

RANGER

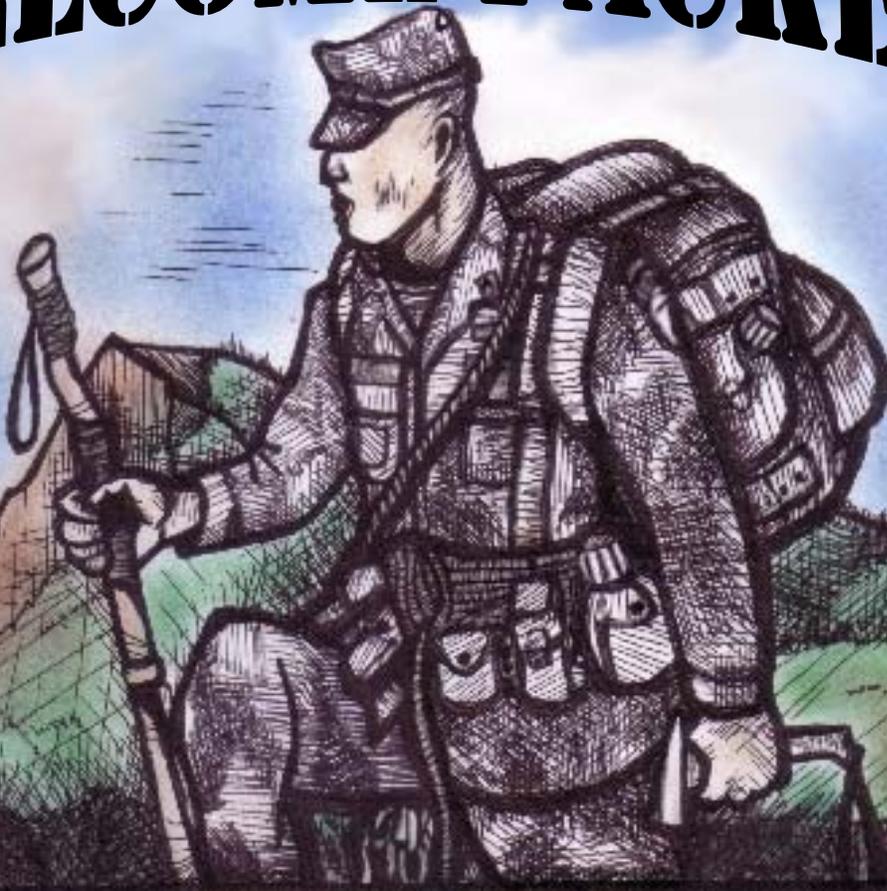
RANGER

5<sup>th</sup>

TRAINING

B<sup>N</sup>

# WELCOME PACKET



5th Ranger Training Battalion

1 Camp Merrill

Dahlonega, GA 30533



Dear 5<sup>th</sup> Ranger Training Battalion Family,

Welcome to Camp Frank D. Merrill. This booklet provides both unit information that will help better prepare your soldier and local information to help ease the transition of your family into the North Georgia area.

We value greatly your spouse's service and commitment to the battalion and our country. We value just as much your support to your family and to our Ranger family.

I extend my heartiest, warmest welcome to you and your family.

"RANGERS LEAD THE WAY"

Sincerely,

CHRISTOPHER STONE  
LTC, IN  
Commanding



## **5<sup>TH</sup> RANGER TRAINING BATTALION'S INFORMATION BOOKLET**

Camp Frank D. Merrill is the home of the 5th Ranger Training Battalion and the mountain phase of the U.S. Army Ranger School, where small unit leaders are instructed in combat techniques and procedures used to move swiftly over all types of terrain including mountains. One-eighth of the Earth's surface is covered by mountains and almost every war which has been fought since the start of recorded history has included some type of mountain operations.

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## **The History of Camp Frank D. Merrill: 5th Ranger Training Battalion**

In order to fully cover the history of the U.S. Army's Mountain Ranger Training, we have to first take a brief look at the roots of Ranger training. On October 12, 1950 the announcement was made in the "Bayonet" that Ranger training would begin at Fort Benning, Ga. The decision for Ranger training came from lessons learned in World War II and Korea. Plans called for one Ranger Company to be an integral part of each Infantry Division. Based on this concept, the Department of the Army would send separate companies with a full complement of officers and NCOs through the new six-week Ranger Course, taught exclusively at Fort Benning. After graduation, the Ranger Companies would then be available to Division Commanders for special missions of the type performed by their predecessors in World War II.

Based on a new emphasis being placed on this enhancement of the infantry, and on remarks of the Army Chief of Staff, General J.L. Collins (the essence of his remarks being why put all your eggs in one basket) in April 1951, and a verbal directive from the Office of the Chief of Army Field Forces, a study was initiated in August 1951 at Fort Benning to propose a new Ranger Course. This new Ranger Course would be offered to all combat units of the army, in order to develop leaders in infantry units throughout the Army. This standard, explained by General Mark W. Clark in a letter dated 16 February 1952, must be established in sufficient numbers so that each infantry unit the size of a platoon will have at least one Ranger qualified Soldier. This individual will then act as a seed around which many other similar seeds in the unit will grow. The ultimate goal of this process is to raise the standard of performance of all our infantry units. Today this still remains one of the goals of Ranger School.

As a result of the board's study at Fort Benning, the Department of the Army on October 3, 1951, directed the establishment of the Ranger Department and Course at Fort Benning with Colonel Henry Learnard as the first Department Director. In this same letter, the Chief of Army Field Forces was directed to establish the scope of the Ranger Course, course length, frequencies, class capabilities, and prerequisites. Because of these requirements, a second board was convened to study terrain requirements with the following characteristics and distance limitations: mountainous, forested, sparsely inhabited, seacoast, swamp, and jungle within a radius of approximately 200 miles of Fort Benning. Fort Benning alone, as a training site, was automatically ruled out due to the numerous other training areas and obvious orientation points around this reservation such as water and jump towers.

A group of officers on the board, familiar with the North Georgia section of the Chattahoochee National Forest first coordinated with the U.S. Forest Service for use of 396,000 acres in 1951. This rugged and sparsely populated area provided the ideal site for training under simulated combat conditions. On January 3, 1952 class #1 started training as scheduled. Eleven days of the training took place in North Georgia and consisted of three patrolling FTXs, and two days of rappelling training near Woody Gap. One hundred and fifty (150) students reported; forty-seven (47) successfully completed the course.

In September 1952 the first cadre parachute jump was conducted. A C-119 "Flying Boxcar" was used and the Drop Zone (DZ) was an open pasture where the new Lumpkin County City

Hall is now located in Dahlonega. From January 1952 until November 1952 students and cadre used the facilities at Pine Valley, a North Georgia College recreation area. This land was leased from the college and was composed almost entirely of temporary quarters and tents. A log cabin used as the orderly room and a barn used as the supply room were the only permanent buildings. On November 5, 1952 the Mountain Training Camp began moving to a new permanent site at Camp Wahsega. This new camp located 12 miles from Dahlonega in the Chattahoochee National Forest, a former Civilian Conservation Corp Camp was now being leased from the state nine months out of the year (excluding June, July, and August) for \$250.00 per month. Facilities available on the 40 acres of land included 16 10-man cabins, a large combined mess and recreation hall, dispensary, two permanent showers, latrine buildings, a large baseball diamond, and a swimming pool. A platoon of the 534th Signal Construction Company emplaced new telephone lines to the camp. Camp Wahsega facilities were used to conduct Mountain Ranger Training until 1958.

The current Mosby Army Airfield was built at this time to enable army aircraft to land closer to Camp Wahsega. During this time, and until the early sixties, instructor duty was considered a hardship assignment. Instructors were assigned duty at the Mountain Ranger Camp for 12 months and then rotated back to Fort Benning to complete their tour of duty.

Between 1959 and 1960, Mountain Ranger Training was moved permanently to the Black Farms area, its present home. This site, approximately one mile from Camp Wahsega, was for many years, used only in the summer months to quarter Ranger cadre and instructors. The first construction project was approved in 1960 for \$100,000. This project included one barracks, one mess hall, a sewage lagoon, and the paving of specified parking areas and access roads. A construction project for \$704,000, which included the construction of five barracks, operations center, infirmary, officers quarters, motor pool and shops, a recreation building, and miscellaneous items such as electrical and communications systems was approved in 1961.

Initially, the students were quartered in tents in the summer and the old Camp Wahsega hutments in the winter. In 1961 construction began on the student hutments which would enable the Black Farms Camp to be used year-round. The hutments were used to quarter the students until 1988 when a consolidated, open bay student barracks was constructed near the Etowah River. The hutments were destroyed; however, a replica was constructed in 1994 and dedicated during Open House Ceremonies on July 30, 1994, the Camp Frank D. Merrill Museum was officially opened and dedicated to the officers and non-commissioned officers of the Mountain Ranger Training Camp from 1952 to present by the Battalion Commander. The building itself is an exact replica of the original hutments that were used as student barracks as a historical monument and museum. In early 1963 a small Post Exchange (PX) was opened. The hours of operation varied depending upon when the manager was walking patrols as an instructor. In 1968, the Commissary was established through the efforts of the Camp's wives. Also, the remaining permanent support troop buildings were built during 1968.

The mountains of North Georgia are remembered by Ranger Instructors and students alike for their steepness, ruggedness, and cold unpredictable winter months. During the winter of 1962-63 nearly half of a 180-man student class became frostbite cases when the temperature in the training area dropped rapidly in one hour.

During the Vietnam Era (1966-71) the Mountain Ranger Camp trained many more students than previously. Ranger School was a stepping stone to actual combat for many of the Army's small unit leaders. On 2 February 1971, the Mountain Ranger Camp was officially designated as Camp Frank D. Merrill in honor of Brigadier General Frank D. Merrill, who commanded the 5307th Composite Unit Provisional, "Merrill's Marauders", during the Burma Operations of World War II.

The completion of Interstate 85 in 1979 and State Highway 400 in 1980 has greatly reduced traveling time to Camp Merrill from Fort Benning. One full day was required for the transporting of student classes in the past, now the trip could be made in 4 hours. In 1982, resurfacing of the nine-mile road connecting Dahlonega with Camp Merrill was completed, with one half of the cost being paid by the Federal Government due to military usage.

The mid 1980's and 1990's brought the several much needed renovations to rapidly aging Camp Merrill. The first being construction of new Student open bay barracks to replace the old dilapidated hutments, a new cadre barracks and senior bachelor enlisted quarters to house the growing number of permanent party cadre assigned to Camp Merrill, and a new gymnasium complete with racquetball courts, and sauna. A one mile running track, composed of cinder footing was also constructed circling Mosby Army Airfield. The track is most likely the only one mile of flat terrain available in the Chattahoochee National Forest.

In 1990 the old Black Farms farm house known as the "Snap link" building, which originally had been used as the Bachelor Officers Quarters (BAQ) and later a "guest house", was destroyed by controlled burning as it had become a major fire hazard. In its place, a fully furnished duplex transient facility was built to house army families while in the process of moving to or from the Camp. In 1991, the PX was relocated to the vicinity of the main gate of Camp Merrill, which enabled both the PX and the Commissary to double their size and provide increased service to their customers. Some 500 military families from Northern Georgia, Southern North Carolina, and Southern Tennessee use these facilities. In 1991 a new dispatch facility was also constructed

In 1996 construction began on a much needed housing in Dahlonega area for Soldiers stationed at Camp Merrill. 40 single family houses were constructed for Soldiers and families. In 1988 a ribbon cutting ceremony was conducted and Porter Village was officially opened. In 2009 Porter village was expanded and 40 additional single family homes were constructed including the swimming pool for Soldiers and families residing there. Camp Merrill now boasts what is arguably the best family housing in the Army.

The new decade also brought additional renovations to Camp Merrill. Old outdoor latrines were converted into laundry mat style facilities to provide students a place to refit and wash clothing. A new waste water treatment plant was also constructed. In 2005 renovations to the Lower Mountaineering Training Area began with the construction of a new latrine facility. Sadly by the year 2007, the old "Rope Shack" had fallen into such a state of disrepair it was deemed the facility could not be renovated. A state of the art mountaineering equipment storage facility equipment was constructed in 2007, and the old "Rope Shack" was demolished. 2008 began

construction on a \$750, 000 Multi Use Tower training facility to replace the dilapidated 30' Ramp. Other Camp Merrill renovations included construction of a new Medical Platoon building, as well as complete renovations to the Troop Medical Clinic, and the Camp Merrill Central issue facility. A new bridge over the Etowah River was also constructed to permit heavy vehicle access to Mosby Army Airfield.

**Camp Frank D. Merrill: The 5<sup>th</sup> Ranger Training Battalion**  
**Mission Overview**

The 5th Ranger Training Battalion mission is to train small unit leaders on mountaineering skills. Further develop their combat leadership and functional skills by requiring them to perform individual and collective tasks in a tactically realistic mountainous environment, under mental and physical conditions, approaching those found in combat.

The Mountain phase, the second of three Ranger training phases, is designed to enhance the Soldiers' ability to plan and execute small unit combat missions in mountainous terrain. This phase covers mountaineering, small unit tactics, patrol infiltration, raids, ambushes, and other skills required for close combat and direct fire missions.

## **Camp Frank D. Merrill: The 5<sup>th</sup> Ranger Training Battalion** **Camp Events**

**Open House:** One of the most visible outreach activities the Rangers have with the Lumpkin County community is the annual Open House. Each year during the spring, class cycle dependant, Camp Frank D. Merrill opens the camp and facilities to the public for a day. Visitors are able to see examples of the mountain phase of Ranger training and numerous displays. A demonstration of patrol insertion utilizing helicopters is a favorite with the crowd, especially the younger visitors. Other crowd pleasing demonstrations include rappelling, climbing, mountain rescue, hand-to-hand combat and free-fall parachute jumping (weather permitting).

**Boy Scouts:** Camp Frank D. Merrill is host to Troop 36 (Chartered by the US Mountain Ranger Association) in Lumpkin County. Troop meetings are held Monday's at 1830 at the Scout Hut (Old Chapel) just inside the gates of Camp Merrill. The Scoutmaster and several of the Leaders are current and former members of the Ranger camp. Camp Merrill also hosts the Northeast Georgia Council's BSA week long Ranger Camp each summer. The Camp is the only one like it of its kind in the country.

**Gold Rush:** Annually, during the October Gold Rush Festival in Dahlonega, Rangers provide a display of Army equipment and weapons used during training at Camp Frank D. Merrill. Weapons include M16A2 rifles, M203 grenade launchers, M60 machine guns, M14 rifles, AT4 and M72A2 LAW anti-tank weapons, M18A1 claymore, Soviet AK-47 rifles and various pyrotechnic signaling devices. Communication equipment, night vision devices, and binoculars are also displayed. Ropes, litters and knot display boards show the special equipment used during the mountain training. Equipment completing the display is the individual gear Rangers carry with them in the field and a mannequin is rigged with all of the equipment for a parachute jump. Two US Army Rangers instructors are on hand to answer questions.

**Mountain Ranger Run:** The Mountain Ranger Run is conducted annually during Open House. This 15-kilometer run is sponsored by the Rangers and attracts several hundred runners each year. The run starts and ends at the Ranger camp and covers rolling and mountainous terrain. Funds raised from the run benefit the American Red Cross.

**Parades and Ceremonies:** Rangers from Camp Frank D. Merrill regularly participates in various parades, demonstrations, and ceremonies in Lumpkin County and the surrounding communities. Hand-to-hand demonstrations; equipment and weapon displays; and the color guard for holidays such as Veterans Day Ceremonies and the Christmas Parade are just a few examples.

**Training facilities:** The camp also hosts and assists the training of other military units, civilian government agencies, and youth groups. Each year numerous military and civilian organizations utilize the camp and surrounding area to conduct training. Facilities include the lower mountaineering area, a 25-meter firing range, and classroom facilities. For more information about our facilities or how to reserve them, contact the camps Operations section.

**Search and Rescue:** During the camps long history, Rangers have assisted in numerous search and rescue operations in the Chattahoochee National Forest. With extensive knowledge of the

surrounding area and unique training, Rangers have the ability to make quick decisions and assist local authorities in search, rescue and MEDEVAC operations. This was the case in February 2000 when civilian motorists and hikers were stranded in mountainous terrain due to a severe winter storm. Rangers quickly and carefully coordinated search and rescue operations to ensure all were evacuated to safety.

## In-processing Procedures

1. The first step to in processing is to report to the Welcome Center, BLDG 2602, Soldier's Plaza, Fort Benning, GA. The Welcome Center will inform you of the correct procedures for in processing.
2. Upon completion of in-processing the Welcome Center, you will be given an additional set of orders further assigning you to Ranger Training Battalion, Camp Frank D. Merrill, Dahlongega, Georgia.
3. Once you have completed the Soldier's Plaza portion of your in-processing report to the Ranger Training Brigade, BLDG 5024, for the next steps of in processing. Point of contact at Ranger Training Brigade is the Personnel Sergeant at (706) 544-6014 or Staff Duty at (706) 544-6980. Before departing Fort Benning, check in with Ms. Joan Herman at Martin Army Community Hospital (544-1430) to enroll in TRICARE for the Dahlongega area.
4. Before traveling to 5<sup>th</sup> Ranger Training Battalion, Soldiers should make use of the three day travel time allotted by taking care of any personal matters and purchasing required items that are available at Benning. These include getting sewing done on the uniforms, buying and sewing on the black and gold unit flash for the beret, buying black Corcoran Jump Boots for the class A uniform, and purchasing PT uniforms. The PT uniform for all personnel is the black "Ranger" sweatshirt/sweat bottom and black "Ranger" T-shirt/short. During the winter time, the Army black skull cap and black gloves are also required. All black uniform tops will have white name tapes with your rank and last name (last name only for SPC and below) sewn above the tab or centered on the chest. The tape will be sewn on the left breast on the windbreaker. These items can be purchased at Military Clothing on post or at Ranger Joe's and Commandos off post. Specific information can be obtained from Brigade S-1 before departing for 5<sup>th</sup> Ranger Training Battalion.
5. After completing Ranger Training Brigade in processing the following items should be on your person when in processing Camp Frank D. Merrill:
  - a. Two copies of orders assigning you to Fort Benning
  - b. Two copies of orders assigning you to 5<sup>th</sup> Ranger Training Battalion
  - c. Two copies of your NCOER/OER, if applicable
  - d. Two copies of your DA Form 2-1/ERB/officers (ORB)
  - e. Education Records, if applicable
  - f. Medical and Dental Records
  - g. Copy of DA Form 348 (Military Driver's License) and DDC Card
6. Upon arriving to 5<sup>th</sup> Ranger Training Battalion report to the Battalion S-1, BLDG 29, for further assignment within the Battalion.
7. Military Housing is available for Soldiers assigned to Camp Merrill. Porter Village is approximately 15 minutes from Camp Merrill and minutes from Downtown Dahlongega. Homes vary from 2 bedrooms to 4 bedrooms, with newly constructed homes and renovations as of 2009. For more information, including floor plans, follow this link

<https://onestop.army.mil/Installations.aspx>. Search for Merrill and click on Military Family Housing under the Housing Links on the left side of the page. In order to set up housing, contact the Villages of Benning office at (706)-685-3939 or check out the website at [www.villagesofbenning.com](http://www.villagesofbenning.com). The Porter Village office can also be called directly at (706)-864-0486 to answer any specific questions. The Fort Benning Housing office at (706)-545-2988 and the 5<sup>th</sup> RTB PAC Office at (706)-864-3327 ext 210 can also answer any questions about on or off post housing.

**Personal Papers:** This is a list of documents that the service member and spouse need to have access to at all times. All administrative paperwork accomplished in the Army requires documentation. This list is not all-inclusive, but it does cover the majority of potential problems.

Birth certificates for all family members	Naturalization papers
Marriage certificates	Divorce decree
Court orders for support/custody of legal dependents	Adoption papers
Death certificate for spouse or children	Deeds/ Mortgage documents
Lease agreements (for VHA certification)	Wills
Power of attorney	Proof of service
Family Social Security numbers records	Medical records / shot
Dental records	Titles to automobiles
Investment paperwork (Bonds, Stocks, Mutual funds, etc.) (DD93/SGLI)	Insurance policies
Extra keys to everything locked	List of credit cards/bills

**Important 5<sup>th</sup> Ranger Training Battalion Phone Numbers**

BN SDNCO----- (706) 864-3367/3327 Ext 0  
 BN S-1/PAC----- Ext 210  
 HOUSING (Misrah Johnson)----- (706) 685-3930  
 TMC #11----- (706) 864-3327/3367/5006, Ext 800/811  
 COMMISSARY (Dale Smith)----- Ext 610  
 PX (Ester Boudier)----- Ext 600  
 TRANSPORTATION (Fort McPherson)----- (404) 464-1012/1013/1014  
 Dahlonaga Family Practice----- (706) 864-4012  
 Chestatee Regional Hospital, Dahlonaga, GA----- (706) 864-6136  
 Health Benefits Advisor, Martin Army Community Hospital  
 Fort Benning, GA----- (706) 544-1347 or (706) 544-3461  
 TRI-CARE Information----- 1-800-444-5445 or (706) 685-1138

## **Medical Services At Camp Frank D. Merrill And Surrounding Area**

**Family Member Health Care:** All family members should be enrolled in Tricare Prime Remote. Tricare South region supports CFM and can be contacted at (800) 444-5445. TRICARE personnel can confirm enrollment, provide lists of PCM's, send documentation to family members, etc. Family members are not eligible for care at TMC #11. All health care and referrals are handled by the individual PCM's. Soldiers or family members can access Tricare enrollment information enroll in Tricare Prime Remote, update information or change PCM at <https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/appj/bwe>. TMC #11 will assist Soldiers with initial Tricare Enrollment for family members upon arrival and will serve as a point of contact for questions or problems related to Tricare or the civilian health care system.

**Active Duty Health Care:** It is mandatory for all active duty personnel assigned to Camp Frank D. Merrill to sign up for TRICARE Prime Remote and to pick a civilian Primary Care Manager (PCM) to provide their health care. Active duty personnel may use TMC#11 for minor sick call concerns or emergent health needs only, their PCM will provide all other health care and referrals.

### **Dental Care**

**Family Member Dental Care:** Family members receive their dental care from one of the local dentists in the area. Family dental care is managed through the United Concordia Dental Program. Information is available at [www.TRICAREdentalprogram.com](http://www.TRICAREdentalprogram.com) or toll-free at 1-888-622-2256.

#### **Active Duty Dental Care:**

1. Active duty personnel will receive their dental care through the Active Duty Dental Program. All service members are automatically enrolled in this upon enrollment in Tricare Prime Remote.
2. Personnel utilizing the Active Duty Dental Program:
  - a. Must call 1-866-984-2337 to receive an authorization code and schedule an appointment.
  - b. Have the dentist complete a DD 2813 and return it to the TMC to have dental status updated.
3. More information on the Active Duty Dental Program can be found at [www.addp-ucci.com](http://www.addp-ucci.com) or at TMC #11

### **Prescriptions Filled At Martin Army Hospital**

1. Personnel (active duty and family members) who are taking long term medications may bring the prescription into TMC #11 for transport to MACH pharmacy to be filled.
2. The drug box will be taken to Fort Benning by the courier on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. The courier leaves Camp Merrill at 0400 so the prescriptions need to be turned into the TMC the day prior and may be picked after 1500 hours.

## **Medical Evacuation**

**Active Duty/Ranger Students:** Whenever possible the PA will recommend the type of evacuation air/ground and the hospital in which to evacuate the patient. If the PA is unavailable the senior medical personnel on Camp will make the recommendation.

**Family Members/Civilians:** Will be transported by civilian EMS; may be transported by military ambulance for emergency endangering life, limb or eyesight with command approval.

## **Medical Facilities in the Dahlonega area**

Chestatee Regional Hospital is a 52 bed general acute care hospital. Opened in 1976 as a county hospital, the mountain top facility is one of seven facilities owned by Nashville based Net Care, four of which are in Georgia. The hospital is served by physicians that provide a full range of diagnostic and therapeutic services including a 24-hour Emergency Room, Intensive Care, The Special Beginnings Birthplace, inpatient and outpatient surgical services, general medical, surgical and pediatric services, and pharmacy. Additional services include: cardiopulmonary, lab, radiology, nutrition, pain management, rehabilitation, community outreach programs and corporate care.

In addition to Chestatee Regional Hospital, there are a number of independent physicians that offer Family Practice, Internal Medicine, Orthopedics, Pediatrics, Chiropractic and other services in the Dahlonega area.

## **When Leaving Your Current Location**

- If your family members are in TRICARE Prime, remain enrolled at your current location while you are enroute to Camp Frank D. Merrill. If you disenroll before you move, it will cause a gap in your TRICARE Prime coverage and you will be responsible for the bills. You can call TRICARE South at (800) 444-5445 and have a transfer form sent to you prior to PCS or pick one up at TMC 11 upon arrival to Camp Merrill.
- If you have an existing medical condition that may need immediate attention in your new region, such as pregnancy or a chronic illness, please contact the TRICARE South representative in advance to expedite PCM selection and records transfer at (800) 444-5445.
- Make sure you have an adequate supply of your prescriptions. Filling prescriptions in advance of your move will help you avoid the need to purchase the prescription and then file a claim for reimbursement while all systems are being updated with your enrollment change.
- Follow the existing guidelines regarding non-emergency care authorizations. (Call your Primary Care Manager (PCM) **at previous station** for authorizations should you need care during your move).

- When obtaining care always present identification with your current Prime contractor's information to the provider. If you already have a TRICARE Prime identification card, present this. If your enrollment is in process, present a copy of your enrollment application. Supplying the provider with this information at the time of service will minimize the likelihood of claim payment delays and confusion.

### **Upon Arrival At Your New Location:**

- It is **mandatory** for all active duty Soldiers to apply for TRICARE Prime Remote. While in-processing all active duty personnel will report to TMC 11 to receive their TRICARE Prime Remote application. Civilian health care providers provide health care for active duty personnel.
- Transfer your family members enrollment as soon as you arrive at Camp Frank D. Merrill (**Don't wait until you need care to turn in your application**).
- While in-processing at Camp Frank D. Merrill, complete an enrollment/transfer application and choose a new Primary Care Manager (PCM). When completing the enrollment or transfer form, make sure you note on the application that you are using the "**transfer**" option (if you were enrolled in Prime elsewhere).
- Your enrollment transfer will be coordinated by the new contractor with the former contractor and is effective the day the new contractor receives your completed enrollment application. However, it may take up to 5-7 days for your PCM selection to be validated, your new Prime identification card to be issued, and your records to be updated in all systems. Your new enrollment may not begin until the first of the following month. (**Keep a copy of the enrollment form you have completed in case you need care – this form serves as your temporary identification as a Prime member**).
- If you have submitted your new application, but have not yet received your TRICARE identification card confirming your PCM selection, we suggest that you verify receipt of your application and determine your PCM assignment before obtaining non-emergency health care. This will help reduce the risk of incurring higher Point-of-Service costs for seeking care outside the established TRICARE Prime network; you may do this by calling the Beneficiary Service Representative line, 800-444-5445.

### **Legal Assistance At Camp Frank D. Merrill**

Legal assistance is provided bi-annually at Camp Frank D. Merrill by personnel from Fort Benning. Any immediate legal assistance required can be obtained at Fort Benning. The actions covered are wills, power of attorney, property claims, etc. Legal Assistance can be reached at (706) 545-4611.

## **General Facts of Lumpkin County**

Lumpkin County, the 85th formed in Georgia, was created in 1832 from parts of Cherokee, Habersham and Hall counties following its acquisition from the Cherokee Indians by a treaty, calling for the removal of all Indians from North Georgia.

Lumpkin County is 285 square miles in area and is the 106th in size in Georgia. Approximately one third of the county is located in the Chattahoochee National Forest. The Dahlonega city limits were originally set up to be one-mile radius from the center of town however annexation has increased the area somewhat.

Dahlonega averages 1,450 feet above sea level, the highest point being 1720 and the lowest about 1180 feet elevation, and the county ranges from 4400 feet at the Appalachian summits to 1070 feet elevation on the shore of Lake Sidney Lanier.

The population of Lumpkin County has grown from 14,473 in 1990 to approximately 20,000 today (some say 24,000).

### **Climate**

The average annual temperature is a high of 69° F. and a low of 57° F. The record high of 103°F was reached on July 29, 1952 and the record low of -11°F was reached on February 13, 1899. The warmest month is July averaging 75.5 °F, and the coldest is January averaging 39.2°F. The average number of days reaching above 90°F is 24, and the average number of days reaching below 32°F is 77. All in all it's a very moderate climate with 4 distinct seasons. The average rainfall is 64.29 inches, with the wettest month being March with an average rainfall of 7.87 inches and the driest being October with an average of 3.48 inches. Record daily rainfall was 6.28 inches on March 30, 1977.

### **Recreation**

Dahlonega offers a variety of recreational activities including organized programs, parks, nature and hiking trails and camping areas. The county maintains a boat ramp on Lake Lanier which provides public access to the many boating activities available.

The Lumpkin County Park and Recreation Department offers sports programs in Tee-ball, softball, football, baseball, cheerleading and soccer. In addition a number of sports camps are sponsored by the Park and Recreation Dept. including basketball, football, tennis, swimming, soccer, cheerleading and golf.

The Community Recreation Building includes numerous meeting and activities room, a kitchen and a gymnasium which provides a central location for numerous county and community sponsored sports and activities. Work is underway on an extensive program to expand the recreational facilities to include new ball fields.

The City maintains a playground for kids and a walking track. A program is underway to provide expanded parks and green space to enhance the quality of life in Dahlonega. Many other

outdoor activities are described on the Things to Do and See web page which includes hiking, camping, horseback riding, and mountain biking in the National Forest.

## **Media**

**Newspaper:** The Dahlonega Nugget is published weekly by Community Newspapers, Inc., Athens, GA. The paper covers local news and sports, (706) 864-3613.

**The Gainesville Times** is published daily; it offers information on the city of Gainesville and surrounding counties.

## **Radio Stations**

**WDGR-1210 AM** - Featuring country and gospel music, live broadcasts of local sports, local information of interest, and local, state and national news and weather.

**WKHC- 104.3 FM** Featuring news, sports, classic country music and weather, with tracking of local and state hazardous weather conditions. <http://www.gold104.com>

**WNGU FM 89.5** - This North Georgia College & State University station is a member of the Peach State Public Radio family broadcasting 24 hours a day with interrupt programming of statewide hazardous weather warnings. <http://www.gpb.org/pspr/>

## **Annual Events**

May: Annual Wildflower Festival of the Arts

June: The Dahlonega Bluegrass Festival

July 4: Annual 4th of July Family Celebration

October -Third Weekend: Gold Rush Days

December - First Weekend: Old Fashioned Christmas Celebration

## **Religious Services In The Dahlonega Area**

The Dahlonega area offers a multitude of religious affiliations to accommodate the needs of the community. The following are some of the denominations presently in the Dahlonega area:

Baptist	Catholic	Church of God	Church of Christ
Episcopal	Jehovah's Witnesses	Presbyterian	United Methodists
Unitarian	United Pentecostal	Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints	

To obtain more information on place and time of church services, a weekly list is published in the Dahlonega Nugget every Wednesday.

## **Education**

**Lumpkin County Schools**: The Lumpkin County School System, with its five schools and nearly 4,000 students, is located in the foothills of the Appalachian Mountains in North Georgia. Dahlonega, the county seat, is the site of the first Gold Rush in 1828. Although the Gold Rush has ended, the school system in Lumpkin County continues to mine the gold found in all its students.

**Blackburn Elementary**: 706-864-8180

**Long Branch Elementary School**: 706-864-5361

**Lumpkin County Elementary School**: 706-864-3254

**Lumpkin County Middle School**: 706-864-6189

**Lumpkin County High School**: 706-864-6186

## **North Georgia College & State University**

North Georgia College & State University is located in Dahlonega and has an enrollment of about 2750 undergraduate students and 430 graduate students. NGCSU is an arts and sciences university that offers Masters Programs in Education, Physical Therapy, and Public Administration. Plans are underway to add programs in Masters of Nursing and Masters of Business Administration. NGCSU is recognized as an outstanding school both for its academics and military programs. NGCSU students have the highest college admission scores and the highest graduation rate of all regional state universities in the University System of Georgia. NGCSU is one of only four universities and colleges in the United States classified as a military college by the U.S. Department of the Army and were selected as the best in the nation of all college military programs in 1995. About 450 cadets are in the program, which is open to both men and women. For complete information about the university visit the North Georgia College & State University page. [www.ngc.peachnet.edu](http://www.ngc.peachnet.edu)

## **Facilities Available To The Family Members On Camp Merrill**

### **PX & Class VI Store:**

Bldg 11

Tuesday-Friday--0930-1600; Saturday--1000-1500

Ester Boudier, ext 600

If there is a specific item that the PX or CLASS IV doesn't stock, ask the staff and they can order it on and in most cases have it within a week. Stamps are sold here.

### **Commissary:**

Bldg 25

Tuesday-Saturday--1000-1700

Dale Smith, ext 610

If there is a specific item that the Commissary doesn't stock, provide the staff with the item's UPS number and they can order it on Fridays and in most cases have it on the following Tuesday.

### **Dining Facility:**

Bldg 40

Monday thru Sunday, Breakfast--0630-0830, Lunch--1200-1300, and Dinner--1600-1700

Nick Davis, ext 620

The facility is open to Soldiers and their family members. The cost for breakfast is \$2.30 and lunch/dinner is \$4.25.

### **Overhang Club:**

Bldg 47

Monday-Sunday 1100-1300, 1630-2400 and on Fridays and Saturdays 1630-0200

SFC Zeidler, ext 130

The Overhang club is open to all Soldiers of all ranks and their family members. The club services beer, sodas and snacks.

### **Mailroom:**

Bldg 16

Monday-Friday 0830-1630, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of each training cycle 1100-1330

Kenneth Perry, ext 214

The mailroom is available to all Camp Frank D. Merrill personnel. It offers a mail drop box and Post Office Boxes for individual use. The boxes may be convenient for incoming personnel to have mail forwarded too, while trying to get established on camp or off camp. Stamps are available at the PX. Mail is delivered Monday – Friday.

### **Gymnasium:**

Bldg 42

Staff Duty NCO, ext 0

The Gym on the camp is open at all hours. During the duty day the Gym is open, and after duty hours the keys must be obtained from the Staff Duty Non-Commissioned Officer at the Headquarters building. Identification card is required for usage of the facilities.

**Racquetball Court:** The Racquetball court is inside of the Gym. The same conditions apply for usage. The court is first come first serve.

**Weight Room:**

Bldg 44

Monday thru Sunday 0600-2100

Staff Duty NCO, ext 0

The camp weight room has free weights and universal equipment, cardio machines and a climbing wall. The cardio room has ellipticals, tread mills, stair climbers, and rowing machines. The weight room is open to Soldiers and their dependents.

**Other Supporting Areas:** 1 MILE TRACK (on Airfield) and NORTH GEORGIA COLLEGE AND STATE UNIVERSITY: 25 Yard swimming pool, 400 meter track.

**Frequently Used Phone Numbers In The Dahlonega Area And Fort Benning Area**

**Dahlonega Area**

Amicalola Electric Membership Corp-----	1-800-992-6471
Georgia Power Company-----	706-864-3614
Georgia Natural Gas Company-----	1-800-282-7411
North Georgia Propane-----	706-864-2737
Windstream-----	706-867-3333
Dahlonega Nugget Newspaper-----	706-864-3613
Lumpkin County Sheriff's Office-----	706-864-0414/0412

**Fort Benning**

Information-----	706-545-2011
Soldiers Plaza information-----	706-545-7510
Army Community Services-----	706-545-6969
Army Emergency Relief-----	706-545-2536
Army Family Team Building-----	706-545-5377
Civilian Pay-----	706-545-1550
Bernheim Dental Clinic-----	706-545-2901
Love Dental Clinic-----	706-545-2052
Destin Beach Recreation Center-----	1-800-642-0466
Exceptional Family Member Program-----	706-545-6969
Household Goods Appointments-----	706-545-3156
Household Goods Inbound-----	706-545-2254
Household Goods Outbound-----	706-545-2256
<b>**Fort McPherson</b> handles transportation for 5 <sup>th</sup> RTB-----	404-464-3113
Fort Benning-ID Card Section-----	706-545-4068
Fort McPherson-ID Card Section-----	404-464-2240/4854
ITT Office-----	770-919-1700
Military Pay (In/Out Processing) -----	706-545-4919
Martin Army Hospital Information-----	706-544-2041/20/544-1430
Enlisted Records-----	706-545-5462
Officer Records-----	706-545-3818
Red Cross During Duty Hours-----	706-545-5194
Red Cross After Duty Hours-----	706-544-2041
Tri-Care-----	1-800-444-5445
Lumpkin County Tag Office-----	706-864-2666
<a href="http://motor.etax.dor.ga.gov/motor/registration/">http://motor.etax.dor.ga.gov/motor/registration/</a>	
Georgia Drivers License-----	678-413-8400
<a href="http://www.dds.ga.gov/">http://www.dds.ga.gov/</a>	

## **Military Sites Accessible From Camp Merrill**

**Athens Naval Supply Corps School**—706-354-1500. Located near University of Georgia at Athens. Has temporary lodging available along with RV and camping facilities. This post also has a commissary, exchange, and PX.

**Atlanta Naval Air Station**—770-919-6392. Conveniently located on Dobbins Air Base. This small installation offers camping, exchange services and also a SATO office.

**Destin Army Infantry Center Recreation Area, FL**—800-642-0466. The MWR office at Fort Benning operates this site. This vacation spot has all water sports available to include deep-sea fishing, SCUBA diving and sailing. Located between Fort Walton Beach and Panama City Florida.

**Dobbins Air Reserve Base**—770-919-5000. This Air Base is located in Marietta, Ga., just off the I-285 and I-75 interchange. This base is equipped with a PX, temporary lodging and camping facilities and a SATO office.

**Fort Gillem**—404-362-7311. Located South of Atlanta near the airport. This post has a commissary, exchange and a Class VI store. It also has temporary lodging and camping available.

**Fort McPherson**—404-464-3113. Located North of the airport in the South part of Atlanta. This post has a commissary, exchange, and a Class VI store. It also has temporary lodging and camping available.

**Lake Allatoona Army Recreation Center**—404-464-3113. Conveniently located Northwest of Atlanta along I-75 near Cartersville. This recreation area offers boating, fishing, camping along with temporary lodging.

## **TO RECEIVE A FREE COPY OF "GEORGIA ON MY MIND" TRAVEL GUIDE .....1-800-VISIT-GA (847-4842)**

**For more information about the Dahlonega area...call or write the Dahlonega/Lumpkin County Chamber of Commerce, 13 South Park Street, Dahlonega, GA 30533 / Phone 706-864-3513, 800-231-5543,**

**Fax 706-864-7917 or send email: [dahlonega@alltel.net](mailto:dahlonega@alltel.net)**

### **Other information that might be of interest in your transition:**

<http://www.gainesvilletimes.com/index.shtml>

<http://www.thedahloneganugget.com/news/>

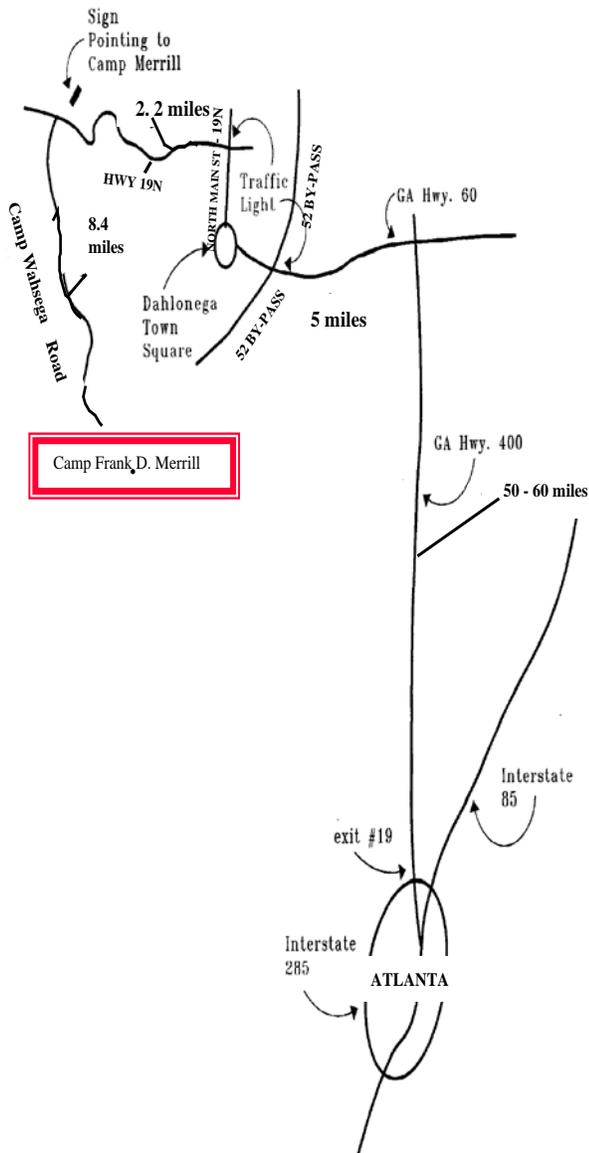
# CAMP FRANK D. MERRILL



# PORTER VILLAGE



# Directions



## From Atlanta

- Take GA Hwy 400 North (Dahlonga). You will go approximately 50 miles and pass through four traffic lights and the city of Dawsonville.
- Ten miles past Dawsonville, you will come to the four way intersection of GA Hwy 400 and GA Hwy 60. Follow the sign to North Georgia College and State University and take a left onto GA Hwy 60.
- Fives miles into GA Hwy 60, you will come into Dahlonga. Go past the intersection of 52 By-Pass and GA Hwy 60 and you will pass the college to the left and come into the town square.
- Take a right at the town square onto North Main ST.
- At the first traffic light take a left onto Hwy 19N.
- Approximately 2.2 miles on Hwy 19N, you will see a small brown sign on the right that says Camp Frank D. Merrill with an arrow pointing left.
- Take a left onto Camp Wahsega Road and follow all the way (8.4 miles) into camp.
- Report to the Bn Headquarters, which is the third building on the left past the PX and BEQs. Sound off with a loud and thunderous “*RANGERS LEAD THE WAY!*” because... you... are... there...

**5th Ranger Training Battalion**  
**Camp Frank D. Merrill**  
Camp Wahsega Road  
Dahlonga, Georgia 30533  
(706) 864-5969  
(706) 864-3327  
DSN 797-5770 / 835-2415

## RANGER PATROL CAP



**A-** RANGER TAB WILL BE SEWN IMMEDIATELY BELOW THE TOP SEAM OF THE PATROL CAP AND CENTERED.

**B-** RANK WILL SEWN BELOW THE RANGER TAB AND CENTERED.

# AIRBORNE PATROL CAP



**A-** AIRBORNE TAB WILL BE SEWN IMMEDIATELY BELOW THE TOP SEAM OF THE PATROL CAP AND CENTERED.

**B-** RANK WILL BE SEWN BELOW THE AIRBORNE TAB AND CENTERED.

## RANGER EYES AND NAME TAPE



**A-** RANGER EYES WILL BE 1/2" X 1" IN SIZE. THE BOTTOM OF THE EYES WILL BE SEWN FLUSH WITH THE TOP OF THE NAME TAPE AND WILL BE 1" APART.

**B-** NAME PLATE WILL BE ATTACHED TO THE LOWER BAND OF THE PATROL CAP AND CENTERED.

## ADVANCED COMBAT HELMET

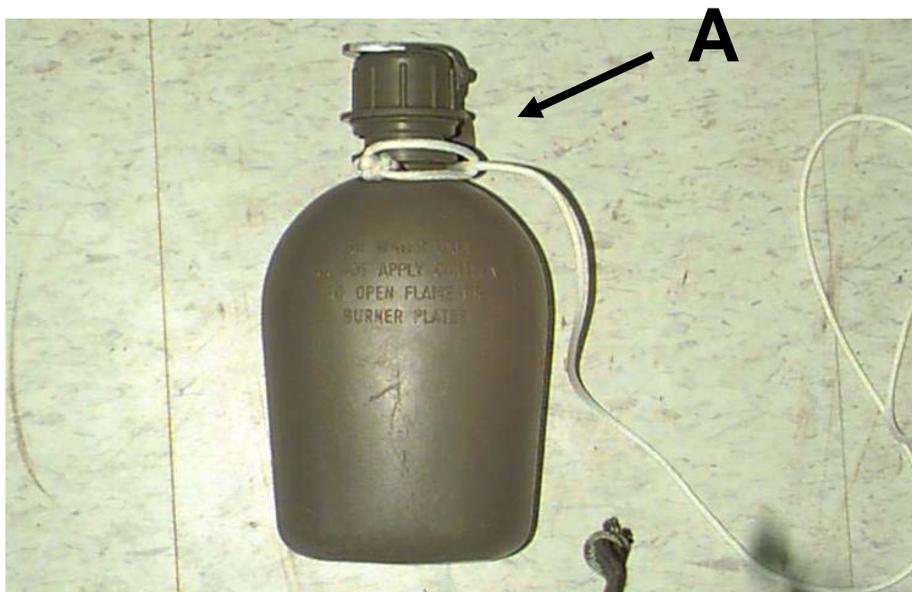


**A-** SECURE THE CAMO BAND WITH A GIRTH HITCH, TIED OFF TO THE SUSPENSION BAND WITH A SQUARE KNOT AND TWO OVERHAND KNOTS.

**B-** RANK WILL BE SEWN ON FRONT OF THE HELMET. NO PIN-ON RANK.

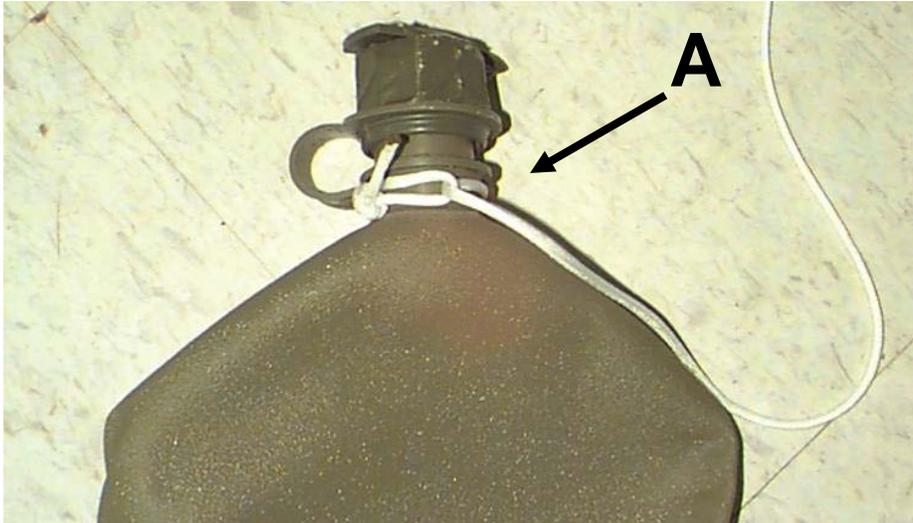
**C-** NAME WILL BE STENCILED ON THE FRONT OF THE CAMO BAND.

## 1-QUART CANTEEN



**A-** SECURE THE CANTEEN WITH AN END OF THE ROPE BOWLINE WITH THE FREE RUNNING END ROUTED THROUGH THE LOOP OF THE BOWLINE TO FORM A SLIP KNOT.

## 2-QUART CANTEEN



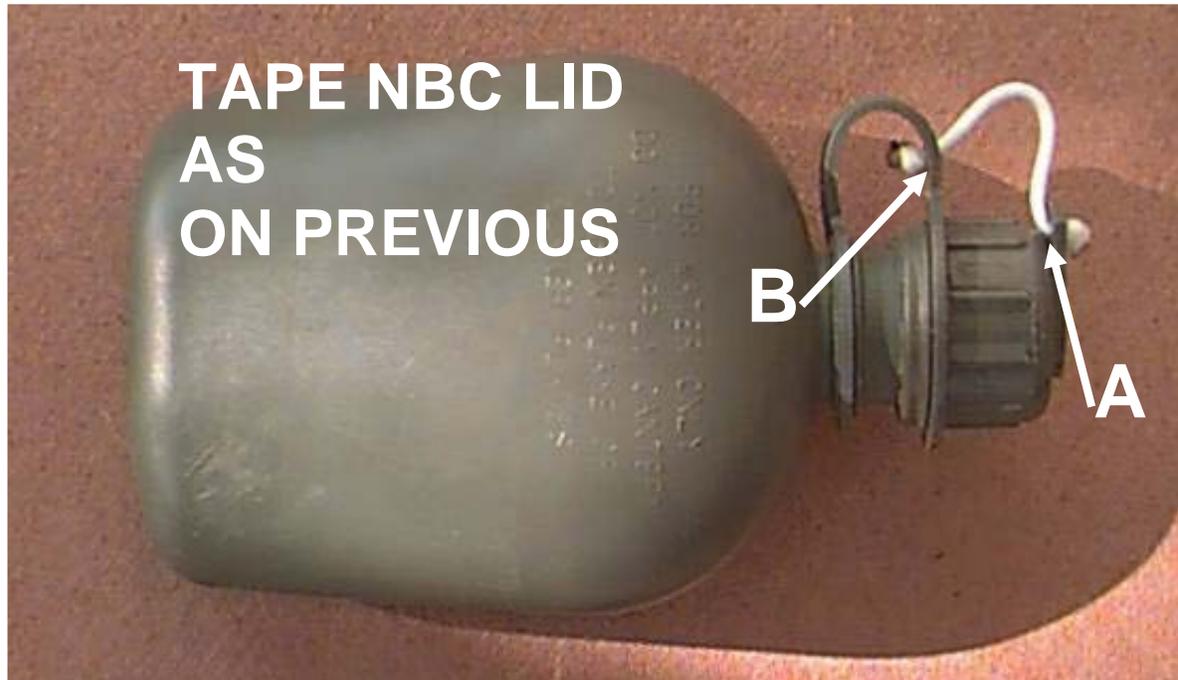
**A-** SECURE THE CANTEEN WITH AN END OF THE ROPE BOWLINE WITH THE FREE RUNNING END ROUTED THROUGH THE LOOP OF THE BOWLINE TO FORM A SLIP KNOT.

## CANTEEN CAP



**A-** SECURE THE NBC LID TO THE CANTEEN CAP WITH ONE PIECE OF TAPE SECURING THE LID TO THE CAP (RUNNING PERPENDICULAR TO THE NBC LID). PLACE AN ADDITIONAL PIECE OF TAPE AROUND THE CAP SECURING THE TAPE HOLDING THE LID.

## NBC COVER FOR 1QT AND 2QT CANTEEN CAP



**A-** SECURE THE FLIP UP NBC PROTECTIVE CAP. CUT THE BROKEN STRAP OFF THE CANTEEN CAP. DRILL A 1/8-IN HOLE ABOUT A 1/4-IN FROM THE BROKEN EDGE OF THE STRAP THAT'S LEFT OF THE FLIP-UP COVER. RUN THE 550 CORD THROUGH THE HOLE AND TIE AN OVERHAND KNOT, CUT AND BURN IT.

**B-** DRILL A SECOND 1/8-IN HOLE THROUGH THE CAP STRAP. TAKE THE OTHER END OF THE 550 CORD AND RUN IT THROUGH THE HOLE AND TIE AN OVERHAND KNOT, CUT AND BURN IT.

## MOLLE FLC SET UP



**A- ATTACH TWO 1 QUART CANTEEN POUCHES, THREE 2 MAGAZINE POUCHES AND TWO FIRST AID POUCHES TO MOLLE FLC.**

**B- SECURE THE 1 QUART CANTEENS TO THE FLC WITH AN ANCHOR BOWLINE.**

## MOLLE FLC NAME TAPE



**A-** NAME TAPE WILL BE SEWN TO THE BACK STRAP OF THE FLC.  
THE NAME SHOULD BE READABLE AS WORN.

## MOLLE ASSAULT PACK



**A-** Cat Eyes will be sewn 1 inch above the name tape and 1 inch apart.

**B-** Name tape will be centered and sewn above the bottom seam of the MOLLE assault pack flap.

# MOLLE RUCK CAT EYES AND NAME TAPE



**A-** CAT EYES WILL BE SEWN FLUSH TO THE TOP OF THE NAME TAPE AND 1 INCH APART.

**B-** NAME TAPE WILL BE CENTERED AND SEWN ALONG THE SEAM ON TOP OF THE RUCKSACK FLAP.

# MOLLE RUCK CONFIGURATION



**A-** ENTRENCHING TOOL ON THE FRONT

**B-** SUSTAINMENT POUCHES ON SIDES OF MAIN COMPARTMENT

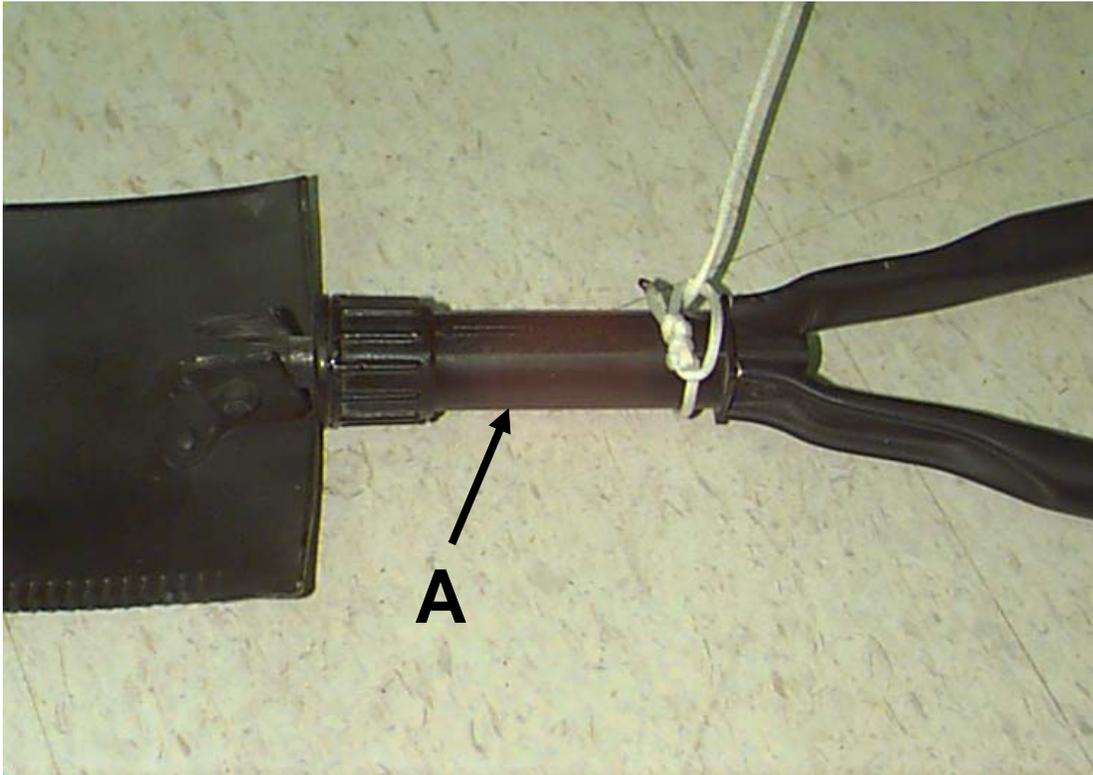
## E-TOOL CASE



SECURE THE E-TOOL COVER TO THE ALICE PACK WITH A SQUARE KNOT AND TWO OVERHAND KNOTS.

SECURE THE E-TOOL TO ONE OF THE EQUIPMENT RETAINER STRAPS ON THE MOLLE PACK WITH AN ANCHOR BOWLINE TO THE EQUIPMENT RETIANER STRAP. ROUTE THE FREE RUNNING END THROUGH THE HOLE AT THE BOTTOM OF THE E-TOOL COVER AND TIE A BOWLINE FOR THE E-TOOL.

## E-TOOL



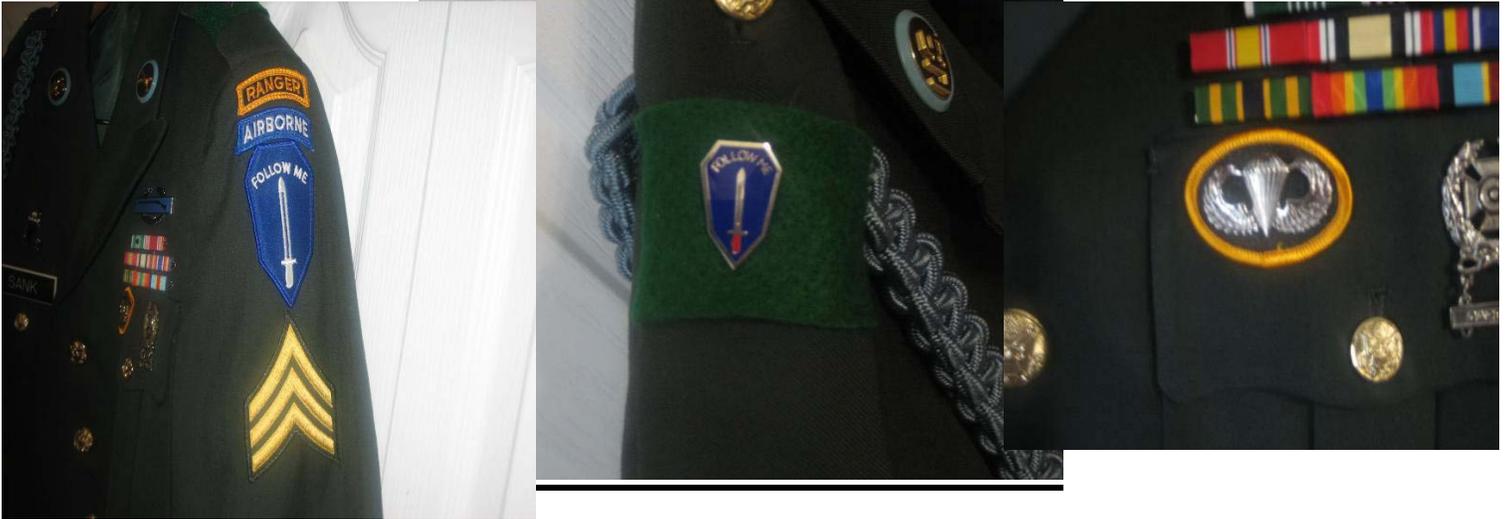
**A-** SECURE THE E-TOOL WITH THE BOWLINE FROM THE E-TOOL COVER TIE DOWN. FORM A GIRTH HITCH AND SLIP IT OVER THE HANDLE.

## RANGER PT UNIFORM



Ranger PT Uniform will have a white name tape sewn centered on the chest above the tab. NCOs and Officers will have rank and last name, SPC and below will have last name only.

# CLASS A UNIFORM



The units Shoulder Sleeve Insignia is the Follow Me patch with the blue and white Airborne Tab

The unit's crest on the shoulder epaulet is the Follow Me crest

For personnel on airborne status the black and gold jump backing is required for behind the airborne wings.

# BERET



The tan beret will be sewn with the Black and Gold RTB flash with the Follow Me unit crest centered on the flash.