CPT John Yanikov '07 and CPT Michael Spurr '06 are deployed in the Horn of Africa as part of Operation Enduring Freedom. The Millersville graduates are both members of the United States Army Reserves and were selected to deploy with the 316th Psychological Operations Company, from Grissom Air Reserve Base in Peru, Indiana. Both recently transferred from active duty with the United States Army.

Yanikov is a 2007 Millersville ROTC graduate. Upon graduation, he received his commission as an Infantry Officer and served on active duty with three deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan. Yanikov transferred to the United States Army Reserves in May 2015 and was assigned to the 338th Psychological Operations Company at Fort Jackson, South Carolina. CPT Yanikov currently lives in Rock Hill, SC with his wife and two children.

After graduating from Millersville University in 2006, Spurr completed his master's degree in 2009 from UNLV. Spurr joined the United States Army in 2011 and was commissioned as a Field Artillery officer. He deployed to Afghanistan in 2013 and transferred to the United States Army Reserves in April 2015. Spurr was then assigned to the 303rd Psychological Operations Company in Coraopolis, PA and currently lives in Pittsburgh, PA.

Although Yanikov and Spurr attended Millersville University at the same time and even lived on the same floor in Burrowes Hall their Freshman year, the men did not officially meet until they were at Fort Bragg, NC, for the Psychological Operations Qualification Course.

On behalf of the MU Office of Alumni Engagement, we thank Yanikov and Spurr for their service and dedication to our country.