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U.S. ARMY MANEUVER CENTER OF EXCELLENCE



## MCoE PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE

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### **MEDIA RELEASE: Fort Benning announces 2012 U.S. Army International Sniper Competition winners**

**FORT BENNING, Ga.** – U.S. Army teams from Forts Benning and Bragg took 1st place during the 2012 U.S. Army International Sniper Competition Nov. 2 - 7 here.

Thirty-six two-man sniper teams from around the world participated in the competition. Those who placed second and third during the competition are as follows:

#### Service Class:

1st Place: A U.S. Army sniper team\* with Delta Company, 2/1 Special Warfare Training Group, Fort Bragg, N.C.

2nd Place: Staff Sgt. Marty Holland and Staff Sgt. Kirby Odom, 2nd Battalion, 19th Infantry Regiment, 198th Infantry Brigade, Fort Benning

3rd Place: Marine Staff Sgt. Francisco Diaz and Marine Staff Sgt. Christian O'Shea, U. S. Marine Corps Scout Sniper School

#### Open Class:

1st Place: Staff Sgt. Daniel Horner and Specialist Tyler Payne, U. S. Army Marksmanship Unit, Fort Benning

2nd Place: A sniper team\* from Ireland

3rd Place: A sniper team\* from the U. S. Army Special Operations Command

*(\*Due to the sensitive nature of these individual's job classification, their names and/or units cannot be released.)*

Competing teams represented active-duty Army units, the Army National Guard, U.S. Army Reserve, U.S. Air Force, U.S. Marine Corps, U.S. Coast Guard, Pentagon Defense Police, state and local police departments and the countries of The United Arab Emirates, Denmark, Sweden, Netherlands, Germany, England, and Ireland.

Air Force Staff Sgt. Monica Gonzales, of F.E. Warren, Wyo., was the only female sniper to compete in the competition this year. The Air Force team placed 11th. Also, a team from the United Arab Emirates participated for the first time in the competition's history. The UAE team placed 12th.

The competition took place on multiple ranges on post and events were conducted continuously over a 72-hour period. Events tested competitors' physical fitness and mastery of sniper skills to include target detection, target discrimination, stalking, land navigation and marksmanship.

***Please call the Public Affairs Office at 706-545-2237 or 706-604-0468 for more information on this year's competition.***

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