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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Only 24 teams to continue the 2015 Best Ranger Competition

FORT BENNING, Georgia – Of the 51 two-man Ranger teams who began the 32nd annual David E. Grange Jr. Best Ranger Competition yesterday, 24 have enough points after last night's unknown distance foot march to continue their quest to be the 2015 Best Rangers. Leading the field of competitors is Team 38 from the Airborne and Ranger Training Brigade.

Sgt. 1st Class Jeremy Lemma and Sgt. 1st Class Timothy Briggs – who won the BRC for the Ranger Training Brigade in 2013, but didn't finish it last year – moved ahead of their closest competitors, Team 10 from the Army National Guard, after Friday's night stakes events. Team 10's Capt. Robert Killian and Capt. Travis Cornwall were leading the pack after what turned out to be a 15-mile foot march. However, after a full day of competing with little time to rest, teams who finished the march were tested on knot-tying techniques, weapons assembly, map reading and land navigation skills and information from the Ranger Handbook; and Team 10 was bumped to second place.

In third place are Staff Sgt. Philip Jewah and Sgt. Thomas Malphrus of the 75th Ranger Regiment's Team 27.

The 24 Ranger teams are competing in Day 2's Ranger Day Stakes events on Todd Field today until approximately 5 p.m. Groups of four teams will rotate together through each of six events every 90 minutes. Events include a Ranger First Responder lane, a grenade assault course, a demolitions lane, a stress shoot event, the Tri-tower Challenge and a mystery event.

The competition runs through Sunday, and is open to the public, as many of the events are spectator friendly. The formal awards ceremony will be held 10 a.m. April 13 in Marshall Auditorium at McGinnis-Wickam Hall.

Photos of the competition can be viewed at <http://tinyurl.com/2015BestRanger>. A schedule of events is available at www.benning.army.mil under the announcements section.

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