It's' A Bird, It's A Plane, No It's EOD

Posted At: November 23, 2016 7:08 PM | Posted By: Admin

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Fort Bragg, North Carolina Members of the Army's 767th Ordnance Company (EOD) made history earlier this month by practicing the Army's first conventional airborne EOD operations with members of the 82nd Airborne Division. The airborne training was provided to 16 EOD technicians as part of an effort to integrate EOD assets into the 82nd Airborne's global response force (GRF) mission. Other EOD technicians will be attending jump school at Fort Benning, Georgia.

The ultimate goal is to have an EOD battalion that is airborne qualified. The tricky part that the Army is working on solving is how to package the equipment and vehicles as well as explosives needed by EOD to support their mission. EOD units are typically loaded out with equipment and tools which need to be streamlined or consolidated to make it feasible for front-line operations.

Currently, the Army's only airborne EOD element is the 28th EOD Company, which supports only the 75th Ranger Regiment.