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July 26, 2021

DVIDS Release

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## **Chattanooga native called to feed Soldiers of the Tennessee National Guard**

**FORT HOOD, Texas** – Sgt. 1st Class Doug Sarrell, a senior culinary specialist with the 230th Sustainment Brigade is currently in Fort Hood, Texas, supporting the 278th Armored Cavalry Regiment as they conduct their annual training.

Sarrell, a Chattanooga native, is leading a team of cooks as they provide meals for hundreds of Soldiers participating in the eXportable Combat Training Capability, a nearly month long training exercise.

“Culinary is something you have to have a passion for,” said Sarrell. “To me there is no better service for my Soldiers than to ensure they are well fed.”

While only eight of his 18 years of service within the Tennessee National Guard have been as a culinary specialist, he believes that this is where he is best able to provide the utmost service to his fellow Soldiers.

“We start to prep breakfast at two in the morning to have it out hot and ready by 7:00 a.m.,” explains Sarrell. “Then we clean up and start cooking again for dinner. My team works extremely hard and I know I have one of the best culinary teams in the state.”

Nearly 3,000 members of the 278th are in Fort Hood conducting an evaluated training event that tests unit capabilities under high stress situations. Still, with the strenuous training the Soldiers of the 278th are conducting, Sarrell knows the importance of maintaining troop’s morale.

“At times when Soldiers are out in the field, in the heat, and in constant go mode; health, welfare, and morale are a Soldier’s lifeline to thriving in this type of environment,” said Sarrell. “We are here to keep up morale, and if you eat, and eat well, it helps the whole organization accomplish its goal of a successful mission.”

Sarrell strives to remain consistent and disciplined so that other Soldiers can do the same.

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Sgt. 1st Class Doug Sarrell, a senior culinary specialist with the 230th Sustainment Brigade, is in Fort Hood, Texas, providing food services to nearly 3,000 members of the Tennessee National Guard. Soldiers from the 278th Armored Cavalry Regiment are in Fort Hood conducting the eXportable Combat Training Capability as part of the Annual Training. (submitted photo)

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