

## ON THIS DAY



*10th Mountain Life features soldier shoutouts, photos of Fort Drum events, memories from post and more.*

*To recognize your favorite soldier or share photos, email news@wdt.net with subject "10th Mountain Life"*

## OUT AND ABOUT

■ At a Feb. 2 wreath-laying ceremony at the Florence American Cemetery in Italy, soldiers from the 10th Mountain Division at Fort Drum honored their predecessors who were killed 81 years ago during World War II.

A day later, soldiers were accompanied by U.S. Army Secretary Daniel P. Driscoll during a commemoration to honor the historic 1945 battle of Riva Ridge in Italy, where 10th Mountain Division soldiers executed a daring nighttime ascent to break the German "Gothic Line" during World War II, hastening the collapse of Nazi forces in northern Italy.

During the night of Feb. 18, 1945, soldiers with the division quietly ascended the icy, rugged slopes and cliffs. As the Germans slept in their covered positions, the division slowly climbed the ridge, covered by a blanket of fog and armed with the element of surprise. Once the Germans realized the division managed to scale Riva Ridge, they launched a series of counterattacks that killed 17 U.S. soldiers. However, after five days of fighting, the observation post was secured and in the Allies' control.

Maj. Gen. Scott M. Naumann, 10th Mountain Division and Fort Drum commanding general, was also among the soldiers on the climb.

**A Valentine's Day display in the East Wing Entrance of the White House on Feb. 13, 2023, featuring artwork from a classroom at the South Riva Ridge Child Development Center at Fort Drum.** Katie Ricks/White House

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# 10TH MOUNTAIN LIFE



Photos courtesy of the 10th Mountain Division



Soldiers from the 10th Mountain Division and across the U.S. Army participated in the annual D-Series event at Fort Drum from Jan. 28 to 30. This event tested the strength and agility of different squads in the U.S. Army to build cohesion while honoring the legacy of the 10th Mountain Division ancestors.



**Spc. Paul Kenny, an infantryman assigned to 11th Airborne Division, swims during the 25-meter relay race during D-Series, a multi-day winter competition at Fort Drum on Jan. 30.** Soldiers participating in D-Series had their mental and physical fortitude pushed to the limits by adapting and overcoming challenges such as qualifications for multiple critical weapons systems under simulated stress, and several hands-on tests validating knowledge over essential Alpine survival skills and unit history. Image by Cpl. Alyssa Norton/U.S. Army



**Pfc. Craig Vanderkoy, an infantryman assigned to 11th Airborne Division, jumps into the pool during the 25-meter relay race during D-Series, a multi-day winter competition, at Fort Drum on Jan. 30.** Soldiers participating in D-Series had their mental and physical fortitude pushed to the limit by adapting and overcoming challenges such as qualifications for multiple critical weapons systems under simulated stress, and several hands-on tests validating knowledge over essential Alpine survival skills and unit history.

Image by Cpl. Alyssa Norton/U.S. Army

