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THE

ARMY AND AIR NATIONAL GUARD

# CAPITAL

## GUARDIAN

[www.dc.ng.mil](http://www.dc.ng.mil) / Summer 2015

# THE SKY IS THE LIMIT

113TH WING TRAVELS TO ALASKA  
FOR RED FLAG, READ MORE

**INSIDE**





## D.C. GUARD'S WHEELS KEEP ON ROLLING.

### LT. COL. KEVIN MCANDREWS

Director, State Public Affairs

The wheels of the D.C. National Guard never stop rolling. They were recently pointed towards Alaska where the 113th Wing participated in Red Flag, a multinational, air combat training exercise hosted by Eielson Air Force Base and Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson.

On the Army side of the house, we said goodbye to members of the 276th Military Police Company who deployed to Kuwait where they are assisting in managing the Theater Field Detention Facility at Camp Arifjan. They replaced 35 members of the 276th who deployed earlier and who we welcomed home recently.

We continued our state partnership with Jamaica hosting a subject matter expert exchange that included showing them how we keep our wheels rolling. The visiting members of the Jamaican Defense Force were shown our vehicle maintenance and replacement life cycle operations at Joint Base Anacostia-Bolling.

During the Fourth of July Celebration on the National Mall, our Soldiers and Airmen provided support to the District with crowd and traffic control. Not only that, but our 257th Army Band, "the Band of the Nation's Capital," led the Independence Day Parade to kick things off along Constitution Avenue. Our band had the honor of leading the elite marching units of each of the five uniformed services. The celebration drew thousands of people during the day and was capped off by a fireworks display over the nation's capital.

The 113th Wing Aerospace Control Alert Detachment reached a huge milestone with 5,000 alert events, a historic first for the nation.

There's a lot to keep up with when it comes to the D.C. Army and Air National Guard. We hope you enjoy catching up on us in this issue.



## CAPITAL GUARDIAN

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### MG ERROL R. SCHWARTZ

Commanding General, DCNG

We recently said farewell to our **DC Guard land component commander** Brig. Gen. Arthur Hinaman. Gen. Hinaman served an illustrious career as a helicopter pilot, leading state Army aviation, deputy director of joint staff, Joint Task Force commander for the 57th Presidential Inauguration and 74th Troop Command Commander. We are privileged to have known and worked with Gen. Hinaman and wish him and his family a fond farewell as he continues his civilian career.

As always, when one outstanding DC Guardsman moves on another outstanding DC Guardsman steps up to fill their shoes. We welcome Col William J. Walker as our new commander of the DC National Guard land component command. Col. Walker is responsible for the overall readiness, training, maintenance and operational employment of nearly 1,500 soldiers. Col. Walker's previous key assignments include vice commander, Partnership for the Americas, Brigade Joint Task Force – Jamaica; chief of staff, DC Army National Guard; deputy commander, Joint Task Force 57th Presidential Inauguration; and commander, Mobilization Augmentation Command. He also served as an operations officer in the Pentagon in support of Operation Noble Eagle in the wake of the 9/11 terrorist attacks.

The **DC Guard continues to deploy in support of our nation's military commitments**. We recently held a send-off ceremony for the 276th Military Police who are deploying to Camp Arifjan, Kuwait, in support of Operation Resolute Support. We salute the 276th and know they will represent the DC National Guard well during their deployment.

Most people know there are planes sitting alert round the clock to protect the skies over our nation's capital. Not everyone knows those planes are **DC Air National Guard F-16 Falcons of the 113th Wing, Aerospace Control Alert Detachment (ACA)**. Since 9/11, the 113th's ACA has responded to more than 5,000 alert events – more than double the amount of all other Guard alert units combined. In this issue of the Capital Guardian, we document a day in the life of our alert crews and maintainers.

The recent **Earth Day celebration** included the DC National Guard's 33rd Weapons of Mass Destruction Civil Support Team (WMD CST) supporting the Metropolitan and Park Police to keep the event safe and enjoyable for all participants. The Civil Support Team brings unique abilities to detect and counter weapon of mass destruction and are integral to the DC National Guard's support of civilian authorities.

Finally, I want to recognize our **DC National Guard Youth ChalleNGe Academy** for their participation in recent district events. Our cadets marched in the recent celebration of the anniversary of the Compensated Emancipation Act, which President Lincoln signed on April 16, 1862. The Act freed about 3,100 slaves in the District and was declared an official DC holiday in 2000 by then-Mayor Anthony Williams.

The Academy color guard also presented the colors for the first State of the District address by Mayor Muriel Bowser.

# DC NATIONAL GUARDIAN



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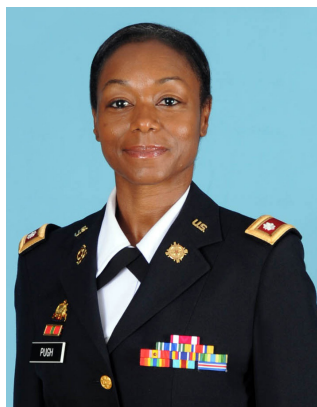
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## SEXUAL ASSAULT MYTHS & FACTS

**LTC RHONDA C. PUGH**

Sexual Assault Response Coordinator, DCNG

**MYTH:** Sexual assault is a crime of uncontrollable sexual passion or urge.

**FACT:** Sexual assault is an act of control and aggression. It is less motivated by the desire for sex and more motivated by the need to exert power and control over another human being.

**MYTH:** Rapists can be easily identified by their appearance and behavior.

**FACT:** The stereotypical image of the rapist is that he is “abnormal” and easy to identify. In media, rapists are often portrayed as deranged criminals. The majority of rapists, however, act and appear relatively “normal.” Serial “acquaintance rapists” are often extremely charismatic.

**MYTH:** Women are most often sexually assaulted by strangers.

**FACT:** Usually, women are sexually assaulted by someone they know—someone who has already been identified as safe and non-threatening. In college, acquaintance rape accounts for approximately 90% of completed and attempted sexual assaults. Community surveys reveal that approximately 80% of rape is acquaintance rape.

**MYTH:** Most sexual assaults occur in isolated places.

**FACT:** Sexual assaults happen anywhere and anytime. Sixty percent of assaults occur in the home of either the victim or the assailant. Sexual assaults also occur in public institutions, the workplace, and vehicles, as well as places traditionally identified as dangerous—parks, alleys, dark streets, and underground garages.

**MYTH:** A rape survivor will be battered, bruised, and hysterical.

**FACT:** Many rape survivors are not visibly injured. The threat of violence alone is often sufficient to cause a woman to submit to the rapist, to protect herself from physical harm. People react

to crisis in different ways. The reaction may range from composure to anxiety, depression, flashbacks, and suicidal feelings.

**MYTH:** Fighting back incites a rapist to violence.

**FACT:** Most rapists pick out potential victims they believe may be good targets without a fight. They actually may even test these women nonverbally or verbally before determining whether or not to attack. Recent studies of rape avoidance behavior have shown that the more options a woman knows, the more psychologically ready she is to resist. Both verbal and physical resistance may actually lessen the severity of injury in some instances. The most important thing to remember is that no one can tell another person what is right or wrong in a dangerous situation. Only s/he knows her/his own abilities, can assess the assailant’s behavior, and can determine what the possibilities are. Knowing some options may prevent feeling paralyzed by fear and may also help the survivor understand that submission is also a viable form of self-protection.

**MYTH:** Women lie about rape as an act of revenge or guilt.

**FACT:** A justice of the New York State Supreme Court has said, “False rape charges are not frequently made; only about 2% of all rape and related sex charges are determined to be false—the same as other felonies.” FBI statistics support this as well. False claims of auto theft are reported more frequently than those of rape.

**MYTH:** Men can’t be sexually assaulted.

**FACT:** Men are sexually assaulted. Between one in six and one in ten males are sexually assaulted. A majority of male survivors were assaulted when

they were children or teenagers, yet adult men can be assaulted as well. Any man can be sexually assaulted regardless of size, strength, sexual orientation, or appearance.

**MYTH:** Only gay men are sexually assaulted.

**FACT:** Heterosexual, gay, and bisexual men are equally likely to be sexually assaulted. Being sexually assaulted has nothing to do with your current or future sexual orientation. Your sexuality has no more to do with being raped than being robbed.

**MYTH:** Only gay men sexually assault other men.

**FACT:** Most men who sexually assault other men identify themselves as heterosexual. This fact helps to highlight another reality—that sexual assault is about violence, anger, and control over another person, not lust or sexual attraction.

**MYTH:** Men cannot be sexually assaulted by women.

**FACT:** Although the majority of perpetrators are male, men can also be sexually assaulted by women.

**MYTH:** Erection or ejaculation during a sexual assault means you “really wanted it” or consented to it.

**FACT:** Erection and ejaculation are physiological responses that may result from mere physical contact or even extreme stress. These responses do not imply that you wanted or enjoyed the assault and do not indicate anything about your sexual orientation. Some rapists are aware how erection and ejaculation can confuse a victim of sexual assault—this motivates them to manipulate their victims to the point of erection or ejaculation to increase their feelings of control and to discourage reporting of the crime.



**CSM WAYNE L. BOWSER, SR.**

Senior Enlisted Leader, DCNG

As the Senior Enlisted Leader of the District of Columbia National Guard, I am fully aware of all the hard work that goes into making this an elite organization. I would like to take just a moment for each of you to reflect on our command mission, vision, core values and strategic goals. With over 1,400 Army Guardsmen and more than 1,200 Airmen, we are stronger and smarter than we’ve ever been.

Here are some of the things we are doing great as an organization to become that Elite military command committed to excellence, ready to support the District of Columbia and the nation. The DCNG continues to go over and beyond the call of duty. We strive for excellence in all we do. Our Recruiting and Retention command has set the bar high in all efforts to meet our end of year end strength. One of the recruiting initiatives is the recruiting “Road Show” where a lead recruiter and unit members go into the city and talk to potential prospects in efforts to join the DCNG.

The DCNG Army Aviation section fly missions on a continual basis. Outside of their regular mandated mission, they are the primary helicopter transportation for the Chief of the National Guard Bureau as well as aviation for counter drug in the National Capital Region. The UH-60 Black Hawk is valued at more than \$6.41 million per aircraft and the UH-72 travels at a speed up to 170 miles per hour.

If you stop and take a look around the armory, you will see the tireless efforts of the CFMO team and the beautification of the building. We have the largest armory drill floor in the National Guard. The team has been doing an outstanding job keeping all areas of the building looking its best. The renovation projects are never ending. From the exterior and interior of the building, we all have something that we can be extremely proud of.

Throughout the different phases of these projects you can rest assure that this historic building has a lot of life left and we are all responsible for its upkeep.

## SENIOR ENLISTED LEADERS CORNER

The DCNG Capital Guardian Youth ChalleNGe Program is growing every day. Keeping in mind the program is not only to educate, train and motivate at risk youth from the District of Columbia but also to serve as a springboard for you to become a mentor. “You can help make the difference” please visit the website at [www.ngycp.org/state/dc](http://www.ngycp.org/state/dc) or call 202-685-8899 if you would like more information on becoming a mentor. We need your support.

The 113th Wing continues to focus on the federal and defense support of the civil authorities throughout this year. They have been extremely busy over the last quarter. The airman comprehensive assessment mission continues to provide the National Capitol Region with 24/7, which has contributed to a total of 74 events including 21 suit-ups, 20 battle stations, 31 runway alerts, and 2 scrambles. Two airmen were awarded 1st Air Force annual awards by Lt Gen William Etter. During annual training the 113th Wing supported the Savannah 15-1 exercise which involved 29 units, 1,582 airmen for 5,843 mission sortie events. The 201st Airlift Squadron provided Distinguished Visitor airlift for Congressional Delegations, the White House Military Office and the Department of Defense. The 113th Mission Support Group continues to provide civil engineering, communications, logistics, force support, security forces and contracting support. The 113th Medical Group continues to provide medical and dental support for over 1,100 wing personnel. Just to highlight a few of their past events.

In December 2014, Guard families and friends got a chance to see the entire DCNG participate in an awesome event that had not been seen in over 25 years. The Army and Air came together and performed an Awards and Decoration ceremony constructed, practiced, performed and lead by the Elite DCNG Senior Leaders. Again, hats off to all that supported this event as well as took countless hours to ensure the best DCNG drill and ceremony ever witnessed in years. We are still tremendously moving in the forward direction to striving to become that Elite organization.

Please continue to thank and support our Family Readiness Group, our elite Honor Guard, our civilians, contractors and security personnel. Capital Guardians, in order for us to become elite each of us must individually do our part.



# RED FLAG

A DC Air National Guard F-16 Fighting Falcon taxis on the runway moments before flight at Red Flag-Alaska 15-2 at Eielson Air Force Base, Alaska May 12. Red Flag-Alaska, is a multi-national, air combat training exercise that runs from April 30 to May 17. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Capt. Nathan Wallin)







## Youth ChalleNGe

Members of the District of Columbia National Guard's, Capital Guardian Youth ChalleNGe Academy Honor Guard, present the colors at the beginning of the State of District address by D.C. Mayor Muriel Bowser, March 31, 2015 at the Ford's Theatre in downtown D.C.

*Courtesy Photo*



A full-page photograph of Air Force Senior Airman Richard Gidron, a Black man with glasses, wearing a dark blue polo shirt and khaki pants. He is standing next to the open rear hatch of a dark-colored vehicle, focused on adjusting a piece of white equipment. A yellow ruggedized PDA or GPS device sits on a clipboard in front of him. The vehicle's interior shows various supplies, including boxes and bags. In the background, a clear blue sky and a white building with a poster titled "THE ITALIAN GALLERIES" are visible.

## On Duty

Air Force Senior Airman Richard Gidron monitors a piece of specialized equipment while on duty at the National Mall during the Earth Day Concert, April 18. Gidron, a member of the District of Columbia National Guard's 33rd Civil Support Team, was one of many D.C. National Guard members on duty during the Earth Day Concert in support of their inter-agency partners. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Capt. Nathan Wallin)



# CAPITAL GUARDIANS PROTECT THE NATION'S SKIES

JOINT BASE ANDREWS, Md. -- The 113th Wing's Aerospace Control Alert (ACA) Detachment reached a milestone of responding to 5,000 alert events, a historic first in the nation, in March.

"We have had 'Capital Guardians' on point, vigilant and ready to do what is necessary to defend the nation and the National Capital Region," said Lt. Col. John Vargas, commander of the 113th Wing's ACA, which was created on Sept. 11, 2001 in response to the 9/11 terrorist attacks on the United States. "As we approached this milestone of 5,000 events and with the region we protect here, our operational tempo is more than any other alert center in the country."

The 113th Wing's ACA mission includes aerospace control forces as part of the federal government's efforts to protect U.S. airspace and respond to alert calls with around-the-clock alert teams ready to launch F-16 Fighting Falcons and other aircraft at a moment's notice for a rapid response to airborne threats and air emergencies. The D.C. Air National Guard's F-16s and ready trained personnel are part of a multi-layered air defense system for the nation's capital.

Here, the D.C. Air National Guard has four components to the immediate local ACA team. Command post controllers listen for alerts and regularly communicate with higher headquarters. Secondly, the active duty component of the 11th Wing Security Forces provides security to the D.C. ANG's ACA location and compound area. The remaining two components of the ACA team are comprised of pilots and maintainers.

"To be able to stand out and stand alone in numbers comparatively, that is a testament to the individuals here - our commander, our pilots, our team," said Master Sgt. Curtis Hills, maintenance alert team supervisor. "That milestone is a first and you really cannot put it into words the impact that it does for the individuals here to achieve that. It is phenomenal to hit that milestone and for everyone here to be a part of that because it really is a team effort."

Although the 113th Wing's pilots, maintainers, and controllers drive the ACA mission 24/7, the entire D.C. Air National Guard works alongside their active duty counterparts in the 11th Wing to form a cohesive team that oversees operations, maintenance, mission and medical support.



**MASTER SGT. BECKY VANSBUR**  
**124TH FIGHTER WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS**



# EYES ON THE SKIES

**113TH WING  
ACA DETACHMENT  
SETS MILESTONE  
WITH OVER 5,000  
ALERT MISSIONS  
SINCE 9/11**

A D.C. Air National Guard F-16 Fighting Falcon waits, ready for flight at Eielson Air Force Base, May 12 during Red Flag-Alaska 15-2. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Capt. Nathan Wallin)



**“THERE ARE APPROXIMATELY 15 UNITS TOTAL, IF YOU ADD UP ALL OF THEIR ALERT CALLS AND DOUBLE THAT, IT DOESN'T COME CLOSE TO THE AMOUNT OF ACTIVITY WE HAVE HAD. THIS IS A WELCOMED RESULT OF BEING NEXT TO THE NATION'S CAPITAL.”**

**COL. W. MARK VALENTINE**  
Former 113th Operations Group Commander

“This truly is a total force effort,” said Brig. Gen. George Degnon, 113th Wing commander. “We are enabled by the hard work and efforts of many airmen working behind the scenes. A tremendous amount of coordination is continually being conducted between multiple agencies prior to us getting the call. Our pilots are highly trained and ready to go at a moment’s notice.”

When the alarm sounds, there are no questions, no hesitation, and no debate. Pilots and maintainers dash through the hallway and literally run to the aircraft bay and generate aircraft - all in a matter of minutes.

“Every day that we come down here to the alert facilities, we don’t come with the mindset that this is another day at the office,” said Vargas. “We arrive with the mindset that today is the day, the day that my actions are going to prevent an attack on our nation’s capital. Every second that we are able to save in our response is a second that we know could be the difference in mission success.”

The D.C. ANG’s ACA has been the most active alert detachment in the history of the Department of Defense, according to Col. W. Mark Valentine, 113th Operations Group commander. To understand the significance of the achievement, he explained the difference between the numbers of alert calls of the D.C. unit with those of other units from around the country.

“There are approximately 15 units total,” Valentine said. “If you add up all of their alert calls and double that, it doesn’t come close to the amount of activity we have had. This is a welcomed result of being next to the nation’s capital.”

After the ACA detachment was created on Sept. 11, 2001, specific flight rules were also established, including special restrictions around D.C. and regional icons. Aircraft and airmen were soon

placed on a 24/7 status and ready to take whatever tactical actions necessary to defend the National Capital Region from any threat from that day forward.

“We have members who have been here since 9/11 who work and live in the D.C. area, and are able to leverage our experience and familiarity with the local public,” Degnon said.

Valentine remembers that day clearly. For him, this milestone is personal as Sept. 11, 2001 was his first day in the Air National Guard here at Joint Base Andrews. He was receiving a tour of his new work station when an intelligence officer announced that an aircraft had hit the World Trade Center.

“I will never forget the moment looking at that TV screen. The hair on the back of my neck stood up when I realized that it was a beautiful day out with not a cloud in the sky and I knew that was not an accident,” Valentine said. “After the second plane hit, it felt like we stared at the screen for hours, but in reality it was only a few seconds. Everyone immediately began executing their part in getting the aircraft airborne.”

“That was the day that the ACA mission was born. I was here when the first sortie took off for this emergency and I am here now almost 15 years later to witness us pass 5,000 alarm events.”

Similar to Valentine’s unforgettable alert experience in 2001, the 5,000th alert also marked a special event for 1st Lt. Jacob Zuberi, who joined Vargas to respond to the alarm. Zuberi, the youngest mission-ready pilot in the unit, happened to be serving on his first alert shift.

“Having Lt. Zuberi on shift for the 5,000th mark sends a message that we will remain vigilant and ever ready,” Vargas said. “To date, the ‘Capital Guardians’ have had a great deal of success in the defense of the National Capital Region. We will treat our 5,001st event with the same intensity that we did for every event in the last 14 years and for years to come.”



# CAPITAL GUARDIANS BID FAREWELL TO D.C. ARMY GUARD LEADER, WELCOME NEW COMMANDER

**B**rigadier General Arthur W. Hinaman, commander, District of Columbia National Guard land component command, relinquished command to Col. William J. Walker during a ceremony April 25 at the D.C. Armory in front of an audience of Soldiers, family and friends from across the nation.

As Hinaman handed the command guidon to Maj. Gen. Errol R. Schwartz, District of Columbia National Guard commanding general, symbolizing the relinquishment of command, he was also saying farewell to the Army after 32 years of service. Schwartz then passed the guidon to Walker, symbolizing the transfer of command to a new leader.

In the last speech he would give in front of the formation of his Capital Guardian Soldiers, Hinaman reminisced over his career with lots of humor and a few moments of emotion.

The length of Hinaman's time in command is a testament to his leadership, according to Schwartz. "He added value in every assignment given to him," Schwartz said. "He is the longest serving current land component commander in the nation (Army National Guard)".

Hinaman started his career in 1982 as an active duty armor officer driving tanks in the mud and shooting rounds on the range, but he never gave up on one day. Other assignments during his nine years as an active duty officer include: 2nd Squadron, 17th Cavalry Regiment, 101st Airborne Division at Fort Campbell, Kentucky; U.S. Aviation Company, Multinational Force, Sinai, Egypt; and I Company, 4th Aviation, Finthen Army Airfield, Germany.

In 1992, Hinaman left active duty to spend more time with his family, and reported for duty at the D.C. National Guard as a Chief Warrant Officer Maintenance Test Pilot. Thirteen months later, Hinaman traded his chief warrant officer rank for the captain's bars he wore as an active duty officer.

His key D.C. National Guard leadership assignments include: state aviation officer, deputy director of the Joint Staff, chief of staff (Army), and commander, 74th Troop Command.



Brig. Gen. Arthur W. Hinaman, Land Component commander, District of Columbia, and retired Command Sgt. Maj. Richard Espinosa, lead a group of 200 Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen across the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma, Alabama. The group walked in memory of the "Bloody Sunday" conflict when armed officers attacked peaceful civil rights demonstrators attempting to march to the state capital of Montgomery, Ala., on March 7, 1965. (U.S. Army photo by Staff Sgt. Gigail Cureton, 715th Public Affairs Detachment)

**"TODAY IS A SAD DAY FOR ME, AS I GIVE UP COMMAND OF THE FINEST FORMATION IN THE U.S. ARMY. I WAS BLESSED TO HAVE COMMAND OF THE D.C. ARMY GUARD FOR 5 1/2 YEARS. THAT IS REALLY ABOUT TWICE AS LONG AS ANYBODY SHOULD BE IN COMMAND OF THE SAME ORGANIZATION, BUT I LOVED EVERY MINUTE OF IT," SAID HINAMAN.**

After thanking family, friends, mentors and individual Soldiers who have been instrumental in his successful military career, Hinaman reserved his final words for the formation of troops standing in formation at parade rest. "You are getting a great leader as your new commander. Col. William Walker has proven himself, not only as a civil servant at the highest levels of the executive service but also as an Army officer with experience in the combat zone. Capital Guardians, take care of Col. Walker as you have taken care of me."

Hinaman will continue working at the U.S. Forest Service, spending time with his grandchildren, and "doing whatever my wife needs me to do now that my weekends are no longer committed to the Guard."

One leader departs and another is ready to assume command.

In his new assignment as the commander, land component command, Walker is entrusted with the overall readiness, training, maintenance and operational employment of nearly 1,500 Soldiers assigned or attached to Army units of the District of Columbia National Guard.

Walker's previous key assignments include vice commander, Partnership for the Americas, Brigade Joint Task Force-Jamaica; chief of staff, District of Columbia Army National Guard; and deputy commander, Joint Task Force 57th Presidential Inauguration. He has served as an operations officer in the Pentagon in support of Operation Noble Eagle following the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001. In 2011, Walker

served on active duty with the International Security Assistance Force, Afghanistan.

He assumed command of the Mobilization Augmentation Command in March 2013, where he provided strategic guidance and executive leadership for field grade officers augmenting the U.S. Army's Operations Center, the National Guard's Emergency Operations Center and various other operational centers in the National Capital Region.

"I am truly awestruck of having the opportunity to lead and to serve this vast talent that makes up the District of Columbia National Guard Land Component Command," said Walker. "It is truly a unique organization, and what a privilege and high honor it is to follow in the footsteps of General Arthur Hinaman.

"General Schwartz thanks for your service, your leadership and your profound example to me and thank you for the confidence in my ability to build upon the distinctive accomplishments of the officers and leaders that I mentioned. I pledge to do everything in my power to continue that momentum and lead this extraordinary organization to new heights," Walker added.



Maj. Gen. Errol R. Schwartz, commanding general, District of Columbia National Guard, and Col. William J. Walker, incoming commander, land component command, listen to remarks during change of command ceremony. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by Staff Sgt. Gigail Cureton)



# NO PAIN, NO GAIN

276TH MP'S TRAIN FOR CORRECTIVE OFFICER CERTIFICATION

Staff Sgt. Michael McCullough of the 276th Military Police Company, District of Columbia National Guard, practices defense techniques during an OC spray training course held at Fort Leavenworth, Kan. The course was part of the unit's annual training held, Aug. 4-16. (U.S. Army Photo by Spc. Tyrone Williams)

**"IT TAKES A CERTAIN TYPE OF ATTITUDE AND DEMEANOR TO WORK IN CORRECTIONS,"  
STAFF SGT. MATTHEW HICKS, AN INSTRUCTOR FOR THE 705TH MILITARY POLICE BATTALION.**

**SGT TYRONE WILLIAMS  
715TH PUBLIC AFFAIRS DETACHMENT**

FORT LEAVENWORTH, Kan. — Not many people would volunteer to be pepper sprayed. Yet Soldier after Soldier stepped up to be sprayed with Oleoresin Capsicum, a chemical compound that irritates the eyes to cause tears, pain, and even temporary blindness. In order to be permitted to carry the spray, Soldiers of the 276th Military Police Company, District of Columbia National Guard, had to be sprayed themselves. The soldiers endured an obstacle course of knee jabs and elbow jabs, defending themselves and subduing a prisoner before they were permitted to rinse the OC spray from their eyes.

The military police needed their certifications to work as corrections officers in storied United States Disciplinary Barracks at Fort Leavenworth. Upon arrival to Kansas, the soldier's first mission was to complete the last four days of their corrections officer training at the 705th Military Police Battalion Corrections Academy Course that began last summer. The MP's entered the prison to work shifts and receive on the job training.

The MP's preparation began at the Regional Training Institute where the soldiers were taught by a mobile training team.

"This way allows for more work time as opposed to training," said Sgt. First Class Kenneth Nichols, readiness NCO of the 267th Military Police Company

referring to the allocation of the MP's annual training time.

The training schedule varied in difficulty and was a mixture of classroom and hands on experience including frisk and search inspections and OC spray certification. The curriculum is created to prepare the soldiers for any situation they would be confronted with in the prison.

The training was very physical. During the unarmed self-defense portion, soldiers performed strikes and counter measures to learn to defend themselves. During the force cell move training, soldiers wore riot gear and were put in the scenario of subduing an unruly inmate in his cell.

"The training was good and effective, the instructors were knowledgeable, and they knew exactly what we needed to know to work in a prison," said Sgt. Hector Lugo, team leader, 276th Military Police Company. "It gave you confidence that you could do it."

The soldiers also possessed different levels of experience.

"On the military side there is more discipline and regulation to policing a prison," said Staff Sgt. Michael McCullough, a Platoon Sergeant in the 276th with over a decade of experience in corrections. "There's more control, but when it's all said and done it's about survival."



## AIR COMBAT TRAINING: RED-FLAG ALASKA

**CAPT NATHAN WALLIN**  
113TH WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER



“The Thunderdome,” the largest base hangar at Eielson Air Force Base. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Capt. Nathan Wallin)

**“IT’S IMPORTANT THAT THE 113TH PARTICIPATES IN RED FLAG BECAUSE WE’RE A COMBAT UNIT AND THAT’S WHAT RED FLAG IS DESIGNED TO DO.”**

**COL. W. MARK VALENTINE**  
Former 113th Operations Group Commander



A D.C. Air National Guard F-16 Fighting Falcon takes off on a training mission during Red Flag-Alaska May 12. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Capt. Nathan Wallin)

EIELSON AIR FORCE BASE, Alaska – “It’s a lot of work, but it’s a lot of reward as well.”

That’s how Col. Mark Valentine described Red Flag-Alaska, a two-week combat air power exercise hosted by Eielson Air Force Base and Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Alaska. Valentine, the 113th Wing operations group commander, is deployed here with several others from the D.C. Air National Guard to participate in the joint exercise.

“I like the tempo,” said Staff Sgt. Burney Williams, a crew chief with the 113th Maintenance Group. “We fly more jets and the timeframe is quicker.”

Inaugurated in 1976 and originally named “Cope Thunder,” RF-A takes place in the Joint Pacific Range Complex, an airspace military flight training range totaling 67,000 square miles, a portion of land larger than the state of Florida.

RF-A training mimics a variety of air combat scenarios and puts pilots into stressful and realistic conditions involving a range of combat threats.

“They’re robust scenarios with hundreds of airplanes involved,” said Valentine. Studies show that a pilot’s first 10 combat missions are the most perilous. The stated goal of RF-A is to “provide each aircrew with these first vital missions, increasing

their chances of survival in combat.

113th Wing pilot, Maj. Wyck Furcron, points to the realism of the RF-A training.

“It’s the most realistic thing you’re going to see in relation to actual combat,” he said. “You experience things (at RF-A) you’re not ever going to experience until you get to actual combat.”

RF-A is a Total Force and international endeavor. Pairing Air National Guardsmen with Air Force Reservists, the active duty Air Force and Canadian aviators, participants have the opportunity to learn from one another, share solutions, tactics, techniques, and procedures.

Furcron highlights the importance of training with other military personnel.

“You get to see how other units run their tactics in relation to yours,” he said. “It’s probably the most beneficial thing we do in the exercise.”

“It’s important that the 113th participates in Red Flag because we’re a combat unit and that’s what Red Flag is designed to do,” said Valentine.

Crew Chiefs of the 113th Wing, walk down the flight line at Eielson Air Force Base in Alaska following a successful morning launch. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Capt. Nathan Wallin)





# THE SOUND OF MUSIC

**SSG GIGAIL CURETON  
715TH PUBLIC AFFAIRS DETACHMENT**

In the early 17th century, a signal by drummers or trumpeters was an indication for taverns near military bases to turn off the taps and for soldiers to return to their barracks. The trumpet and horn sounds filling the District of Columbia Armory June 6 and 7 had an entirely different meaning. Instead of ending the fun, the music set the stage for a celebration.

The Spirit of the District of Columbia Tattoo featured the sounds, sights and spectacle of marching units, military demonstrations and music-lots of music. The annual event, hosted by the 257th Army Band, follows the tradition of the military tattoo ceremony. The word “tattoo” is thought to be derived from the Dutch phrase “doe den tap toe,” which translates to “turn off the tap.” The local bartenders were under instructions to turn off their beer taps and send the soldiers out. Hundreds of years later, tattoo ceremonies have become elaborate indoor and outdoor military pageants featuring patriotic and contemporary music. With performances by the 257th Army Ceremonial Band, and its Brigadier Brass, Capital Messengers and Capital Sound ensembles, the Spirit of the District of Columbia lived up to its name with a non-stop hour of entertainment that had the more than 500 military and civilians guests singing, clapping and dancing along.

The two performances were the culmination of more than six months of planning and practicing. “This is one of the biggest events we do here at the armory,” said Sgt. Andrew Waiters, band drum major and clarinet player. “Music is an important bridge-builder and a great way to bring people to the armory. It’s a great way to reach out to children. They really seem to enjoy what we do and it’s a motivator,” Waiters added.

Alana Whitehead, 6, and her dance partner Ashtyn Ono, 4, twirled across the wooden drill floor for most of Capital Sound’s lively contemporary music set testing the dance skills and endurance of band members attempting to keep up with them.

**“MUSIC IS THE UNIVERSAL LANGUAGE IT IS EMOTION AND ENERGY, SO WE ARE GOING TO BRING BOTH, AND HOPE THE AUDIENCE IS FEELING WHAT WE ARE FEELING.”**

**- SPC CHARLES BERRY.**



## PHOTO (ABOVE)

The 275th Army Band marched for their audience at the “Spirit of the District of Columbia” at the Joint Force Headquarters June 6. Sgt. Andy Waiters, the drum major watched as the band played its final song. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by SPC Tyrone Williams)

## PHOTO (LEFT)

The 275th Army Band’s Brass Ensemble plays “Human Nature” at the Spirit of the District of Columbia Concert at the Joint Force Headquarters in Washington D.C., June 6. The band has upcoming performances ranging from National WWII memorial to Pentagon Row. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by SPC Tyrone Williams)

## A Community Affair

“The tattoo shows the versatility of what we can do. Performances like this add to the public visibility of not just the band but of the D.C. National Guard,” said Sgt. Vicki Golding, lead vocalist for the Band of the Nation’s Capital. “It is important to reach out to the community not just in the traditional way during emergencies. The Guard is very much a part of the community so having the community come to our house and have a good time with good music is a great community relations event,” she added.

In addition to Soldiers of the 257th Army Band, the tattoo featured the Northern Virginia Firefighters’ Emerald Society Pipe Band playing traditional Celtic music and New Guard America, a professional civilian rifle exhibition team whose rifle drills include spinning and tossing weapons with 10-inch steel bayonets.

After the final Sunday afternoon performance, 1st Sgt. Brian Jones reflected on the efforts of his 29-member band. “I couldn’t be more proud of my Soldiers. The week leading up to the concerts was full-throttle getting ready. They worked hard and put everything they are as professional Soldiers and musicians into putting on a good show,” Jones said.

The D.C. National Guard’s commanding general was equally impressed. “The band always does a great job and represents our D.C. Guard well every time and everywhere they perform,” said Maj. Gen. Errol R. Schwartz.

The 257th Army Band boasts a proud lineage going back to the organizational lineage and association with the legendary Corcoran Cadets, the D.C. militia that inspired John Philip Sousa to compose his march of the same name. Although centrally located among the finest military bands in the world, the 257th is officially recognized as “The Band of the Nation’s Capital”.





Tech. Sgt. Justin Foulsham waves to the crowd as he and fellow D.C. Air National Guard member Senior Master Sgt. William Liston are honored for their service prior to the Washington Wizards home game against the Golden State Warriors, Feb. 24. Both Foulsham and Liston are 2014 DCANG annual award winners (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Master Sgt. Craig Clapper)

# 113TH WING AIRMEN VISIT THE WIZARDS

**MAJ MICHAEL ODLE**  
**113TH WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER**

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Rising in unison and clapping feverously as if Merlin himself had cast a spell, a frenzy swept the crowd at the Verizon Center Feb. 24. It wasn't the local NBA basketball team, the Washington Wizards, causing the commotion, but the men and women standing proudly center court that roused the fans to cheer and many to stand. The evening highlighted the Airmen of the 113th Wing, D.C. Air National Guard, a sort of community appreciation night, hosted by the Washington Wizards and Monumental Sports.

To jumpstart the awestruck crowd, two of the 2014 Airmen of the Year stood proudly in line with the Wizards basketball team on the center court. The crowd roared loudly as Senior Master Sgt. William Liston and Tech. Sgt. Justin Foulsham were introduced; the two Airmen stood with their hands firmly grasping the game-day sprit banner, as if to transfer the energy, dedication and commitment of the Air National Guard to the team. Followed by a wave of the American flag, the crowd fell silent as the 113th Honor Guard presented

**“THIS TYPE OF EVENT IS ALL ABOUT AWARENESS. WE CAN NEVER HAVE TOO MUCH AWARENESS ABOUT THE D.C. AIR NATIONAL GUARD.”**

the colors. Silence rippled throughout the arena and all eyes fell on the Airmen who effortlessly glided across the court to display the colors.

As the game began and the Wizards displayed their athletic prowess on the court, 113th Wing Airmen also displayed their unique skills, albeit in the arena concourse. Recruiters Master Sgt. Sean Young and Tech. Sgt. Ronald Yarnell used their power of words to discuss with Wizards fans the benefits of joining the nation's premier Air National Guard unit.

“People don't always put two and two together about the Air National Guard,” said Young. “We tell our story, explain who we are, where we are located and people start to get it.”

When the buzzer sounded at halftime, game goers' attention turned yet again to the D.C. Air National Guard. Prominently taking their spot for all to see were four Airmen of the 113th Security Forces Squadron who recently deployed to Southwest Asia.

“I was nervous and I had a pit in my stomach,” said Airman 1st Class Anthony Robinson. “But when I got on the floor with my other Airmen in front of the thousands of fans screaming and waving, it turned into excitement, smiles and waves. It was a great feeling representing the 113th.”



Members of the 113th Wing D.C. Air National Guard Honor Guard present the colors prior to the Washington Wizards home game against the Golden State Warriors. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Senior Airman Jennifer Stone)

Also joining the distinguished group on the basketball court was Senior Airman Ishmael Josiah, who had reenlisted that day for another six years of serving his D.C. community and country as a Capital Guardian.

“I would have never imagined doing anything like this,” said Josiah. “It was just awesome to be down there [on the court] with the crowd cheering. I felt a real sense of pride.”

“It was bright,” he added. “I couldn't see my wife [in the stands], but I knew she was out there recording every moment. Even after the event on our way out, it took us awhile to get out of the arena with people waving and coming up to us, shaking our hands and thanking us for our service.”

It was a good night to be a D.C. Air National Guardsman. The Air National Guard was present - on the court and on the screens.

“The D.C. Air National Guard was plastered on every event monitor,” said Deputy Public Affairs Officer Capt. Renee Lee. “It was exciting and mesmerizing.”



# DC NATIONAL GUARD MECHANICS SHARE TRADE **SECRETS** WITH JDF

**SSG GIGAIL CURETON**  
**715TH PUBLIC AFFAIRS DETACHMENT**

Jamaica Defence Force Major Dervon Lewis, and Master Sgt. Jesse Evans, District of Columbia National Guard, discuss vehicle maintenance and replacement life cycle during a Subject Matter Expert Exchange (SMEE) May 21 at Joint Base Anacostia-Bolling, Washington, D.C. (U.S. Army Photo by Staff Sgt. Gigail Cureton)



Jamaica Defence Force Major Dervon Lewis, reviews maintenance scheduling with Master Sgt. Jesse Evans, District of Columbia National Guard, during a Subject Matter Expert Exchange (SMEE) May 21 at Joint Base Anacostia-Bolling, Washington, D.C. (U.S. Army Photo by Staff Sgt. Gigail Cureton)

WASHINGTON, D.C. – District of Columbia National Guard Soldiers hosted Jamaica Defence Force (JDF) Soldiers as part of a vehicle maintenance subject matter expert exchange (SMEE) May 18-22 at Joint Base Anacostia-Bolling.

The week-long State Partnership Program visit allowed the Capital Guardians to share with and learn from their JDF counterparts. The National Guard State Partnership Program provides unique partnership-building capabilities between U.S. states, territories and the District of Columbia and foreign countries. The 20-year-old program is a key U.S. security cooperation program, facilitating cooperation across all aspects of international civil-military affairs and encouraging people-to-people ties in 74 countries.

“The goal of this visit was to show JDF mechanics how we operate and manage our vehicle maintenance program,” explained Army Staff Sgt. David Stanton, wheeled vehicle mechanic. From maintenance bays to shop floor, the Jamaican visitors were able to ask detailed questions of each Soldier as well as try their hands at operating equipment that the D.C. Guard uses to keep its fleet of tactical vehicles mission ready.

“During their visit, we took them from shop to shop to allow them to more closely interact with each area of our maintenance operations,” said Army Sgt. Isaac Njoroge, wheeled vehicle mechanic. “They got to use some of the equipment and seemed impressed with what they saw,” he added.

One piece of equipment of interest was the computerized alignment machine, which adjusts the angles of wheels to reduce tire wear and maximize vehicle handling and performance.

“The feedback we received is that they learned a lot. They were especially interested in our alignment machine and how we using technology to work more efficiently,” said Njoroge.

While the hands-on opportunities were well received by some of the more junior enlisted JDF mechanics, the senior officer leading the five man team was most impressed with the opportunity to discuss how the D.C. Guard processes its inventory and manages its workflow.

“There are some fundamental differences in that we are more repair oriented while the D.C. Guard has the ability to replace equipment more frequently,” said JDF Maj. Dervon Lewis.

“Overall the time here was well spent and I think there are some things we can take back home that may assist us,” Lewis added. “One thing in particular is the way the D.C. Guard handles quality control in that one person does not check his own work. There is a quality control person to review the mechanics work. They work as a team,” said Lewis.

The SMEE exchanges also benefit the D.C. National Guard according to Capt. Tamara Tomlinson, D.C. National Guard International Partnership Specialist. “The program benefits the DCNG by providing our experts the opportunity to demonstrate knowledge and skills learned in various MOS [military occupational specialty] types,” she said.

“Our opportunity to host the JDF is definitely beneficial to both organizations,” said Chief Warrior Officer 2 Courtney Britton, Supervisory Service Maintenance Specialist. “We are strengthening the ties between the two organizations and learning from one another.”

Tomlinson added that the SMEE exchanges can help to improve individual Soldier knowledge which can lead to an improvement in mission readiness.



Sgt. Isaac Njoroge, District of Columbia National Guard wheeled vehicle mechanic, demonstrates the computerized vehicle alignment machines to members of the Jamaican Defence Force during a Subject Matter Expert Exchange (SMEE) May 21 at Joint Base Anacostia-Bolling, Washington, D.C. (U.S. Army Photo by Staff Sgt. Gigail Cureton)



# EMPLOYER SUPPORT OF THE GUARD & RESERVE.

**MASTER SGT. BECKY VANSBUR**  
**124TH FIGHTER WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS**



Scott Green of the Department of Treasury Bureau of Engraving and Printing watches as the Air Force KC-135R Stratotanker refuels an aircraft. Green participated in the "Boss Lift" hosted by the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve at Joint Base Andrews May 14. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Master Sgt. Becky Vanshur)

The Department of Defense established the ESGR. Since the creation of this program in 1972, thousands of employers have committed to show their support to their Army and Air National Guard and Reserve employees.

The District of Columbia Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) regularly hosts events for the local employers of Guardsmen and Reservists to strengthen community employer support.

The most recent event was an air refueling mission, enabling employers of the local community to fly on a KC-135R Stratotanker with the 459th Air Refueling Wing Reserve unit May 14.

The D.C. ESGR will host the next event for the 113th Wing, Air National Guard on July 17. This event will be a 'Breakfast with the Boss' followed by a golf outing. Employers are not required to golf and can attend the breakfast and leave if they desire. Airmen are encouraged to nominate their civilian employers to participate in upcoming ESGR events.

The second event will be the Employer Appreciation Breakfast and Air Show day planned for Sept. 18. Airmen can nominate their employers for either of the events and turn the names into Senior Master Sgt. Adrienne Wilson or Capt. Cindy Piccirillo, to be placed on the list held by the 113th Wing Vice commander, Col. Maren McAvoy.

"Boss Lifts are an excellent way to gain the support of employers and supervisors of our traditional guardsmen, said McAvoy. "The briefings, tours, and the flight offered to the employers give them a better understanding and appreciation for the time their Guardsmen and Reservists spend away from the civilian job to perform their military duties."

Additionally, employers learn about the Uniformed Service Employment Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA), a federal law protecting the rights of working individuals who serve or have served in the uniformed services.

Col. Ronald Stamps, director of the joint staff, D.C. National Guard, spoke with the employers about the important role of the supportive employer at the recent Boss Lift.



Jonathon Pruett of the U.S. Postal Service Technology Department looks through the window of the Air Force KC-135R Stratotanker aircraft on a refueling flight mission as part of the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) Program. The ESGR hosted a "Boss Lift" for local community employers at Joint Base Andrews, Md., May 14. The ESGR events are designed to increase support from the local employers of guardsmen and reservists. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Master Sgt. Becky Vanshur)

"Without our traditional guardsmen and reservists, we could not do our mission," said Stamps "...and without the employer's support, we could not do the mission."

The intent of the ESGR is to increase employer support for the Army and Air National Guard and the Reserve by encouraging employers to act as advocates for employee participation in the military. Employers are encouraged to sign a statement of support pledging to honor the USERRA. The employers pledge to appreciate the values, leadership and unique skills service members bring to the workforce, and welcome opportunities to employ Guardsmen, Reservists, and veterans.

"Most employers that attend these ESGR events leave excited and have an understanding that they need to support our military members and this initiative," said ESGR Employment Coordinator Janie Branson, who specializes in the Hero2Hired program, and works with local community employers of Guardsmen and Reservists. "They have a new insight for that young service member they are employing and a better view of that person's commitment."



# D.C. AIR NATIONAL GUARD SEARCH & RECOVERY TEAM **ACES** EVALUATION

**AIRMAN FIRST CLASS ANTHONY SMALL  
113TH WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS**



VIRGINIA BEACH, Va. -- The D.C. Air National Guard special disaster-response team concluded a week of training with a final evaluation exercise in order to be certified by the Defense Department, May 11-16.

The Guardsmen successfully completed the training tasks required to achieve Chemical, Biological, Radiological/Nuclear and High Yield Explosive - Enhanced Response Force Package validation according to DOD standards.

A key section of that response was the DC Air Guard's Fatality Search and Recovery Team, whose mission is to locate and recover the remains of victims killed in hostile action or natural disasters.

"This is a unique capability that only the Air

National Guard possesses, and it's an essential capability for domestic support operations," said Master Sgt. Dan Marx, 113th FSRT NCO in Charge. "This skill will allow us to provide short notice assistance to local, state and federal agencies."

The training and evaluation was staged at the Virginia Fire Training Center, a unique facility that features a robust assortment of training environments, including collapsed buildings and structures.

"The Virginia Fire Training Center is a pretty impressive facility," said Tech. Sgt. Jeremiah Smith Team Bravo Lead 113th Wing's FSRT. "The disaster area has buildings that have been reduced to piles of rubble. It's about as realistic as you can get."



Master Sgt. Dan Marx, NCO-in-charge, 113th Wing's Fatality Search and Recovery Team, unloads a trailer during Chemical Biological Radiological Nuclear (CBRN) Emergency Response Force Package training, May 14 in Virginia Beach, Va. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Airman 1st Class Anthony Small)

The mission of CERFP is to respond to CBRNE incidents and assist local, state and federal agencies in conducting consequence management by providing capabilities to perform patient decontamination, emergency medical services and casualty search and extraction.

"The team has special training and equipment that allow them to operate in a wide spectrum of hazardous environments, including those contaminated by biological, nuclear or chemical agents," said Marx.

While the protective gear includes a battery-operated air purification system, the suits themselves are not ventilated, and ambient temperatures during the exercise hovered in the mid-80s, Marx said, requiring careful management of work-rest cycles.

By the time they finish donning their suits, our team members have about 20 minutes to work, Marx said. "So that's 20 minutes to get into the hot zone, do what you need to do, and come back out. The warmer it is, the longer it takes to recover remains. High temperatures make for a very time-consuming process."

Even with the high temperatures and intense environment the 113th Wing's FSRT achieved their mission.

"The recovery process went extremely well,

Tech. Sgt. Chito Reyes, 113th services flight, D.C. Air National Guard, briefs Bravo Team members during Chemical Biological Radiological Nuclear (CBRN) Emergency Response Force Package training, May 14 in Virginia Beach, Va. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Airman 1st Class Anthony Small)

despite the heat and intense environment," said Smith.

Another challenge was the presence of simulated ambulatory survivors, courtesy of more than 40 actors who were hired to add a dose of unpredictable realism to the scenario. "This exercise really gave us a new realization of what we should expect in a real-world situation," said Marx. "We're going to have news media and the civilian community watching us while we perform our mission, and some of those civilians are going to want and need help."

For the 113th Wing's FSRT, that kind of awareness may be the most valuable lesson learned during the training and evaluation.

"This training was important. It gave us a real foothold on exactly what our purpose is with respect to homeland defense, and how intense it can get," said Senior Airman Dominique Comer Alpha Team Lead 113th Wing's FSRT. "It's a dirty job but someone has to get the victims back to their families."





# KEY SPEECH

**Editor's note:** Following is an excerpt from the keynot speech given by Capt Key during the D.C. National Guard's annual Military Ball on April 25, 2015. The theme of the ball was, "A Star-Spangled Evening" in honor of the writing of the National Anthem two centuries ago by D.C. Militia LT Francis Scott Key.

I would like to share with you my personal journey of discovering the life and legacy of Francis Scott Key—beyond our national anthem. As an eighth generation descendent of the Key family, I made my first pilgrimage to Key's birthplace, the building where he practiced law and his burial site in Frederick, Maryland.

My pilgrimage didn't end there. I also visited Georgetown, here in DC, and walked the grounds where his home and law practice were located on M Street. I went to the banks of the Potomac where his son tragically drowned. I toured St. John's Episcopal Church where he worshiped, where his family was baptized and Old City Hall where he served as a U.S. District Attorney. I also visited the Old Supreme Court chamber at the Capitol where he argued more than 100 of the most important cases of his time.

It's in DC, where I learned the most about this celebrated and complex man ... a man who enthusiastically practiced law, philanthropy and Christianity. The last 40 years of Key's life, heart and home were in the District of Columbia.

The War of 1812 was known as America's Second War of Independence. Initially, Frank Key, as he was known by family and friends, didn't support the war. It was only after a close encounter with British troops on the streets of Annapolis in the spring of 1813, did he have a change of heart. Two months later, Key joined the DC Militia. He enlisted as a gunners mate in the summer of 1813 and was commissioned nine months later as a Quartermaster officer in the Georgetown Corps of Field Artillerists. Key was mustered into federal service twice in response to British raids in Maryland.

Lt. Key was also at the infamous Battle of Bladensburg three weeks earlier. Although he was not "officially"



## PHOTO (ABOVE)

CPT Kyle Key (right), with Capt. John D. Fesler, Aide to the Director of the Air Guard.



## PHOTO (LEFT)

(From left to right) MG Errol R. Schwartz, Ambassador Pamela Bridgewater, CPT Kyle Key and CSM Wayne L. Bowser, Sr. cut the cake during the D.C. National Guard's annual Military Ball.

mustered, he reported for duty as an aide-de-camp to the commander of the DC's militia contingent. Key witnessed the demoralizing defeat of the American Army at Bladensburg and the aftermath of the British burning the Capitol City.

With patriotic fervor, Lt. Key would later witness the failed attempt to destroy Ft. McHenry and capture the city of Baltimore, inspiring him to write a poem that would make the American flag synonymous with freedom throughout the world. Though it was momentous, it did not define him.

Frank Key was a loving husband and father of 11 children, a doting grandfather, a concerned son who saved the family farm from a bank foreclosure, a champion of free public education and a man of God who helped establish an Episcopal seminary and three churches.

By all accounts, he was well liked, admired and known as one of the most gifted orators and respected lawyers in DC. He served three terms as the U.S. District Attorney for DC and was an advisor to Presidents Madison, Jackson and Van Buren. Most important to Frank however, was his service to God. He served as a Lay Rector at St. Johns, taught Sunday school, visited the sick and counseled prisoners in jail. His beliefs permeated every aspect of his life.

In the twilight of his life, he told his children, "do everything for God's sake and consider yourselves always in his service." That was Key's mantra until the day he took his last breath.

Tonight, I hope you have a greater appreciation of the fascinating life of Frank Key. His poem, "In Defence of Ft. McHenry," immortalized in song as our national anthem, serves as the connective tissue between free Americans and their flag. Our flag's symbolic threads bind us together and compel us to serve our Nation and District to ensure the red, white and blue continue to wave for all who desire to live free!





## DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA NATIONAL GUARD 257TH ARMY BAND LEADS INDEPENDENCE DAY PARADE

**SGT ROBERT W. MITCHELL  
715TH PUBLIC AFFAIRS DETACHMENT**

While buckets of pouring rain and cloudy skies may have put a damper on this year's Fourth of July festivities, the Capital Guardians showed up strong as its 257th Army Band lead the parade and 150 Guardsmen assisted the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) with crowd and traffic control in the nation's capital.

"We are here to reinforce crowd control and make sure things run smoothly," said Army Private 1st Class Jamal Talbert, a military policeman with the District of Columbia Army National Guard (DCNG) 275th Military Police Company.

Talbert and other Soldiers parked their High Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicles (HMMWV) at various traffic control points throughout the city as part of an annual joint operation between MPD and DCNG.

DCNG, working alongside local police and other first responders, were tasked with helping pedestrians safely cross the street, providing directions and ensuring motor vehicles moved along carefully and smoothly.

"This makes the workload easier. With more eyes on everything this makes things safer," said a firefighter from Engine Company 21 in the northwest section of the city. He did not want to be named.

Firefighters joined MPD and DCNG Soldiers at a traffic control point (TCP) at the intersection of 14th St and Independence Avenue.

At another traffic control point, Army Spc. Muhammed Almaroof, a wheeled vehicle mechanic with the 275th Military Police Company, halted pedestrians while allowing an unmarked police vehicle to drive through. He applauded the mission and welcomed the chance to connect with the community.

"It's an opportunity to showcase your military skills and the public gets the opportunity to see what you can do as a Soldier," Almaroof said. "It's good to volunteer for missions like this, it makes you understand why you join the Army National Guard."

For Army Spc. Khalid Lyaacoubi, also with the 275th, the Independence Day mission presented a great opportunity for the DC National Guard to interact with the local people. "It's a great day to be here. It's Independence Day and I'm proud to be serving this country," he said.

Lyaacoubi joined the DCNG in 2009, but this was his first time participating in the Fourth of July mission. He never imagined he would get the chance to serve the community in this way. "I didn't think I would be driving a Humvee [HMMWV] in the nation's capitol on this day. This makes me proud to be a Soldier," he said.

Despite the rain and long hours, many of the Soldiers were satisfied with their participation in the holiday mission. "It boosts the military image and there is better interaction with the community. Hopefully it will get people to join the D.C. National Guard," said Army Spc. Jonathan Carter, a food service specialist with the 275th.

The District of Columbia National Guard 257th Army Band kicked off the National Independence Day Parade, July 4 along Constitution Ave. in Washington, D.C. The 257th, known as the Band of the Nation's Capital, had the honor of leading the elite marching units of each of the five uniformed services at the start of the annual holiday tradition. (U.S. Army photo by Staff Sgt. Gigail Cureton)



## D.C. AIRMAN AWARDED CIVIL ENGINEER MANAGER OF THE YEAR

District of Columbia Air National Guardsman Maj. Brian Jackson was the recipient of the 2014 Maj. Gen. L. Dean Fox Award as the Air National Guard Outstanding Civil Engineer Senior Military Manager of the Year for his excellence as a leader, civil engineer, and project manager.

"I am extremely proud of Major Jackson for winning this award but it really comes as no surprise," said Col. Robert Bowie, 113th Mission Support Group commander. "Major Jackson is a focused individual and really takes care of his people. He is a tremendous asset to this organization and the entire U.S. Air Force."

Since joining the DCANG in 2011, Jackson has led many large projects for the 113th Wing, including the 113th CES' largest sustainment restoration and modernization project in the unit's history. Jackson secured nearly \$10 million to repair the wing headquarters building, certifying the existing structures for renovations and ultimately saving the Air Force thousands of dollars.

Jackson's qualities as a leader also did not go unnoticed. Known for

sustaining high morale among his Airmen, under his leadership, the 113th Emergency Management Flight was selected as "Best in the ANG." One of his senior NCOs, Senior Master Sgt. William Liston, was also awarded the 2014 U.S. Air Force Emergency Manager of the Year.

In February, Jackson was also awarded the Air Force Achievement Award during the 2015 Commander in Chief's Annual Award for Installation Excellence site visit here. He was recognized for his attention to detail and professionalism was a representative for the 113th Wing.

As the accolades continue to mount for Jackson, his personal view is to take it all in stride.

"It has been my honor to be able to lead the full-time CES staff and be a part of the team," he said. "The team has gone above and beyond and accomplished many things this past year. I am proud of everyone in the squadron and it was truly a team effort in winning the many awards."

## D.C. AIR NATIONAL GUARD LEGAL TEAM BEST IN NATION

The 113th Wing's legal office of the D.C. Air National Guard is the 2014 Air National Guard Legal Office of the Year.

Awarded by Air Combat Command, who annually recognizes the most outstanding ANG legal unit of the year, the 113th Wing's legal team competed for the top title out of 46 ANG units. This is the 113th Wing's second time in five years earning this title, previously earning it in 2009.

"Our legal office is very-high paced due to the no-fail and highly visible mission of the 113th Wing," said Lt. Col. Sandra Drewniak, 113th Wing staff judge advocate. "Our wing not only has the Capital Guardian alert mission protecting the airspace above the Capital region, but we also fly national level leaders and senior level government officials globally."

The various responsibilities of Air National Guard legal offices include providing wills and powers of attorney, providing personal and military legal assistance, and representing unit commanders. Airmen assigned to legal offices frequently work hand-in-hand with first sergeants to handle administrative disciplinary actions, demotions, discharges, investigations, legal reviews, and more.

However, what made the 113th Wing's legal team stand out was the team's surplus amount of work in 2014. The team performed various flight evaluation boards and accident investigations, provided trusted counsel to commanders on 175 occasions, and performed more than 75 legal assistance consultations.

Further, the team advised on 23 discharges and 10 demotion actions with 100 percent completion on a timely basis. The team also supported 213 deployed airmen with legal assistance, while concurrently drafting more than 100 wills and 88 power of attorney documents – ultimately saving the 113th Wing more than \$63,000.

"We know the operational tempo for our unit will remain high in 2015 and beyond," said Drewniak. "We expect to continue or exceed our current workload and look forward to competing for future awards in the ACC." The four-man legal team will be formally recognized in April at an awards ceremony presented by the Annual Survey of the Law in Chicago.



# INSPIRATION AROUND THE GLOBE

**Editor's note:** The author, Tech. Sgt. Trenton Franklin is a military personnel technician in the Director of Staff Office - Air, Joint Force Headquarters, D.C. National Guard. He recently traveled to South Africa May 22 to June 1 with Victory Church of Jeffreys Bay, South Africa, Victory For All and One, an organization that makes goodwill missions to various parts of the world. Their mission was to provide assistance to at-risk youth and raise funds for Kings College, a new school to prepare kids for the high school and college level.



Safari at the Tsitsikamma National Park in Western Cape. (Photo by TSgt Trenton Franklin)

Spending time with kids at Kings College South Africa. (Photo by TSgt Trenton Franklin)

The time I spent during a recent weeklong mission to South Africa to assist at-risk youth was both inspiring and enlightening. The moment we stepped off the plane in Port Elizabeth, the sun greeted us with its warmth. We were met with a barrage of cultural differences that we were excited to delve into.

We were challenged and inspired everyday as we visited with children who come from extreme poverty and disillusioned environments. Every morning we started with a walk along the beautiful beach, watching the sunrise glimmer off the Indian Ocean like a mirror.

The first visit to the Rainbow school was, to put it lightly, heart wrenching. We listened as teachers explained that the children who were handicapped in one way or another were treated with the most inhumane acts you can imagine, put aside like third class citizens without rights and some with parents who cared little about their wellbeing. Many of us at one point or another caught ourselves with tears flowing down our faces. Even through all of this I met many happy, beautiful children; we played games such as basketball, danced and even learned a few

traditional songs, the entire time the kids smiled, laughed and played without a care in the world.

Another school that we visited in particular, King's College, was helping to pave the way for high school and college level students. Our hope was renewed when we walked through new school construction, a bit of a miracle considering bureaucratic barriers that were faced.

The red dirt, which is native to South Africa, changed the color of our shoes as we walked, prayed and discussed plans. Our team and I were able to spend time and speak with many teachers, some from Europe but most from South Africa on the conditions of these kids' lives and the struggles that they faced day to day while also receiving a glimpse of what they have gone through as citizens and Afrikaans. The highlight of our trip was a school assembly that the children put on for us, performing musical acts and skits.

As part of the program, we used surfing with the Victory Surf Masters to help disciple and spend time with at-risk youth. Dodging sharks, jellyfish and the freezing cold, we

learned the tricks of the trade while also providing mentorship. After our trip we were able to tour a little bit of Jeffries Bay, the West and East Cape as well as participate in a Safari north of Jeffries Bay. The safari was filled with many animals, some that I have never seen up front outside of a zoo.

While driving down dirt trails, we stopped frequently to take pictures of elephants that seemed small from a distance but enormous up close. We also saw zebras, too many to count. Meerkats, which belong to the mongoose family, peaked their heads up for a brief moment as we went by.

The safari was a great end to our trip, which, all in all, was inspiring, enlightening and eye opening.



Group photo, after performance by children of the "Jeffrey's Nay Orphanage". (Photo by TSgt Trenton Franklin)



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**MAJ STEPHEN C. GLYPH**  
Judge Advocate General, DCNG

The reduction and elimination of sexual assault and harassment in the District of Columbia National Guard (DCNG) remains a top priority of Major General Errol R. Schwartz, Commanding General, DCNG. Sexual assault and harassment goes against everything we stand for as U.S. Soldiers and Airmen and, clearly, has no place in our ranks.

The Department of Defense continues to confront this issue through implementation of various sexual assault prevention and response programs. In addition to programs that focus on prevention, the DoD is now increasing its efforts in providing enhanced care and support for victims of sexual assault. One such effort is the Special Victim’s Counsel (SVC) Program.

By Secretary of Defense Memorandum, “Sexual Assault Prevention and Response,” dated 14 August 2013, the Secretary of Defense directed each of the Services (Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard) establish a sexual assault victim advocacy program. The purpose of the program is to provide victims of sexual assault an attorney to provide counseling and advice on their rights as victims and on how to navigate the various military investigative, judicial, and legal administrative processes. Subsequently, by Chief National Guard Bureau Instruction (CNGBI 0401.01), dated 6 January 2015, General Frank Grass, Chief, National Guard Bureau, directed establishment of the National Guard SVC Program.

**THE NATIONAL GUARD  
SPECIAL VICTIM’S COUNSEL PROGRAM**

CNGBI 0401.01 provides that it is National Guard policy that an SVC be appointed to an eligible victim to provide legal representation or counsel throughout the military criminal or administrative processes, to include the investigation process, and assist the victim with any associated civil legal issues. Typically, after a service member makes a restricted or unrestricted report of sexual assault, the Sexual Assault Response Coordinator (SARC) and/or Victim Advocate (VA) advises and counsels the service member on the availability of SVC services and refers the service member to an SVC. However, a service member may receive some SVC services even if they chose not to file a report at all.

CNGBI 0401.01 also provides for establishment of the National Guard Regional SVC Program consisting of Title 10 SVCs assigned to serve the 54 States, Territories, and the District of Columbia on a regional basis. The NG Regional SVC assigned to the DCNG is MAJ Stephen Glymph. MAJ Glymph is a judge advocate from the DCNG JFHQ Office of the Staff Judge Advocate currently serving as the East Region SVC which consists of Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, Kentucky, North Carolina, South Carolina, and the District of Columbia. In addition, the DCNG has both Army and Air Title 32 judge advocates that have been trained and certified to serve as SVCs.

The goals of the NG SVC Program are to provide independent legal support, build and sustain victim resiliency, and to empower the victim through knowledgeable, informed decisions. Prior to establishment of the NG SVC Program, handling of sexual assault matters generally consisted of a trial counsel representing the interests of the Service/ government and a defense counsel representing the interests of the accused/alleged perpetrator. The NG SVC program now provides the victim their own attorney to represent his or her interests, at no cost to the victim.

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Bar to reenlistment	Sexual harassment	1
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