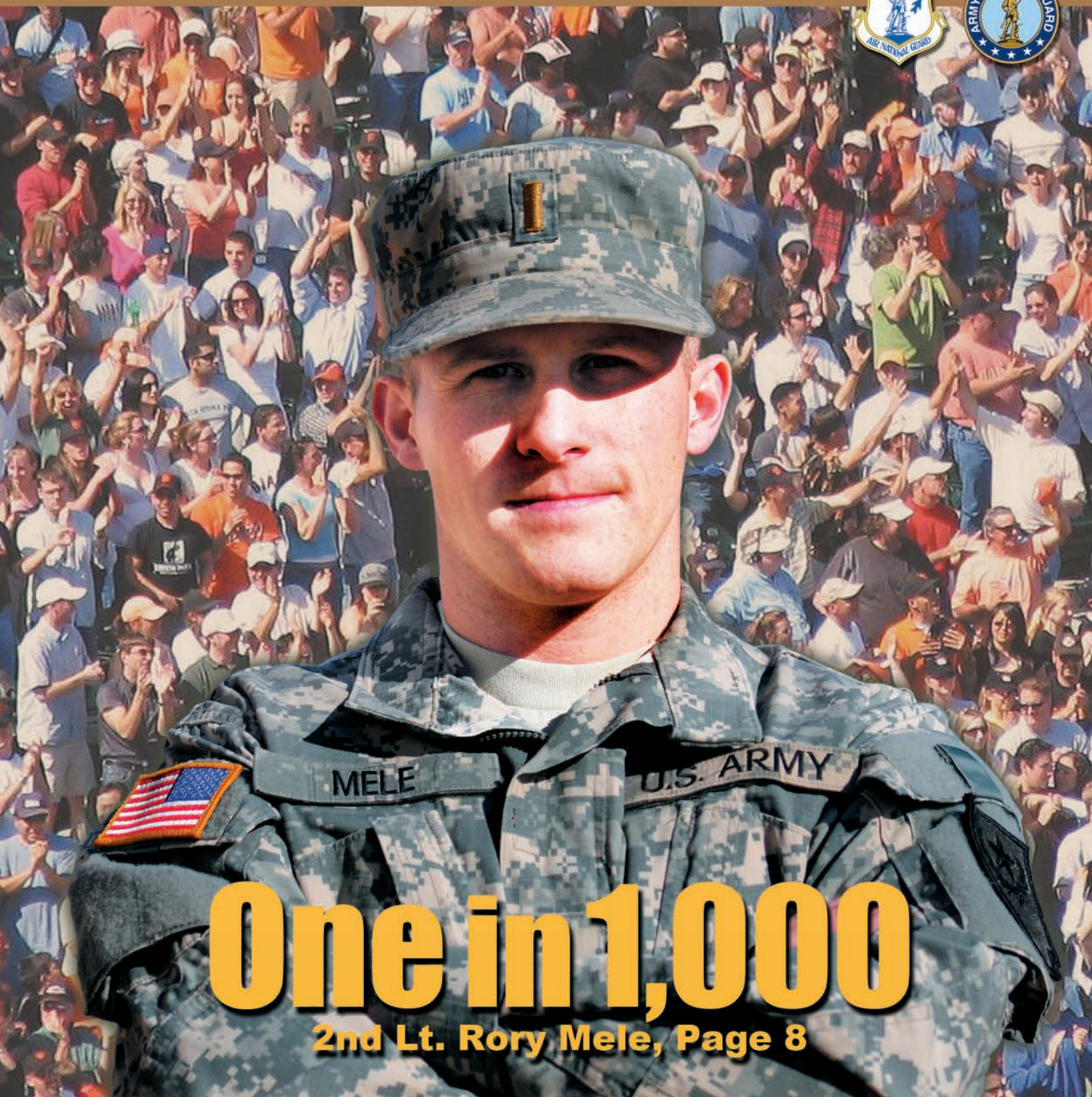



Battle Born



One in 1,000

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Winter 2012

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ON THE COVER: 2nd Lt. Rory Mele of the 1864th Transportation Company beat the odds to make a successful bone marrow donation last year.

Photo illustration: Lt. Col. Terry Conder and Maj. April Conway

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FROM SENIOR LEADERSHIP

Lt. Gen. Harry Wyatt, Director of the Air National Guard

Air Guard director Wyatt lands in Silver State

By 1st Lt. Jason Yuhasz,
152nd Airlift Wing Public Affairs

Lt. Gen. Harry Wyatt is the director of the Air National Guard. Working from his Pentagon office, he is responsible for formulating, developing and coordinating all policies, plans and programs affecting more than 106,000 Airmen in more than 88 flying wings and 200 units throughout the 54 National Guard states, territories and the District of Columbia.



Wyatt was in Reno on Dec. 3 as the guest presenter and speaker at the annual Nevada Air Guard Awards Ceremony. During his visit, Battle Born magazine caught up with the Air Guard's highest ranking Airman to discuss current Air Guard topics and share his opinions on the organization's future direction.

Although he comes from the Sooner state of Oklahoma, it's not out of the realm of possibility that Lt. Gen. Harry Wyatt may someday become a Nevadan, considering his reaction to his enjoyable first trip to the Silver State as the director of the Air Guard.

Wyatt said he was excited and proud to participate in one of the Nevada Air Guard's most impressive events set in the "Biggest Little City in the World."

Wyatt's predominant message throughout his Nevada junket was the cost effectiveness of the National Guard.

"Per dollar, Guardsmen are a tremendous value," he said. "They provide the combat capability the federal government requires and answer the call to help the citizens of our respective states.

"The fires, the Carson City shooting incident and the response to the Reno Air Race crash are all events Nevada has experienced recently where Guardsmen have assisted the community."

Wyatt discussed topics very pertinent to the 152nd Airlift Wing, including staffing levels and future aircraft.

"In my speech today, I quoted the Air Force Chief of Staff's statement that we



Lt. Gen. Harry Wyatt, right, receives a commemorative photo from Brig. Gen. Robert Fitch during the annual Nevada Air Guard Awards Ceremony. Wyatt, director of the Air National Guard, was a guest speaker and presenter at the ceremony.

Photo: Master Sgt. Suzanne Connell, 152nd Airlift Wing

should anticipate the entire Air Force including the Air National Guard downsizing," Wyatt said. "We know C-130s are old, just like most of the aircraft in the Air National Guard, and they need to be replaced.

"Definitely it's a concern the Air Force has a program to buy new C-130s, but none of those are set to come to the Air National Guard."

The budget crunch felt by the entire military will undoubtedly be felt in Nevada, Wyatt said.

"The impact of the budget on the Nevada Guard will correspond roughly to the Air Guard as a whole," he said. "All of the military branches will be affected. What we must do is look for cost-effective ways to do our business and provide maximum combat capabilities on a reduced budget.

Wyatt said the elevation of the Chief of the National Guard Bureau to full membership on the Joint Chiefs of Staff will give the Secretary of Defense – and the nation's

populace – better comprehension of the Guard's capabilities and resources.

"Full membership will result in a greater appreciation for the National Guard and increased understanding about its role in domestic operations, homeland defense and homeland security," he said. "Historically, the military's focus has been on foreign wars and homeland defense. But historical events like Hurricane Katrina show natural disasters can also be threats to the homeland. In certain situations like a natural disaster, the attributes and capabilities of the National Guard make it the preferred military responder to a threat."

Finally, Wyatt gave some bread-and-butter advice on how every Nevada Guard Airman and Soldier can remain an asset to the organization in lean times.

"Always strive to become even more efficient, more proficient, and more professional within your military occupation," Wyatt said. "Study and train hard and find creative ways to do your job quickly, better, and more cost effectively." ■



FROM SENIOR ENLISTED LEADERSHIP

Command Sgt. Major Steve Sitton, Senior Enlisted Leader

Leadership entails more than issuing orders



Every now and then, it's good to revisit the topic of leadership as a reminder of what leaders must focus on to be successful. Great leaders give us tools and advice necessary to be leaders ourselves.

As Colin Powell says, anything less is a failure of leadership.

The military defines leadership as influencing people through direction and motivation while accomplishing the mission and improving the organization. The Army bluntly defines influence as a means of getting people to do what you want them to do.

But there is more to influence than simply passing along orders. The example

you set is just as important as the words you speak, and you set an example – good or bad – with your every action and word both on and off duty.

Through words and example, you must communicate purpose, direction and motivation. A leader's influence obviously affects day-to-day business operations and accomplishments. A strong leader proficiently plans, executes, assesses and continuously adjusts his operations. Assessing change is essential to improving an organization.

Whether through orders, personal examples or cooperative efforts, leaders get others to work together for collective goals.

Within a unit, leaders are responsible for the cohesion, discipline and proficiencies that enable their Soldiers and Airmen to effectively train for, fight and win the

nation's wars. Military leaders at every level have the duty to embrace our military values.

As Heraclitus said long ago, "A man's character is his fate," and his destiny is bound to his leaders.

Remember, Soldiers and Airmen are first and foremost America's sons and daughters.

Given the great responsibility leaders have to the nation and to its people, the National Guard is committed to values-based leadership that strives for excellence every day.

With change a constant in the military, it's a challenge for leaders to stay ahead, stay relevant and stay focused. One critical leadership strategy is to know your Soldiers, Airmen and their families.

The more you know about what motivates your team, what challenges each Guardsman faces, and what personal goals your Soldiers and Airmen have set for themselves, the more tools you have to be a great leader.

Here are the qualities I believe make a good leader:

- Communicates frequently and consistently
- Earns the respect and trust of subordinates, peers and superiors
- Knows the job
- Leads by example
- Changes when change happens and is needed
- Lives the Army values and Soldiers' Creed
- Knows subordinates and their family members and how to interact with them as individuals, families and teams
- Cares for Soldiers, Airmen and their families

Not everyone possesses the leadership traits of a Colin Powell, but I sincerely believe that if one focuses on the basics of leadership, everyone can be an effective leader. ■

New year, new roles in Nevada Air Guard

By Erick Studenicka, Battle Born Editor

CARSON CITY – Along with the new year comes new commanders for the 152nd Airlift Wing and the Nevada Air Guard. Col. David Snyder, the outgoing commander of the 152nd Airlift Wing, was promoted to the rank of brigadier general within the state of Nevada in January and took the reins of the entire Nevada Air Guard from Brig. Gen. Robert Fitch, who retired.

With Snyder's new role, temporary command of the 152nd Airlift Wing went to the unit's vice wing commander, Col. Michael Williams. Col. Jeffrey Burkett, from the Ohio Air National Guard will take permanent command of the Nevada Air Guard's flagship unit this spring.

Snyder, a Yerington native, had been the 152nd Airlift Wing commander since November 2009 and led the organization through its exhaustive unit compliance inspection in September 2011 and through dozens of deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan. He said he was thrilled and humbled to accept his new position.

"In the military, there's no greater honor than command," Snyder said.

Like two-time president Grover Cleveland, Fitch served two stints as his organization's top official. Fitch served as the commander of the 1,100-Airman Nevada Air Guard from 2007 through January 2011 and then returned to his old post from August 2011 until mid-January. Fitch retires with more than 40 years of service to the High Rollers.

Williams, a 29-year veteran of the Nevada Air Guard, also serves as the director of operations for the Nevada National Guard. He is a command pilot with more than 1,000 hours in the RF-4C aircraft, more than 3,500 in the C-130 Hercules and multiple deployments to southwest Asia in support of Operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom.

With more deployments and inspections looming, Williams acknowledged a busy year ahead for the unit and asked every High Roller to, "Step up and do what's asked, do what's right. Be the best at your craft, the best at your trade." ■



Col. Michael Williams

Freedom ranges offer bang-up training opportunities



*Soldiers from the 609th Engineer Company react following an explosive charge during urban mobility breaching training at the Freedom ranges at the Hawthorne Army Depot.
Photo: 1st Lt. Jason Yuhasz, 152nd Airlift Wing Public Affairs*

By 1st Lt. Jason Yuhasz, 152nd Airlift Wing Public Affairs

HAWTHORNE – Less than a year old, the Freedom ranges here are quickly becoming one of the busiest and most popular training sites in the Silver State for Nevada Guardsmen.

Located at Hawthorne Army Depot and built by the Army Corps of Engineers, the Freedom ranges were completed last year and dedicated by Gov. Brian Sandoval during Hawthorne's huge Armed Forces Day Celebration on May 20, 2011. Sandoval dedicated the Freedom ranges as a tribute to all of Nevada's fallen servicemen who perished in Iraq and Afghanistan while supporting overseas contingency operations.

Located south of Walker Lake on a relatively small portion of the depot's 147,000 acres, the Freedom ranges include a simulated Afghan village and forward operating base, a high-angle sniper range, a mixed live-fire range, a 1,100-meter range, a close-quarters combat complex, an urban operations site and additional small arms ranges. The facility was funded through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

Guardsmen aren't the only military personnel who've discovered the ranges – the facility is also popular with Sailors and Marines.

The Nevada Army Guard's 609th Engineer Company based in Fallon spent its November drill on the ranges, including several hours on the urban operations range practicing building access techniques using explosive charges (aka urban mobility breaching in Sapper slang).

"This new range gives us a great opportunity to get comfortable working with live demo in conjunction with urban operations," said 2nd Lt. Richard Gilberti, a 609th platoon leader. "Some of our



Soldiers have never been on a demo range with the unit. This range provides a safe yet realistic training site for those new Soldiers."

All Nevada Guard units are welcome to inquire about training opportunities on Freedom ranges. There is no cost to train on a range on regular Army duty days; some fees may be charged for after-hours or weekend training. For information, call (775) 945-7482. ■

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LAS VEGAS – Spc. Christina Gonzales of the Nevada Army Guard's Recruiting and Retention unit is ready for her ride-along with National Guard driver John Hildebrand at the Las Vegas Motor Speedway before the INDYCAR world championship last fall.

Twenty Nevada National Guard Soldiers had the ride of their lives after participating in the Panther Racing team's ride-along program.

Gonzales was a "Hometown hero" for the event and signed autographs alongside Hildebrand at the National Guard booth in the fan zone of the Mandalay Bay Resort.

Sadly, the Las Vegas event was canceled following the death of driver Dan Wheldon in a horrific crash just a few laps into the race. Wheldon was the National Guard car driver before Hildebrand.

Photo: Courtesy of Army Recruiting and Retention



CARSON CITY – Recognizing their dedication and service to the Nevada Air Guard, Gov. Brian Sandoval marked the promotions of colonels Kyle Reid and John Week with a ceremony in November at the Capitol. The event featured a ceremonial pinning by Sandoval of the new colonels with their new rank insignias.

Reid, left, 45, a native of Ashley, Ohio, resides in Richmond, Calif. He is currently the commander of the 152nd Operations Group of the 152nd Airlift Wing in Reno. Week, 48, is the Nevada Air Guard's director of staff.

Photo: Sgt. 1st Class Erick Studenicka

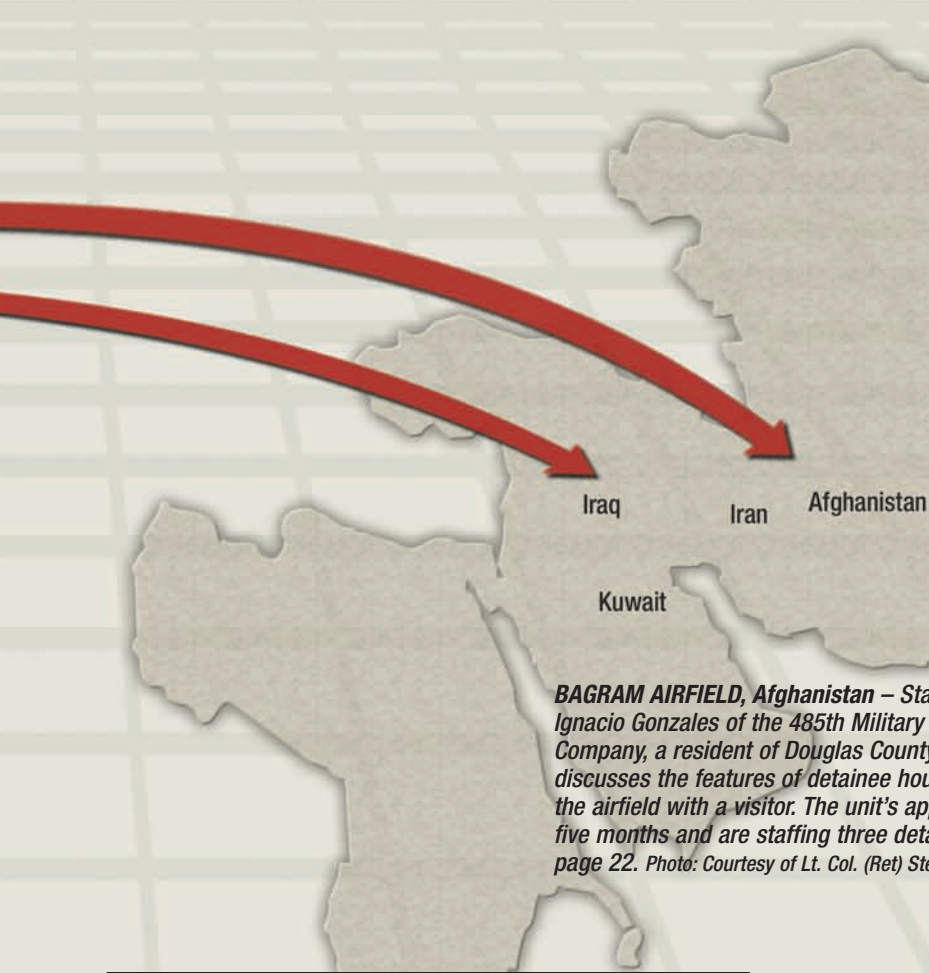


FALLON – Master Sgt. Shane Jensen and Fallon mayor Ken Tedford light the city's Christmas tree in December to mark the start of the season in the Lahontan Valley. Jensen was formerly the first sergeant for the 609th Engineer Company headquartered in Fallon and just returned from a deployment to Afghanistan with the Agri-business Development Team. "When the countdown reached zero, I pushed the plunger down like Wile E. Coyote did to set off his explosives," Jensen said. "The tree lit up and the crowd went wild." Photo: Courtesy of Lahontan Valley News

RENO – The Nevada Air National Guard's 152nd Airlift Wing eschewed scissors in favor of flares to commemorate the opening of its new firehouse with a ribbon burning ceremony here in early December.

From left, firefighters Master Sgt. Todd Curtis, Staff Sgt. Geno Higman, Stephen Arzoian, Senior Master Sgt. Michael Brown, Staff Sgt. William Duggins and Master Sgt. Dave Rosshen simultaneously burned through the ribbon to officially mark the end of construction on the \$10 million project.

The new facility replaced the old, antiquated firehouse originally built in 1955 as part of the original construction on the air base. Photo: Sgt. Mike Getten



BAGRAM AIRFIELD, Afghanistan – Staff Sgt. Ignacio Gonzales of the 485th Military Police Company, a resident of Douglas County, discusses the features of detainee housing at the airfield with a visitor. The unit's approximately 120 Soldiers have been in Afghanistan about five months and are staffing three detainee facilities on the airfield. For more on the 485th, turn to page 22. Photo: Courtesy of Lt. Col. (Ret) Steve Ranson, Lahontan Valley News




LAGHMAN PROVINCE, Afghanistan – Nevada National Guard Command Sgt. Maj. Robert Reid, far right, stands with Brig. Gen. Jim Richardson, center, and other international soldiers at the Tactical Action Center here in November. Reid was named the 1st Cavalry Division deputy commanding general's command sergeant major and senior enlisted advisor by Richardson last fall. The Texas-based 1st Cavalry Division deployed to Afghanistan in May and maintains command and control of Regional Command-East.

For the remainder of his deployment, Reid will assist and advise Richardson on issues surrounding enlisted Soldiers at the Tactical Action Center. The center's mission is to mentor and train the 201st Afghan National Army Corps and assist the organization's planning, resource allocation, and kinetic and non-lethal mission operations. Reid is set to return to Nevada this spring.

Photo: Courtesy of Tactical Action Center-1 Public Affairs



KANDAHAR AIRFIELD, Afghanistan – Spc. Michael Brand of the 422nd Expeditionary Signal Battalion has a heavy burden to carry with a completely full ruck sack as the battalion packs up and heads for home in December. The battalion returned home to Nevada in January with no casualties. More than 450 Soldiers in the battalion, including more than 350 Nevada Guardsmen, had been deployed in Afghanistan since January 2011 providing communications capabilities to dozens of forward operating bases and combat outposts. For more on the 422nd, turn to pages 16 and 17. Photo: Courtesy of 422nd Expeditionary Signal Battalion



1864th Soldier is **One in a 1,000** Mele a rare bone marrow donor match

By Lt. Col. Terry Conder, Joint Force Headquarters Public Affairs

Bone marrow donation statistics

- Annually, more than 130,000 Americans are diagnosed with a serious blood disease.
- Only 30 percent of patients who need a bone marrow transplant have a matching donor in their family.
- 70 percent of ill patients must hope a compatible stranger can be found using the national bone marrow registry.
- At any given time, about 7,500 Americans are actively searching the national registry for an unrelated donor.
- Only 2 percent of the population is on the national registry.
- At least 1,000 people die each year because they cannot find a matching donor.
- Bone marrow donation requires less than 5 percent of an individual's marrow cells.

Source: U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services

A surgeon performs a bone marrow harvest operation. The bone marrow is transfused into the recipient, which helps recreate and replenish T-cells and white and red blood cells that are killed during chemotherapy.
Photo: U.S. Navy

CEDAR CITY, Utah – According to the National Marrow Donor Program, 2nd Lt. Rory Mele is a statistical oddity – and very likely a lifesaver.

According to the National Marrow Donor Program, Mele, 26, is among a very small percentage (less than one in 1,000) of bone marrow registry members who actually match a potential recipient and donate marrow in a given year. Only one in 540 registry members is ever asked to donate marrow in their lifetime.

Bone marrow transplants are often used as a treatment method in more than 170,000 serious blood disease and leukemia cases annually. More than 1,000 people die each year because they can't find a donor.

Mele, a platoon leader in the 1864th Transportation Company who resides in Cedar City, Utah, made his marrow donation last fall.

He was at an officer leadership course at Fort Lewis, Wash., in June 2010 when he first heard about the National Marrow Donor Program and the Department of Defense's call for registry volunteers.

The test to determine donor compatibility is simple, but the actual procedure often intimidates potential volunteers. Bone marrow donation involves a surgical procedure done under general or local anesthesia. Liquid marrow is withdrawn from the back of the donor's pelvic bones using special hollow needles.

Very few Soldiers at Fort Lewis volunteered for the registry, but Mele did. Most people who volunteer for the marrow registry never receive a call.

"During the process, we met seven to 10 people who have been on the registry for more than 20 years yet have never been contacted," he said.

Nearly a year later, the Southern Utah University graduate received a call informing him that he was a match for someone with a potentially terminal illness. The representative from the registry described the donor procedure in detail and told Mele that the range of pain a donor endures depends on the individual. The representative didn't sugarcoat or downplay the procedure – Mele was told the pain level described by some donors is "10 out of 10."

"They said I could cancel at any time," Mele said. "They told me I wasn't bound to anything. Even up until they started the IV to begin the procedure, I could have canceled and said no. But I didn't hesitate or second guess my decision at all."

Hurricane Irene was pounding the East Coast the day Mele was scheduled to fly



2nd Lt. Rory Mele prepares for his marrow donation procedure last fall in Washington, D.C. Only about one person in 540 ever makes a marrow donation after registering in the National Marrow Donor Program. "I'd do it again. I'd do it a dozen times if I could," Mele said. Photo: Courtesy of Rose Mele

to Georgetown University Hospital in Washington for his initial exam last August. In an unusual twist of fate, nearly every flight to the nation's capital was canceled or drastically delayed except for Mele's.

At Georgetown, Mele confirmed his belief that a donation could dramatically affect a family. He met a donor who had registered for the program 24 years ago after his wife received a bone marrow transplant.

"She was there with her husband, still alive and well because of the registry and the donation decades ago," Mele said.

After doctors determined Mele was the top candidate for the potential recipient, they arranged to have him and his wife, Rose, return to Georgetown in October.

"The preparation started at 7 a.m.," Mele said. "They made two incisions. They told me they poked my bones 50-60 times and pulled out more than a liter of marrow."

"When I awoke, I felt some soreness in my lower back and experienced some fatigue, but I didn't have any pain. I was able to get right back to work."

(The amount of marrow Mele donated would fill a one-liter soda bottle halfway.)

Mele stayed in the hospital overnight and checked out the next day. Rose said she never worried about her husband. "I was excited about what he was doing," she said.

Throughout the donation process, Mele and the recipient are not permitted to contact each other.

"I'll get an update on how she's doing at one month, six months and a year," Mele said. "At a year, we can decide if we want to meet. I can say no and she can say no."

Mele began his military career with the Utah Guard in 2007 and transferred to the Nevada Guard last summer. In his civilian occupation, he directs a foster care program and works at a group home. He and Rose also have two teenage foster children living with them.

According to the organization, only 2 percent of the nation's population is registered in the National Marrow Donor Program. Far fewer will ever make a marrow donation, especially when they find out everything that's involved in the process.

But Mele shrugs off the notion that he did anything special.

"It was a great experience," Mele said. "The night I spent in the hospital, a nurse told me I was the hero of the floor. Everyone else on my floor was waiting for transplants and help."

"I'd do it again. I'd do it a dozen times if I could."

For information on joining the national bone marrow registry, visit marrow.org. ■

The Nevada Guard will host a bone marrow registry drive this spring in southern Nevada. For information, call Tammy Richardson at (702) 856-4811.

Ross' return marks end of era in Iraq

By Sgt. 1st Class Erick Studenicka, Battle Born Editor

RENO — In May 2003, 109 Nevada Army Guard Soldiers from the 72nd Military Police Company tentatively stepped off a plane in a hot, dusty, southwest Asian country infamously associated with terrorism, combat and death.

The unit was commanded by Capt. Troy Armstrong, now a lieutenant colonel in the 17th Sustainment Brigade, and led by 1st Sgt. Daryl Keithley, now the state's

command sergeant major. The Soldiers' mission was to spend a year working at a nondescript correctional facility no one had heard of named Abu Ghraib.

Nevada Guard troops were in Iraq. And the state's Guardsmen would remain in Iraq for the next 101 months.

More than eight years after the 72nd MPs entered Iraq, Nevada Guard participation in military operations in the country



finally ended in October when Lt. Col. Troy Ross, 48, concluded his deployment to Basra and returned home to Reno. Ross, a doctor in the Medical Detachment, is the state's aviation medical officer.

With U.S. combat operations squarely focused on Afghanistan today, it's easy to forget that Iraq was considered the primary combat zone for U.S. troops during the first few years of the Global War on Terrorism.

Nearly 2,000 Nevada Guard Soldiers recorded deployments in Iraq from 2003-2011, and Nevada's Airmen spent more than 100,000 man-days in the region, considered by some to be the cradle of civilization.

In fact, nine out of the Nevada Guard's first 10 Army unit deployments backing the Global War on Terrorism were in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Like all called into combat in the region, Nevada Guardsmen experienced the scourges of Iraq, including intolerable heat, improvised explosive devices and sandstorms. The vast majority completed their requisite duty and returned home safely.

One Soldier, Spc. Anthony Cometa of the 1864th Transportation Company, didn't make it home. He died in a vehicle accident on June 16, 2005, and was the lone Nevada Guard fatality in Iraq of the period. Cometa's combat death was the first experienced by the Nevada Army Guard since Cpl. Fitch Rowely was killed in Holland during World War II, according to the Nevada State Library and Archives.

Although he didn't realize it at the time, the entire Post-9/11, Nevada Guard-in-Iraq era ended in a split second when Ross stepped off the plane in Reno on Oct. 26 with little fanfare.

"It's something interesting to file away and tell my grandchildren, but it doesn't have specific meaning to me, because I know a lot of effort and support from the United States continues today in Iraq," Ross said.



Lt. Col. Troy Ross of the Medical Detachment hops aboard a UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter for a medical supply inventory at the Army Aviation Support Facility in Reno in December. Ross' return from a deployment to Iraq in October marked the end of an era for Nevada Guard participation in combat operations in that country.

Photo: Sgt. 1st Class Erick Studenicka, Joint Force Headquarters Public Affairs

"I didn't accomplish anything by being one of the last Soldiers to leave Iraq wearing a Nevada patch. "But it is nice to know that coming home is one concrete measure of how we are finishing our mission and closing out our chapter of military operations in Iraq."

While he was in Iraq, Ross served as a primary care doctor. He performed a variety of duties including stints in the emergency room and the medical clinic. Although he saw and treated some serious injuries, he saw no fatalities during his time in Basra.

Ross' job in the Nevada Guard is to monitor and maintain the health of aviation pilots and crews.

Now in the medical profession, Ross actually began his career in the military as an aviation officer. After graduating from Reno High School in 1981, he was commissioned through the University of Nevada, Reno's, reserve officer training corps program and served four years as an active duty pilot from 1986-1990.

Ross returned to the Silver State in 1993 and joined the 113th Heavy Lift unit that flew CH-54 Skycranes.

His whole career path took a detour when he was accepted into the Uniformed Services Medical School in Bethesda, Md., in 1993. The Army paid for his medical school in exchange for an active duty stint from 1997-2009. The majority of his time was spent at Fort Hood, Texas.

While on active duty with the 4th Infantry from 2007-2009, Ross experienced his first deployment to Iraq, a 15-month-long stay in Baghdad.

"I saw big improvements in Iraq from the time I was there in 2008 to late 2011," Ross said. The country certainly has more stability and a better capacity to govern itself. The country is not going to implode after we end our military operations."

For the time being, Ross doesn't anticipate any deployments. He's happy to be back into his routine in Reno with his wife, three daughters and son working in the civilian occupational medicine field.

"My whole underlying reason for leaving active duty was the fact I wanted to come home to Reno," Ross said. "I wanted my family to be able to identify themselves as Nevadans." ■

(Editor's notes: Accusations of human rights violations at Abu Ghraib never involved Nevada Guard Soldiers. The 72nd MP Company left Iraq in November 2003, long before accusations surfaced in 2004.)



Iraqi Freedom took toll on Nevada Guard

One day after his 21st birthday on June 16, 2005, Spc. Anthony Cometa of the 1864th Transportation Company became the Nevada Army Guard's first and only casualty as a result of Operation Iraqi Freedom. He died in a vehicle accident while providing escort protection in Iraq about 10 miles north of the Kuwaiti border.

During his 11 months in southwest Asia, Cometa participated in 16 missions into Iraq and drove more than 13,000 miles in the region.

Cometa was a native of Rochester, N.Y., and moved to the Las Vegas area in 1999. He graduated from Silverado High in 2002 and enlisted in the Nevada Army Guard in 2003.

Cometa was an accomplished musician who often collaborated with other Soldiers to produce original digital music. His guitar was always in safe hands, and it was always properly tuned.

"There was never a mission he turned down," said Maj. Neil Oscarson, his commander in Iraq. "He was always the first to volunteer. We could always count on his service without reservation or hesitation." ■

485th locks down battlefield insurgents

By Lt. Col. (Ret.) Steve Ranson, Special to Battle Born

BAGRAM AIRFIELD, Afghanistan – One would never guess that a remote section of the airfield in northeastern Afghanistan is home to one of the largest, state-of-the-art internment facilities in Southwest Asia.

Staffed by 123 Soldiers from the Nevada Army Guard's 485th Military Police Company, the detention facility in Parwan at Camp Sabalu-Harrison is capable of supporting a detainee population of 2,400.

1st Sgt. Steve Lawrence of Fallon said the 485th's mission at Parwan is very straightforward.

"The assignment is simple," he said. "It's to keep the bad guys in the detention facility and eliminate their activity on the battlefield. We are charged with the care, custody and control of insurgents picked up on the battlefield who are doing harm to international forces."

Lawrence said most of the unit's Soldiers either guard the cell blocks or escort prisoners from one area to another. He said many Soldiers have law enforcement backgrounds. The majority of the MPs come from the Reno-Sparks-Carson City metropolitan area and about 25 percent hail from southern Nevada.

1st Lt. Robert Kolvet of Fernley, commander of the unit, said the security mission has gone well and the Soldiers are doing fine. The unit has been in Afghanistan since October and there have been no serious injuries or incidents reported.

"Morale is high, and our brigade is happy with our work," Kolvet said.

After the MPs deployed from Reno in August and spent two months refining their soldier skills at Fort Bliss, Texas, Kolvet said the company was ready for detainee operations.

"The training experience at Bliss gave us a snapshot of what to expect," he said.

After their arrival at the air field, the MPs began working alongside security personnel from other branches of the U.S. military and Afghan forces.



From left, Marine Corps Sgt. D.J. Walsh, retired Nevada Army Guard Lt. Col. Steve Ranson and Spc. William Frias of the 422nd Signal Company stand at an entry control point at Kandahar Airfield. Ranson, the editor of the Lahontan Valley News, visited Bagram and Kandahar airfields to see Nevada Guardsmen in action while deployed. Photo: Courtesy of Lahontan Valley News



1st Lt. Robert Kolvet, left, and 1st Sgt. Steve Lawrence constitute the 485th Military Police Company's command team responsible for the unit's Soldiers and the welfare, care and security of hundreds of detainees. Photo: Retired Lt. Col. Steve Ranson, Special to Battle Born

Lawrence said there's no room for complacency among the unit's Soldiers.

"We are charged with the care, custody and control of some of the most dangerous people on the planet, and becoming complacent could lead to major consequences," Lawrence said.

For Staff Sgt. Igenacio Gonzalez, guarding prisoners is nothing new.

"For me, it's identical to what I do in law enforcement," Gonzalez said. "I work as a guard for the Douglas County sheriff's office, but there are slightly different rules here. Our training was good, and that makes me feel confident."

Sgt. Beatrice Hallberg of Fallon is one of 19 female Soldiers working at the detention center. Three married couples are also on the staff.

A 485th Soldier since its inception, Hallberg is the unit's readiness sergeant. Whether at home in Reno or in Afghanistan, she said her No. 1 priority remains taking care of Soldiers and their families.

Many 485th Soldiers said previous overseas missions helped them prepare for their current deployment. In 2009, the 485th rotated Soldiers in and out of the Dominican Republic to assist with humanitarian projects. In 2010, the MPs flew to Haiti after its devastating earthquake to help with security.

"All of our previous training and experience has contributed toward our mission's success so far," Lawrence explained. "Soldiers spend the majority of their lives preparing for an opportunity to display their abilities while in combat. We are no different."

Reno resident Sgt. 1st Class Don Welch said Afghanistan is a picnic compared to Haiti.

"Haiti was a nightmare because of the earthquake and austere conditions, but that mission allowed our Soldiers to easily adapt to the environment here," Welch said. "Compared to Haiti, there are better standards here for both Soldiers and the Afghan people."

The MPs continue to marvel at the similarities between Afghanistan and northern Nevada. Snow-capped mountains similar to those encircling Reno surround the airfield.

"I laugh each time our commander jokes that we were secretly transported to a remote base near Area 51 and not to Afghanistan," said 1st Lt. Glenn Rigdon.

The unit is set to return to Nevada in late summer of 2012. ■

Reno seminar aims to increase rifle qualification course knowledge

By 1st Lt. Jason Yuhasz
152nd Airlift Wing Public Affairs

RENO – Nearly every Airman knows the new Air Force Rifle Qualification Course became official in December.

But few Airmen know what the new course entails and how to properly train and prepare for the new standards.

To combat any lingering questions surrounding the course and broadcast proven training methods for the test, the 152nd Airlift Wing hosted its inaugural Combat Arms Training and Maintenance Shop training seminar in Reno in November.

More than 100 Airmen from across Nevada attended the three-day seminar conducted on the Air National Guard base in Reno and at the Washoe County Regional Shooting Facility.

“The Nevada Guard stepped up to the plate to host the workshop because other agencies did not have the funds to host a seminar,” said Master Sgt. Jason Huth, the 152nd Security Forces Operations superintendent. “This new course of fire will have a significant impact on how the entire Air Force conducts its small arms operations and training. We felt it was important to bring all of the CATM shops in the Air Guard to one place at one time and go through the course of fire together and begin to analyze each unit’s limiting factors.”

Huth noted the Air Guard will have to overcome a huge limiting factor nationwide – only five Air Guard bases have their own ranges.

“Most air bases must operate on ranges owned by other agencies which are not likely to be conducive to running this new course of fire,” Huth said.

For example, the new Air Force test includes a requirement of firing over barricades. While it’s likely the barricades



An Airman on the Nevada Air Guard’s Combat Arms Training and Maintenance team practices for the portion of the new Air Force Rifle Qualification Course that includes firing from the kneeling position while wearing a protective mask. Photo: 1st Lt. Jason Yuhasz

will be quickly constructed on the Air Guard ranges, it’s unlikely another agency will modify its range to meet precise Air Force standards.

In addition to the new barricade requirement, there are many other differences between the old course and new test. The underlying change is how the new course emphasizes combat engagement and shooter survivability skills.

The previous course tested basic shooter fundamentals (i.e., sight picture, breath control, trigger squeeze). The new course prioritizes target acquisition, threat discrimination, multiple-threat engagements, and surviving weapon malfunctions and stoppages.

Major changes in the qualification course include stringent time constraints, required wear of a combat helmet and

body armor, and movement during fire.

For a good reason, Huth was one of the primary instructors during the seminar. He was one of four hand-picked CATM Airmen out of the entire Air Guard who attended a special course at Lackland Air Force Base in 2011 that focused on the new rifle course. Huth completed that training and then shared what he learned with the rest of the 152nd Airlift Wing’s CATM staff, including Tech. Sgt. Yantzy Arnell, Staff Sgt. Anthony Haley and Staff Sgt. Todd Lawson.

No matter their home state, all 113 Airmen who participated in the seminar agreed it was important to have a forum on the topics surrounding the new qualification course.

“It was an excellent opportunity to share ideas and techniques,” said Staff Sgt. Nathan Silvers of the Wisconsin Air Guard. “We found we all have similar issues on our respective home bases.”

Nevada Airmen will begin taking the new qualification course this year. For more information on the new course, call (775) 788-4526. ■

Yuhasz promises Battle Born editors he’ll cover any story that allows him to get out of his office and shoot weapons, even with a gas mask on.



The Air Force Marksmanship ribbon is awarded to all Air Force service members who qualify as an expert in small-arms marksmanship with either the M-16 rifle or issued handgun.

Contest reveals talented crop of Nevada Soldiers

Story and photo by Lt. Col. Terry Conder, Joint Force Headquarters Public Affairs

LAS VEGAS – Soldiers who show up in Utah this year to compete for the National Guard Region 7 Soldier of the Year had better be prepared because Nevada's team is loaded with talent.

In convincing fashion, Spc. Julian Batz won the Soldier of the Year title and Staff Sgt. Larry Harlan took the Noncommissioned Officer of the Year honor at the state's competition here in the autumn and put the nation on notice that Nevada has a formidable team.

Batz took three of the six categories that tested academic, physical and soldiering skills.

"Corny cliché aside, I did it for the Cav," Batz said. "The Cav [1/221st Cavalry] hasn't taken it in a long time. I felt that it's about time our unit got some recognition."

Batz took first place overall in the ruck march, scored 355 on the APFT and captured first place in warrior skills.

He had an off day on the range, but normally shoots expert. Despite dominating the three-day event, Batz was modest about his performance.

"Looking forward to the regional, I have to just take everything one step at a time," he said. "There are a lot of things that I need to improve on. I did pretty well, but it's not good enough, and I need to get better."

Even though Harlan swept six of the seven categories in the NCO contest, he said he was nervous when the overall winner was announced.

"I'm overwhelmed to be named Nevada's NCO of the Year," Harlan said. "It's a special honor this year because they named the award after the Soldiers lost in the Sept. 6 shooting in Carson City."

Harlan said he plans to be at his best for the Region 7 challenge. "We're going to Utah, and we're going to beat them. I guarantee it."

The three-day event also included Honor Guard and First Sergeant of the Year contests.

Staff Sgt. Patrick Johnson won the Honor Guard event.

"It's important that we do everything with honor, dignity and respect," Johnson said. "Our teams do 100 to 200 missions a year, so I'm very happy that they included an Honor Guard category in the competition this year."

Two long-time Nevada Guardsmen faced off for the First Sergeant of the Year, with 1st Sgt. Scott Brown edging out 1st Sgt. Colin Care for the title.

"It was a privilege for me to compete against 1st Sgt. Care," Brown said. "To be considered as good as he is is an honor to me."

Honor Guard Competitors

***Staff Sgt. Patrick Johnson, 17th Special Troops Battalion**

Sgt. Ashley Brun, Nevada Medical Detachment

Sgt. Christopher Williams, 100th Quartermaster Company

Spc. Laura Frondoso, 593rd Medium Truck Company

Soldier of the Year Competitors

***Spc. Julian Batz, K Troop, 1/221st Cavalry**

Spc. KiHana Jessie, Nevada Medical Detachment

Spc. Mark Cunningham, 137th Military Police Detachment

Spc. George Downey, 422nd Expeditionary Signal Battalion

Spc. Steven Minifie, 1/168th Medevac

Spc. Brandon Hurst, HHC, 757th Combat Services Support Battalion



Spc. Julian Batz won three of six categories at the Soldier of the Year competition last fall in Las Vegas to take first place and earn a spot at the Region 7 Soldier of the Year contest in Utah later this year.

Astrick (*) denotes first place.

Sgt. Maj. Ronald Morse, who has facilitated the competition for seven years in a row, was pleased with the attitude and effort Soldiers brought to the event.

"The purpose of the competition is to develop the next generation of professional Soldiers and enhance the competence of our units," Morse said. "Everyone who showed up had excellent attitude, excellent morale, and was very dedicated and motivated to do well."

At the awards banquet, Brig. Gen. Frank Gonzales spoke about the spirited rivalry and the warrior mentality of the participants.

"Rewarding our warriors is the most important thing we do," Gonzales said. "Throughout history, there has been a tradition of recognizing great warriors. And that's what we're doing here – recognizing Nevada's great warriors." ■



Staff Sgt. Larry Harlan concludes the marksmanship portion of the Noncommissioned Officer of the Year competition last fall in Las Vegas. He won six of seven categories in the event to capture first place.

Noncommissioned Officer Competitors

***Staff Sgt. Larry Harlan, HHC, 17th Special Troops Battalion**

Sgt. Alejandro Alvanez, HHT, 1/221st Cavalry

Sgt. Joseph Rutski, Nevada Medical Detachment

Sgt. Tyler Miller-Cobb, 422nd Expeditionary Signal Battalion

Staff Sgt. Roseanne Nebres, HHC, 757th Combat Services Support Battalion

First Sergeant Competitors

***1st Sgt. Scott Brown, 609th Sapper Company**

1st Sgt. Colin Care, 72nd Military Police Company



Master Sgt. Jason Farnsworth of the 152nd Medical Group, left, receives the First Sergeant of the Year award from Brig. Gen. Robert Fitch, commander of the Nevada Air Guard. Photo: Master Sgt. Suzanne Connell

Outstanding 2011 Airmen of the Year

*By Sgt. Mike Getten
Joint Force Headquarters Public Affairs*

RENO – The Nevada Air Guard announced its outstanding Airmen for 2011 during its November drill here at the air base.

Senior Airman William Marler, 152nd Intelligence Squadron, scored Airman of the Year honors; Tech. Sgt. Joshua Rogers, 192nd Airlift Squadron, was named the Noncommissioned Officer of the Year; and Master Sgt. Darin Mauzy, 232nd Operations Squadron received the Senior Noncommissioned Officer award.

Staff Sgt. Javier Sosa, 152nd Logistics Readiness Squadron, was recognized as the Honor Guard Airman of the Year; Master Sgt. Jason Farnsworth, 152nd Medical Group, got the First Sergeant of the Year award; and 1st Lt. Lance King, 192nd Airlift Squadron, was named the Company Grade Officer of the Year.

"Although every Airman would be honored to be chosen the Honor Guard's Airman of the Year, the award has special significance for me," said Sosa, the noncommissioned officer in charge of the base's Honor Guard. "The goal of the Honor Guard is to represent Airmen to the American public and the entire world. For me, being sent to compete and represent our base and state at the next level is truly humbling."

Each award recipient will represent the Nevada Air Guard this year and compete nationally against the other 53 states, territories and the District of Columbia for the honor of representing the Air Guard in competition against active duty and reserve Airmen in various contests. ■

DEPLOYMENT ROUNDUP

593rd set to appear in second theater

By Sgt. Mike Getten
Joint Force Headquarters Public Affairs

STEAD – Like an increasingly popular movie at the local Cineplex, the 593rd Transportation Company is set to appear in a second theater.

Five years after experiencing the sands of Iraq, the Soldiers of the 593rd are preparing for a new combat destination: Afghanistan.

The company, commanded by Capt. Curtis Kolvet, is the first Nevada Army Guard unit to serve in both Iraq and Afghanistan since overseas contingency operations began in 2001.

The company is set to depart later this winter and drive throughout Afghanistan with the mission of transporting troops and dry cargo using Mine Resistant Ambush Protected vehicles. The company will leave its M-915A3 truck tractors and M-967A2 fuel trailers in Nevada.

Although Afghanistan and Iraq are thousands of miles apart, both countries feature some similar terrain and climates, so the unit's pre-deployment training was similar to its training in 2006. The unit spent its entire annual training period in November preparing for its upcoming deployment.

The 593rd is headquartered in Reno and has had detachments in Winnemucca and Elko for years. To ensure that the company would have enough Soldiers for its mission, the unit went out of its way to establish a detachment in Las Vegas for the convenience of Soldiers in southern Nevada who potentially wanted to train and deploy. The addition of the detachment was a success and the unit is fully staffed for its deployment.

"Soldiers from nearly every unit in the state have volunteered to deploy with us," said 593rd 1st Sgt. Harry Schroeder. "That fact speaks volumes about the reputation of our unit and the support we receive from the entire state."

During its pre-deployment training phase, the 593rd's Soldiers received training on the latest MRAP vehicles in the Army's inventory.

Staff Sgt. Heather Harris, who was among the first Soldiers into Iraq in 2002 while on active duty, is preparing for her fourth deployment. She said the improvement in military vehicles during the past decade has been dramatic.

"When I first deployed, we were in Humvees protected by sand bags on the floor," Harris said. "When I went back with the Nevada Guard for my second deployment, they bolted on some armor plates and called them up-armored."

"On my last deployment, we had factory-produced, up-armored Humvees," Harris said. "This time we are going out in MRAPs. It's amazing how war drives technology."

With many experienced Soldiers like Harris in the unit's ranks, Schroeder is confident the Soldiers in the unit are well-trained and prepared for the upcoming deployment.

"The company's leadership is very experienced," Schroeder said. "The commander and I have deployed as well as 90 percent of the unit's senior sergeants."

The unit is set to return to Nevada in February 2013.

422nd Expeditionary Signal Battalion returns

The largest signal corps deployment in Nevada Guard history concluded in mid-January when the 422nd Expeditionary Signal Battalion returned to Nevada following its successful deployment to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. The 422nd was the first reserve component ESB deployed to Afghanistan.

The battalion's 450 Soldiers set up forward operations at Kandahar Airfield as well as more than 40 other sites throughout Afghanistan and were responsible for engineering, installing and maintaining the largest tactical and strategic communication networks in the combat theater. No serious injuries or incidents were reported, although the airfield and outlying base locations were often subject to various insurgent attacks including rockets, vehicle-borne improvised explosive devices, suicide-vest bombers and small arms fire.

"Our goals were to provide world-class communications to warfighters, to optimize the network and to leave communications in Afghanistan better than we found it," said battalion commander Lt. Col. Jeff Hansen. "We far exceeded these goals. The entire battalion turned in a superior performance and provided RC-South, RC-West and RC-East with communications capabilities and service that directly supported warfighters at all levels on the battlefield."

During its mission, the battalion staged and deployed its tactical equipment in support of five brigade combat teams and 200 key forward positions to provide critical communications support to combat troops, enabling the regional commands to sustain their efforts without interruption.



Drivers from the Nevada Army Guard's 593rd Transportation Company hone their driving skills at the Mine Resistant Ambush Protected Vehicle University at Red River Army Depot near Texarkana, Texas, during pre-deployment training in December. During their training, 593rd drivers became familiar with MRAP capabilities including steep angle ascents. The 593rd is set to deploy later this winter. Photo: Capt. Curtis Kolvet

Deployed 422nd Soldiers moonlight as teachers' aides

By Sgt. 1st Class Frank L. Marquez
130th Military History Detachment

KANDAHAR AIRFIELD, Afghanistan – Never to be confused with Yale, Stanford or Harvard, the leading center of education here has no research facility, no lecture hall, no football stadium and certainly no multi-million dollar endowment.

Despite having just the simplest of educational tools, however, the Bazaar Boys School on the airfield here became one of the region's focal points of learning during the past year, in large part thanks to the volunteer work of the Nevada Army Guard's 422nd Expeditionary Signal Battalion.

During their deployment that concluded in January, about 50 Soldiers volunteered many Saturdays to assist teachers in the one-room schoolhouse, built in 2008, with lessons ranging from astronomy, geography and, naturally, English.

Some of the features of the classroom, such as the world map, the periodic table of the elements and a solar system poster, were reminiscent of a Nevada high school classroom.

Other features of the classroom, like the traditional Afghan garb worn by the teacher, confirmed the fact the classes were being conducted far from the Silver State.

On most Saturdays, not one seat was empty, and up to 100 students attended classes and played on the playground.

The students – all boys – attend school as part of an agreement between airfield vendors and coalition forces. Sons of merchandise vendors at the airfield are eligible (and indeed obligated) to attend.

Coalition Soldiers, including those from the 422nd, often volunteered at the Saturday school to help build an educational foundation and good relations with the vendors' sons.

"Simply put, we know these boys as 'the boys who sell bracelets,'" said Sgt. Nichole Jacobs, a signal supply sergeant. "Our battalion began volunteering once a month, and we've got to know the boys well."

School begins each Saturday promptly at 9 a.m. Volunteers then help get the day going with a myriad of activities and games during the first hour of instruction.

"Our battalion helped host a Carnival Day, and we've assisted the students with their painting and coloring," Jacobs said.



With the Bazaar Boys School building in the background, 422 Expeditionary Signal Battalion Sgts. Patrice Mara, left, and Nichole Jacobs manage the ball toss game during the school's Carnival Day. Photos: Sgt. 1st Class Frank L. Marquez, 130th Military History Detachment

"We've also played games and bingo with them and reviewed math worksheets. The boys also made bracelets, airplanes and origami figures."

From 10-11 a.m., the students are taught by a local teacher in their native Pashtu language.

After their morning lessons, the boys receive lunch and a grab bag of goodies which are mostly school supplies donated by U.S. families and charity organizations. Common items found in the bags are pens, pencils, erasers, notebooks, toy cars, soap bubbles and toothbrushes.

"Most of our items come from people who have heard about the school and want to help," said Pfc. Lucy Esperanza, an administrative clerk for the 422nd.

The signal Soldiers also enhanced the curriculum for the older kids. The older boys became bored with just games and asked for more difficult math problems.

"These kids want to be challenged," said Sgt. Patrice Mara, a battalion information technology specialist. "The first time I visited the kids, I discovered many were interested in math. So, I challenged them with pre-algebra questions off the Internet. After they solved those, they said 'give me harder' questions."

After lessons and lunch, it's time for everyone's favorite subject – physical education.

"The boys challenge us to a soccer game every week," Jacobs said. "We find it difficult to score just one goal."

Educational opportunities on the airfield often come with risk. Kandahar Airfield is routinely the target of rocket attacks, and the school is not immune.

The school house was struck by a rocket in October. There were no injuries to students or faculty, but a room for young students burned down and a Conex container full of school supplies was hit with shrapnel. Not coincidentally, attendance at school dipped after the rocket attack.

Mara said Americans should not underestimate the desire of Afghan students to learn. There is plenty of ambition among the Bazaar Boys School attendees.

"One student wants to become an architect and fix Kandahar," she said. "These students are very smart and want to change Afghanistan for the better. They are Afghanistan's future." ■



Staff Sgt. Kenneth Falconer of the 422nd's C Company tosses a ball to Afghan students during Carnival Day at the Bazaar Boys School.

Airman's algorithm boosts NASA's lunar exploration

By Tech. Sgt. Eric Ritter
152nd Airlift Wing Public Affairs

RENO – Despite the fact it's been nearly 40 years since a man walked on the moon, and there is no manned spacecraft in NASA's current inventory, lunar research continues at warp speed.

One of the key contributors to the ongoing research of Earth's lone natural satellite is Senior Airman Marvin Smith of the 152nd Maintenance Squadron. Smith, a computer science major at the University of Nevada, Reno, has developed a detailed algorithm that promises to propel NASA's research on our nearest celestial neighbor for years to come.

In simple terms, an algorithm is any set of detailed instructions that lead to a predictable result. The algorithm Smith created allows researchers to measure terrain features on the moon's surface.

During the summer of 2011, Smith served an internship at a NASA facility in northern California and was assigned to the Lunar Mapping and Modeling Project team.

Smith and his cohorts gathered more than 50,000 images of the moon's surface from real-time satellite images and original Apollo program photos. Along with previous research, the photos provided the necessary information to formulate the algorithm used to measure lunar terrain features including crater depths.

"The bright areas and the shadows surrounding the craters gave us enough information to create the formulas we needed to calculate the true size of craters," Smith said.

Smith didn't begin his academic career as a computer scientist.

"I originally majored in political science at UNR," Smith said. "I enjoyed the class, but I didn't see the eventual practical use of that degree."

As a Nevada Guard Airman, he knew he had opportunities other students didn't have.

"I knew my classes were subsidized by the National Guard, and I realized I was pretty decent in math," he said. "So, I decided I'd give computer science a shot."

It was a decision that changed his life.

"I loved it from the start," he said. "Computer science is based on mathematical laws and there really is no gray area in those laws. I found that type of linear thinking really appealing."

As much as Smith enjoyed the computer science curriculum, it wasn't until he returned from a deployment in Afghanistan that he realized he wanted more of a challenge.

"I went to my professor and told him I was looking for more assignments to improve computer skills," Smith said.

His timing couldn't have been better.

His professor had just received a federal grant to send a student to the NASA facility for a summer internship.

Smith's ability in mathematics and computer sciences was the perfect combination for NASA. Within a short time, he completed his algorithm.

"We acquired the data to create the 3-D lunar mapping scientists would need for any future lunar landing," Smith said. "Now, everyone can see the accurate model of the moon's surface and the size of these craters and valleys."

Smith is disappointed NASA's manned-space program was suspended in February 2011, but he's optimistic unmanned lunar exploration will occur in the future.

"It's possible we may send rovers to the moon's surface for more exploration," he said. "The rovers will use the data we've collected and will be programmed to know the terrain well – they won't fall off a cliff."

Smith said UNR professor George Bebis has helped him tremendously in academia. He said he also owes the Nevada Guard much of the credit for the bachelor's degree he's set to receive this spring.

"There's no way I could be doing any of this without the educational benefits offered through the Guard," he said. "I'd be paying student loans for the next 10 years without the National Guard's support." ■

Senior Airman Marvin Smith, a computer science student at the University of Nevada, Reno, and a member of the 152nd Maintenance Squadron, watches his computer run the algorithm he created that maps 3-D images of the moon for potential future unmanned and manned lunar exploration.

Photo: Tech. Sgt. Eric Ritter, 152nd Air Wing Public Affairs



Sheet metal shop's simple creed – fix the bullet holes

By Staff Sgt. Natalie Stanley, National Guard Bureau

National Guard Bureau Master Sgt. Kevin Beal succinctly sums up the mission of the Nevada Air Guard's sheet metal shop in one short phrase: "They shoot bullet holes into it, and then we fix it."

Beal is a sheet metal supervisor who has been fixing holes since 1986 at the Nevada Air National Guard base in Reno. The sheet metal shop's staff is one of the tiniest on the facility, comprising only three Airmen who belong to the 152nd Maintenance Squadron.

Those three Airmen, however, have a huge responsibility – they must maintain the sheet metal on the airframes of all eight Nevada Guard C-130s. Along with Beal, the other Airmen assigned to the specialized shop are maintenance engineer Staff Sgt. Tim Scheweppe and maintenance technician Staff Sgt. Calvin Reynolds.

In addition to the bullet holes incurred on deployments, the sheet metal workers also fix minor cracks and breaks and keep up with corrosion control.

Maintenance on the eight aircraft keeps the crew extremely busy, and Beal said the "seeing what comes up next" aspect of the job keeps it interesting.

Scheweppe said the best part of the job is the fact that he learns something new every day. He's worked in the shop for more than a year and said there's no time to be bored, especially on the days when it feels like you've been tossed into the deep end of the pool and must learn to sink or swim quickly.

"Getting thrown into the middle of the action is the best way to learn in the sheet metal shop," Scheweppe said.

Beal said he believes that the work done at the shop is vital to the success of the entire base.

"The way I see it, the big, gray planes out there on the ramp are the bread and butter of the Nevada Air Guard," Beal said. "If the aircraft lose their ability to fly, we can't complete our missions, and a lot of people are going to be out of a job." ■



Master Sgt. Kevin Beal, a structural maintenance supervisor in the 152nd Maintenance Squadron's sheet metal shop, repairs a C-130 wing component during routine aircraft maintenance in December. The unofficial motto of the sheet metal shop is "They shoot bullet holes into it, and then we fix it."

Photo: Tech. Sgt. Eric Ritter

SPOTLIGHT

New brigade patch features familiar Nevada icons

By Sgt. Mike Getten
Joint Force Headquarters Public Affairs

CARSON CITY – Now worn by two-thirds of Nevada Guard Soldiers, the 17th Sustainment Brigade unveiled its new shoulder insignia during patch ceremonies in November and December. The brigade's patch is the first new widespread insignia donned by Nevada Soldiers since 1952, when the iconic Silver State-shaped patch debuted.

The 485th Military Police Company became the first Nevada unit to use Velcro® to attach the new patch when it held its patch ceremony in Afghanistan in September. Brigade Soldiers on individual deployments also received their patches in September.

The sleeve insignia was approved by the Institute of Heraldry and authorized for wear on Sept. 1. Brigades not belonging to a division, such as the 17th Sustainment Brigade, are authorized their own patch. The 17th includes 66 percent of the state's Army Guard units.

The Institute of Heraldry, which oversees all official insignias in the United States, has precise guidelines for military patch designs. Established units must incorporate organizational history in their designs. Brand-new units such as the 17th must include state-specific elements such as history, economics and terrain.

The brigade's new patch prominently features a silver-gray bighorn sheep skull,

acknowledging the state's official animal and important mineral. The Soldier-red border stems from the logistics field and also appears on the brigade flag.

The cobalt-blue background and star pay homage to the state's flag. The color of the star represents the snow on the Sierra Nevada. The spade shape signifies miners' shovels and also the tip of a spear or lance.

Brigade Command Sgt. Maj. Robert Brown said the patch's designers worked hard to match the elements of the patch with the organization. "It's a patch the Soldiers can be proud to wear."

The design process began two years ago when the brigade submitted a request to the Institute of Heraldry for its own patch. A proposed patch from the institute was disapproved by then-brigade commander Col. Peter Menicucci.

"I wanted to create an enduring patch for the state, so I sought input from all levels of the Nevada Guard," Menicucci said. "(Army Guard commander) Brig. Gen. (Frank) Gonzales hated the initial design and suggested we use a ram's skull in the design. We all liked the idea, too, and went back to the drawing board."

A design team was established, led by Menicucci and Staff Sgt. David Schalles, a talented artist. The team made a series of exchanges and proposals with the institute until the design was finally approved.



Menicucci said the final design was initially rejected because the spade was associated with Nevada's gaming. The design was finally approved when the explanation of the spade was amended to symbolize the state's mining industry and "tip of the spear" Nevada Guard combat participation.

Menicucci's stint as brigade commander concluded just one month after the Institute of Heraldry approved and authorized the final patch design.

"I really like the new patch. It is a great design," Menicucci said. "The patch is personally symbolic to me, as it represents the growth and hard work associated with expanding the brigade from eight Soldiers at our first drill to 275 Soldiers."

"The patch, just like the 17th Sustainment Brigade, will always hold a fond place in my heart."

Certain other Nevada Soldiers wear varied patches because their respective unit is affiliated with an alternate command element.

The old Nevada patch was designed for the Nevada State Area Command and was approved on May 21, 1952.

Nevada's 92nd Civil Support Team wears the civil support team patch worn by all 56 teams in the nation.

Nevada Army Guard Recruiters wear a recruiting patch that was first fielded Oct. 12, 2007. All Army National Guard recruiters wear the same patch regardless of state or territory.

The Recruit Sustainment Company began wearing a new patch Feb. 20, 2009. The RSC patch hasn't been officially approved by the Institute of Heraldry, but the company has received interim approval from Gonzales to wear its patch.

Prior to 1996, the 1/221st Cavalry wore the 40th Infantry patch. In 1996, the 1/221st Cavalry became part of the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment, and Nevada cavalry Soldiers still wear the regiment's insignia. ■



The new 17th Sustainment Brigade shoulder patch featuring prominent Nevada icons made its debut in Nevada in November. The brigade's 485th Military Police Company was the first unit to don the patch after it received the insignia in September while deployed in Afghanistan.

Photo: Sgt. Mike Getten

SPORTS NEWS

Nevada Guard crowns first five combatives champs

By Lt. Col. Terry Conder
Joint Force Headquarters Public Affairs

LAS VEGAS – The Nevada National Guard sponsored its first internal combatives tournament and crowned five champions here at the Las Vegas Readiness Center in late September. All five are now set to compete at the upcoming national competition at Fort Benning, Ga.

Nevada's champions, with their respective weight divisions, are: Sgt. Jeremiah Draper (lightweight), Cadet Jonathan Mix (welterweight), Sgt. Gregory Kizmanich (light heavyweight), and Sgt. 1st Class Charleston Hartfield and Master Sgt. Jordan Clark, who were named co-champions in the heavyweight division.

"The national All-Guard combatives competition has been around for years," said tournament director Staff Sgt. Larry Harlan. "This is the first time we've hosted our own internal tournament in Nevada, and we'll use this competition to decide the team we'll send to Georgia. Hopefully this will become an annual event so we can build on what we started this year."

Sixteen Nevada Guard members competed in the tournament, including one female.

"There were lots of family and friends cheering during the competition, so it was a great atmosphere," Harlan said.

Combative matches have one five-minute round. Fighters start in the standing position and try to take their opponents to the ground and obtain a dominant position. Submission holds are allowed.

"The purpose of the combatives tournaments is to give Soldiers and Airmen an opportunity to train as they fight," Harlan said. "Combatives are an essential military skill nowadays, and the Army is promoting a warrior spirit in all troops."

There are four levels of combatives training. The first level is grappling only. Level four includes everything one would see at a civilian, mixed-martial arts ultimate fighting championship match.

Competitors in Nevada's tournament fought at level one. Eight of the 16



Sgt. William Patton, top, struggles to keep Sgt. Jeremiah Draper down during a lightweight-division combatives match during the Nevada Guard's internal tournament at the Las Vegas Readiness Center. Draper eventually emerged as the winner and will represent Nevada at the national championships at Fort Benning, Ga., later this year.

Photo: Courtesy of 17th Special Troops Battalion

Guardsmen had no formal training, six had completed level-one training, and two had level-two training. None had level three or four experience.

But despite their relative inexperience, Harlan said, Nevada's champions were a tough group.

"Draper is a level-two fighter who's really good once he gets his opponent to the ground," Harlan said. "Mix actually has some experience in civilian fights. He's a really good wrestler; he was able to impose his will. Krizmanich was a wrestler in high school, so he's good at taking people down and smothering an opponent. Hartfield teaches combatives for the RTI, and Clark's

good at taking people to the ground."

The sport of combatives continues to expand in the Nevada Guard. The Regional Training Institute currently offers level-one training and is set to teach level-two fighting skills next year. Levels three and four are taught at Fort Benning.

"The first round at the All-Guard tournament at Fort Benning is grappling only," Harlan said. "Subsequent rounds allow slaps to the face and kicking. In the final round, participants will be in a ring and receive gloves and be allowed to go full speed at each other."

For information on combatives, call (702) 632-0315.



Soldiers and Airmen who meet certain marathon qualifying times can find themselves at the starting line of the Lincoln National Guard Marathon on May 6. Photo: Courtesy of National Guard Bureau

Top runners needed for marathon team

CARSON CITY – The Nevada National Guard continues to seek top distance runners for its marathon team. The team is set to participate in the Lincoln National Guard Marathon on May 6 in Lincoln, Neb. Runners on the team will receive orders, and all travel costs will be compensated.

Runners who wish to compete should have a qualifying time from a certified marathon contested within the past 18 months. Male runners should have a time under 4 hours to qualify for the Lincoln race and female runners should have a time under 4 hours, 30 minutes. Exceptions to the time standard will be considered.

For information on the marathon, call (702) 460-7061.

Nevada Army Guard Retirees Honored

Col. Mark Bittick III
 Col. John Cameron
 Lt. Col. Heath Kelly
 Maj. Susan Hocker
 Maj. Amy Newman
 Maj. John Strahan
 Capt. Paul Han
 Chief Warrant Officer James Mininger
 Chief Warrant Officer Robert Pickett
 Chief Warrant Officer Stephen Schuler
 Chief Warrant Officer James C. Groth
 Sgt. Maj. Michelle Sykes
 1st Sgt. Joel Chaffee
 Master Sgt. Manuel Gurule
 Master Sgt. Michael Hallert
 Master Sgt. Michael Heisler
 Master Sgt. Curtis Klitzka
 Master Sgt. Donna Lucas
 Master Sgt. Christian Riege
 Master Sgt. Lance VanBuskirk
 Sgt. 1st Class Ryan Baker, Jr.
 Sgt. 1st Class Stephen Cleveland
 Sgt. 1st Class Alberto Cosio, Jr.
 Sgt. 1st Class Van Fortier
 Sgt. 1st Class Joseph Greenalch
 Sgt. 1st Class Michael Holcomb
 Sgt. 1st Class Nathan Makowski
 Sgt. 1st Class Miranda McElhiney
 Sgt. 1st Class Gregor Meredith
 Sgt. 1st Class David Moulton
 Sgt. 1st Class Allen Palmer
 Sgt. 1st Class Robert Parker
 Sgt. 1st Class Larry Perkins
 Sgt. 1st Class George Smith
 Sgt. 1st Class Robert Tranquillo
 Sgt. 1st Class Richard Williams
 Sgt. 1st Class Thomas Wulf
 Staff Sgt. Ronald Ayers
 Staff Sgt. Edward J. Castillo, Jr.
 Staff Sgt. Joseph Feenstra
 Staff Sgt. Roderick Garrison
 Staff Sgt. Edwin Herry
 Staff Sgt. Bayani Ignacio
 Staff Sgt. Richard Krissak
 Staff Sgt. Thomas Polacek
 Staff Sgt. Eric Simmons
 Staff Sgt. Raymond Sprague
 Sgt. Curtis Bond
 Sgt. Eric Gation
 Sgt. Thomas Gensinger
 Sgt. Donna L. Menesini
 Sgt. Randall Saltzman
 Sgt. Ronald Winbush
 Spc. Ken Clark
 Cpl. Jaerik Berry

NEWS BRIEFS

Compiled by Sgt. 1st Class Erick Studenicka and Mike Getten,
Battle Born Staff

Guardsmen assist Reno police in wake of Caughlin Fire

RENO – About 80 Nevada Guard Soldiers and Airmen assisted the Reno Police Department with welfare checks and security in west Reno in the aftermath of the 2,000-acre Caughlin Fire in late November.

The Guardsmen helped police conduct neighborhood sweeps and assisted with traffic control. The Guardsmen, including many volunteers from the Nevada Air National Guard base in Reno, the Army Aviation Support Facility in Reno and the Office of the Adjutant General in Carson City, were not armed and there were no serious incidents reported.

Two vehicles and their respective crews from the Nevada Air Guard's firefighting unit at the 152nd Airlift Wing in Reno were also dispatched to the fire.

The blaze began on Nov. 20 and it took more than 450 firefighters to douse the fire. About 10,000 people were evacuated and about two dozen structures were destroyed.



Nevada Air Guard Staff Sgt. Geno Higman gives Staff Sgt. Jason Leggett firefighting tools to help extinguish hotspots at the Caughlin fire that scorched thousands of acres in Reno on Nov. 18. Photo: Tech. Sgt. Eric Ritter, 152nd Airlift Wing Public Affairs

Retirees, Hall of Famers recognized

CARSON CITY and LAS VEGAS – The long-time military service and dedication of 55 recently retired Nevada Army Guard Soldiers was recognized during two Retiree Ceremony and Appreciation Days last fall. One ceremony was held at the Office of the Adjutant General and one ceremony was at the Las Vegas Readiness Center.

During the Carson City ceremony, retired Guardsmen Col. Larry Sage, Chief Warrant Officer Ernie Stover and Command Sgt. Maj. Paul Eades were inducted into the Nevada Guard's Retiree Hall of Fame.

The Retiree Hall of Fame is reserved for retired Soldiers who have demonstrated extraordinary community and volunteer service.

Brig. Gen. Frank Gonzales, commander of the Nevada Army Guard, congratulated the retirees on their accomplishments and emphasized that they remain important members of the National Guard family.

Thorpe tops 8,500 flight hour mark

RENO – Lt. Col. Jon Thorpe, a C-130H navigator with the Nevada Air Guard's 192nd Airlift Squadron, surpassed the 8,500-flight-hour mark while flying to Puerto Rico in support of Operation Coronet Oak last fall.

Thorpe has the most flying hours of anyone currently in the Nevada Air National Guard. Thorpe began his flying career in September 1989 at Pope Air Force Base in North Carolina. Since



then, he has deployed numerous times with the Air Force, the Air Force Reserves and the Air National Guard.

Nevada Guard publications score public relations awards

RENO – Two publications produced by the Nevada National Guard's state public affairs office won major awards in the annual Public Relations Society of America competition in November.

Both the Battle Born magazine and the 2010 Nevada Guard Biennial Report won Silver Spike Awards of Excellence from the Sierra Nevada Chapter of the Public Relations Society of America. Silver Spike awards are reserved for the publications demonstrating superior use of public information tools and tactics. The staff includes Maj. April Conway, Sgt. 1st Class Erick Studenicka and Sgt. Mike Getten.

Foodies Catering new OTAG concessionaire

CARSON CITY – Foodies Catering of Carson City now offers breakfast and lunch meals at the Office of the Adjutant General in Carson City. Foodies expanded its menu in January and features daily specials



Master Sgt. Sam Macaluso spent the majority of his career in the Air Force's woodland-pattern Battle Dress Uniform (left) but he, like every Airman, is now obliged to wear the Airman Battle Uniform (right). The Battle Dress Uniform was phased out by the Air Force on October 31.

Photo illustration: Staff Sgt. Eric Ritter, 152nd Airlift Wing Public Affairs

such as curry or pasta. Everything is made fresh in the kitchen. Foodies can also cater unit meals or private functions for up to 250. All items can be pre-ordered via phone or email. To place an advance order or request additional information, call (775) 886-7730.

Air, Army recruiters easily top award quotas

CARSON CITY – Seven new plaques and trophies are all the evidence needed to prove that the Nevada Air and Army Guard recruiting offices recorded outstanding performances last year.

Nevada Air Guard recruiters are set to receive three major regional awards in

March in New Orleans, La., based on their 2011 efforts.

Tech. Sgt. Christina Miller has been named the regional Rookie of the Year. She topped her recruiting goal by 33 percent, and 83 percent of her enlistees had no prior service, an office record.

Master Sgt. Jonathan Baker will receive the Rookie Retention Office Manager of the Year award. He supervised the office that attained an 89 percent retention rate and a 90 percent reenlistment rate.

Master Sgt. Clinton Dudley is the Recruiting Office Supervisor of the Year after enlisting 19 officers and 17 enlisted personnel.

Army recruiters brought home four awards from their national conference in Orlando, Fla., in December.

In a first for the Nevada Guard, Master Sgt. Darcey Tiedeman was named the west region's Top Noncommissioned Officer in Charge for the recruiting and retention advisory committee. Sgt. 1st Class Marco Irenze was named the Top Recruiting and Retention Section Chief for Nevada, a title that placed him on the Chiefs 54 list among the top recruiters in the nation.

The Recruiting and Retention battalion received the Accessions Branch Chief Award, which recognizes the top state in the nation that has actively maintained and improved its recruiting, retention and attrition statistics.

The battalion was also recognized for its officer strength management and received the Top Officer Strength Maintenance Detachment of the Year for small states award. Nevada was second in the nation in warrant officer accessions and fourth in commissioned officer accessions.

At the close of 2011, the Nevada Army Guard had about 3,200 Soldiers, and the Nevada Air Guard had about 1,100 Airmen.



From left, retired Col. Larry Sage, Chief Warrant Officer Ernie Stover and Command Sgt. Maj. Paul Eades were inducted into the Nevada Guard's Retiree Hall of Fame in November. The Retiree Hall of Fame is reserved for retired Soldiers who have demonstrated extraordinary community and volunteer service. Photo: Sgt. 1st Class Erick Studenicka



AWARDS • PROMOTIONS • RETIREMENTS

Moving Up and Moving On • September, November & December 2011

AWARDS

Legion of Merit



MSG Christian Riege JFHQ
SFC Miranda McElhiney JFHQ
LTC Kelly Heath JFHQ

Meritorious Service Medal



SSG Richard Krissak 150th Maint Co
CSM James Foreman 17th Special Troops Bn
CPT Lee Gaston 72nd MP Co
SFC Jason Elfborg 72nd MP Co
1SG John Bogdan 777th Fire Spt Co, 1/221st Cav
SFC John Fansler 92nd Civil Support Tm
CSM Michael Hallert 991st Aviation Trp Cmd
CW3 Thomas McElroy 17th Sust Bde
CW4 David Anderson 3/140th S & S
SFC Larry Perkins 17th Sust Bde
1SG Glen Roberts HHT, 1/221st Cavalry
LTC Scott Maylath JFHQ
SFC Marco Irenze NVARNG Rec/Ret
SFC Robert Gates NVARNG Rec/Ret
MSG Darcy Tiedeman NVARNG Rec/Ret
CSM James Richardson 421st RTI
Lt Col David Clark 152nd Aircraft Maint Sqdn
SMSgt Paul Bright 152nd Aircraft Maint Sqdn
MSgt Damon Breshears 152nd Aircraft Maint Sqdn
MSgt Randall Grooms 152nd Aircraft Maint Sqdn
MSgt Wyatt Hedrick 152nd Aircraft Maint Sqdn
TSgt Diane Castle 152nd Airlift Wing
MSgt Sam Macaluso 152nd Airlift Wing
MSgt Kevin Bandoni 152nd Civil Engineer Sqdn
MSgt Timothy Spencer 152nd Civil Engineer Sqdn
MSgt William Elliott 152nd Communications Flt
MSgt Norman Albertsen 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
MSgt Michelle Kelly 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
SMSgt Jeffrey Annand 152nd Maint Grp
MSgt Ronnie Sherwood 152nd Maint Grp
MSgt Thomas Hansen 152nd Maint Grp
CMSgt Michael Drisdale 152nd Maint Sqdn
MSgt Bruce Stowe 152nd Maint Sqdn
SMSgt Clayton Gardner 152nd Maint Sqdn
SMSgt Adam Hensley 152nd Maint Sqdn
MSgt Brett Vegeto 152nd Mission Support Grp

Army Commendation Medal



SFC Todd Simmons 137th MP Det
SFC Brett Penny 421st RTI
SFC Charles Harger 421st RTI
SFC Steven May 421st RTI
MAJ David Evans 421st RTI
SFC Charles Coleman 421st RTI
1LT Todd Brown 757th Combat Sust Bn
SSG Norberto Romero 777th Fire Spt Co, 1/221st Cav
SGT Dustin Bonivert 777th Fire Spt Co, 1/221st Cav
SSG Joseph Giglio 92nd Civil Support Tm

WO1 Joshua Bunker 1/189th Aviation
SFC Jason Shipp Camp Stead
CW3 Christopher Wolfe 17th Sust Bde
CW2 Jason Koffarnus 1/168th MEDEVAC
SPC Patrice Mara HHC, 422nd Signal Bn
SGT Gerald Cornell HHT, 1/221st Cavalry
CPT William Ohler HHT, 1/221st Cavalry
SFC Tamas Horvath HHT, 1/221st Cavalry
SGT Gerald Cornell HHT, 1/221st Cavalry
SSG Stanley Harvey HHT, 1/221st Cavalry
SSG Samuel England JFHQ
SPC Jeremy Dries JFHQ
SGT Kayla Chandless NVARNG Med Det
SSG Paul Duncan NVARNG Rec/Ret
SSG Boivin Victor NVARNG Rec/Ret
SFC Christopher Hammond NVARNG Rec/Ret
SSG Lukas Haaglund NVARNG Rec/Ret
SFC Junior Krows NVARNG Rec/Ret
SFC Jose Obregon NVARNG Rec/Ret
SFC Terrence Oliveira NVARNG Rec/Ret
SGT Benjamin Pagni NVARNG Rec/Ret
SFC David Ramage NVARNG Rec/Ret
SFC Travis Johnson NVARNG Rec/Ret
SSG Tomas Ramos NVARNG Rec/Ret
SGT Richard Samson NVARNG Rec/Ret
SSG Nico Sunseri NVARNG Rec/Ret
WO1 Mark McAllister NVARNG Rec/Ret
SFC David Eisele NVARNG Rec/Ret

Air Force Commendation Medal



MSgt Robert Marshall 152nd Aircraft Maint Sqdn
TSgt Clayton Brown 152nd Aircraft Maint Sqdn
MSgt William Hartzler 152nd Aircraft Maint Sqdn
TSgt Elliott Morris 152nd Aircraft Maint Sqdn
TSgt Timothy Hill 152nd Civil Engineer Sqdn
MSgt Timothy Ng 152nd Civil Engineer Sqdn
TSgt Paula Clark 152nd Communications Flt
Capt Shaun Cruze 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
MSgt Keith Maslowski 152nd Maint Sqdn
MSgt James Kocijanski 152nd Maint Sqdn
TSgt Robert Malson 152nd Maint Sqdn
MSgt Kevin Beal 152nd Maint Sqdn
MSgt Paige Holman 152nd Maint Sqdn
MSgt Dennis Chanez 152nd Maint Sqdn
MSgt Michael Adams 152nd Maint Sqdn
TSgt Kevin Horsch 152nd Maint Sqdn
TSgt Yantzy Arnell 152nd Security Forces Sqdn
TSgt David Woginrich 152nd Security Forces Sqdn
Capt Melissa Beauchamp JFHQ
1st Lt Matthew DeMattei JFHQ

Army Achievement Medal



SSG Roberto Caceres 92nd Civil Support Tm
1LT Nathan Stromberg NVARNG Med Det
SFC Kyland Lusby JFHQ
CPT Morris Gerald JFHQ

TSgt Michael Moore JFHQ
SSG Sara Harger NVARNG Rec/Ret
PFC William Frederick 1/189th Aviation

Air Force Achievement Medal



SSgt Laura Mayer 152nd Aircraft Maint Sqdn
A1C Sonia Hernandez 152nd Aircraft Maint Sqdn
A1C Tasha Jensen 152nd Aircraft Maint Sqdn
SSgt Ryan Carlile 152nd Aircraft Maint Sqdn
SSgt Jennifer Cronin 152nd Aircraft Maint Sqdn
TSgt Aaron Dawson 152nd Aircraft Maint Sqdn
SSgt Elliroy Defiesta 152nd Aircraft Maint Sqdn
SrA Gregory Hovore 152nd Aircraft Maint Sqdn
SSgt Nicholas Langton 152nd Aircraft Maint Sqdn
SrA Amanda Puente 152nd Aircraft Maint Sqdn
SSgt Kevin Sidley 152nd Aircraft Maint Sqdn
SSgt Anthony Stanganelli 152nd Aircraft Maint Sqdn
SrA Garold Wiseman 152nd Aircraft Maint Sqdn
SSgt Kevin Brun 152nd Aircraft Maint Sqdn
SSgt Derek Bright 152nd Aircraft Maint Sqdn
SSgt Carlos Riano 152nd Aircraft Maint Sqdn
SrA Jason Fisher 152nd Aircraft Maint Sqdn
SrA Justin Hanselman 152nd Aircraft Maint Sqdn
SrA Calvin Hobson 152nd Aircraft Maint Sqdn
SSgt David Osborn 152nd Aircraft Maint Sqdn
A1C Jonathan Rampton 152nd Aircraft Maint Sqdn
TSgt Quinn Lundborn 152nd Aircraft Maint Sqdn
A1C Katherine Dew 152nd Aircraft Maint Sqdn
SrA Katie McCray 152nd Aircraft Maint Sqdn
TSgt Paul Torrianni 152nd Aircraft Maint Sqdn
SSgt Robert Downs 152nd Civil Engineer Sqdn
A1C Charles Jorgensen 152nd Civil Engineer Sqdn
SrA Donald Speth 152nd Civil Engineer Sqdn
TSgt Gurpreet Bhambra 152nd Force Support Sqdn
MSgt David Hill 152nd Force Support Sqdn
SSgt Jauires Sosa 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
MSgt Daphne Dominguez 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
MSgt Thomas Hansen 152nd Maint Grp
A1C Sean Nguyen 152nd Maint Operations Flt
MSgt Edward Perkins 152nd Maint Operations Flt
SrA Megan Ebinger 152nd Maint Operations Flt
MSgt Glen Stebbins 152nd Maint Operations Flt
A1C Cody Hessler 152nd Maint Sqdn
A1C Brian McGary 152nd Maint Sqdn
A1C Joshua Smith 152nd Maint Sqdn
TSgt Tristan Cornett 152nd Maint Sqdn
TSgt Michael Ingenluyff 152nd Maint Sqdn
SrA Michael Depozsgay 152nd Maint Sqdn
SSgt Jeremy Vanyi 152nd Maint Sqdn
SSgt Kristy Lazaro 152nd Maint Sqdn
TSgt Christopher Jensen 152nd Maint Sqdn
SrA Rueben Montero 152nd Maint Sqdn
SSgt Anthony Haley 152nd Security Forces Sqdn
SSgt James Bottge 152nd Security Forces Sqdn
SrA Billy Johnson 152nd Security Forces Sqdn
SrA Kyle Williamson 152nd Security Forces Sqdn
1st Lt Lance King 192nd Airlift Sqdn

Nevada Distinguished Service Medal



SPC Christina Gonzales . . . JFHQ Agribusiness Dev Team
SGT Joshua Sidman . . . JFHQ Agribusiness Dev Team
SSG Vincent Arthur . . . JFHQ Agribusiness Dev Team
SSG Rafael Aguilera . . . JFHQ Agribusiness Dev Team
Mr. Kerry Cutting . . . JFHQ
COL Peter Menicucci . . . 17th Sust Bde

Nevada Medal of Merit



1LT Aaron Oliver . . . HHT, 1/221st Cavalry
SGT Michael Getten . . . 106th Public Affairs Det
SFC Helena Schroeder . . . 137th MP Det
SGT Domenic Veneziano . . . 150th Maint Co
SGT Stephen Mattson . . . 150th Maint Co
SSG Christopher DeSotell . . . 150th Maint Co
1LT Teogenes Bernardez . . . 17th Sust Bde
CPT William Ohler . . . 17th Sust Bde
SSG Stanley Harvey . . . 17th Sust Bde
CSM Gregory Cook . . . 17th Sust Bde
SFC John Dube . . . 593rd Transp Co
1LT Todd Brown . . . 757th Combat Sust Bn
SPC Alexander Oliver . . . 757th Combat Sust Bn
MAJ Harold Woomer . . . JFHQ
MSG Live Tau . . . JFHQ
SFC Erick Studenicka . . . JFHQ
1LT Daniel Neville . . . JFHQ
CPT Gerald Morris . . . JFHQ
SSG Sean McCoy . . . JFHQ
2LT Robert Dawson . . . JFHQ
1LT Michelle Carson . . . JFHQ
CW5 James Baumann . . . JFHQ
CW5 David Anderson . . . JFHQ
MSgt Norman Albertsen . . . 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
TSgt Larry Davidson . . . 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
SMSgt Jeffrey McCusker . . . 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
A1C Rhea Olsen . . . 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
SSgt Robert Riley . . . 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
TSgt David Smith . . . 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
SrA Christopher Tribble . . . 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn

Nevada State Commendation



PFC Jorge Gutierrez . . . 593rd Transp Co
PFC Arik Sitton . . . 609th Engineer Co
A1C Rhea Olsen . . . 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
SrA Baron Bement . . . 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
SrA Steven Juliano . . . 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
TSgt Adam Koehler . . . 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
SrA Ryan Phillips . . . 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
MSgt Brandon Renfro . . . 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
SSgt Stacy Walters . . . 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn

Adjutant General's Outstanding Graduate Award



SGT Marquetta Anderson . . . 100th Quartermaster Co
MSG Michael Spaulding . . . 17th Sust Bde
OC Yelena Yatskikh . . . 421st RTI
SSG Mike Nguyen . . . B Co, 422nd Signal Bn
SGT Michael Mitcham . . . 485th MP Co
SGT Beatriz Ramos . . . 485th MP Co
SPC Vicki Gilmore . . . 485th MP Co

PFC Chase Rauchle . . . 593rd Transp Co
SGT Yomahira Garcia . . . 757th Combat Sust Bn
SGT Matthew Leming . . . 777th Fire Spt Co, 1/221st Cav
SPC Jeremy Sawyer . . . 1/189th Aviation
SGT Scott Leavitt . . . 1/189th Aviation
SSG Kevin Painter . . . HHC, 422nd Signal Bn
SGT Nathaniel Matin . . . HHT, 1/221st Cavalry
SFC Kamran Khan . . . HHT, 1/221st Cavalry
SGT David Whitman . . . HHT, 1/221st Cavalry
SGT Heather Carlquist . . . JFHQ
SGT Ronald Seagraves . . . JFHQ
PFC Jonathan Barton . . . NVARNG Med Det

Nevada Emergency Humanitarian Service Ribbon



SSG Matthew Steffen . . . 777th Fire Spt Co, 1/221st Cav

Nevada Overseas Deployment Ribbon



A1C Mason Blair . . . 152nd Aircraft Maint Sqdn
SSgt Jennifer Cronin . . . 152nd Aircraft Maint Sqdn
TSgt Jennifer Harrell . . . 152nd Aircraft Maint Sqdn
MSgt Michael Hignite . . . 152nd Aircraft Maint Sqdn
SSgt Nicholas Langton . . . 152nd Aircraft Maint Sqdn
MSgt Michael Smith . . . 152nd Aircraft Maint Sqdn
SMSgt Corey Beattie . . . 152nd Aircraft Maint Sqdn
MSgt Damon Breshears . . . 152nd Aircraft Maint Sqdn
SSgt Elliroy Defiesta . . . 152nd Aircraft Maint Sqdn
SrA Katie McCray . . . 152nd Aircraft Maint Sqdn
TSgt Larry Vaughn . . . 152nd Intelligence Sqdn
MSgt Jason Blancas . . . 152nd Intelligence Sqdn
SrA Sean Brown . . . 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
SSgt Katherine Bunt . . . 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
MSgt Erik Eigenman . . . 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
TSgt Jason Fritz . . . 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
SSgt Eugene Houston . . . 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
MSgt Jesse Jennings . . . 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
TSgt Nigel Jones . . . 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
A1C Craig Kimball . . . 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
TSgt Terry Kots . . . 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
TSgt Michael Landsberry . . . 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
SMSgt Marcia Lopez . . . 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
SRA Geane Mara . . . 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
TSgt Michael Mathews . . . 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
TSgt Gary Mireles . . . 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
TSgt Jason Pruitt . . . 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
SrA Brandon Reinier . . . 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
SSgt Mark Salinas . . . 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
SrA Jaret Sukraw . . . 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
SrA Michael Taylor . . . 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
SSgt Michael Yahne . . . 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
TSgt Larry Davidson . . . 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
MSgt Jeffrey Linton . . . 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
Capt Frank Chavez . . . 152nd Maint Operations Flt
MSgt Michael Adams . . . 152nd Maint Sqdn
TSgt Tristan Cornett . . . 152nd Maint Sqdn
MSgt William Cranston . . . 152nd Maint Sqdn
TSgt James Decosta . . . 152nd Maint Sqdn
A1C Cody Hessler . . . 152nd Maint Sqdn
TSgt Michael Ingenluyff . . . 152nd Maint Sqdn
SSgt Mark Jewell . . . 152nd Maint Sqdn
SSgt Peter Johnson . . . 152nd Maint Sqdn
SSgt Rebecca McEwan . . . 152nd Maint Sqdn
TSgt Rebecca Varnum . . . 152nd Maint Sqdn
CMSgt James Warner . . . 152nd Maint Sqdn
MSgt Robert Boody . . . 152nd Maint Sqdn

MSgt Dennis Chanez . . . 152nd Maint Sqdn
SSgt Marcus Eisemann . . . 152nd Maint Sqdn
TSgt Michael Faulkenberry . . . 152nd Maint Sqdn
SSgt Richard Grubb . . . 152nd Maint Sqdn
SrA Steven Hering . . . 152nd Maint Sqdn
TSgt Ryan Hysell . . . 152nd Maint Sqdn
A1C Thomas Kinney . . . 152nd Maint Sqdn
MSgt Curtis Martin . . . 152nd Maint Sqdn
A1C Brian McGary . . . 152nd Maint Sqdn
SrA Neil Robertson . . . 152nd Maint Sqdn
A1C Joshua Smith . . . 152nd Maint Sqdn
Capt James Upton . . . 152nd Maint Sqdn
A1C Arron Wood . . . 152nd Maint Sqdn
TSgt Patricia Clark . . . 152nd Operations Grp
Maj Steven Mills . . . 152nd Operations Grp
1st Lt Christopher Leroy . . . 152nd Operations Grp
Capt Kyle Swanson . . . 152nd Operations Support Flt
Capt Eric Beyersdorf . . . 192nd Airlift Sqdn
Capt Erik Brown . . . 192nd Airlift Sqdn
A1C Zane Buck . . . 192nd Airlift Sqdn
Capt Thomas Dorsett . . . 192nd Airlift Sqdn
MSgt Roberto Fabela . . . 192nd Airlift Sqdn
1st Lt Gregory Green . . . 192nd Airlift Sqdn
A1C Stephen Griffiths . . . 192nd Airlift Sqdn
TSgt Christopher Henrich . . . 192nd Airlift Sqdn
SrA Christopher Hessler . . . 192nd Airlift Sqdn
1st Lt David McNally . . . 192nd Airlift Sqdn
SrA Jana Morales . . . 192nd Airlift Sqdn
Lt Col Allan Renwick . . . 192nd Airlift Sqdn
Capt Michael Steward . . . 192nd Airlift Sqdn
SrA Sean Bird . . . 192nd Airlift Sqdn
SrA Christian Cattell . . . 192nd Airlift Sqdn
1st Lt Erik Christensen . . . 192nd Airlift Sqdn
Maj Julie Dietrich . . . 192nd Airlift Sqdn
SrA Kevin Long . . . 192nd Airlift Sqdn
Capt Frank Magee . . . 192nd Airlift Sqdn
TSgt Lyle Smith . . . 192nd Airlift Sqdn
Capt Sarah Spy . . . 192nd Airlift Sqdn
Capt Charles Steffens . . . 192nd Airlift Sqdn
Capt Spencer Trehal . . . 192nd Airlift Sqdn
A1C Jonathan Turner . . . 192nd Airlift Sqdn
MSgt Michael Wilcox . . . 192nd Airlift Sqdn

Nevada Recruiting Ribbon



SrA Justin Hanselman . . . 152nd Aircraft Maint Sqdn
SMSgt Larry Balko . . . 152nd Force Support Sqdn
A1C Tasha Jensen . . . 152nd Maint Sqdn
A1C Michael Wilcoxson . . . 152nd Security Forces Sqdn
Brig Gen Frank Gonzales . . . NVARNG
Col Ondra Berry . . . JFHQ
TSgt James Begley . . . 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
TSgt Christine Dickson . . . 152nd Airlift Wing

Nevada Honor Guard Ribbon



MSgt Rafael Chelli . . . 152nd Civil Engineer Sqdn
TSgt Gurpreet Bhambra . . . 152nd Force Support Sqdn
SSgt Jose Escobar . . . 152nd Intelligence Sqdn
SSgt Jauies Sosa . . . 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
MSgt Clinton Dudley . . . JFHQ

Civilian Service Award



Mrs. Tammy Richardson . . . NVARNG

PROMOTIONS

COL/Col

Troy Ross NVARNG Med Det
 Kyle Reid 152nd Ops Grp
 John Week JFHQ

LTC/Lt Col

Julie Dietrich 192nd Airlift Sqdn
 Jonathan Sherman 232nd Ops Sqdn
 Wendy Tims JFHQ

MAJ/Maj

William Mathson 17th Special Troops Bn
 Ramel Jackson B Co, 422nd Signal Bn
 Christian Wilson 757th Combat Sust Bn
 Fernando Gomez 421st RTI
 Kevin Eikleberry 192nd Airlift Sqdn
 David Thomas 152nd Medical Grp

CPT/Capt

Lance King 192nd Airlift Sqdn
 David McNally 192nd Airlift Sqdn
 Timothy Mitchell 152nd Medical Grp

1LT/1st Lt

Brian Janes 152nd Aircraft Maint Sqdn

CW4

Joseph Baumann 1/189th Aviation
 Ralph Hernandez 3/140th S & S
 Jeffrey Busboom 3/140th S & S

CW2

Mark Mcallister JFHQ

CSM/SGM/CMSgt

Paul Kinsey HHT, 1/221st Cavalry
 James Foreman 757th Combat Sust Bn
 Ronald Morse JFHQ

1SG/MSG/SMSgt

John Bogdan 17th Special Troops Bn
 Darren Green K Trp, 1/221st Cavalry

SFC/MSgt

Kevin Malone 1/189th Aviation
 Kent Greenyoung JFHQ
 Shanon Hampton JFHQ

SSG/TSgt

Carlos Lamprich 100th Quartermaster Co
 Jonathon Schweter 100th Quartermaster Co
 Philip Sondgeroth 137th MP Det
 Stephen Park 17th Special Troops Bn
 Michael Russell 17th Special Troops Bn
 Jake Gillman 1864th Transp Co
 John Baum 1864th Transp Co
 Tamara Wingo 1864th Transp Co
 James Rainwater 277th Engineer Plt
 Jonathan Mix 277th Engineer Plt
 Derrick Tang 277th Engineer Plt
 William Donahue B Co, 422nd Signal Bn
 Michael Salazar HHC, 422nd Signal Bn
 Gregory Walker 485th MP Co
 Adam Gardner 593rd Transp Co
 Nicholas Landa 593rd Transp Co
 April Hall 72nd MP Co
 Timothy Redditt HHT, 1/221st Cavalry

Tyler Wistisen K Trp, 1/221st Cavalry
 April Apo 152nd Security Forces Sqdn
 Nidia Ituarte-Olivas 152nd Comptroller Flt
 James Kolaras 152nd Intelligence Sqdn
 Mark Magee 152nd Intelligence Sqdn
 David May 152nd Force Support Sqdn
 Brian Merce 232nd Ops Sqdn
 Bartley O'Toole 192nd Airlift Sqdn
 Frank Schlottmann 152nd Intelligence Sqdn

SGT/SSgt

Chad Gogel 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
 Roseann Hill 152nd Airlift Wing
 Jared Landers 152nd Intelligence Sqdn
 David Osborn 152nd Aircraft Maint Sqdn
 Tyler Teese 1/168th MEDEVAC
 Scott Leavitt 1/189th Aviation
 Michael Bacon 150th Maint Co
 Dustin Potes 17th Special Troops Bn
 Katrina Fenrich 17th Special Troops Bn
 Anthony Viglietta 17th Special Troops Bn
 Emmanuel Barba 17th Special Troops Bn
 Stefan Cline 17th Special Troops Bn
 William Chroust 1864th Transp Co
 Rachel Lamar 1864th Transp Co
 Jessica Perezarroyo 240th Engineer Co
 Emanuel Utan 240th Engineer Co
 Michael Mcelfish HHC, 422nd Signal Bn
 Precious Lapuz HHC, 422nd Signal Bn
 John Lopez 72nd MP Co
 Brian Bullian 757th Combat Sust Bn
 Jacob Sanford 757th Combat Sust Bn
 Jonoa Savou 777th Engineer Det
 Michael Colyer L Trp, 1/221st Cavalry
 William Patton NVARNG Rec/Ret

RETIREMENTS

MSgt Norman Albertsen . 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
 CW4 David Anderson 3/140th S & S
 MSgt Robert Berigtold . . 152nd Communications Flt
 SGM John Bersalona HHT, 1/221st Cavalry
 MSgt Robert Butchko 232nd Operations Sqdn
 TSgt Fergus N. Cassidy . . . 232nd Operations Sqdn
 SPC Ken Clark 100th Quartermaster Co
 SFC Stephen Cleveland . 757th Combat Sust. Spt Bn
 MSgt Kevin W. Durkin . . 152nd Security Forces Sqdn
 MSgt William Elliott 152nd Communications Flt
 SSG Joseph Feenstra NVARNG Rec/Ret
 MSgt Raymond F. Fierro . . 152nd Civil Engineer Sqdn
 Col Terrence Fornof JFHQ
 MSgt David Hagler 152nd Communications Flt
 MSG Michael Hallert 991st Aviation Trp Cmd
 CPT Paul Han 757th Combat Sust. Spt Bn
 MSgt Burton P. Hestand . . 152nd Maint Operation Flt

CW4 Brandon Hose 3/140th S & S
 MAJ Laurence Irwin 17th Sustainment Bde
 SGT John Jordan NVARNG Rec/Ret
 Lt Col Heath Kelly JFHQ
 Maj Andrews R. Kremers 192nd Airlift Sqdn
 MSgt Sam D. Macaluso 152 Airlift Wing
 MSgt Scott Malin 152nd Intelligence Sqdn
 SMSgt Blake Martelle 192nd Airlift Sqdn
 SFC Miranda McElhiney JFHQ
 SSgt Charles A. Neill 152nd Civil Engineer Sqdn
 TSgt Todd A. Nylaen 152nd Maint Operation Flt
 MSG Christian Riege JFHQ
 Lt Col Donald Reynolds 152nd Medical Grp
 SGT Daniel Ryan K Trp, 1/221st Cavalry
 TSgt Brian J. Smith 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
 MSgt Glen Stebbins 152nd Maint Operation Flt

ACCESSIONS

Edgar Trujillo-Dominguez 152nd Medical Grp
 Abel Del Real-Nava 152nd Medical Grp
 Andrew Balko 152nd Civil Engineer Sqdn
 Wayne Laird 152nd Maint Sqdn
 Sadie Sabatino 152nd Maint Sqdn
 Zachary Allen 192nd Airlift Sqdn
 Timothy Owens 152nd Security Forces Sqdn
 Stephanie Mock 152nd Security Forces Sqdn
 Joseph Abujasen 152nd Security Forces Sqdn
 Shelby Moyer 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
 Jacqueline Rowson 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
 Ashif Halim 152nd Airlift Wing
 Richard Catlin III 152nd Airlift Wing
 Philip Tissier 152nd Civil Engineer Sqdn
 Marisa Moreno 152nd Force Support Sqdn
 Jessica Corpuz-Lopez 152nd Maint Ops Flt
 Erin Dorsett 152nd Maint Ops Flt
 Kyle Zust 152nd Student Flt
 Jennifer Loader 152nd Security Forces Sqdn
 Justin Pecchenino 152nd Security Forces Sqdn
 Melanie Prentiss 152nd Mission Support Grp
 Cordell Thrasher 100th Quartermaster Co
 Paul Clark 100th Quartermaster Co
 Francis Lyons 100th Quartermaster Co
 Denise Castaneda 100th Quartermaster Co
 Dezirae Narvaez 100th Quartermaster Co
 Susan Wohle 106th Public Affairs Det
 James Pierce 106th Public Affairs Det
 Shane Klestinski 106th Public Affairs Det
 Eric Vargas 150th Maint Co
 Mason Hardy 17th Special Troops Bn
 Steven Thompson 17th Special Troops Bn
 Leah Cabusao 17th Sust Bde
 Emmanuel Barba 17th Sust Bde
 Stefan Cline 17th Sust Bde
 Sonia Lugo 17th Sust Bde
 Julian Brix 17th Sust Bde
 Lance Commins 17th Sust Bde
 Catherine Benson 17th Sust Bde
 Gabrielle Savage 17th Sust Bde
 Kenneth Chapman 17th Sust Bde
 Matthew Hoover 17th Sust Bde
 Amado Salud 17th Sust Bde
 Charles Julian 1864th Transp Co
 William Chroust 1864th Transp Co
 Tyrone Wiseman 1864th Transp Co
 Rachel Lamar 1864th Transp Co
 Christopher Byrd 1864th Transp Co
 Carlos Cisneros 1864th Transp Co
 Toni Cerra 1864th Transp Co
 Gerardo Aguirre 1864th Transp Co
 Ricardo Nungaray 1864th Transp Co
 Timothy Martin 1864th Transp Co
 Bradford Barnes 1864th Transp Co
 Benjamin Soto 1864th Transp Co
 Alexander Franco 1864th Transp Co
 Raven Avecilla 1864th Transp Co
 Wyatt Adams 1864th Transp Co
 Jonathan Lee 1864th Transp Co
 Christopher Larkin 1864th Transp Co
 Jessica Perezarroyo 240th Engineer Co
 Emanuel Utan 240th Engineer Co
 Warrenpatrick Abordo 240th Engineer Co
 Brett Vanorden 240th Engineer Co
 Kaleihaheokaumaka Kamahele 240th Engineer Co

Daniel Osburn 277th Engineer Plt
 Marlon Montemayor 277th Engineer Plt
 Tyler Charles 3/140th S & S
 James Amendola 3/140th S & S
 Bryan Hernandez 3/140th S & S
 Tracy Baker 3/140th S & S
 Adonis Palustre 3/140th S & S
 Vincent Cargill 485th MP Co
 Jerame Vancil 485th MP Co
 Jessica Burgoon 485th MP Co
 Emmanuel Figueroa 485th MP Co
 Loren Jordan 593rd Transp Co
 Matthew Klein 593rd Transp Co
 Jason Otto 593rd Transp Co
 Samantha Gonzalez 593rd Transp Co
 Antonio Bell 593rd Transp Co
 Peter Lam 609th Engineer Co
 Marcos Lopez 609th Engineer Co
 David Fair 609th Engineer Co
 Kenneth McGriff 609th Engineer Co
 Arameus Berkley 609th Engineer Co
 Maciej Krolkowski 609th Engineer Co
 Morgan McDuffee 609th Engineer Co
 Alejandro Lopez 609th Engineer Co
 Leslie Anderson 609th Engineer Co
 Justin Misner 609th Engineer Co
 Jacob Herrera 72nd MP Co
 Joshua Griffith 72nd MP Co
 Kent Robinson 72nd MP Co
 Kejeuan Scott 72nd MP Co
 Nicklaus Powell 72nd MP Co
 Jonnathan Cabrera 72nd MP Co

Alexander Galarza 72nd MP Co
 Brian Bullian 757th Combat Sust Bn
 Jacob Sanford 757th Combat Sust Bn
 Calvin Barnett 777th Engineer Det
 Michael Decrescenzo 777th Engineer Det
 Alea Delegero 777th Engineer Det
 Christopher Eggleston 777th Engineer Det
 Cody Grieves 777th Engineer Det
 Camila Escobar 777th Engineer Det
 Ellias Hinsey B Co, 422nd Signal Bn
 Nathaniel Vincen B Co, 422nd Signal Bn
 Zachary Crump B Co, 422nd Signal Bn
 Nadiyah Gray B Co, 422nd Signal Bn
 Brandon Apell B Co, 422nd Signal Bn
 Jordan Bradley B Co, 422nd Signal Bn
 Rasheeda Ross B Co, 422nd Signal Bn
 Byron Irwin B Co, 422nd Signal Bn
 Dalheeejenah Leong B Co, 422nd Signal Bn
 Juan Contreras B Co, 422nd Signal Bn
 Sarah Conkey C Co, 422nd Signal Bn
 Alyssa Patiga C Co, 422nd Signal Bn
 Charity Burns HHC, 422nd Signal Bn
 Jorge Rosales HHC, 422nd Signal Bn
 Jake Marcks HHT, 1/221st Cavalry
 Sean Schnyder HHT, 1/221st Cavalry
 Gerald Fernandez HHT, 1/221st Cavalry
 Jason Martinez HHT, 1/221st Cavalry
 Anthony Ortiz HHT, 1/221st Cavalry
 Hayden Newton HHT, 1/221st Cavalry
 Efrain Avalosvaldez L Trp, 1/221st Cavalry
 Shelly Hofbauer NVARNG Med Det
 Sajar Camara NVARNG Rec/Ret

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