

April's, Smuggler news

A Company has been work very hard this month. Operation Bull Whip has taken up the lion's share of work load. The Iowa National Guard, Task Force Red Bull organized the largest Air Assault this year. 4 CH-47 Chinooks, 5 UH-60L Blackhawks, 2 OH-58D Kiowa Worries, 2 AH-64 Apache Longbow Helicopters. The 2 lead aircraft in the Air Assault were A Company's!

After the Air Assault, A Co. flew various nights of resupply. A Company flew a vast amount of sling loads under night vision goggles up to several observation points located on mountain peaks at altitudes in excess of 6600ft. We also landed at these observation points. Half of these landing were one wheel or two wheel landing. This requires the Pilots and crews the balance the aircraft on one or two wheels holding the aircraft still while soldiers unloaded and loaded the aircraft. This feat was made even more demanding by the ever changing winds at that altitude in the mountains. With no roads to these locations, A Company kept the infantry soldiers of TF Red Bulls able to fight with food, water and ammunition. This was the most demanding mission A Company has completed to date. This undertaking pushed our helicopters and aircrews to their limit. All air missions were accomplished successfully. We supported the infantry on the ground with more than 155,000 lb of cargo air-lifted and many passengers flown in 9 days.

You should be exceptionally proud of you Soldier over here. They are working around the clock and doing amazing things.

Fantastic job, the 1SG and I could not be more proud!

CPT Brent Hilzendager