University of Mississippi

ARMY ROTC

Newsletter

2017 – 2018

We are Citizens. We are Soldiers. We are Army. We are Ole Miss…
Battalion Commander Letter
By: Donald Lorbecke, MSIV

Rebels,

First off I would like to thank you all for a wonderful year and support beyond expected. I hope you all had the chance to relax a bit somewhere in the year, enjoy some time with family and friends, and hopefully were able to go on a vacation or two. As spring semester ends, it is important to start refocusing on and preparing all for summer training. MSIVs need to prepare for graduation and BOLC, MSIIIs should be prepared for Advanced Camp, and MS levels below considering additional training and classes to get ahead, good luck to you all.

While the school year is coming to a summer break, it contained two semesters packed full of involvement. The FTXs were where the MS3s got the last push of information before they get evaluated at camp. This will be many people’s first experience with ROTC training so make sure you are out there actively participating and representing the program to the best of your ability! With football events, to the paintball lab, to the dining out, you all deserve it for your hard work.

It was an honor to be your battalion commander for my last semester. It is going to be a challenging semester when you return in the fall, we expect a lot out of you both physically and mentally now that the standard has increased. But with what the Cadre and MSIV class taught you, there will be no obstacle you won’t be able to overcome. Prepare to continue on training but most of all prepare to have fun!

Thank you for an amazing 5 years here with Rebel Battalion.

“Rebels Lead the Way!”

-Donald Lorbecke
C/LTC BN CMDR
UM Army ROTC
LTC Joshua Taylor ............Professor of Military Science & MS IV Instructor
MSG Gabriel Brewer ............Senior Military Instructor & MS III Instructor
MAJ Ronald Rogers........MSARNG Recruiting BN, Program XO & MS I Instructor
CPT Joseph Gooch ..................Operations Officer & MS III Instructor
CPT Dexter Hall............................A-Operations Officer & A/PMS
SFC Dexter Dow...................Operations NCO & MS II Instructor
SFC Anthony Douglas...............MSARNG Recruiting NCO & Trainer
SSG Shavonda Carroll.............CULP Manager/A-HRA & MS I Instructor
Mr. Scott Caldwell ..............Recruiting Operation Officer & MS II Instructor
Mr. David Whitfield ................Human Resource Assistant
Mr. Greg Johnson ......................Supply Technician
Ms. Missy Downey ..................University Secretary

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(or search “UM Rebel BN”)
Rebel BN Alumni are encouraged to join the University Alumni Association.
To join go to
www.olemissalumni.com

Recruit, Develop, Retain, Commission.
Rebel Battalion Mission and Intent

Mission: Through unsurpassed partnership with the University, the Ole Miss Army ROTC Battalion will recruit, develop, retain and commission officers of the highest character, commitment, and competence.

Intent

Expanded Purpose: Protect the profession while developing tomorrow’s leaders.

Key Tasks:
- Develop and reward world class cadre, faculty, and staff committed to producing quality officers and citizens while continuing to better themselves and prepare for their next job.
- Innovate solutions (incentives, outreach, exposure, and external support) to ensure we recruit and retain cadets to achieve mission without sacrificing quality.
- Focus on creating depth and not breadth in our cadets: fundamentals, warfighting skills, physical toughness, mental resilience, emotional intelligence, and base doctrinal knowledge.
- Continue to partner with JROTC to assist in their mission of producing quality citizens.
- Create a positive atmosphere that promotes a constructive learning environment, develops a sense of selfless service and community.

Endstate: Achieved mission through the production of line ready officers capable of making an impact upon arrival. Staff is an efficient, adaptive team that is committed to individual and collective growth while operating on intent alone in conditions that are often uncertain.
Who We Are

- **Alumni HoF**: 78 members (MG Bela Chain, MG Robert Chestnut, Congressman Trent Kelly)
- **2016**: 2 x Top 25 cadets nationally.
- **2012**: #1 program in the Southeastern US.
- **2012**: MacArthur Award recipient as a Top 8 program nationally.
- **2011**: #2 Army ROTC program nationally out 275 schools.
- Approximately 110 cadets enrolled in the program annually.
- Approximately 60% of our cadets are from outside Mississippi, representing 21 states and one foreign country.
- Over 30 majors represented and numerous minors.
- Cadets are involved in almost every club, fraternity/sorority, Honors Society, and organization on campus including the Barksdale Honors College, Croft Institute, Intelligence & Security Studies Program, Gamma Beta Phi, National Society of Collegiate Scholars, Study Abroad, Global Ambassadors, and Athletics.
- **Countless hours of community service performed each year** through Leap Frog, the UM Big Event, Gamma Beta Phi, Rebel Patrol, Volunteer Fire Fighters, and other service organizations.
- Cadets are enrolled in several foreign languages including Arabic, Russian, Chinese, German, French, and Latin. Program is developing partnership with ProjectGo. Cadets taking foreign language have opportunities to travel and study abroad through ROTC exclusive programs such as Project Go and CULP.
- **Lead sponsor or representation**: 9-11 Memorial Run, Ranger Challenge, Great 38 Run, Egg Bowl Run, Chancellor’s Review, Statewide ROTC exercises, color guard, etc.
- **University and Oxford Community Outreach/Stewardship**: multiple leadership seminars such as Leadership Lafayette, critical thinking, inclusiveness efforts and councils; oversight of 9 x High School Junior ROTC programs; Alumni recognition, etc.
LTC Joshua A. Taylor (AR)

LTC Joshua A. Taylor is currently the Professor of Military Science and Department Chair for the University of Mississippi Army ROTC Department.

Rebel Battalion welcomed the new PMS in Fall 2017. He relieved LTC Scott E. Walton who was the PMS from Spring 2014 to Spring 2017.

Previous Assignment History

Chief, Commander’s Initiative Group (June 2016-June 2017): Headquarters, Combined Arms Center, Fort Leavenworth, KS
Brigade Executive Officer (January 2014-August 2014): Headquarters, 3-25 Infantry Division
Squadron Operations Officer (August 2013-January 2014): 3-4 Cavalry, 3-25 Infantry Division
Squadron Executive Officer (August 2012-August 2013): 3-4 Cavalry, 3-25 Infantry Division

Olmsted Scholar (July 2008-July 2011): Three-year program (6 mos. in Defense Language Institute-2.5 yrs. Buenos Aires, Arg). Selective multiservice scholar’s program designed to afford scholars the opportunity to achieve fluency in a foreign language, pursue a graduate degree at an overseas university, and acquire an in-depth understanding of a foreign culture to better equip the officer to serve in positions of greater responsibility.

Troop Commander (Nov 2006-June 2008): B/1-73 Cavalry, 2-82nd Airborne Division. Responsible for re-asserting a U.S. presence in an insurgent held Sadr City; establishing and providing command and control for the Sadr City District Joint Security Station (DJSS); providing force to maintain regional security in northern Baghdad, while working with Iraqi Army and Iraqi Police elements to create a secure and stable environment.

Assistant Brigade Operations Officer (Training) (February-November 2006)
Assistant Operations Officer /Observer & Controller (February-June 2005): Live Fire Division, Joint Readiness Training Center, Fort Polk, LA.
Aide-de-Camp for the Commanding General of Ft. Polk and JRTC (April 2004-January 2005)
Scout Platoon Leader (October 2002-April 2004): 1-509 ABN IN (OPFOR)

Civilian Education:
Master of Military Arts and Sciences, School of Advanced Military Studies (May 2016)
Master of Arts, International Relations, University of Belgrano, Buenos Aires, Argentina (June 2011).
Bachelor of Business Administration, Finance. University of North Alabama, Florence, Alabama (June 2001) Army ROTC Distinguished Military Graduate

Military Schools and Education:
Graduate of the Armor Officer Basic Course (Honor Graduate), Maneuver Captain’s Career Course, Olmsted Scholar; Command and General Staff College (Southwest Border Security Program Scholar); Red Team Member’s Course (US Army’s Critical Thinking Enterprise), Advanced Military Studies Program, Joint Firepower Control Course (Distinguished Honor Graduate), and the Jumpmaster, Cavalry Leader, Scout Platoon Leader, Ranger, Airborne, Maintenance Leader, and Basic Officer Leader courses.

Published Work:“Integrating Armored Warfare and What That Could Mean for the IBCT” (Armor Magazine, March 2015)“Transnational Criminal Organizations: It’s Not Personal...It’s Business!” (Interagency Journal, November 2012)
MSG Gabriel E. Brewer

MSG Gabriel E. Brewer is currently the Senior Military Instructor of Mississippi Army ROTC Department.

Rebel Battalion welcomed the SMI in Fall 2016. MSG Brewer’s extensive military background provided the MS3 class with an overall success rate during Advanced Camp.

MSG Brewer enlisted in the Army as an Infantryman and attended basic training at FT. Benning Ga. Upon graduating he was assigned to FT. Drum, NY where he served as basic rifleman, assistant gunner, machine Gunner, spotter, and sniper. While assigned to the 10th Mountain Division, he attended Air Assault School and Airborne School as well as earning his Expert Infantryman’s Badge. From there he was assigned to the 101st Airborne Division at FT. Campbell, KY where he served as a Team Leader and Squad leader. Upon arriving at FT Campbell, he attended the US Army Ranger School and deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2003.

After redeployment, he was assigned to the Ranger Training Brigade and served as a Ranger Instructor from 2004-2006. MSG Brewer was later reassigned to FT. Carson, CO where he served as a G3 Training NCO and he deployed to Taji, Iraq for the Counter Insurgency (COIN) Academy. From there he attended Pathfinder School, Electronic Warfare Operators Course, and Search Advisors Course. He was reassigned to FT Benning again where he served as a Platoon Sergeant and Instructor at the Infantry Basic Officer Leader Course. He attended the advanced marksmanship course. His next move would take him to FT. Wainwright, AK where he served in 3-21 IN as a Platoon Sergeant and deployed to the Panjwai Province of Afghanistan. Upon redeploying he served as the Reconnaissance Platoon Sergeant before assuming the duties as a Rifle Company First Sergeant. He was reassigned to the 101st Airborne Division again where he served as the First Sergeant for Easy Company 2-506 IN.

MSG Brewer is currently assigned as the Senior Military Instructor at the University of Mississippi. MSG Brewers’ deployments include Operation Iraqi Freedom I-V and Operation Enduring Freedom 11-12 (Afghanistan). MSG Brewers’ military decorations include the Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Service Medal with 2 Oak Leaf Clusters, Army Commendation Medal with 4 oak leaf clusters, Army Achievement Medal with 3 oak leaf clusters, Global War on Terrorism Medal, Iraqi Campaign Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal, and the Arm Forces Medal. He has been awarded the Ranger Tab, Expert Infantry Badge, Combat Infantry Badge, Parachutist Badge, Pathfinder Badge, and the Air Assault Badge.

MSG Brewer is married and has two children.
Barnard Hall
By: Logan Hunt MSIV

The Military Department was originally housed in the Peabody Building, where it remained until the program was interrupted by World War II. When ROTC was fully re-established on campus in 1947, it was put in Temporary Building D. The unit moved to Guyton Hall in September 1961 and to its current location (Barnard Hall) in the Fall of 2002. The rifle range, which was originally housed in the basement of Fulton Chapel, was relocated behind Guyton Hall in 1960.

As of May 2017, over 1700 officers have received their commissions through the Army ROTC program at Ole Miss. These officers have served continuously on active duty and in the Army Reserve and National Guard since 1938. They have fought honorably through six wars, including World War II, the Korean War, Vietnam, Desert Storm, Afghanistan and Iraq. About 20 graduates have also attained the honor of becoming general officers (one star or higher).

Advanced Camp
By Sarah Gunnells MSIV

During the summer of 2017, I had the opportunity to attend Advanced Camp in Fort Knox, Kentucky. The intent of this training is to evaluate MSIII’s on their leadership and decision making skills while operating in both a physical and mental high-stress environment. The first 5 days consisted of normal in-processing, TA-50 gear draw, briefings, marksmanship, and land navigation. The next twenty days were spent out in the field conducting platoon missions such as raids, ambushes, recons, deliberate attacks, and key leader engagements. While proper tactics played an important part for MSIII success, having a positive attitude and making decisive choices on the spot were significant for team success. The cadre were looking for MSIII Cadets who thrived under pressure and worked as a team. The last five days of camp consisted of CBRNE, and call for fire training, the confidence course, rappel tower, and the keynote speaker. One of the most important lessons I learned from camp was that your character and motivation are both crucial in how your troops will respond to your leadership. One of the best things about camp is that you are able to begin forming your own leadership style. You are able to gain a concept of what works, and what ultimately keeps a unit from performing efficiently.

CTLT
By: Cortez Thomas
MSIV

I was blessed to receive a slot to participate in Cadet Troop Leader Training, CTLT in Seoul South Korea. Since this was my first time travelling outside the United States, this experience was even more rewarding for me. I was given a Platoon Leader that I shadowed for a month, to learn what I would be doing as a future officer. I initially wanted to branch Medical Services, but after doing physical fitness, attending meetings, and even riding in Blackhawks across the peninsula. I remember the company commander telling the chief that he wanted me on every flight possible, until I changed my mind. The chiefs were glad to put me on their flights, and even helped me study for the SIFT test. I ate so much food and experienced a new culture while being in Seoul. My favorite part of going there was experiencing the DMZ and learning so much about the Korean war. I was there when Kim Jong Un tested several missiles and successfully launched one 35 miles away from Seoul, which made me understand how important my job as a soldier and future leader will be in the next few years. I would recommend that any cadet who is looking to learn what a Platoon Leader does, as I still keep up with my PL and chiefs today. This experience has placed me a step in front of my peers who have not gotten this opportunity.
Basic Camp
By: Sarah Loret MSIII

Having joined Army ROTC one semester prior to cadet basic camp, gave me the opportunity to learn an enormous amount and grow in my leadership skills. Basic Camp, also known as CIET, was a great experience for those of us who went. Cadets from all over the country, and in some cases around the world, come to this camp with vastly different backgrounds in the Army. Most got to put the information learned prior in ROTC classes to use and others gained new knowledge and experiences. Our training during the 30 day period consisted of weapons maintenance and safety, obstacle courses to focus on team building and confidence, the gas chamber to learn how to trust our equipment, medical and first aid, field training tactics, and so much more. All of our training while there with our drill sergeants and lieutenants was focused on leader traits and developing our characters as future leaders in the Army. I would say getting to know the other cadets was one of my biggest take-aways; the confidence and comradely we developed was incredible. Ruck marches in heat cat 5, torrential downpours during our FTX and having to push for falling asleep were all things that were tough at the time but are great to look back on and learn from. Overall, I would say that Basic Camp left me with some great memories and I would encourage anyone interested to go.

Air Assault
By: Colin Erickson, MSIII

I received an incredible opportunity last January to attend Air Assault School at the Warrior Training Center in Ft. Benning, Georgia. From 0400 on day zero, to rappelling out of a Black Hawk, to the 12 mile ruck, it was an amazing experience.

The most enjoyable part was the culminating training event of the 14 days of training. That event was rappelling from a Black Hawk. The aircraft was about 90 feet off the ground when we rappelled out. The initial jump out was an invigorating experience. It is an experience I will remember for the rest of my life, and will help me greatly moving forward as an Army officer.

Airborne
By: Donald Lorbecke MSIV

Airborne school was a unique and challenging experience. The school took place at Fort Benning, Georgia in the middle of July. I went through two weeks of vigorous training and instruction to be allowed to jump out of a C-130 by the third week of Airborne school. Learning how to exit an aircraft and land properly was a tedious, but well needed process. When the third week finally came around I knew everything I needed to know, to be able to properly exit the aircraft and land without any problems. Overall jumping out of a perfectly good aircraft five times at 1250ft was one of the most fun and enjoyable experiences I have ever had.
This past summer I was blessed with the opportunity to participate in Army ROTC's Cultural Understanding and Language Proficiency (CULP) program in Latvia. I cannot begin to explain the impact this trip has had on my life and my plans for the future. My team, the Latvian Army, and the other NATO partners participating in Saber Strike 2017 were truly influential. Seeing operations from the perspective of soldiers, like those I one day hope to lead, taught me invaluable lessons, enhanced my skills, and made me a more capable leader.

The ability to explore different cities and places of historical significance within this beautiful country allowed me to develop a better cultural understanding and inspired me to explore more opportunities to continue pursuing cultural and leadership growth. Soviet era buildings made a stand across the country, reminding the world of the history behind Latvia. From the overtaking of the Germans or the Russians, Latvia has an intense historical background portraying the type of events our world should seek to steer clear of in the future. It was eye opening to see the physical impact of wars and political turbulence that I have only heard about in the United States. By being able to visualize and place myself in an area still full of extreme emotion, my understanding of the significance of hatred between human beings has greatly increased.

During our time participating in Saber Strike, my team was exposed to realistic scenarios that forced us to utilize our tactical understanding and obtain a higher level of proficiency. We were involved in all operations from start to finish. The platoon sergeant/platoon leader would daily brief us on operational tasks and current known missions to allow us to better contribute to the assignment. After the briefing, we were inspired to reflect on our own about how a similar operation could be conducted if led by us. The following day, or when the mission began, we hopped into the trucks alongside our Latvian counterparts and rode through the bumpy back roads leading to our objective. We were then told to dismount the vehicles and set up positions where instructed. We listened as the Latvians spoke amongst themselves in their native language, occasionally catching words in English. We knew when there was a string of words we recognized that they were intended for us. We waited in our positions as calls from higher were passed down, leaving us information to better our positions or prepare for contact. The squad leader would then lead the initiation of fires for whatever mission and we'd follow the Latvians around as they negotiated the terrain. We followed behind or next to our Latvian counterparts, fighting to defend our ground.

This aspect of the trip was the most influential. By being integrated within the platoon, we were given first hand exposure to the true characteristics of people belonging to the Latvian culture. We learned that while they are not as tactically proficient as our military, they possess an urge to learn and develop their skills. With the combination of their eagerness to learn and they continue to train hard, the Latvian soldiers have a bright future.
Why I Joined Army ROTC

I plan on going active duty and branching aviation or military intelligence. When I first came during new cadet orientation, I had no idea what to expect. I knew I was planning on commissioning as an Army Officer, but did not know the way. Over my first semester, I have learned from the older cadets and the cadre, through their leadership, on what it takes to become an officer in the Army. The older cadets have always taken me and the other freshmen in as one of their own from the very first day and are eager to see us succeed and that is the most striking feature of the cadets here. I have learned through their servant leadership.

I grew up with my Dad as an officer in the Army and always knew that I wanted to try to become an officer in one of the branches. During high school, I looked into all the branches and what their ROTC programs had to offer. As time drew closer I was really being pulled to Army ROTC because of all the incentives and programs available to me. I toured multiple schools and their ROTC programs, after visiting Ole Miss I had made my decision. It was clear to me from the beginning that the program here was able to offer everything I was looking for and had what was needed to prepare me to be a more than capable Officer in the Army. I am still very pleased with my decision to be a Cadet in the Rebel Battalion..
In October the Ole Miss Army ROTC Ranger Challenge team competed in the regional competition at Camp Shelby, MS that consisted of five teams. The competition consisted of a written land navigation exam, tactical combat casualty care, land navigation practical, Army Physical Fitness Test, One Rope Bridge, and a 12 mile foot march. We were fortunate to be able to place 2nd overall and advance to the 6th Brigade competition where we represented the university and Ole Miss Army ROTC.

The Brigade competition was at Camp Blanding, FL and consisted of teams from Mississippi, Alabama, Louisiana, Georgia, Florida, and Puerto Rico. The Brigade competition consisted of a written land navigation exam, land navigation practical, Army Physical Fitness Test, weapons assembly, hand grenade assault course, M4 qualification, M9 familiarization fire, One Rope Bridge, and a 10k foot march.

Overall, both competitions allowed us to gain valuable skills as cadets and soon to be Army officers. As an officer it is important to be technically and tactically proficient. These competitions gave us the opportunity to become proficient in soldier task and be able to execute them under stress, and ultimately bring that knowledge back to teach our peers.
Ole Miss conducted Field Training Exercises (FTX) with the University of Southern Mississippi. The FTX prepared MSIVs for their roles as future officers. The MSIVs planned, supplied, and executed the training for the MSIII class. FTX training consisted of Basic Rifle Marksmanship, Call for Fire Simulation, and Ambush and Raid Patrolling lanes. The underclassmen were organized into platoons with rotational leadership led by cadre and MSIVs.

The events would assist in determining what the cadets needed assistance with in the Spring semester. With all this training being conducted, the events had to have time schedules that kept these cadets in motion. Everything was a leadership learning experience.
Ole Miss conducted Spring FTX with the University of Southern Mississippi, Mississippi State, Alcorn University, and Jackson State. The FTX finalized MSIVs for their roles as future officers. The MSIVs planned, supplied, and executed the training for the MSIII class. FTX training consisted of Basic Rifle Marksmanship, Call for Fire Simulation, Patrolling lanes, 12 and 6 mile foot march, and Land Navigation. The underclassmen were organized into platoons with rotational leadership led by cadre and MSIVs.

The events would assist in determining what the cadets needed assistance with before Advanced Camp. With all this training being conducted, the events had to have time schedules that kept these cadets in motion. Everything was a leadership learning experience.
A Freshman Cadet Experience

At this FTX I was a lot more prepared because this was my second time attending. I think the thing I enjoyed most about this FTX was the obstacle course and the call for fire. I liked how the course challenged me because I am a lot smaller than other cadets, so I really had to try to do the same tasks as everyone else. On the second day, my platoon went through the call for fire simulator. This helped me actually understand what the steps were and how they actually play into neutralizing a tank. I learned a lot from this simulator and following the examples given to us.

During this FTX we also had a ruck march on the last day. I learned a lot about myself and what I need to work on. This was technically the second march I have ever been on in my life. As we got up that morning, I was very nervous that I was not going to finish and fall out once again. I immediately fell to the end of the pack and thought, “well, this it the end of me”. Somehow I managed to get to about five miles in and I thought I was going to collapse but I proved to myself that I could finish it.

My second FTX was definitely a lot less stressful than the first because I knew what to expect. I am glad I was able to learn as much as I did because those classes will help me in the future.
Upon arrival at Camp McCain, the MSIs and IIs were placed into two platoons. After this we drew our MREs and waited to go to the Obstacle Course.

While the O-Course was a valuable training experience, it was very easy and many of the more challenging obstacles were off limit. After the O-course we did CBRN (Chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear defense) training, the training was something we had previously done in Ranger Challenge but I believe it was good practice for me along with the MSIs and IIs. Once we completed the Tactical Combat Casualty Care training, we returned to the firing range. After this, we got bussed over to Hunt Lake for day into night Land Navigation. Land Nav was a good utilization of our limited time, especially the night portion since MSIs and IIs do not frequently do night land nav. Also, doing Land Nav on a new course was a good opportunity to improve our Land Nav Skills. After Land Nav, we set up a patrol base and slept.

The next morning, we got up to do Call For Fire, which was one of the most informative parts of FTX. The cadre were knowledgeable, and taught us a lot about the procedure, and going a little more in depth than what we did in lab. The simulator was a great training, especially since, many of us had never done it before. After Call for Fire we did an Ambush Lane, while the beginning was basic the cadre from JSU were knowledgeable and provided great information on both tactical training and advanced camp.
The main goal of FTX is for MSIII’s and end of camp commissioning MSIV’s was to allow for a highly concentrated training environment where these cadets could simply train to the standard that will be enforced at camp. As the focus was on those going to advanced camp, things moved quickly for my platoon whether it was being pushed through the firing line for weapons qualification, running the Obstacle Course, rappelling down the rappel tower, performing TCCC or learning about CBRN.

The expectation was that we, as upperclassman, were already prepared to perform these tasks and did not need additional time for explanations. I can only speak for my platoon but we moved from event to event with relative ease. Our last event the first day was day into night land navigation. From there we moved into our patrol bases and started priorities of work. The next day we conducted platoon level operations via STX lanes. This is by far the most helpful portion of the weekend for me personally. This was an opportunity to test my tactical and technical skills as well as gain exposure to the physical side of what an average day at camp is comprised of. I think it’s fair to say that no one enjoys carrying a rucksack, assault pack, weapon, and wearing an ACH, while moving through the woods, but it was invaluable experience in preparation for camp. The cadre supervising the STX lanes would periodically rotate leadership in order that each cadet, regardless of school, was in a leadership position at least once. I really enjoyed my time as a squad leader during a raid mission that second day. It helped me get involved in the planning process and the execution of the mission in a way that helped me learn the aspects of running a raid mission better. After running missions all day we moved back to Hunt Lake where we were separated back into schools instead of integrated platoons. As schools we then moved to our patrol base sites and set up for the night.

We woke at 0330 the next morning for a 12 mile ruck march. In my opinion a ruck march is not a test of skill but rather one of grit and determination. For me, this was a challenging event due to the fact that until recently I was recovering from a couple foot surgeries. I had not rucked 12 miles in over a year and a half. I found it very helpful to do this distance before getting to camp, simply as a confidence booster. After the ruck our final event was going through a call for fire mission simulator. This was good prep for camp seeing as we will be tested on it there. I found the weekend as a whole to be very helpful by getting both hands on experience and learning from my peers, MS4’s who have already completed camp, and Cadre. I feel better prepared for camp after the FTX this last weekend.
By Joshua Duff, MSIV

Joshua Duff has spent the last semester completing a congressional internship with the office of senator Roger Wicker of Mississippi. Senator Roger Wicker is a UM Air Force ROTC alumni. Senator Wicker was excited to have a fellow Ole Miss ROTC participant as a part of his staff this semester.

As a Public Policy Leadership Major, this was a great opportunity for Cadet Duff to personally meet those individuals that have inspired him to pursue a career in policy and legislation. It also proved to be a unique opportunity for him to meet high-ranking military officials who embody the kind of military leader Cadet Duff strives to become.

One of those military leaders is Congressman Trent Kelly. Congressman Kelly is also a BG in the Mississippi Army National Guard and an alumni of UM Army ROTC. As he was the only intern in the office for this semester, his responsibilities varied across a whole array of duties throughout the office. Involved in many aspects of the legislative process while assisting staff members, Josh was able to see the inner workings of that process. Along with his daily duties in the office, he had the opportunity to attend hearings and briefings with witnesses such as Henry Kissinger, George P. Shultz, and General Mark A. Milley.

Aside from meeting these great political and military leaders who have inspired him, Josh has said one of the rewarding parts was having the chance to meet young, driven individuals from all over the country that were also interning with various offices. Having the opportunity to meet and network with like-minded individuals who share the same passion for policy was invaluable.

A daily aspect of the job was meeting and interacting with men and women who hold some of the most powerful positions in our nation, ranging from military officials to senators and congressman. CDT Duff made a point to ask them about their beginnings and what drives them. The answer that many of these men and women was similar and profound. He found that most of these individuals had a true passion for helping other people, and this passion is what drives them to do more and better themselves. This is the kind of leader that Cadet Duff aspires to be. Through this internship, Cadet Duff has said learning that leadership is about taking responsibility for the well-being of others has been the most prominent lesson he has learned.
The George C. Marshall Conference

By Christian Sanchez, MSIV

The George C. Marshall conference, located at Fort Leavenworth, Kentucky, brings together 275 of the top cadets in the nation for three days of seminars, round table discussions, and lectures by some of the most experienced high level Army leaders. This year, senior Cadet Donald Lorbecke was selected to go to this prestigious event in February.

Prior to the event, Cadet Lorbecke was excited to interact with other cadets from across the nation and discuss the similarities and differences between each program. Another aspect to look forward to was the opportunity to meet people who had knowledge and experience that many cadets didn't have yet, and to learn from their experiences. Cadet Lorbecke prepared for the event by planning to be extremely professional and manage his school work while away.

Despite the short duration of the conference, Cadet Lorbecke found several messages and learning points to take away from the event. His biggest take away was the realization that the speakers and presenters at the conference had developed their vast wealth of competencies over years of experience and exposure to new challenges. One important point he made was, “It is now my job to figure out what kind of leader I am going to be.” This conclusion was a natural extension of the knowledge that anyone who has spent time in the military knows: You aren’t always going to get along with the people you work with, but it is important to try to find common ground with people who have different ideas and perspectives, that is what is expected of a leader.

Of the leaders that Lorbecke met with, one of the most impactful was General Hughes, Commanding General of Cadet Command. Thinking critically is an essential trait to an officer, all while setting a distinctive tone for all 275 future Army leaders. His words were direct, efficient and confident. As an attendee, Cadet Lorbecke looks to model his own officer personality off General Hughes.

These are all powerful lessons that Cadet Lorbecke will carry with him throughout his career, as he remembers the experience at this conference.
German Armed Forces Proficiency Badge  
By: Joseph Kelly MSIII

Ole Miss Cadets participated in the German Armed Forces Proficiency Badge held at Mississippi State University. It was a tough event that tested cadet physically and mentally. The events included the Flex Arm Hang, 11x10 meter sprint, 1000 meter run, 100-meter swim test in uniform, Tactical Combat Casualty Care Test, NBC MOPP Test, M9 Marksmanship and a road march. The event was a two-day event, where on the first day cadets completed the Flex Arm Hang, 11x10 meter sprint and 1000-meter sprint in the morning. In the afternoon Cadets completed the Tactical Combat Casualty Care, NBC MOPP Test and 100-meter swim test. "The hardest event for me on the first day was the swim test because I was tired from the morning physical workout and taking your uniform off in water is tougher than it appears to be" commented Sarah Loret who completed the event in under 4 minutes to get a go on the event.

The second day included the M9 marksmanship and the foot march. The M9 marksmanship required you to shoot at 3 targets 5 times where you had to put 3 shots on target for Bronze, 4 shots on target for Silver and 5 shots on target for Gold. "M9 Marksmanship was tough for me because I have never practiced shooting until a few days before the event" said Shawn Larkin who ended up getting Gold on the event. In the afternoon cadets rucked with 35lbs on their back for either 6, 9, or 12 kilometers depending on where they stood to get Bronze, Silver, or Gold. "The ruck was not too bad because I knew when I was finished I would be done with GAFPB and earn my Badge" said Nick Auck who finished in under 2 hours to earn Gold. Overall Ole Miss Cadets did very well where 4 cadets earned Silver and 7 cadets earned Gold.
Fallen Flag Co is a company that makes and sells flags, giving 10% of their proceeds to the Wounded Warrior Project.

They are a homegrown company dedicated to serving our military in any way and are always looking for new opportunities to do so.

Recently they reached out to the Ole Miss Army ROTC program by giving cadets and cadre 3’ by 5’ flags. The ROTC program looks forward to working with Fallen Flag Co in the future to support our military.

Each week the cadets take part in Combat Water Survival Training. The goal of the event is to make cadets more comfortable in swimming and working around the water. The cadets did a number of activities to include a 10 minute swim, a 5 minute tread in water, and a high dive confidence fall. After the required events were complete, Cadet Depumpo and a group of MSIV’s gave an instructional class on the proper way to swim in water.

Cadet Spencer is seen swimming with the rifle after completing the high dive. Mr. Johnson is the certified swim instructor and has a remarkable success rate in passing cadets on the CWST.

This year the Rebel Battalion Cadet Activity Fund received a big boost from fundraising events.

The cadets hosted the 2nd “Battalion Bash” at Soulshine Pizza Factory. The cadets sold tickets to supporters to come and enjoy unlimited pizza and karaoke. Many local businesses donated multiple items in support of the silent auction that took place at the event as well. For that event, the cadets raised $1800 in revenue for the ROTC Cadet Activity Fund.

The cadets are also planning the Chipotle and fundraiser and also assisting the Ole Miss Track and Field events.

The Cadet Activity Fund is used to support a number of events throughout the year including the Annual Dining Out.
Each year, Army, Navy/Marine, and Air Force ROTC come together to conduct the Chancellor’s Review in front of the Lyceum for all of the University Staff and Alumni.

Chancellor Vitter witnesses a military tradition of open rank inspection of each ROTC unit, a tradition of the commander inspecting the readiness of all service members. The event is followed by the Pass and Review around the circle, which each unit cadet commander salutes their cadre while leading their unit.
The senior class completed the annual Staff Ride to the Battle of Shiloh on March 3rd, 2018. Each senior was assigned a part of the battle to research and brief, which painted a bigger picture of the battle for each cadet. The cadets traveled to Shiloh and took pictures around the main museum. From there, they headed to the auditorium to view a short film of the battle. The cadets were then driven to Fraley Field where the first shots of the battle were heard. This is where Peabody’s U.S. 25th Missouri Infantry Division reconnoitering party were compromised, thus forcing them to retreat to Seay Field. Next, we drove over to Shiloh Church where Gen. Sherman encamped his troops on either side of the church. It was along this same ridge that he formed his first line of battle, and where he was first attacked by the Confederates. He succeeded in holding the ridge for about two hours before he was forced to withdraw. Next, we went to the portion of the battlefield known as the Hornets Nest. This portion of the battlefield remained a strong defensive position for the Unions soldiers until Brigadier Gen. Ruggle and his Battery of Artillery forced the Union soldiers to withdraw. According to tradition, the name was given to this area of the battlefield by Southern soldiers who said the zipping bullets sounded like angry hornets. Lastly, we drove to the Peach Orchard. This is where Confederate Gen. Albert Sidney Johnston died in battle, and remains the highest general officer to be killed in combat. Each year after the Staff Ride, the senior class enjoys a fantastic meal at a local restaurant in Shiloh, TN called Hagy’s Catfish Hotel. We are extremely grateful for the Alumni and their support in generously sponsoring our meal!
UM Army ROTC ran the game ball 41 miles from Oxford to Calhoun City to meet MSU Army ROTC at the halfway point. A team of cadets took turns running the 41-mile stretch to Calhoun City while carrying the game ball. Spectators and supporters cheered along the route. In Calhoun City, MSU and UM have the traditional ceremony in the beautiful Calhoun City Square.

All cadets took time out of their Thanksgiving Break to participate in this community event that makes the distance between our schools just a game, and bring about more community between each school.
On September 11th, 2017, the Rebel Battalion along with counterpart services ran in honor of the many first responders, and citizens that lost their lives on that fateful day.

This year, the run involved t-shirts and the placement of 3000 flags in the circle to represent the 3000 lives lost on 911. The guest speaker from Ole Miss Athletics was Shannon Singletary who ran the 2 miles and spoke to all attending the event.

This tradition will continue to bring the ROTC programs together with student veterans to make an impact on the Ole Miss community. This tradition is something we can never forget.

9-11 Run

Never Forget
This year, Army ROTC was invited to help with the wonderful organization: Feed The Hunger Pack-A-Thon. The Feed the Hunger Pack-A-Thon is hosted every year, however, Ole Miss was the first college campus to host a Feed the Hunger Pack-A-Thon! At this multi-day event, volunteers participate in a hands-on experience putting together meal packets that are shipped to at-risk children in Feed the Hunger programs all across the world! We are proud to support a great cause.
It’s that time of year again where we dress up in our Dress Blues and attend an event that capitalizes on our military history. Military Balls have always been a symbol of the subculture that exists among service members and are a time of reflection for all the events that have transpired in the year. It is such an amazing time and experience to have fun with all your classmates and pay respects to past and current service members. As an officer in training it is imperative to understand these events that take a pivotal role with military and specific unit history, because you might oversee the facilitation of one of these in your actual units.

Speaking on the dress code, military personnel are required to wear formal uniforms, while significant others are strongly encouraged to wear conservative formal dresses or tuxedos. If you have been to one of these events before, you know a little bit about what all goes into and a sense of what it means. However, for all of you cadets that this year is your first time, you should be excited and anxious to finally become a part of a sincerely important event, that is formal, but also a great time to network and connect with everyone in the program. We have a wonderful order of events planned with a guest speaker that will provide a very colorful insight on his time in the service, so let’s all come together to make this prolific time of year huge. Don’t miss out on this wonderful opportunity to gain some experience in military tradition!
### Commissioning Class of 2018

| 2LT Nathan Depumpo – NG Field Artillery | 2LT Joshua Duff – NG Armor |
| 2LT Joseph Eubanks – NG Medical Service | 2LT Alec Fecteau – AD Infantry |
| 2LT Wesley Ferguson – AD Medical Service | 2LT Sarah Gunnells – NG Aviation |
| 2LT Logan Hunt – AD Infantry | 2LT Kendall Jenkins – NG Military Police |
| 2LT Lakoda Kissee – NG Infantry | 2LT Hunter Kruse – NG Aviation |
| 2LT Donald Lorbecke – NG Engineer | 2LT Sydney McElwain – NG Medical Service |
| 2LT William Mooney – AD Aviation | 2LT James Morlock – AD Ordinance |
| 2LT Michael Ogden - AD | 2LT Jackson Pierron – NG Infantry |
| 2LT Christian Sanchez – NG Infantry | 2LT Lauren Schmucker – NG Military Intelligence |
| 2LT Michael Scott – NG Engineer | 2LT Johnny Taylor – AR Military Police |
| 2LT Cortez Thomas – NG Aviation | 2LT Tanner Zagst - NG |

### Commissioning Class of 2017

| 2LT Justin Adcock | 2LT Austin Interial |
| 2LT Edward Andrews | 2LT Jerrard Juzang |
| 2LT Kristina Blakeney | 2LT Mitchel Nelson |
| 2LT Kaleb Digby | 2LT Michael Nguyen |
| 2LT Katherine Dittmar | 2LT Edward Richardson |
| 2LT Quentin Dorman | 2LT Lashundra Rivers |
| 2LT Jonathan Dotson | 2LT Seth Rogers |
| 2LT Dustin Dykes | 2LT Ryan Scott |
| 2LT James Edwards | 2LT John Vinzant |

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CLASS OF 2017 AND THEIR FAMILIES.
Ole Miss Track Event
By Katherine Smith, MSIII

In efforts to sustain the funds, the students assisted Athletics with the spring Track and Field events. This was an opportunity to raise money and build relations with other departments on campus.

The committee has been continuously trying to improve the sales by reaching out to the student population what they would like to see done differently with events. In hopes for increasing funds, we recently added additional events to assist with the high school track meets as well. In the upcoming year, the relationship between athletics and military science will become more than just business, it will be an involvement. The track events are just some of the outreaching fundraising we do besides the Soulshine Pizza and Chipotle.

Rebel Battalion Sweatshirts
By Sydney McElwain, MSIV

With the guidance and approval, these students have worked together with a select group from each class in order to design a department sweatshirt. These sweatshirts are a cotton based ¼ zip consisting of the Ole Miss script on the front with the organization underneath. This design was based highly off of the Ranger Challenge design and continues to be a high seller. It was created in order to build morale and camaraderie within the battalion. The battalion sweatshirt has also been authorized to be a part of the uniform. Students may wear the sweatshirt for physical training sessions. The current long-term plan for these sweatshirts is to sell them online. With the target audience being Alumni from the Rebel Battalion along with the family members who show support to their loved ones through the program.

Chipotle Event
By Parker Cruise, MSIII

Coming up this spring will be the second Chipotle Fundraiser Event. Students, Family and Friends are welcome to come enjoy Chipotle on April 9th from 5pm-9pm. Just mention Department of Military Science and 50% of the proceeds will be given to the Department of Military Science Fund. We raised around $600 last year. We can definitely meet that goal again.
Rebels Lead The Way!

Address: Barnard Hall 101 University MS, 38677
Phone: (662) 915 – 7085
Email: caldwell@olemiss.edu
Website: http://http://https://army.olemiss.edu/

Like us on Facebook for more!
https://www.facebook.com/olemissarmyrotc/
(or search “UM Rebel BN”)

Rebel BN Alumni are encouraged to join the University Alumni Association to be a part of the future.

Coming soon:
April 20th – Dining Out
May 12th – Commissioning/Graduation
August 13th – New Cadet Orientation
September 8th – 9/11 Run
October 25th – Fall FTX
November 8th – Chancellor’s Review
November 19th - Egg Bowl Run
November 30th – Turkey Bowl
December 8th – Winter Commissioning
March 29th – Spring FTX
April 6th – Staff Ride
April 18th – Dining Out
May 2nd – Awards Ceremony
May 11th – Commissioning
### JOIN OUR TEAM

**OLE MISS ARMY ROTC SCHOLARSHIP OPTIONS:**

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<tr>
<th>Benefit</th>
<th>4-yr National</th>
<th>3 AD</th>
<th>Campus-based</th>
<th>Minuteman</th>
<th>DEENG</th>
<th>GRFD</th>
<th>Guard Non-scholarship</th>
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### Qualifications:
- US Citizen, 17 years of age, 10 AGT / 1030 SAT / passing ASVAB score.
- HS Sr, PCPFT, APFT (60%), 2.5 HS GPA, CIEET
- HS Sr, PCPFT, APFT (60%), 2.5 HS GPA, CIEET
- HS Sr, APFT (60%), 2.5 HS GPA, MEPS, physical, CIEET/CT
- HS Sr, APFT (60%), 2.5 HS GPA, MEPS, physical, CIEET/CT
- 30 college hours w/ 2.5 GPA, APFT (60%), Fr MSL courses, CIEET/CT
- 30 college hours w/ 2.5 GPA, APFT (60%), Fr MSL courses, CIEET/CT
- 30 college hours w/ 2.5 GPA, APFT (60%), Fr MSL courses, CIEET/CT
- 30 college hours w/ 2.5 GPA, APFT (60%), Fr MSL courses, CIEET/CT

### COMMITMENT:
- If assessed Active: 4yr AD + 4yr IRR
  - If not: 6yr Guard/Reserve +2yr IRR
- If assessed Active: 4yr AD + 4yr IRR + 6yr Guard/Reserve +2yr IRR
- If assessed Active: 4yr AD + 4yr IRR + 6yr Guard/Reserve +2yr IRR
- 6yr Guard/Reserve +2yr IRR
- 6yr Guard/Reserve +2yr IRR
- 6yr Guard/Reserve +2yr IRR
- 6yr Guard/Reserve +2yr IRR

### Points Of Contacts:
- **Army ROTC**
  - O: (662) 915-7085
  - F: (662) 915-5853
- **SFC Anthony Douglas**
  - C: (662) 488-5700
  - anthony.m.douglas5.mil@mail.mil
  - amdouglas@olemiss.edu
  - Ole Miss On-Campus-Recruiter
- **Mr. Scott Caldwell**
  - O: (662) 915-7236
  - C: (662) 202-6054
  - scott.caldwell@olemiss.edu
  - Ole Miss AROTC Recruiting Operations Officer
Last spring, the Executive Committee of the Ole Miss Army ROTC Alumni Association revised its SOP and addressed a number of issues, including its mission, election of officers, awards, and dues. Two categories of membership were created: General and Voting. Everyone commission through the Ole Miss Army ROTC program is a General member. However, the bylaws were amended to require a modest one-time $25 fee to be a Voting Member. All members are welcome to attend Army ROTC Alumni functions, but only those who have paid their dues are permitted to serve on the Executive Committee and vote on proposals.

To become a Voting member, send your $25 check to the address below with the check payable to the Ole Miss Army ROTC Alumni Association.

David Wells
6 County Road 218
Oxford, MS 38655

Membership fees are not substitute for the Endowment Fund or Cadet Activities Fund. Membership fees help defer the Association’s operation expenses, pay for awards, etc. The Endowment Fund helps provide scholarship support to deserving cadets. The Ole Miss Army ROTC Alumni Association encourages your support and participation in promoting and supporting a strong Army ROTC program and its cadets. Thank you.

David K. Wells (‘67)