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Contact: Maj. Bruce Roberts, (801) 716-9052

For Immediate Release

Camp Williams Live-Fire Exercise Open to the Public

CAMP WILLIAMS, Utah – The 640th Regional Training Institute will conduct a live-fire training exercise the weekend of April 20-22. There will be approximately 300 rounds of ammunition fired over the three day exercise. They expect to start firing at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, April 20 and at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 21.

The public and media are invited to attend. On Friday at 8:30 a.m., 3rd Battalion will conduct a brief on the TASS drill floor for the visitors. At 9:00 a.m. a bus will take them to the 500 series firing points to observe training. This same format will apply on Saturday, April 21 for visitors. All protective equipment will be provided as well as a warming tent and refreshments.

The M109A6 Paladin is a self-propelled 155 MM howitzer. It entered into service in 1991, and is operated by a crew of five Soldiers. When not loaded with ammunition it weighs in at just over 28 tons. Maximum range of fire is 24 km with standard projectiles and 30 km with rocket-assisted projectiles. Maximum rate of fire is four rounds per minute. Sustained rate of fire is one round every three minutes.

The M109A6 Paladin has 360 degrees of firing capability and fires multiple rounds capable of many different applications:

- High-explosive rounds with air-burst capability.
- Illumination round, where the burst radius is lit up by a brilliant parachute flare or star shell. The area is lit as if by daylight, and the secondary burst area is lit as if by twilight.
- White Phosphorus rounds for incineration purposes and concealment
- Improved Conventional Munitions, a hollow round filled with grenades to saturate the burst area with fragmentation explosives.
- Rocket-Assisted Projectile, a conventional round with a rocket package to extend range.
- Laser-Guided Projectile, a smart round guided by laser.

Artillery is currently used as a show of force, counter battery fire, and illumination missions in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Media Notes: Ask for directions to the TASS building from the gate guards. For questions, please contact Maj. Bruce Roberts (801) 716-9052. RTI POC is Master Sgt. Gerald Robinson at (801) 716-9072.