



FRONT & CENTER



Miss. National Guard takes the lead

The Mississippi Army National Guard's premiere air traffic control unit, the 2-185th Aviation Regiment showcased the Army's new, state-of-the-art Mobile Tower System (MOTS) at Camp Shelby's Auxiliary One Assault Landing Strip July 24.

The AN/MSQ-135 Mobile Tower System is the Army's newest rapid-deployable tower that will quickly establish air traffic control operations worldwide in all weather conditions, night or day, for military and civilian aircraft. Mississippi aviators are the first in the Army to implement the new MOTS system. This system could be essential for Mississippi aviators during missions associated with severe weather such as tornado and hurricane recovery efforts. Great job to all who contributed in the co-

ordination and demonstration efforts of this event.

Team, we continue the task of preparing service members for their mobilization missions as we welcome the 1151st Vertical Construction Engineer Company, Alabama Army National Guard; 150th Horizontal Construction Engineer Company, New Jersey Army National Guard; 150th Engineer Company Detachment 1, Delaware Army National Guard; 133rd Engineer Battalion, Maine Army National Guard; 955th Engineer Company, Missouri Army National Guard; and the 489th Engineer Battalion, Arkansas Army National Guard.

This month, we will welcome home members of the 109th Infantry Battalion, Pennsylvania Army Na-

tional Guard and the 268th Transportation Company, Puerto Rico Army National Guard. Thanks to all of you for your continued support and sacrifice during your deployment.

As school starts back for many, please be safe on the roadways. Wear your seat belts, obey the speed limits and traffic signs, yield for school buses and pedestrians in your local community and school zones and most importantly, do not text and drive.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) published in a recent article that testing while driving is six times more dangerous than driving while drunk. Another recent study completed by Harvard University revealed that more than 2,600 traffic deaths are caused each year by distracted drivers using cell phones and texting behind the wheel. There is nothing more important than you and your Family's safety. Stay alert and stay off of the cell phones while driving.

Thanks team, for your dedicated support as we continue the mission of mobilizing and demobilizing America's heroes in support of contingency operations around the world. It is an honor and a privilege to assist America's finest patriots as they embark on their journey for the continued fight for freedom. Thank you for all that you do and keep up the good work.

May God continue to bless you, your Families, and this great country. "SOLDIERS FIRST"!



Col. Brad Smith

SOLDIER

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Security courses

The Department of Defense Defense Security Service (DSS) Center for Development of Security Excellence (CDSE) offers security education, training and certification. Courses offered by CDSE are available to U.S. government employees and military members. Some courses are also available to employees of companies that have government contracts. There is no charge for any CDSE course; however, some courses require purchase of textbooks. The American Council on Education's College Credit Recommendation Service (ACE CREDIT) has evaluated and recommended college credit for 13 CDSE courses. For more information, contact the Camp Shelby Education Center at 601-558-2029 or email: John.f.junkins.naf@mail.mil

DANTES changes

DANTES Subject Standardized Testing (DSST) will discontinue paper-based DSST testing at education centers effective Aug. 31. The decision to eliminate paper-based exams is based on a steady decline over the past year.

DSST exams will still be available after Aug. 31 at National Testing Centers. Soldiers interested in DSST testing at Camp Shelby Education Center before testing is discontin-

ued should contact the Camp Shelby Education Office at 601-558-2029 or email John Junkins at John.f.junkins.naf@mail.mil

VOW requirements

Camp Shelby Soldiers transitioning from Active Duty must coordinate with the DPCA Plans/Ops Office and the ACAP counselor in Building 1441 to start their demobilization process as well in advance of the end of their orders as possible. Ideally that would be six months prior to the end of the order, but no less than 60 days from the order end-date.

The Veterans Opportunity to Work Act requirements may be completed online or in the classroom setting.

Soldiers may complete the requirements online or attend the classes which are held every Thursday in Building 1613 beginning at 7 a.m. Attendance to the classroom version must be coordinated with DPCA Plans/Op and the ACAP Counselor prior to attendance. If you complete VOW via virtual means, you must schedule an appointment with the ACAP Counselor for review of the documents produced in order to be cleared to continue the demobilization process. For more information, call the Camp Shelby ACAP Office at 601-558-2298.

H2H

Are you, or is someone you know looking for a job? Hero2Hired (H2H) is a Department of Defense program created to help Guard and Reserve members find employment. In addition to searchable job postings of mili-

tary-friendly employers all over the country, H2H provides many other valuable tools to find a job, all in one place. Visit www.H2H.jobs and sign up today!

SIFT testing available

The Selected Instrument for Flight Training (SIFT) has replaced the Army Flight Aptitude Selection Test (AFAT) and is now available at Camp Shelby Education Center. SIFT Testing requires a completed DA Form 4187 with verification of a GT score of 110. For more information contact John.f.junkins.naf@mail.mil

NRA Life of Duty

The National Rifle Association is offering free annual memberships for military service members, law enforcement officers and first responders through the Life of Duty program. For more information or to sponsor a membership, go to the NRA Life of Duty website at <http://www.nralifeofduty-tv/#/home>

Military HOMEFRONT

This is the official Department of Defense web site for reliable Quality of Life information designed to help troops and their Families, leaders and service providers. Whether you live the military lifestyle or support those who do, find what you need! - www.military-homefront.dod.mil/

VWIP program

Oak Arbor, a division of Pine Belt Mental Health, has received a VWIP grant and is

partnering with Pearl River Community College Workforce Development to provide services focused on enhancing the employability of eligible veterans within the Perry, Lamar and Forrest County areas. The programs will be Pipefitting, Commercial Truck Driving, EMT, Electrical and Welding. Additional training will be offered in Forklift training and Microsoft applications. Those completing the respective program will also get a Career Readiness Certificate. ACT scores are not required; only high school or GED. CDL training doesn't require high school or GED. EMT, CDL and Welding will be in Hattiesburg. Pipefitting will be in Poplarville. The program will pay for tuition and supplies. The point of contact at Oak Arbor is Latibiyatta McLendon, at tbuckhalter@oak-arbor.com or 601-545-2925; at Pearl River CC POC is Deborah Hewitt at dhewitt@prcc.edu or 601-554-5503. For more information, contact John.f.junkins.naf@mail.mil

MS degree in....

A team from the USM Center for Logistics, Trade and Transportation delivered a presentation on the MS Degree in Logistics, Trade and Transportation earlier this year. This unique degree is in demand and could pave the way for a career on the Mississippi Gulf Coast and other areas. For more information on this and other educational programs, contact the Camp Shelby Education Office at 601-558-2029 or email John Junkins at John.f.junkins.naf@mail.mil



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