployment in 2003, the last year

of BN CMD, Division TAC operations in Saudi Arabia, and Warfighter 22.5.

WHAT IS YOUR FONDEST MEMORY BEING IN THE ARMY?

My weekends during the Infantry Officer Basic Course and the friends from that period that I still stay in touch with.

FAVORITE MRE?

Any that have Jalapeno cheese spread!

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE SPORTS TEAM?

Army Football, Indiana University Basketball, and the Indianapolis Colts.

WHAT TYPE OF MUSIC/ WHO DO YOU LISTEN TO WHEN YOU WORK OUT?

80's rock and 90's country

DO YOU HAVE ANY PETS?

A German Shepherd named Scout.



FAVORITE MOVIE AND WHY?

Forrest Gump, because it has a mix of history and storytelling.

WHAT DO YOU LIKE TO DO WHEN THE DUTY DAY IS FINISHED?

I enjoy riding a motorcycle.

If you see Maj. Gen. Thombleson, make sure to give him a warm Victory welcome!

UPCOMING EVENTS

AROUND THE CORPS

- **April Month of the Military Child**
- **April 7-10:** DONSA
- **April 9:** Easter Sunday
- **April 10:** Easter Monday
- **April 16:** Easter (Orthodox)
- **April 18:** Tax Day
- **April 20:** Promotion Board
- **May 3:** Poland's Constitution Day
- **May 4:** Latvia's Independence Restoration Day



FORT KNOX

- **Every Tues. 3 p.m.:** ACFT at Battalion
- **Every Wed. 11:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.:** Mid-Week Bible study at Cavalry Chapel
- **April 4-6:** TENTEX
- **April 5:** Building 2020 MEDPROS Update
- **April 5-13:** Passover Seder
- **April 6:** Annual TARP Training
- **April 11-12:** M2/M240/M249 Ranges
- **April 11:** Scheduled Power Outage
- **April 23:** Easter Sunrise Service at CAV Chapel
- **May 8-12:** M4/M17 Range
- **May 15-19:** Combatives

POZNAN

- **Every Tues. 7:30 p.m.:** Watercolors Class, Bldg. 45, 1st floor, Rec Room or TV Room
- **Every Wed. 7 p.m.:** Bible study at building 45, 1st floor day room
- **Every Tues. & Thurs. 4 p.m.:** Volleyball with the Polish
- **April 10-14:** Quarterly Cyclic Inventory

OPPORTUNITIES TO PCS TO POLAND ARE AVAILABLE!

REACH OUT TO G1 STRENGTH
usarmy.knox.v-corps.list.g1-strength-management-branch@army.mil
 OR ASK YOUR BRANCH MANAGER