



Virgin Islands National Guard

WEAPONS QUALIFICATION PAGE 1

26 MARCH 2012

VING Troops Make Mass Movement to Camp McCain, Mississippi

Members of the Virgin Islands National Guard 104th Troop Command load cargo at the Lieutenant Colonel Lionel A. Jackson Readiness Center for transportation to the Randall “Doc” James Racetrack staging area, during the first stage of weapon qualification, Mar. 24. The more than 500 personnel required nine aircrafts for Troop movement to Camp McCain, Miss.

VING photo by Sgt. Juanita Philip-Mathurin



Sgt. Juanita Philip-Mathurin
51st Public Affairs Detachment

The Virgin Islands National Guard transported more than 500 personnel to attend Individual Weapons Qualification at Camp McCain, Miss. in a mass movement.

VING personnel reported for duty during the pre-dawn hours on of Saturday, March 24 at the Lieutenant Colonel Lionel A. Jackson Readiness Center. There, in a flurry of activity, trucks were loaded with supplies and equipment in record time for transportation to the staging area, the Ran-

dall “Doc” James Racetrack.

An unprecedented dozen military aircrafts were necessary to fulfill the request for this Troop movement.

“Based on the number of personnel and cargo to be moved, aircrafts were assigned to fulfill the request,” said Maj. Clayton Sutton, G-3 training administrator.

It is not often the VING conducts training where the majority of its Soldiers are involved. “In my 18 years, it has not happened; however, there was an event prior to my time in Vieques, Puerto Rico,” said Sutton.

A movement of this type re-

quires more than the average time it usually takes to plan a weapons qualification. “This event required almost a year’s worth of planning. We started the process in May 2011, Sutton stated, after Maj. Gen. Renaldo Rivera, the adjutant general, made the decision that he wanted a consolidated IWQ of all units.”

According to Sutton, this training event provided service members the opportunity to train with other VING personnel they do not usually see. “It gives the Soldiers an opportunity over and beyond the one weekend a month to be a part of sustained operations.”





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WEAPONS QUALIFICATIONS PAGE 2

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VING Troops Getting Ready for the Range

Sgt. Greig Peter of the 652nd Engineer Platoon assists PV2 Janie Prospere also of the 652nd EN Plt. with her dime/washer drill on the Zero Range at Camp McCain, Miss., Mar. 25. The dime/washer exercise allows troops to practice proper breathing patterns and trigger squeeze without actually firing the weapon. Soldiers try to make the dime/washer remain on the barrel after squeezing the trigger of an unloaded weapon.



VING photo by
Sgt. Athneil Thomas



Getting familiar with the .50 Cal



Soldiers blast rounds downrange from an M2 .50 Caliber machine gun during a familiarization exercise at Camp Shelby, Miss., Mar. 25.

VING photo by Sgt. Thomas Tharrington II

FROM THE CHAPLAIN ~

Religious Services will be held daily in Bldg. S209's dining facility daily from 1900—1930.

MOVIE TIME! ~2000—2200 in Bldg. S209

26 March = **DRAMA**
Break Dawn or The Help

27 March = **ACTION**
Warrior or Immortals

28 March = **ANIMATION**
Puss N Boots or Happy Feet 2

29 March = **HORROR**
Don't Be Afraid of the Dark or Paranormal Activities

