



Spring FTX 2013



WHO: Cowboy Battalion Cadets

WHAT: Field Training Exercise (FTX)

WHEN: 21 April 2013

WHERE: East of TA Staples

SUMMARY: The University of Wyoming Army ROTC "Cowboy Battalion" conducted Spring Field Training Exercise (FTX).

Due to inclement weather, the Cowboy Battalion was unable to travel to Camp Guernsey and conduct a combined Field Training Exercise (FTX) with Colorado State University and the University of Northern Colorado. Instead, the MSIIIs and MSIIIs from the Cowboy Battalion displayed their characteristic resiliency and adaptability by conducting training just east of Laramie where enough vegetation was present to better replicate Fort Lewis, Washington where the MSIIIs' leadership abilities will be evaluated this summer. Even though the Cadets were unable to go to Camp Guernsey and the FTX was shortened from four days to one day, it was a rewarding experience.

During the FTX the MSIIIs' critical thinking skills were put to the test. The situational training lanes were much more challenging than the usual Wednesday labs, and thanks to the dense vegetation and unfamiliar terrain, MSIIIs had to utilize their terrain association skills by using maps in order to make the best decisions. MSIIIs also honed their leadership skills by giving tactical operations orders and by leading other Cadets on tactical missions. MSIIIs gained valuable experience by observing MSIIIs perform under pressure and by serving as squad members throughout the exercise.

The Spring FTX proved to be realistic training and it provided an excellent opportunity for Cadets to sharpen the leadership skills that they have developed throughout the year. Ultimately, FTX was not only a fun event, but it was also an invaluable leadership development opportunity that will pay huge dividends for Cadets throughout their Army careers.



Cowboy Strong!