



Cambrian Patrol 26: the 186° Reggimento Paracadutisti "Folgore" wins the Silver Medal

Published on 08/10/2026

The 2026 edition of **Exercise Cambrian Patrol** stands as the largest and most complex ever organized since its inception in 1959. Held amid the striking, rugged terrain of Wales, the event has expanded with more phases and patrols to meet unprecedented demand from British units and international partners.

Capping an outstanding performance, the Italian Army celebrates the prestigious result achieved by the patrol from the **186° Reggimento Paracadutisti "Folgore"** of Siena, which earned an impressive **Silver Medal**, confirming its place among the world's leading tactical and operational forces.

Recognized internationally within military circles as the world's toughest patrol test for special forces and parachute units, this year's exercise involved **140 teams of 8 soldiers each** (75 from the British Regular Army, 15 Reservists, 13 from the University Officer Training Corps, 35 international patrols, and two mixed teams), supported by a contingent of more than 350

personnel responsible for organization.



An exhausting route through the Welsh mountains

The exercise structure offered no respite, pushing troops to the limits of their physical and mental endurance:

- **Start and preparation:** Assembly near Builth Wells, a thorough equipment inspection at Beulah, and preparation of tactical orders.
- **The march:** More than **60 km (40 miles) in approximately 48 hours** across the harsh, unforgiving terrain of the Welsh mountains, carrying heavy loads and under constant tactical pressure.
- **Assessment and finish:** Arrival at Sennybridge for the final testing phase, where accumulated scores determined the award of gold, silver, bronze medals, or the completion coin.

Skills tested for the modern battlefield

Organized by the **160^a Brigata (Gallese)** on behalf of *Commander Land Forces*, this year's edition was further updated to reflect the challenges of contemporary operational theaters. The patrols faced high-stress scenarios that included:

- Casualty evacuation and attacks on enemy positions
- Artillery fire planning and vehicle recognition
- Crossing minefields, rivers and lines of contact (*Forward Line of Own Troops*)

- Management of simulated CBRN (chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear) incidents
- Reconnaissance and intelligence-gathering missions

As emphasized by **Major Darren Pridmore**, the exercise's Commanding Officer:

"All of this is designed to test the skills soldiers need to survive and fight on the modern battlefield. It is a demanding assessment of leadership, resilience, tactical judgment and teamwork under pressure."

The technological shift: drones, information warfare and CBRN

Incorporating lessons learned from recent conflicts has brought significant new features to the 2026 edition:

1. **Persistent surveillance:** Patrols were continuously tracked by ground forces and **unmanned aerial systems (UAS/drones)**, forcing personnel to pay close attention to camouflage and route selection.
2. **Intelligence integration:** Use of hideouts (*safe houses*), static sensors and drones to build an accurate intelligence picture over time and identify targets.
3. **CBRN rigor:** Stringent checks on units' actual ability to operate equipped and ready in contaminated environments.

"The battlefield is evolving rapidly, and success increasingly depends on close cooperation among operators, innovators and industry," Major Pridmore added. *"Cambrian Patrol offers a unique opportunity to bring these communities together and maintain the operational edge."*

Brigata Paracadutisti "Folgore" and its tradition of outstanding results at Cambrian Patrol

The **Silver Medal** won by the **186° Reggimento Paracadutisti "Folgore"** in the 2026 edition continues a prestigious and well-established tradition for the Italian Brigata Paracadutisti. Over the years, "Folgore" units have consistently demonstrated an outstanding level of tactical proficiency, esprit de corps and physical endurance in the Welsh hills, achieving highly prestigious results:

- **187° Reggimento Paracadutisti "Folgore" (Livorno):** A leading performer in the 2025 edition, where the parachute unit's patrol earned a notable **Medaglia d'Argento**, outperforming almost all competing international and British teams.
- **Reggimento "Savoia Cavalleria" (3°) / Brigata Paracadutisti "Folgore" (Grosseto):** Having already distinguished itself in previous demanding Cambrian Patrol events by receiving the **Medaglia d'Argento**, confirming the consistent performance of the brigade's reconnaissance and parachute elements.
- **8° Reggimento Genio Guastatori Paracadutisti "Folgore" (Legnago):** Able to earn the **Medaglia di Bronzo** in one of the most demanding editions, excelling in the specific tests of land navigation, reconnaissance and negotiating complex obstacles.

This latest silver medal confirms that the personnel of Brigata Paracadutisti "Folgore" represent an excellence recognized within NATO, capable of competing and winning at the highest global level under the most extreme operational conditions.



EX CAMBRIAN PATROL 2025 RESULTS



CALL SIGN	UNIT	AWARD
E135	1 Bn The Princess of Wales Royal Regiment	GOLD
C205	NEW ZEALAND - 1st Battalion, Royal New Zealand Infantry Regt	GOLD
C305	10 Queen's Own Gurkha Logistic Regiment	GOLD
C330	2 Bn The Royal Gurkha Rifles	GOLD
D305	13 Air Assault Support Regiment RLC	GOLD
D335	16 Signal Regiment	GOLD
D405	CANADA - 5eme Groupe Brigade Mecanise du Canada	GOLD
E135	Gurkha Wing (Mandab) IBS	GOLD
F305	36 Engineer Regiment	GOLD
F315	Gurkha ARRC Support Battalion	GOLD
G105	AUSTRIA - Royal Australian Regiment	GOLD
G125	PAKISTAN - 21 Punjab Regiment	GOLD
G205	NEPAL - Nepali Army	GOLD
G235	30 Signal Regiment	GOLD
G305	23 Parachute Engineer Regiment	GOLD
G335	36 Engineer Regiment	GOLD
G405	14 Regiment RA (Wings Gurkha Artillery)	GOLD
G415	Gurkha Company (Tavolito) Waterloo Lines	GOLD
G435	9 Regiment RLC	GOLD
H210	Northumbria UOTC	GOLD
A135	4 Bn The Royal Yorkshire Regiment	SILVER
A210	8 Bn The Rifles	SILVER
A235	Yorkshire OTR	SILVER
B105	The Kings Royal Hussars	SILVER
B135	UZBEKISTAN - The MOD of The Republic of Uzbekistan	SILVER
B205	The Royal Dragoon Guards	SILVER
B225	1 Regiment Royal Horse Artillery	SILVER
B315	CHILE - Operations Directorate Chilean Army	SILVER
B335	CYPRUS - Cyprus National Guard	SILVER
B405	Commando Logistic Regiment	SILVER
B415	IRELAND - 6th Bde	SILVER
B425	22 Signal Regiment	SILVER
C115	NETHERLANDS - Netherlands Marine Corps	SILVER
C125	1 Bn Scots Guards	SILVER
C215	1 RSME Regiment	SILVER
C225	LITHUANIA - King Mindaugas Hussar Battalion	SILVER
C305	21 Engineer Regiment	SILVER

CALL SIGN	UNIT	AWARD
C315	1st Battalion The Queens Dragoon Guards/AUSTRIA - Joint	SILVER
C405	3 Bn The Rifles	SILVER
D115	FRANCE - 1 Regiment d'infanterie de marine	SILVER
D135	ESTONIA - Kaperprov Infantry Battalion	SILVER
D205	30 Engineer Regiment	SILVER
D215	BELGIUM - bataillon de Chasseurs a Cheval	SILVER
D235	LATVIA - Land Forces Mechanized Infantry Brigade	SILVER
D315	SPAIN - Brigada Galicia VII Briat	SILVER
D325	2 Bn The Royal Anglian Regiment	SILVER
E105	F Coy, Scots Guards	SILVER
E205	CENMARK - 2 Light Infantry Company - Stevig Regt of Foot	SILVER
E215	QATAR - Qatar Armed Forces	SILVER
E225	2RCR (The Gurkha Staff and Personnel Support)	SILVER
E305	14 Signal Regiment	SILVER
E315	CZECH REPUBLIC - 41 Mechanised Battalion	SILVER
E405	KOSOVO - Kosovo Security Force	SILVER
E425	7 Coy, Coldstream Guards	SILVER
F105	The Light Dragoons	SILVER
F115	ITALY - 187 Airborne Regiment	SILVER
F225	11 Logistic Regiment RLC	SILVER
F135	INDIA - 13 Garhwal Rifles	SILVER
F225	1 Bn The Rifles	SILVER
F325	The Royal Lancers	SILVER
F335	4 Military Intelligence Battalion	SILVER
F415	Gurkha Company (Sitting)	SILVER
G115	27 Theatre Logistic Regiment RLC	SILVER
G135	116th	SILVER
G315	Defence College of Support (DCSp)	SILVER
G425	Irish Guards	SILVER
H105	Queens UOTC	SILVER
H125	214 MMR	SILVER
H225	7 Bn The Royal Regiment of Scotland	SILVER
H235	15 Bn The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers	SILVER
R305	4 Bn The Mercian Regiment	SILVER
H315	6 Bn The Royal Regiment of Scotland	SILVER
H335	South West Officer Training Regiment (SWOTR)	SILVER
R405	Cambridge UOTC	SILVER

CALL SIGN	UNIT	AWARD
A105	London UOTC	Bronze
A115	Glasgow & Strathclyde UOTC	Bronze
A315	USA - 4 Bn, 8th Infantry Regiment	Bronze
A325	East Midlands UOTC	Bronze
A335	USA - US Army Cadet Command, Blueridge Battalion	Bronze
B115	The Kings Royal Hussars	Bronze
B215	POLAND - 7th Territorial Defence Forces Brigade	Bronze
B235	SAUDI ARABIA - Royal Saudi Land Forces	Bronze
C135	NORTH MACEDONIA - Reconnaissance & Intelligence Bn	Bronze
C415	PHILIPPINES - Philippine Marine Corps	Bronze
D105	5 Regiment Royal Artillery	Bronze
D125	8 Training Battalion REME	Bronze
E115	KAZAKHSTAN	Bronze
E415	17 Port & Maritime Regiment RLC	Bronze
F215	2 Bn The Rifles	Bronze
F235	16 Regiment Royal Artillery	Bronze
F405	12 Regiment Royal Artillery	Bronze
G225	ALBANIA - 3rd Bn Infantry	Bronze
H115	Southampton UOTC	Bronze
H135	Birmingham UOTC	Bronze
H205	The Royal Yeomanry	Bronze
H415	Wales UOTC	Bronze
A125	Glasgow & Strathclyde UOTC	Coin
A225	4 Bn The Princess of Wales Royal Regiment	Coin
A305	North West OTR	Coin
A425	Oxford UOTC	Coin
B125	TURKMENISTAN - Turkmenistan MOD	Coin
C235	GHANA - Army Special Operations Brigade	Coin
F205	ARMENIA - Armenian Armed Forces	Coin
G215	Queens Own Yeomanry/Albania	Coin
A205	2 Bn The Royal Irish Regiment	1st
A405	Wales UOTC	1st
D415	4 Regiment Royal Artillery	1st
E125	KYRGYZSTAN	1st
E335	4 Logistic Regiment RLC	1st

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