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U.S. ARMY MANEUVER CENTER OF EXCELLENCE



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MEDIA RELEASE: Best Ranger Competition to be conducted April 12-14

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FORT BENNING, Ga. – U.S. Army Ranger teams from around the world will gather at Fort Benning for the annual David E. Grange Jr. Best Ranger Competition April 12-14.

The first event is scheduled to start at 6 a.m. April 12. The formal awards ceremony will be held April 15.

The three-day Best Ranger Competition was established in 1982 and has been compared to Ironman and Eco-Challenge competitions. The competition challenges two-man Ranger teams in events that test their physical conditioning, Ranger skills and team strategies. The events are purposely scheduled back-to-back and around the clock for 60 hours, allowing little time for rest and meals.

In the past, competitors have been challenged by events which including weapons firing, extended road marches of near marathon distance, day and night land navigation courses, Rangers skills and parachute jumps. All events are timed and competitors score points for each completed event. Both team members must complete each task.

Event organizers predict that over the course of the competition, each Ranger will cover up to 75 miles with little or no sleep.

All competitors are graduates of the U.S. Army Ranger School at Fort Benning and represent all branches of the Armed Services.

Of the 50 teams at the starting line in 2012 only 34 finished the competition. In the 2011 competition, 50 teams started the competition. Only 31 finished.

The competition was not conducted in 2003 during Operation Iraqi Freedom. The only other time the competition was cancelled was during Operation Desert Storm in 1991.

To view a promo of last year's competition, visit <https://vimeo.com/40154687> .

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