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E 1-34 INF BN

1<sup>st</sup> PLT Ruff Ryders

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14 Sep 08 / 15:01

Hey Dad,

This weekend we just finished Victory Hammer, which was an overnight field training exercise. We left Friday morning, and did or "React to an enemy" training in the forest, which is a lot harder than an open field. We set up our poncho tents and had MRE's for lunch. (Beef ravioli)

That night was crazy. We had to keep watch of course, and each platoon sent out recon teams to scout the other 3 platoons and their activities. Most of the night was basically a 4 team CTF match. Unfortunately, around 12:00 DS Campbell told us that the game was over and to go to sleep. Then, around 1:00 in the morning, an enemy platoon came in with about half of their platoon and kidnapped our 3 fire guards that were on shift. When it got to my 2:00 fireguard shift, me and my battle buddy were instructed by the platoon guide to go "rescue" the POW's. On our way over, (sneaking stealthily through the bushes) we teamed up with 3 others from our platoon. We made it all the way behind their perimeter to find that they had pulled 50/50 security all night. Eventually, they found us and tied us up and threw us in with the others. Some others from our platoon tried to rescue us which brought their total to 14. The next day we were returned and did more field training before returning to 1-34.

This next week is finally US weapons week and we're throwing grenades on Thursday. One day we are getting trained on the AT4, a rocket launcher. 2 in our platoon get to shoot the actual thing and I hope that's me. :) Then, one day we shoot M203 grenade launchers too.

We have 2 more field exercises and we're out of here! The overnight one we did was Victory Hammer. The next one, 3 days, is Victory Anvil. Then the long, 5-6 day one is Victory Forge. I leave the last one a week early to out-process.

-Kyle

19 Sep 08 / 04:10

Hey Dad,

I'm glad you're getting the car fixed. That's the last thing I need is a letter saying that my family died in a car crash 'case the engine blew up. :(

We finally did US weapons. I threw 2 frag grenades and shot the saw, M240, the .50 cal, the

AT4 (rocket launcher) and M203 (grenade launcher). The grenade shells were paint in the M203 though and the AT4's only shot 4mm tracers 'cause they-re cheaper.

I showed mt friend your XBOX pics and your problem. He said that when that happened to him, he replaced the x-clamps and replaced some washers or something.

Some time next week we start Victory Forge, a 5 day field exercise. When that's over, it's grad week. But not me. I go to Forge for 3 days, then come back, out-process really fast and leave. Oh well, I'll just get my phone sooner. (woot!)

I don't know when we leave for Victory Forge, but when I call you on Saturday (hopefully), I'll let you know. You guys should probably stop sending letters after that, so I don't have to worry about missing letters. (That would suck!)

Anyway, I'm on CQ right now so I better go get my laundry. Give the post card to Meagan okay?

-Kyle