

14th Combat Engineer Battalion (Rugged!)



555th EN BDE SHOULDER
SLEEVE INSIGNIA



COAT OF ARMS



DISTINCTIVE UNIT INSIGNIA



Commander



LTC D. Peter Helmlinger

Mission

On order, the 14th Combat Engineer Battalion deploys worldwide and conducts engineer operations in support of Army, Joint, or Combined operations.

Special Designation

Rugged!

Motto

Gong Mu Ro (Duty)

공무로

Command Sergeant Major



CSM Sterling P. Otto

Unit Web Page

www.lewis.army.mil/14theng/

Family Readiness Group

<https://www.armyfrg.org/>

14th CEB Association

<http://www.14thcombatengineers.org/>

Unit Description

The 14th Engineer Battalion is a Combat Effects battalion assigned to the 555th Engineer Brigade and based at Fort Lewis, Washington. The battalion is comprised of:

Headquarters and Headquarters Company (Renegades)

Forward Support Company (Fury)

570th Sapper Company (FIDO)

571st Sapper Company (Rock)

610th Engineer Support Company (Ghost Riders)

Current Activities

The Rugged Battalion deployed in April 2008 for its third tour in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. It is currently attached to the 20th Engineer Brigade (C) (A) and conducting route clearance and general engineering in support of Multi National Corps Iraq (MNC-I). In addition to its home station companies, the 937th Clearance Company (Combat Wombats) from the 8th Engineer Battalion at Fort Hood is attached to the battalion.

Lineage

Constituted 1 October 1933 in the Regular Army as the 2nd Battalion, 36th Engineers
 Activated 1 June 1941 at Plattsburg Barracks, New York
 Redesignated 1 August 1942 as the 2nd Battalion, 36th Engineer Combat Regiment
 Reorganized and redesignated 15 February 1945 as the 2827th Engineer Combat Battalion
 Inactivated 25 February 1946 at Camp Kilmer, New Jersey
 Redesignated 29 April 1947 as the 14th Engineer Combat Battalion
 Activated 15 March 1950 in Japan
 Reorganized and redesignated 15 March 1954 as the 14th Engineer Battalion
 Inactivated 25 June 1958 in Korea
 Activated 17 June 1962 at Fort Bragg, North Carolina

Campaign Participation Credit

<u>WWII</u>	<u>Korean War</u>	<u>Vietnam</u>	<u>Operation Iraqi Freedom</u>
Algeria-French Morocco*	UN Defensive	Counteroffensive II	Iraq
Tunisia	UN Offensive	Counteroffensive III	
Sicily*	CCF Intervention	Tet Counteroffensive	
Naples-Foggia*	First UN Counteroffensive	Counteroffensive IV	
Anzio*	CCF Spring Offensive	Counteroffensive V	
Rome-Arno	UN Summer-Fall Offensive	Counteroffensive VI	
Southern France*	Second Korean Winter	Tet 69 / Counteroffensive	
Rhineland	Korea, Summer-Fall 1952	Summer-Fall 1969	
Ardennes-Alsace	Third Korean Winter	Winter-Spring 1970	
Central Europe	Korea, Summer 1953	Sanctuary Counteroffensive	
* (with arrowhead)		Counteroffensive VII	
		Consolidation I	

Decorations

Meritorious Unit Commendation, Streamer embroidered KOREA 1950-1951
 Meritorious Unit Commendation, Streamer embroidered VIETNAM 1966-1967
 Republic of Vietnam Civil Action Honor Medal, First Class, Streamer embroidered VIETNAM 1970-1971
 Valorous Unit Award, Streamer embroidered IRAQ 2004
 Meritorious Unit Commendation (Pending for IRAQ 2005-2006)
 Combat Action Battalion (Pending for IRAQ 2005-2006)

History**World War II**

The 14th Engineer Battalion originated as the 2nd Battalion, 36th Engineer Combat Regiment and was activated on 1 June 1941 at Plattsburg Barracks, New York. The Battalion fought with distinction in ten campaigns during World War II, including five amphibious beach assaults: Algeria-French, Morocco, Sicily, Naples, Anzio, and Southern France. The regimental shoulder patch included a sea horse reflecting the unit's amphibious operations and is also on the 14th Engineer insignia. The regimental motto "Rugged" remains in use by the battalion today. In addition to numerous combat engineer missions, the Battalion frequently fought as infantry, including 47 continuous days at Anzio Beachhead. On 15 February 1945, while in Poxonne, Germany, the Regiment was reorganized as the 36th Engineer Combat Group, and the 2nd Battalion

(Companies D, E, and F) were redesignated the 2827th Engineer Combat Battalion. The Battalion was inactivated 25 February 1946 at Camp Kilmer, New Jersey.

Korea

The 2827th Engineer Combat Battalion was redesignated on 29 April 1947 as the 14th Engineer Combat Battalion. It activated 15 March 1950 in Kisarazu, Honshu, Japan, as part of the post-war occupation forces. The Battalion landed at Pohong-Dong, Korea on 18 July 1950 and participated in every major campaign of the Korean War. The Battalion was awarded the Meritorious Unit Commendation (less Company A) for fighting as infantry with the 25th Infantry Division and Task Force Allen, and for its role in the breakout of the Pusan Perimeter. Company A earned a Meritorious Unit Commendation for combat infantry missions in support of the 1st Cavalry Division and a Korean Presidential Unit Citation for clearing minefields on Line Golden. The Battalion was inactivated 25 June 1958 in Korea.

Vietnam

The 14th Engineer Battalion was reactivated 17 June 1962 at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, this time adding Company D to its MTOE. It deployed to Vietnam on 19 October 1966 and participated in twelve campaigns throughout a five-year period. The Battalion earned a Meritorious Unit Commendation for its role in Operations Gatling and Summerall and was awarded the Republic of Vietnam Civil Actions Unit Citation. 2nd Platoon, Company A was awarded the Presidential Unit Citation while supporting 2nd Battalion, 7th Cavalry during operations in Binh Thuan Province. The Battalion served with such units as the 1st Cavalry Division and the 101st Airborne Division. Volunteers from the Battalion also hauled ammunition to the surrounded Marines in the Khe Sahn Operation Pegasus.

Cold War

In late August 1971, the 14th Engineer Battalion (less D Company) returned to the United States and a new home at Fort Ord, California, where they assimilated the mission and personnel of the 613th Engineer Battalion. In August 1993, the battalion moved from Fort Ord to Fort Lewis, Washington where it served as the only remaining Corps wheeled engineer battalion on active duty. The 761st Chemical Company was attached to the Battalion from 1989 to 1993 and the 11th Chemical Company was attached from 1999 to 2005. From April 1999 to October 2005, Company B was redesignated as a Washington Army National Guard unit and remained attached to the Battalion.

Operation Iraqi Freedom

The 14th Engineer Battalion deployed to Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF1) with the 555th Combat Engineer Group and the 4th Infantry Division from April 2003 to April 2004. During this time the 14th supported numerous missions and was most noted for starting Operation Trailblazer. Using unarmored vehicles the 14th began the mission to search for and destroy improvised explosive devices (IEDs) designed to kill both coalition forces as well as innocent civilians. The battalion received the Valorous Unit Award for its efforts. The 14th returned to Iraq a second time with the 555th Combat Support Brigade (Maneuver Enhancement) from November 2005 to October 2006 for OIF 05-07 to continue this mission using new state of the art armored route clearance equipment in support of the 101st Airborne Division and Multi-National Division North. The 122nd Engineer Company (South Carolina Army National Guard) was attached to the Battalion to form Task Force Trailblazer. The 14th completed over 100 construction projects, cleared thousands of kilometers of road, and neutralized over 700 IEDs. The Battalion is pending the Combat Action Battalion Streamer for 67% of Soldiers in the Battalion earning the Combat Action Badge.

The Rugged Battalion transformed to a modular combat effects battalion in 20 February 2007, with the inactivation of Companies A and C and the activation of FSC, the 570th and 571st Sapper Companies, and the 610th Engineer Support Company.

Rugged!