

BALTIMORE RALLY SABER STRIKER AVEN CARE UNITY DAY HRA OF THE YEAR FINI-FLIGHT SNOWBIRD

The

Vol. XXIII

CHESAPEAKE GUARDIAN

2015 Year in Review for the Maryland Air National Guard



PARTNERSHIP IN ACTION

Saber Strike 15



An A-10C Thunderbolt II aircraft assigned to the 104th Fighter Squadron, Maryland Air National Guard, approaches the range in Tapa, Estonia during a flying mission for Saber Strike 15, June 9, 2015.

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The Chesapeake Guardian
Volume XXIII
175th Wing
2701 Eastern Blvd.
Baltimore, MD 21220
410-918-6539

Editorial Staff

Commander: Brig. Gen. Scott Kelly

Public Affairs Officer: 2nd Lt. Benjamin Hughes

Contributing Editor: Maj. Brenda Reed, CAP

Public Affairs Staff:

Senior Master Sgt. Edward Bard
Tech. Sgt. Chris Schepers
Tech. Sgt. David Speicher
Airman 1st Class Enjoli Saunders

(On the cover) Members of the 175th Medical Group and 104th Area Support Medical Company carry a litter during Operation Raven Care, August 1, 2015, Warfield Air National Guard Base. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Tech. Sgt. Chris Schepers)

Commander's Message



To the men and women of the 175th Wing, thank you for an amazing year. As a collective group, all of us stepped up to the plate and demonstrated why, in my opinion, this is the best organization in the Air National Guard.

During the civil unrest in April, we demonstrated the dedication and drive that exists within all of our Airmen. With short notice we had groups of volunteers ready to activate to help our fellow neighbors and local authorities in Baltimore City restore peace and order throughout the city. I thank you for your dedication to the state and for the support you provided during this difficult time.

Throughout the year, we continued to deploy members of our organization across the globe. We enhanced our partnership with our State Partners in Estonia by participating in Saber Strike. This training provided us the opportunity to continue to strengthen our interoperability with ally and partner nations, while increasing their capacity to conduct a full spectrum of military operations. The feedback I received was nothing less than stellar and our partners received great training from everyone involved in the exercise.

Whether it was in a real-world scenario or training mission, countless groups and individuals deployed to support contingencies and exercises in the United States and overseas. Again, thank you for your commitment and dedication to the wing.

As we move forward as an organization my wish is that you maintain a high level of readiness. When you attend a drill weekend or perform your annual training, take advantage of the time and train to prepare yourself as best you can to perform your responsibilities at the highest level possible. I know that we are, as often is the case, heading into a future that is not completely clear. My challenge to each of you is to take advantage of any and all opportunities that come your way that will help you progress in your military career. If time permits please consider taking a college class to complete your Community College of the Air Force degree or attending a technical school to further your Professional Military Education. Apply for it, you will only be better off as a result of it.

As I reflect back on my time at the 175th, I am most proud of what we have accomplished together and the opportunity I was given to serve alongside of you throughout the past six years. I want you to know that going forward, I will continue to do everything to the best of my ability to advocate for this organization and the Airmen that keep it running.

In closing, I wish you all the best in the future. I look forward to seeing the growth of new missions and the development of our young Airmen. As always, my door is open to you and if there is anything I can do to help you, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Brig. Gen. Scott L. Kelly
Commander

"Always on Mission"



Vehicles part of the convoy traveling to Snowbird navigate through brutal weather conditions as part of the largest convoy in Maryland Air National Guard history.

Keep on Convoying

Maryland National Guard
convoy breaks record

BY Senior Master Sgt. Ed Bard
PHOTOGRAPHY BY Staff Sgt. Chenelle Williams

“They don’t teach us this in school.”

-Tech. Sgt. Bobby Hynes

The largest Maryland Air National Guard convoy made a cross-country trip in February to support Snowbird flying operations at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base in Tucson, Ariz., breaking their previous record from 2010.

The 175th Logistics Readiness Squadron sent eight vehicles carrying 17 guard members and nearly \$15 million in equipment on a 4,680 mile trip from Warfield Air National Guard Base in Baltimore to Tucson, setting the record for a state-side convoy among any active duty or reserve units in the U.S. Air Force.

During the first three days of the trip, they drove through freezing rain, wind and snow and saw more than 14 tractor-trailer accidents before they reached Dallas, said Maj. Steve Harrigan, commander for the 175th Logistic Readiness Squadron.

“Our biggest accomplishment was staying accident-free driving in the bad weather,” said Harrigan.

“They don’t teach us this in school,” said Tech. Sgt. Bobby Hynes, a vehicle

operator with the 175th Logistic Readiness Squadron and non-commissioned officer in charge of the convoy.

The three months of planning was integral to maintaining mission success and each day the convoy was expected to average 10 hours of driving at 50 mph during the five-day, 2,340 mile road trip there, said Hynes.

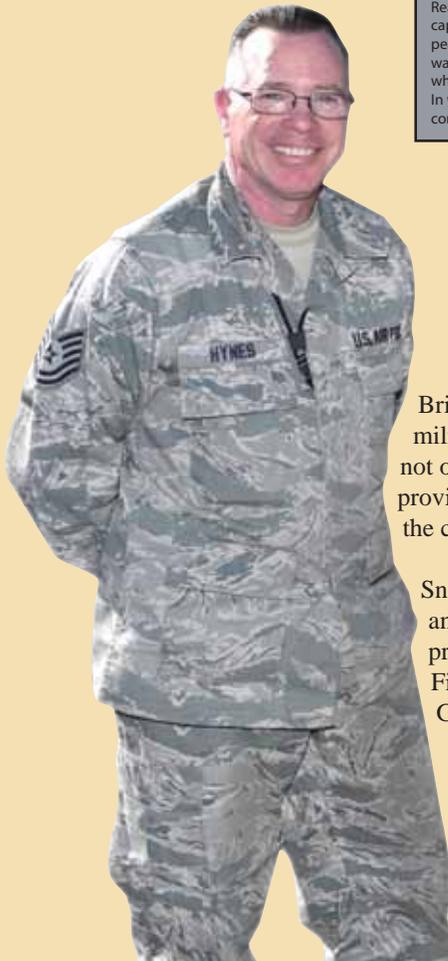
“The most flawless convoy ever which included five tractor trailers, two vans, one wrecker/heavy duty tow truck, 132,968 pounds of spare aircraft parts, one jet engine valued at \$2.5 million, and ground equipment valued at more than \$12 million, completed the trip to Arizona in five days,” said Tech. Sgt. Nicole Loucas, a 175th Logistic Readiness Squadron vehicle operator and assistant non-commissioned officer in charge of the trip.

The vehicles and personnel logged approximately 1,100 miles during the 15 days supporting the Maryland Air National Guard’s 104th Fighter Squadron A-10Cs during Snowbird at Davis-Monthan before returning to Baltimore, said Loucas.



(below left) Tech. Sgt. Bobby Hynes, NCOIC, and (right) Tech. Sgt. Nicole Loucas, assistant NCOIC, for the convoy to Snowbird are pictured.

The mission of the 175th Mission Support Group provides mission-ready Security, Civil Engineering, Logistics Readiness, Communication, Force Support and Contracting capabilities for peacetime and wartime missions. During peacetime, we organize, train and equip our Airmen for our wartime mission and maintain readiness for mobilization while maintaining a robust domestic operational capability. In wartime, we extend the capabilities of combatant commanders through our mission support expertise.



Bringing the equipment with military vehicles for the 25-day trip not only provided cost savings but provided training to the Airmen on the convoy, said Hynes.

Snowbird was established in 1975 and is a National Guard Bureau program supported through the 162nd Fighter Wing, Arizona Air National Guard.



Senior Master Sgt. David Herpel, crew chief assigned to the 175th Maintenance Squadron, performs pre-flight checks for an A-10C Thunderbolt at Warfield Air National Guard Base, Baltimore, Md., October 31, 2014. Senior Master Sgt. Herpel is performing his crew chief duties for the last time as he is preparing to retire after a 40-year military career.



Col. Randolph Staudenraus, 175th Wing vice commander, stands by as his wife and daughters, pin on brigadier general during his promotion ceremony held at The Army and Navy Club, Washington, D.C., January 9, 2015. Brig. Gen. Staudenraus accepted a position as director, Deputy Chief of Staff for Plans and Programs (A8) at the National Guard Bureau in Washington, D.C.

Senior Airman Barbara Rodriguez, A-10 pneudraulics specialist assigned to the 175th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, Maryland Air National Guard, performs main landing gear initial strut servicing on an A-10C Thunderbolt II aircraft at Warfield Air National Guard Base, Baltimore, Md., on January 28, 2015. Rodriguez is the Maryland Air National Guard January Spotlight Airman.



U.S. Air National Guard Photos by Tech. Sgt. Chris Schepers

Helping Airmen's Future



Senior Master Sgt. Sterling Johnson, 175th Wing Human Resource Advisor, Maryland Air National Guard, speaks with the Junior Enlisted Council about upcoming events that they can take an active role in promoting to the young airmen in their organization.

Airman Receives Award for Outstanding Human Resources Advisor of the Year

Story by: Tech. Sgt. Dave Speicher
Photography by: Senior Master Sgt. Ed Bard

Senior Master Sgt. Sterling Johnson, 175th Wing Human Resource Advisor, Maryland Air National Guard, was awarded the 2014 Air National Guard Outstanding Human Resource Advisor of the Year on January 29, 2015, as the National Guard Bureau looked for an advisor who promotes diversity, inclusion, cultural change and force management.

The Guard Bureau has requested that Johnson use the wing's program to enhance the other units in the Mid-Atlantic region.

"Now that we have the number one program, we will show other wings what we do. My vision is to streamline Community College of the Air Force degrees at other wings," said Johnson.

Johnson feels he was awarded for working closely with the Army National Guard

and setting up new initiatives to enhance Airmen's careers. He organized practice interview boards and worked with the Baltimore Orioles for a wing event at Oriole Park at Camden Yards. He also coordinated retirement seminars and improved basic morale and welfare for the wing. He has worked hard for Airmen to use the College Level Examination Program, which allows students to take an exam to demonstrate knowledge of a subject matter and with a passing score, receive credit without taking the class.

"The biggest thing I am proud of is CLEP testing and fast tracking wing members to their CCAF degree," he said. "An Associate's Degree will enhance not only our members' careers but also their personal lives outside the fence."

Johnson, who had previously been the 175th Maintenance Squadron first sergeant, is in his fourth year in the job. He felt working as the HRA was the next level from being a first sergeant because it allows him to direct programs at the wing level. Even though he finds it logistically tough, he finds it "easy because of the love of the job."

Because of time restraints of a traditional guard drill weekend, he works with a lot of groups on base: the Chief's Council, First Sergeant Council, Junior Enlisted Council, student flight, retirees and mid-level Non-Commissioned Officers.

"I am always looking for feedback to support all aspects of our wing members' needs," said Johnson.

Johnson is proud of the wing's effort in professional military education. The 175th Wing is one of only four wings in the Air National Guard to host both an Airmen Leadership School and a NCO Academy class in the same year.

The program will not rest on its laurels and Johnson has plans for the future. Johnson wants to build a mentorship program targeting mid-level NCOs to increase their supervisory skills.

"I consider these individuals instrumental for the future of our Airmen," he said. "We want to create an environment of inclusion to enrich their self-confidence."

New Adjutant General for Maryland Visits 175th Wing

BY Tech. Sgt. Christopher Schepers

PHOTOGRAPHY BY Senior Master Sgt. Ed Bard and Tech. Sgt. Christopher Schepers

Maj. Gen. (MD) Linda Singh, adjutant general for Maryland, visited the 175th Wing Maryland Air National Guard, Baltimore, Maryland, February 20, 2015.

The visit, the first for Singh since being appointed to the cabinet of recently elected Maryland Gov. Larry Hogan, gave Singh the opportunity to meet face to face with leadership and Airman from some of the organizations that make up the 175th Wing.

The day which was informal and free-flowing, gave Singh the opportunity to discuss with Airmen her vision and expectations for the Maryland Air National Guard.

“My hope is that we set and chart a path for the wing that is viable and sustainable for the next 15 or 20 years,” said Singh.

“I think it is important not only for the wing but for the state of Maryland.”

While on base Singh spoke with a group of airmen deploying to Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Az. in support of Snowbird.

Singh was also given a brief tour of the base led by Brig. Gen. Scott Kelly, commander of the 175th Wing. During the tour, she visited with personnel in the wing headquarters building along with stops in the A-10 maintenance hangar and the A-10 simulator.

“It was great for the deploying personnel from the wing to see Maj. Gen. Singh before they left,” said Kelly. “She most definitely energized every person that she made contact with today.”



Maj. Gen. Linda Singh addresses a group of Airmen before their deployment to Davis-Monthan Air Force Base in support of Snowbird.



Brig. Gen. Scott Kelly, 175th Wing commander, gives a walking tour of the base to Maj. Gen. Linda Singh, Maryland National Guard adjutant general, and Command Sergeant Major Thomas Beyard.

The mission of the 175th Operations Group is to ensure combat mission ready forces are properly organized, trained and equipped for on-call worldwide combat deployments. Forces include intelligence, aircrew flight equipment, airfield management, aviation resource management and A-10C attack pilots. Ensures mission accomplishment in the A-10C to include close air support, forward air control, combat search and rescue and maritime interdiction with all-weather and night precision capability.

U.S. Air Force Brig. Gen. Scott Kelly, Assistant Adjutant General – Air, passes the 175th Wing guidon to U.S. Army Maj. Gen. Linda Singh, Maryland National Guard Adjutant General, at Warfield Air National Guard Base, Baltimore, Md., during a change of command ceremony December 6, 2015. During the ceremony Brig. Gen. Randolph Staudenraus assumed command of the 175th Wing from Kelly.



“I have enjoyed it and it keeps me swinging and moving.”

- Brig. Gen. Scott Kelly

175th Wing

Story by: Tech. Sgt.
Dave Speicher

Photography by: Airman 1st Class
Enjoli Saunders

C H A N G E O F

Brig. Gen. Randolph Staudenraus assumed command of the 175th Wing from Brig. Gen. Scott L. Kelly, who is moving forward as the Assistant Adjutant General – Air, Maryland National Guard, during a change of command ceremony at Warfield Air National Guard Base, Dec. 6, 2015.

Presiding over the day’s event was U.S. Army Maj. Gen. (MD) Linda Singh, Adjutant General for the Maryland National Guard. She shared her thoughts about what is ahead for the members of the 175th Wing in attendance.

“This is a sign of the future, it shows strength for the wing, and for all of the Maryland National Guard,” said Singh. “I look forward to where we are going, we have great talent that we are going to utilize.”

Standing in front of a large group of Airmen, who gave him a standing ovation, Kelly expressed his feelings about his time as wing commander.

“I have enjoyed it and it keeps me swinging and moving,” said Kelly. “I enjoy the people and the mission and what it all stands for.”

After Staudenraus assumed command from Kelly, the new 175th Wing commander spoke to the room with great excitement about what the future holds for the wing.

“I look forward to working with every member of the 175th Wing as I have in the past,” said Staudenraus. “I look forward to a great future together.”

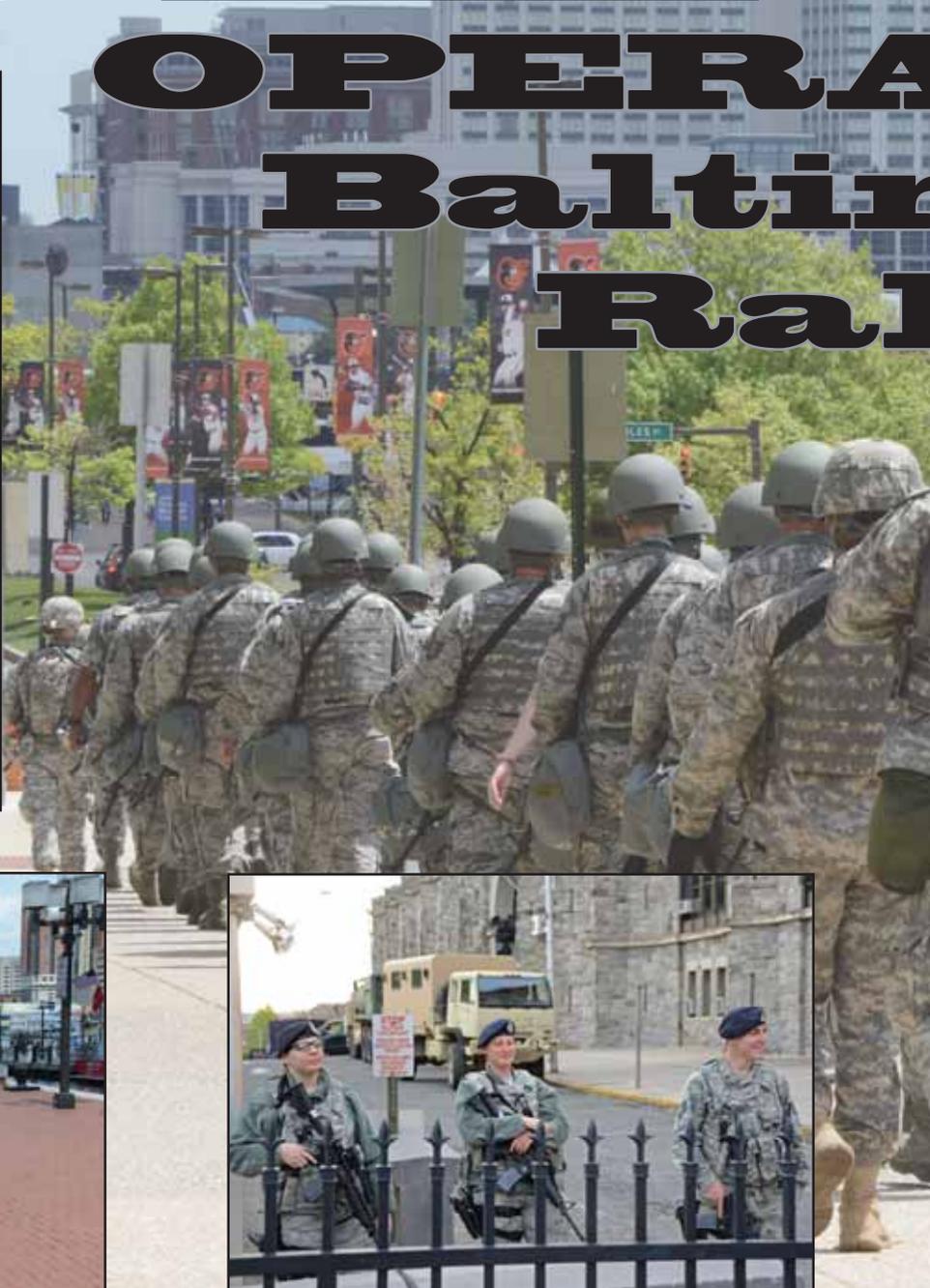
Although Kelly has moved on to his new position, he wanted everyone to know that he will not be far away.

“I don’t see it as leaving the 175th Wing, since we are a one wing state, operationally speaking,” said Kelly. “My support from my new job will be toward the 175th Wing and all their capabilities and needs.”

C O F M M A N D



OPERATION Baltimore Rail





ACTION more fly



The men and women of the 175th Wing Maryland Air National Guard were mobilized by Gov. Larry Hogan to help civilian authorities restore calm to Baltimore City after protests rocked the city. The wing deployed 136 personnel to the city and a mobile emergency operations center. (U.S. Air National Guard photos by Tech. Sgt. Chris Schepers)



Lt. Col. Chaplain Evan Williams speaks with Airmen in the parking lot of M & T Bank Stadium, Baltimore, Md., during Operation Baltimore Rally.

Chaplains Minister to Troops

by Senior Master Sgt. Edward Bard & Tech. Sgt. David Speicher

The 175th Wing Chaplain Corps is filling a critical role in the spiritual care of Maryland National Guard members during Operation Baltimore Rally, the National Guard's response to the state of emergency in Baltimore.

Amid protests and long shifts away from home, the religious support team – chaplains and chaplain assistants – provide a calming voice and spiritual guidance to the troops gathered at a staging area for the operation beside M&T Bank Stadium.

“[We are here] to support our Airmen, to be in the trenches and make sure their morale, if not high, is steady,” said Lt. Col. Ivan Williams, 175th Wing chaplain. “(We are here) to encourage them.”

“In the old days, chaplains would stay in the office,” he said. “Today they go out into the work areas.”

“The chaplains are responsible to be where their Airmen and Soldiers are and report to the commander the level of morale,” said Williams.

“We sense that the overall morale is high,” said Williams, a traditional guardsman who works full-time as the director for the North American Division Ministerial Department of the Seventh-day Adventists.

“Being present is half the job. If you are not there, how can you know their needs?”

- Ch, Lt. Col. Ivan Williams

As the group marched from the staging area toward their assignment in downtown Baltimore, Master Sgt. David Yarborough, superintendent of chapel operations, touched every Airman who went by.

“You have to make yourself known,” Yarborough said. “We let them know, we are there for you.”

“Being present is half the job,” said Williams. “If you are not there, how can you know their needs?”

Airman Care Team

Ch, Lt. Col.
Christopher Otten
Office - 410-918-6238
Cell - 956-607-6491

Director of Psychological Health
Susan Starnes LCSW-C
Office - 410-918-6558
Cell - 410-698-7030

Airman and Family Readiness
Jeanne Benden
Office - 410-918-6768
Cell - 443-992-8280

Veterans Crisis Line
1-800-273-8255, then press 1

Military One Source
1-800-342-9647

Maryland Air and Army National Guard members along with many sister service members practiced on-field for a flag ceremony at M & T Bank Stadium, November 15. Members of the armed forces were honored before the game and participated in the on-field ceremony.



Members of the 175th Medical Group assisted a casualty during Operation Raven Care at Warfield Air National Guard Base, Baltimore, Maryland, August 1, 2015. The two week mass casualty exercise will give the Maryland Air National Guard the chance to train side-by-side with the Maryland Army National Guard.

Brig. Gen. Scott Kelly, 175th Wing commander, performed preflight inspections in an A-10C aircraft before taking off for his final flight Oct. 18 at Warfield Air National Guard Base, Baltimore. Kelly's final flight marked the end of his service as wing commander because he is transitioning to assistant adjutant general – Air for the Maryland National Guard.



U.S. Air National Guard Photos by Tech. Sgt. Chris Schepers

Maryland Airmen Support the Mission

175th Security Forces activate for Baltimore Rally.

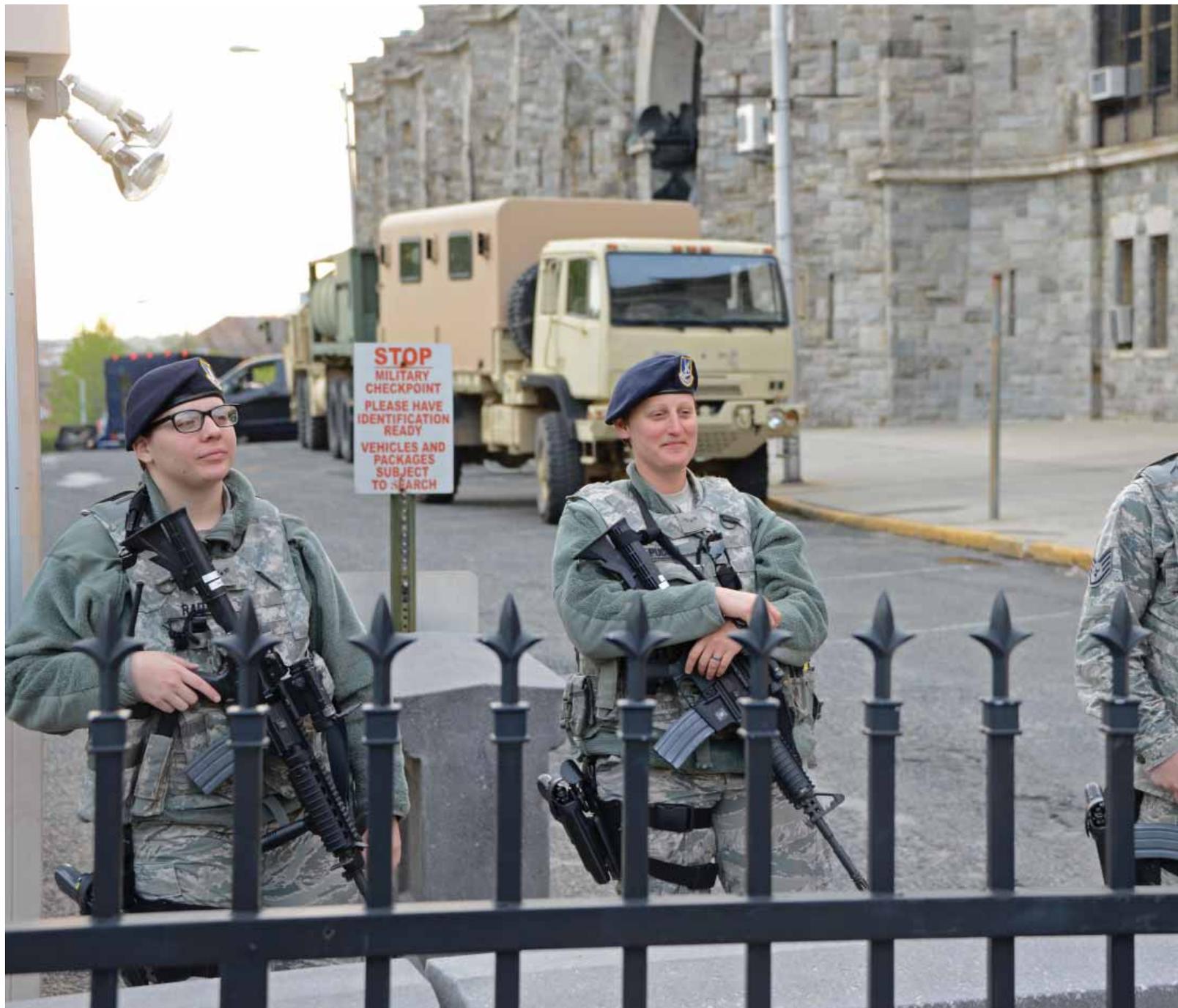
photography and story by:

TECH. SGT. CHRIS SCHEPERS

After the Maryland National Guard was activated to help keep Baltimore City calm after unrest during demonstrations after the death of Freddie Gray, 20 Airmen from the 175th Security Forces Squadron, who volunteered to support local law enforcement, joined Maryland Guard

Soldiers beginning on April 28 at the 5th Regiment Armory.

With only a few hours notice, the security forces personnel were in place to conduct 24-hour security operations at the armory, which houses military equipment and approximately 1,000 Maryland





Staff Sgt. Michael Miksovsky works the entry control point at the Fifth Regiment Armory during Operation Baltimore Rally.

At left: Members of the 175th Security Forces Squadron work their shift at the entry control point of the Fifth Regiment Armory during Operation Baltimore Rally.



Guardsmen, providing assistance for Joint Task Force Chesapeake's mission across the city.

“Without each and every non-commissioned officer that volunteered to deploy, we would not have been able to get the job done,” said Master Sgt. Duane Murrill, night-shift non-commissioned officer in charge.

“We are one team, one fight and we did it as a team down to our newest Airman.”

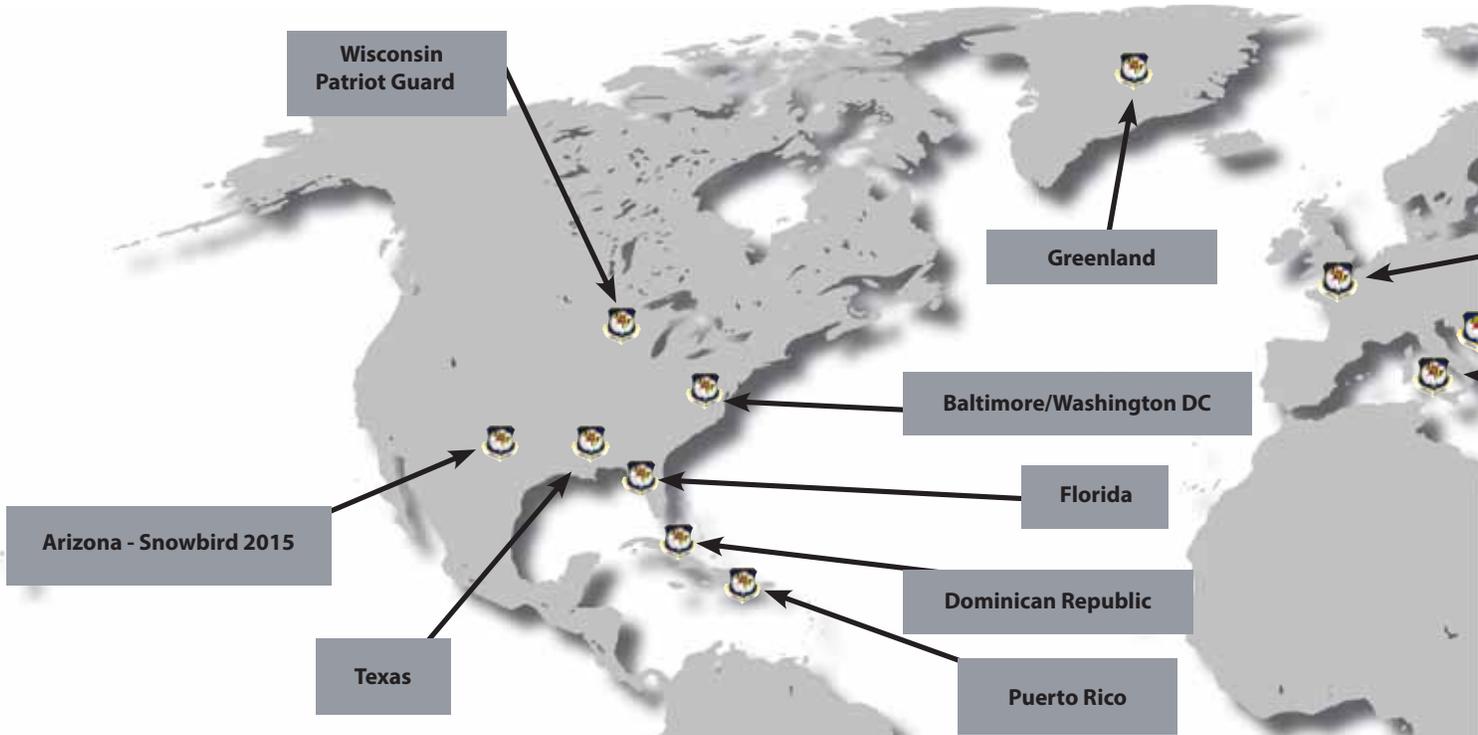
On the third day of the deployment, their responsibilities shifted from security operations to a Quick Reaction Force. The security forces Airmen stand trained and prepared to assist with protecting lives and property.

“At home station, we train with less-than-lethal use-of-force tactics, body search methods and handcuffing techniques to keep our minds and bodies ready to respond,” said Master Sgt. Jerome Howard, day shift non-commissioned officer in charge.

The mobilization for a riot is the first for the Maryland Air National Guard since the riots of 1968 when Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was assassinated.

“I am happy to be here and am honored to serve the citizens of the state of Maryland,” said Tech. Sgt. Keri Wanner, security forces craftsman.

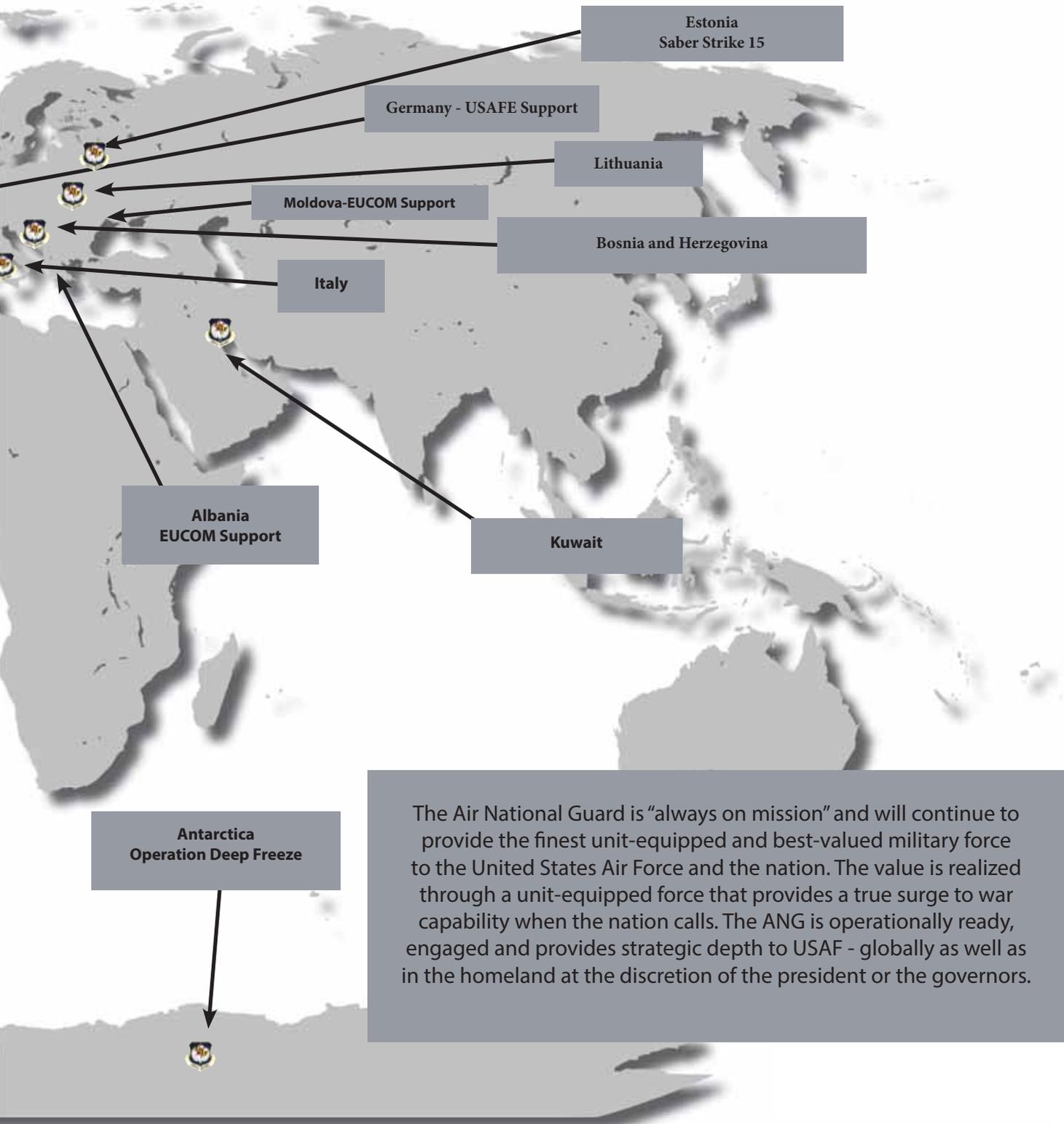
The 175th Wing deployed a total of 136 personnel to the city and a mobile emergency operations center. Currently, over 2,900 Maryland Guardsmen have been activated for the mission.



Where have we been?

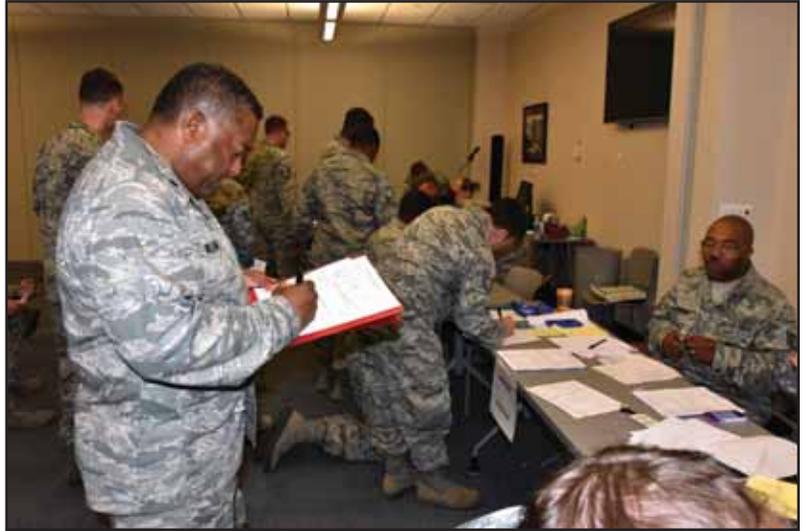
The Airmen of the 175th Wing have deployed across the globe in support of exercises and real world objectives. With over 1300 personnel deploying to 14 locations the wing has a local and global presence and is trained and equipped to meet any mission.

“Always on



The Air National Guard is “always on mission” and will continue to provide the finest unit-equipped and best-valued military force to the United States Air Force and the nation. The value is realized through a unit-equipped force that provides a true surge to war capability when the nation calls. The ANG is operationally ready, engaged and provides strategic depth to USAF - globally as well as in the homeland at the discretion of the president or the governors.

on Mission”



Members of the 175th Mission Support Group process wing members through a processing line before activating for Operation Baltimore Rally.

Around the Clock Operations

Airmen provide support services day and night during Operation Baltimore Rally

Photography and Story by
Senior Master Sgt. Edward Bard &
Tech. Sgt. David Speicher

With Operation Baltimore Rally in full swing, many units at Warfield Air National Guard Base are operating on a 24 hours a day basis to accommodate Maryland Air National Guardsmen during the state of emergency in Baltimore.

Master Sgt. Elizabeth A. Hicks, Non-Commissioned Officer in Charge of Personnel Support for Contingency Operations, has her team from the 175th Force Support Squadron at work. They stood up an in-processing station May 1 in the multi-purpose room of the wing headquarters building. It is the focal point for members in-processing and going down range.

Hicks said they have checked that members have valid ID cards and dog tags. "We have them fill out a locator card and give them a billeting card. We place them in an arrival status, to use for accountability. Accountability is our number one priority," said Hicks.

To accomplish 24 hours a day operations, she is using 16 members, working 12 hours on shift and then 12 hours off shift, said Hicks.

They processed an initial group of approximately 400 people on Friday in four and a half hours. "We have a good team and we did it," said Hicks. "The whole purpose is to get them in and out as soon as possible."

On the other side of the base, Chief Master Sgt. Richard P. Petrush, 175th EOC manager, started 24-hour operations on April 28 at 1 p.m. when they received a warning order of the pending operation.

The EOC supports whatever contingency operation the base supports. They are there to support all Air National Guard assets that support the mission. "We make it happen," said Petrush. The EOC is working with up to 17 people per shift.

Feeding and a place to rest is the responsibility of Senior Master Sgt. Dawn

Porter's team. She is the 175th Services Flight superintendent.

"We have fed them through contract feeding. We have bedded them down. We are responsible for the portable showers. We do checks on the generators and the hot water on the showers. We issued Meals Ready to Eat to the members that are going to Baltimore City. We have had the dining hall opened so troops can play games with the assistance of family support," said Porter.

In addition to the 375 cots on base, services requested another 150 so that they would have 525. The services group had about 17 Airmen working to keep operations going 24 hours a day.

"These folks train for this, this is what they go to school for. It is just a different environment that we have to implement it in. This is the first time a lot of my Airmen have practiced what they were taught," said Porter.

Unity Day 2015

Story and Photography by
Airman 1st Class Enjoli Saunders



(Top) Maj. Gay Williams, State Equal Employment Manager, organizer of the past ten Unity Day events received her retirement ceremony during the event.

(Below) Members of the 175th Wing visit the various booths at the Unity Day event.

The 10th annual Unity Day was hosted by the Maryland National Guard and Maryland Military Department May 21st at the 5th Regiment Armory.

Unity Day was established to enhance cross-cultural awareness and promote harmony among all members and retirees of the Maryland National Guard, Maryland Air National Guard and Maryland Military Department.

Army Maj. Gay Williams has organized the event for the last five years. This was the last Unity Day Williams will arrange because she will be retiring May 31st, after 35 years of service.

"It is a bittersweet feeling," said Williams. "This was my passion. However, I must turn it over to another blessed individual. It is time to open the next chapter of my life but I will still come and enjoy the festivities."

Unity Day consisted of the 229th Army Jazz Band, line dancing, singing, ethnic food samples and cultural exhibit booths that observed all aspects of cultural diversity.

Booths included displays from African American, Asian American, Pacific Islander, Latin American and Native American cultures. Disability Employment Awareness and Women's History also had booths that provided information on how to support those groups.

"Unity Day is a wonderful event that I will always support and continue to encourage participation from everyone," said Williams. "To the privileged person that will be taking over, I ask that you always be approachable, sincere and a great listener."



"This was my passion. However, I must turn it over to another blessed individual."

- Maj. Gay Williams

ECONOMIC IMPACT

Maryland Air Guard salaries and expenditures totaling more than \$80,029,405 created an estimated 521 off-base jobs within the Baltimore/Washington Metropolitan Statistical Area. The total economic impact of the Maryland Air National Guard for Fiscal Year 2015 was more than \$117,364,405.

Because of these expenditures and the jobs they created, the Maryland Air National Guard has a significant economic impact on the City of Baltimore and the surrounding counties, as well as on the state of Maryland as a whole.

Full-time Employee Salaries	\$40,628,284
Guard/Reserve Drill and Training Pay	\$22,389,608
Other Federal Operating Expenses	\$17,815,557
Aviation Fuel	\$5,554,000
Military Construction	0
Total Expenditures	\$80,029,405
Total Cooperative Expenditures	\$3,038,772
<u>Federal Investment</u>	<u>State Investment</u>
\$4,176,325	\$465,709

235th Civil Engineering Flight



United States Air Force Europe Bridge Inspections, Turkey Incirlik Air Force Base

Scope:
Perform condition evaluation and inspection on two Culverts following National Bridge Inspection Standards Procedures.

Accomplishments:
Collected Culvert data and input it into AF Federal Bridge Data Base.

\$18K in cost saving / 2 Culverts.



European Command Support, Moldova, Special School for Hearing Impaired Children

Scope:
Planning for replacement of 119 windows, and installation of new heating system.

Accomplishments:
Site Survey

Worked with window vendor to prepare accurate Cost Estimate.



USAFE Bridge Inspections, Germany Ramstein Air Force Base

Scope:
Perform condition evaluation and inspection on four Bridges following National Bridge Inspection Standards Procedures

Accomplishments:
Collected Bridge data and input it into AF Federal Bridge Data Base.

Field data, Condition rating and recommendations were delivered through Inspection Report .

Airman of the Year



Airman of the Year
Senior Airman Jennifer Masters



NCO of the Year
Tech. Sgt. Juliann Johnston



Senior NCO of the Year
Senior Master Sgt. Steve Mooney



First Sergeant of the Year
Master Sgt. Robert Ignozzi



Honor Guard Member of the Year
Master Sgt. Michael Glaze





Coming Home

Airman returns to where it all started

Story by Airman 1st Class Enjoli Saunders
Photography by Tech. Sgt. Chris Schepers

Lt. Col. Lisa Cunningham,
175th Intelligence
Squadron commander,
conducts a morning
briefing with her Airmen.

The military journey of the current 135th Intelligence Squadron commander is one that started out as a hope that it would be a path to a better and clearer future. When Lt. Col. Lisa M. Cunningham accepted the position in August 2015, she came full circle back to where she always wanted to be - home.

Cunningham joined the 175th Wing, Maryland Air National Guard in 1994 as an airman first class, two years after enlisting in the Army Reserves. The transition from Army to Air Force is what inspired Cunningham to become an officer.

"I did not have the intention to stay for 20 years when I first started out but my perception changed when I transferred to the 175th," said Cunningham. "I was lost in my life, I wasn't sure what I wanted to do. Then I found the Air Force and I found my niche."

To help pay for her education she joined the Reserve Officers Training Corps program at Salisbury University and she gained an interest in the military.

"To get to Salisbury I would drive past the base and I didn't even know it," said Cunningham. "Like most people, I didn't know about the Air National Guard; it was a best kept secret."

After a year at the 175th Wing, Cunningham spent time with the 167th Airlift Wing, Martinsburg, West Virginia and 164th Airlift Wing, Memphis, Tennessee. Throughout her career, she never passed on an opportunity despite her fears.

By 2013, she became the commander of the 64th Intelligence Squadron at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio. When the position opened up, she almost didn't accept the position because she was "so petrified of speaking in front of people."

"I looked toward a mentor in the Air National Guard and they told me 'you don't pass up command,' so I accepted the position," Cunningham said. "Luck is 90 percent preparedness and 10 percent right place, right time."

Cunningham spent two years in Ohio and

desired to come back home. "Home is Maryland - and I was trying to figure out a way to get to the Maryland Air National Guard," said Cunningham. "I interviewed for everything in hopes that something would happen, I just wanted to be back."

Her military career has prepared her for all the challenges that she has faced in her personal life. As a single mom of an 8-year-old son and caretaker for her live-in parents, she is thankful for her unique family situation.

"When I see an Airman I tell them a brief version of my story," said Cunningham. "I am here because I did everything I was supposed to do, if you stay on track, you will succeed."



Army portrait

Operation Raven Care

Realistic Scenarios provide Medics the Right Medicine

Story by Sgt. 1st Class Mitchell Miller

Photography by Tech. Sgt. Chris Schepers



An ambulance arrives with screams from inside that drown out the sirens. A woman fills the air with sounds of terror. Inside the tent, the energy is high and people begin to run and shout commands in an effort to quickly treat the injured Soldier. The back doors fly open and medics pull out the stretcher. Four personnel rush the woman to the triage section of the make-shift hospital. The diagnosis ... a gun shot wound to the abdomen with lacerations to her arms and legs. This is how the Mass Casualty training exercise begins.

The MASCAL exercise took place at Warfield Air National Guard Base in Middle River, Maryland. It ran from July 23, 2015, until Aug. 7, 2015, as part of the Maryland National Guard's 104th Area Support Medical Company's annual training.

Army Maj. William Fox, 104th ASMC commander and Maryland deputy state surgeon, said he saw the need for the unit to work in a joint service environment, so he started planning this training with the 175th Wing over a year ago, well before the Baltimore protests. At the time of the protests in April 2015, the 104th ASMC was already at an 80 percent fully ready status.

"We have a common goal to support the state of Maryland in disaster response. In coming here, we're establishing a collaborative work environment," said Fox.

Warfield ANG Base is set as a Joint Reception, Staging, Onward movement

and Integration site, which would handle all movement into and out of a national emergency operation. With the help of the 10th Regiment from the Maryland Defense Force, C-169th Aviation Regiment and the 175th Wing, this exercise will help soldiers and airmen understand their roles and improve their readiness if the need arises.

Army Maj. Matthew Miskimon, 104th ASMC lead field surgeon, said, "The mission here is to operate a Medical Treatment Facility and this is the first time we're able to get the entire unit to participate. We're learning together how to accomplish that goal."

Fox said he wanted the MASCAL exercise to be completely isolated from the rest of the base. In an effort to be self-sustained and create no impact on the Air Force base, all meals were created on-site, they brought their own showers and bathroom facilities, slept in tents and brought in water with their own trucks. This ensures that the unit would be able to maintain operations anywhere, in any situation.

Through simulated medical scenarios, 1st Army, 4th Cavalry Soldiers evaluated the 104th ASMC's Mission Essential

Task List, which will show their higher headquarters they are ready for real-world missions. By training in emergency medical treatment, ground ambulance evacuations and casualty evacuations with Black Hawk helicopters, the medical company is prepared to support up to 5,000 service members in self-sustainable emergency medical urgent care.

In addition to scenario-based training, the unit is also providing real-world medical support during the exercise. The 70th Training Regiment from Camp Fretterd Military Reservation conducted phase three of Officer Candidate School with the support of the 104th's ambulances and medical care. The ambulance personnel provided 24-hour support for two locations with times available to treat officers in the morning and evening.

The mission of the 175th Medical Group is to provide medically ready Airmen to the Maryland Air National Guard and combatant commanders by implementing Air Force plans, programs and policies directing flight medicine, preventive medicine, occupational medicine and related support activities.

Saber Strike 15

175th Maintenance Squadron personnel step up to ensure a successful exercise



The mission of the 175th Maintenance Group is to provide highly trained and equipped combat mission-ready forces prepared for worldwide mobility. The group maintains 22 A-10 aircraft, which perform numerous taskings, including close air support, forward air controller and combat search and rescue.

Story and Photography by
Tech. Sgt. Chris Schepers

“The teamwork displayed was flawless and everyone came together to get the job done.”

-Chief Master Sgt. Jeffrey Morse

Eight A-10C Thunderbolt IIs and 111 Airmen from the 175th Wing, Maryland Air National Guard, deployed to Ämari Air Base, Estonia during the first week in June 2015 to participate in Saber Strike 15, an exercise that facilitates cooperation between Estonia, Lithuania, Latvia, Poland, the United States and other participating nations.

Maintenance build-up and preparation for the long-standing training exercise conducted annually since 2010, began in February. In 2013, the Maryland Air National Guard sent less aircraft and personnel to take part in the multinational exercise.

“This is the first time we have sent eight A-10s to participate in Saber Strike,” said Chief Master Sgt. Jeffrey Morse, maintenance flight chief assigned to the 175th Maintenance Squadron. “The teamwork displayed was flawless and

everyone came together to get the job done.”

Creating a plan and executing was integral in getting the Airmen and the required equipment to Estonia. The wing sent personnel from operations, aircraft maintenance, security police, logistics and wing staff as well as 31 increments of equipment totaling over 120,000 pounds, said Morse.

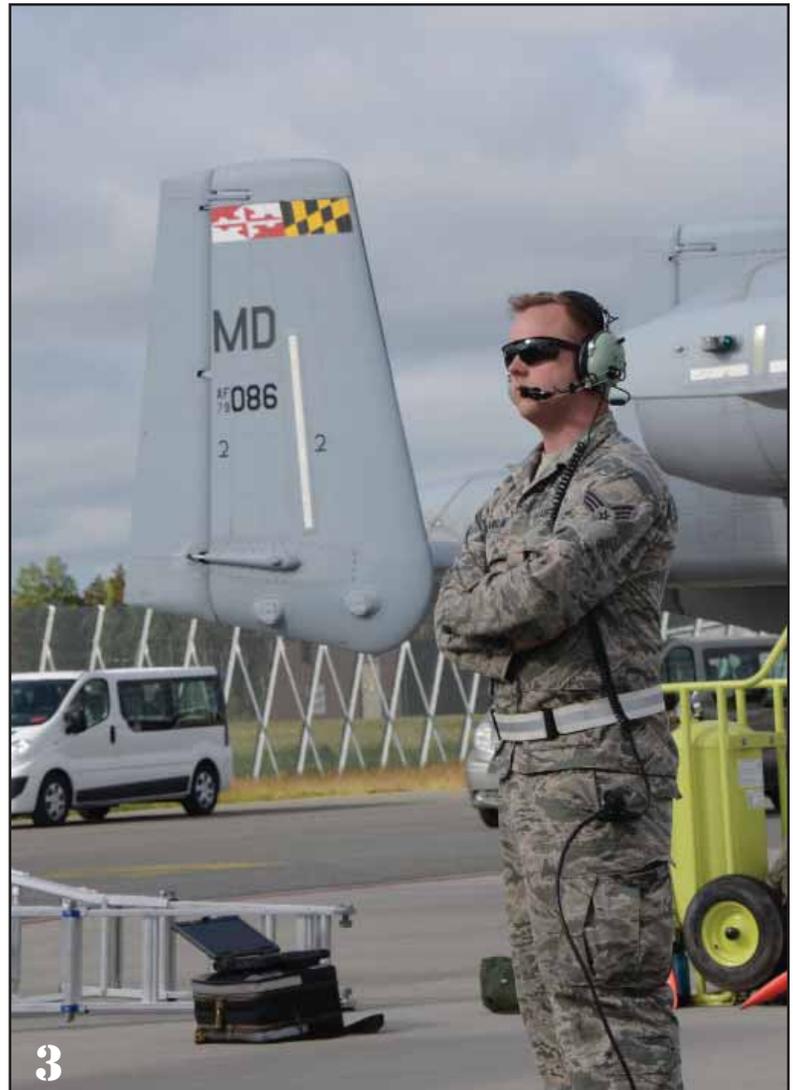
“The deployed personnel is smaller than the amount of people they would typically bring to an exercise of this scale,” said 1st Lt. Michael Gillis, 175th Maintenance Squadron officer-in-charge.

“The maintenance group is running at two-thirds capacity,” said Gillis. “It takes a lot of adaptability because we don’t have the same facilities, equipment and personnel to get everything ready for the mission.”

The wing’s goal is to fly twice a day, sending six A-10C Thunderbolt II aircraft on training missions, said Gillis.

“Our goal is to never miss a sortie and never miss a mission,” said Morse.

Saber Strike aims to continue to strengthen the U.S. Armed Forces interoperability with ally and partner nations, while increasing their capacity to conduct a full spectrum of military operations.



- 1** (top left) Firefighters assigned to the 175th Wing, Maryland Air National Guard, train their Estonian and British counterparts on the proper procedures for extraction from an A-10C Thunderbolt II aircraft during Saber Strike 15 at Ämari Air Base, Estonia, June 8, 2015.
- 2** (middle left) A pilot assigned to the 104th Fighter Squadron, Maryland Air National Guard, conducts preflight inspection procedures before takeoff at Ämari Air Base, Estonia, during Saber Strike 2015.
- 3** (bottom left) A member of the 175th Wing, Maryland Air National Guard, checks in after an in-briefing at Ämari Air Base, Estonia, before participating in Saber Strike 2015.
- 4** (above) A crew chief assigned to the 175th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, Maryland Air National Guard, speaks with the pilot during the preflight inspection on an A-10C Thunderbolt II aircraft during Saber Strike 15, Ämari Air Base, Estonia, June 8, 2015.

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Base Tour Program 2016



The 175th Wing has an active base tour program. The purpose of the 175th Wing Base Tour Program is to enhance community relations and provide base access to individuals, youth groups, community organizations, and educational institutions. Tour requests outside of the below dates are not normally granted. All children in tour groups must be at least 7 years old.

Tours include a brief history of the base, viewing an A-10C Thunderbolt II, aircraft up close and a visit to the base fire department.

Tours will be limited to a maximum of 40 participants.

For more information/questions please contact the 175th Wing Public Affairs, Community Relations Branch at 410-918-6001, Senior Master Sgt. Ed Bard. You can request a tour by emailing** us with the date from below that you would like to attend, adults names, number of children under the age of 18, group type, how many vehicles (we highly encourage car pooling) in your party and contact information.

**Base Email: usaf.md.175-wg.list.pa@mail.mil

Example email: April 3, 2016, Boy Scouts, Lucy Bard and Dave Winn, 9 children, 3 cars, 443-888-9999, 1234 House Rd. Baltimore, MD 21299.

March 6, 2016, 12 p.m. to 2 p.m.

April 3, 2016, 12 p.m. to 2 p.m.

July 7, 2016, 9 a.m. to 11a.m.

September 18, 2016, 12 p.m. to 2 p.m.

October 16, 2016, 12 p.m. to 2 p.m.

November 10, 2016, 9 a.m. to 11a.m.

A person wearing a full-body blue protective hazmat suit with a clear face shield is holding a yellow handheld detector. The background is a plain, light-colored wall. The image has a blue tint and is semi-transparent, serving as a background for the text.

Members of the 175th Wing Fire Department check a room for foreign chemicals during a Pleural Confusion exercise at Warfield Air National Guard Base. The exercise tested the base emergency response to a HAZMAT incident. (U.S. Air National Guard Photo by Tech. Sgt. Christopher Schepers)

The Departure