

INSIDE NATIONAL EARTHQUAKE EXERCISE - SHAKEN FURY

# THE VOLUNTEER STATE GUARD

M A G A Z I N E

A detailed oil painting of Andrew Jackson in military uniform. He is shown from the chest up, wearing a dark blue coat with gold braiding on the collar and cuffs, and a white ruffled cravat. He has a serious expression and is looking slightly to the right.

# First Command

*Jackson's First Command of the Tennessee Volunteers*



# THE VOLUNTEER STATE GUARD MAGAZINE

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of the Tennessee  
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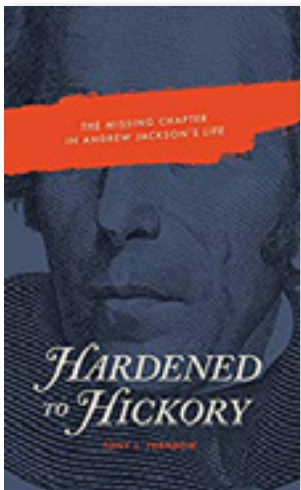
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JULY, 2019  
VOLUME 19 ISSUE 2

tnmilitary.org

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## TENNESSEE SNAPSHOT

### **HAPPY HOMECOMING**

May 1, 2019 - The family of a Soldier from the 278th Armored Cavalry Regiment is met by Brig. Gen. Jimmy Cole on the tarmac at the Volunteer Training Site in Smyrna. The 278th recently returned home from a deployment to the Ukraine and Poland.

*PHOTO BY: SGT. ROBERT MERCADO*





## TENNESSEE SNAPSHOT

### **A WARM WELCOME**

May 14, 2019 - A Soldier from the Tennessee National Guard's 278th Armored Cavalry Regiment is reunited with his family after returning home from a near year-long deployment to Ukraine.

*PHOTO BY: SGT. ROBERT MERCADO*





## TENNESSEE SNAPSHOT

### **IMPORTANT MILESTONE**

June 15, 2019 - The Tennessee Volunteer ChalleNGe Academy has graduated its fourth class. These young cadets completed the very challenging 6-month program, earning high school credits or completing the High School Equivalency Test (HiSET).

*PHOTO BY: SGT. SARAH KIRBY*





## TENNESSEE SNAPSHOT

### GOVERNORS VISIT

April 2, 2019 - Governor Bill Lee visits the Tennessee Military Department and is given a tour of Joint Force Headquarters in Nashville by Tennessee's Adjutant General, Maj. Gen. Jeff Holmes.

PHOTO BY: DAWN MAJORS, TN GOVERNORS OFFICE



# Ready for the Miss

BY SGT. SHANNON BALL





# sion

TRAINING WITH **COMBAT MEDICS** FROM  
CHATTANOOGA'S 230TH SUSTAINMENT  
BRIGADE AT SMYRNA'S VOLUNTEER  
TRAINING SITE





# 68W

**A**s the evaluator reads the training instructions, medics from Chattanooga's 230th Sustainment Brigade prepare to run a simulated casualty skill station as part of their Annual Combat Medic Skills Validation Test from February 22-23 at Smyrna's Volunteer Training Site. The purpose is to validate the medics' competency in their profession.

As the medics begin their lanes, screams of "Medic" fill the room as the simulated casualty begins to cry out for help. Without prior knowledge of each casualty's situation, the graded medic quickly reacts to the call. The situation facing them ranges from gunshot wounds to severe burns and amputations.

"The entire section has really stepped up to ensure our training was applicable and up to date," said Staff Sgt. Rebecca Silver, the 230th medical noncommissioned officer in charge.

Silver brings 13-years of experience as a combat medic and considerable experience as a civilian Intensive Care Unit nurse. She is first in line for evaluation.

When the training begins, Silver quickly reacts, calling out to the casualty. Once reaching the injured Soldier, she assesses their wounds and then moves them to a safe area. There, she treats the Soldier for a gunshot wound to the chest and is having difficulty breathing. Since there is a build-up of air in the Soldier's chest cavity, she conducts a needle chest decompression which relieves the air pressure, allowing the lungs to inflate so the Soldier can get air. She works quickly and proficiently, all while maintaining a professional demeanor and constant vocal contact with the patient.

Silver's example demonstrates what is expected as her Soldiers follow behind her and complete their lanes. Every medic completes their validation lanes individually, with the scenarios varying between each medic. Once they all passed, it marked the completion of their 48 hour recertification training.

"Every Soldier in the section prepares and leads classes for each of the required tables," says Silver. "When unable to bring all Soldiers together, we even conduct training via videoconference."

The medics from the 230th Sustainment Brigade all validated their skills and are fully prepared for whatever mission they receive next.



Above: Staff Sgt. Rebecca Silver, the 230th Sustainment Brigade's medical noncommissioned officer in charge, treats a patient for a gunshot wound to the chest. She performed a needle chest decompression for a tension pneumothorax. (Photo by Sgt. Shannon Ball)





Medics from Chattanooga's 230th Sustainment Brigade at Smyrna's Volunteer Training Site.

# What's a Combat Medic?

## OVERVIEW

The health care specialist is primarily responsible for providing emergency medical treatment, limited primary care, and health protection and evacuation from a point of injury or illness.

## JOB DUTIES

- Administer emergency medical treatment to battlefield casualties
- Assist with outpatient and inpatient care and treatment
- Prepare blood samples for laboratory analysis
- Prepare patients, operating rooms, equipment and supplies for surgery

## REQUIRED ASVAB SCORE(S)

- Skilled Technical (ST): 101
- General Technical (GT): 107

## FUTURE CIVILIAN CAREERS

The skills you learn will help prepare you for a career with civilian hospitals, clinics, nursing homes or rehabilitation centers. With a health care specialist background, you may consider a career as an emergency medical technician, medical assistant, medication aide or physician assistant.



# HIGHWAY RESCUE

Tennessee Guardsmen and Wife Assist in Rescue when SUV full of Children Careens off Highway.



**NASHVILLE, Tenn.** – Around 6:15 a.m. on Saturday, March 30, Chief Warrant Officer 2 Brad Klein and his wife, Sarah, were driving west on I-24 toward Murfreesboro to participate in his promotion ceremony. Brad, a member of the 278th Armored Cavalry Regiment Support Squadron, was on leave

from Fort Hood helping train 278th Soldiers mobilizing for a rotation to Poland. Suddenly, Brad and Sarah witnessed a Honda Pilot driving in front of them drift across all lanes of traffic, careen off the road, and violently flip multiple times.

Brad pulled over and ran to the wreck to

The Honda Pilot that had seven children inside when it careened off the road and flipped multiple times.



render aid as his wife called 911. He began pulling victims out of the vehicle and to his dismay learned there were seven children inside, many not wearing seatbelts. Even the driver was under the age of eighteen.

He started in the backseat since the driver and passenger were still conscious and talking. While Brad removed the others from the vehicle and was laying them in the grass, Sarah started first aid and continued calling for help.

The driver and passenger were injured but able to get out on their own. Brad worked on the others. One was unconscious and bleeding while another was complaining of back pain. He immobilized the back injury and kept the victim in the vehicle. Everyone else also had injuries, but were able to be taken out of the vehicle as Sarah treated them, called their families, and coordinated with Emergency Medical Services.

The Kleins continued to administer first aid and keep the scene safe even as first responders arrived. Once the police and EMS took control they continued assisting the children, keeping them calm, and even helping bring in ambulances.

The Kleins stayed at the crash site until the last victim was taken into professional care. Three of the children were flown from the scene by a LifeFlight helicopter.

Klein and his wife continued on to his promotion once they knew everyone was being attended to by EMS. With his uniform still stained with mud, dirt, sweat, blood, and grass, he was promoted to Chief Warrant Officer 2, after arriving a half hour late to his promotion ceremony. By 10:30 the same morning, Brad had boarded a C-17 to fly back to Fort Hood and continue training Soldiers deploying to Poland. Last the Kleins heard, everyone in the accident are doing well and recovering.

**- LT. COL. DARRIN HAAS**



Above: Chief Warrant Officer 2 Brad Klein and his wife, Sarah.  
Below: Chief Klein and other Soldiers boarding a C-17 bound for Ft. Hood.





# SHAKEN FURY 2019

The Tennessee National Guard Participates in National Earthquake Emergency Exercise.



**NASHVILLE, Tenn.** – From May 31 to June 6, the Tennessee Military Department will participated in a large-scale emergency response exercise: Shaken Fury 2019. Shaken Fury is a national-level emergency response and recovery exercise hosted by the Federal Emergency Management Agency that took place in various locations throughout the Southeastern United States.

“Emergency management has a proud tradition in Tennessee and a legacy of leadership and innovation transcending to the national level,” said Tennessee Emergency Management Agency (TEMA) Director Patrick Sheehan. “The Shaken Fury exercise with our local, state, and federal partners is an opportunity to improve and forge our capabilities, and gain experience so we are

ready to answer when our fellow Tennesseans and fellow Americans call for help.”

During the multi-agency/phased exercise, the Tennessee National Guard and the Tennessee Emergency Management Agency, along with 12 other agencies, responded to a simulated “no-notice” 7.7 magnitude earthquake occurring along the New Madrid Seismic Zone near Memphis. More than



1,050 Soldiers and Airmen from Tennessee conducted various scenarios to test and exercise their response to the disaster.

“Our state mission is to support local and state first responders and emergency management personnel during a catastrophic emergency by providing a trained and ready response force,” said Maj. Gen. Jeff Holmes, Tennessee’s Adjutant General. “During emergencies, the Tennessee Army and Air National Guard bring unique skills and equipment that can assist in any situation throughout our great state.”

While much of the exercise was conducted at Tennessee’s Joint Force Headquarters in Nashville, there were ground and air equipment and personnel participating in scenarios throughout the state.



Members of the 1-230th Assault Helicopter Battalion and 30th Troop Command perform a rooftop rescue Muscatatuck Urban Training Center in Indiana as part of the Shaken Fury 2019 exercise.



Mass casualty exercise in at the Smyrna airport.  
*Photo by Staff Sgt. Mathieu Perry.*

- **May 31 and June 2:** The Tennessee Air National Guard employed a remotely piloted aircraft, the MQ-9, in conjunction with state and federal emergency management teams to assist in search and rescue in the simulated disaster area.

- **June 1:** Medical units from the Tennessee National Guard (Army and Air), and the State Guard conducted a joint mass casualty exercise at the Smyrna airport. Cadets from the Tennessee Volunteer Challenge Academy served as patients to be loaded for simulated evacuation on a Memphis-based C-17 Globemaster III aircraft.

- **June 1-2:** The 134th Air Refueling Wing, based in Knoxville, worked alongside personnel from the 30th Troop Command, based in Tullahoma, to transfer fuel from a KC-135 Fuel Tanker to a Heavy Expanded Mobility Tactical Truck (HEMTT Fuel Tanker).

- **June 3:** The 118th Civil Engineer Squadron, based in Nashville, transferred a 100-kilo-watt-hour generators to the 278th Armored Cavalry Regiment’s Engineer Battalion, based in Lebanon.

- **June 1-5:** The 164th Airlift Wing conducted an air movement exercise transporting

critical assets of Smyrna’s 45th Civil Support Team back to Memphis. Once on the ground, the 45th CST conducted rubble pile training in the simulated affected areas.

- **June 1-7:** 1-230th Assault Helicopter Battalion flew missions in support of Operation Unified Response under the umbrella of Shaken Fury. This was the largest Urban Search and Rescue Training Operation ever conducted by FEMA. The 1-230th flew search and rescue teams in and around the area of Muscatatuck Urban Training Center in Indiana (simulated Memphis area) from multiple states throughout the country to include search and rescue teams from Australia and Canada. They conducted sling load and hoist operations, mass casualty events and aerial observation and reconnaissance missions in the simulated affected areas.

- **June 4-6:** The State Emergency Operation Center (SEOC) in Nashville activated to exercise response coordination between TEMA, Emergency Service Coordinators with many departments of the State of Tennessee, non-governmental liaisons, private sector partners, and federal officials. TEMA devoted June 6 to catastrophic recovery coordination and planning among stakeholders.

- **LT. COL. CHRIS MESSINA**





Portrait of Andrew Jackson by John Wesley Jarvis  
circa 1817. Courtesy of White House Collection/White  
House Historical Association.



# First Command

*Jackson's First Command of the Tennessee Volunteers.*

By Tony L. Turnbow

Andrew Jackson's command of the Tennessee Volunteers to victory over Britain at New Orleans January 8, 1815 elevated both Jackson and the Volunteers to legend. The British had just defeated Napoleon, who in turn had just conquered Europe. Jackson told the Tennesseans and the other troops who fought under him that they had "conquered the conquerors of the conquerors of Europe." At that moment, Jackson's soldiers had proved themselves to be the greatest warriors in the world.

The transformation was not sudden or easy. Missing from the history of the victory has been an account of the struggles and defeats that first hardened Tennessee citizens into Soldiers and Jackson into a general. Documents detailing the story of Jackson's first military expedition to New Orleans—two years prior to the victory at New Orleans—have been tucked away in attics and archives. Recently made available, they fill

in the gap in Jackson's biography and they reveal characteristics of some of Tennessee's first Volunteers.

## FROM CITIZEN TO SOLDIER

The United States was woefully unprepared for war in 1812. Most troops who had fought in the Revolution were too old to serve---the younger lacked experience. The War Department relied upon a contractor system that frequently failed to provide equipment and provisions. Communications between the War Department in Washington City and military outposts could take weeks. On top of everything, the nation was essentially broke.

President Thomas Jefferson recognized the weakness of the U.S. defense as compared to Britain and France. He preferred peace even when both nations impressed U.S. Soldiers on the high seas. In response, Napoleon attempted to shame Americans

into action with a reminder that it was the duty of nations to defend themselves. Jackson was not cowered by the experience of European troops. He rarely doubted himself or the abilities of his men.

From the time Jackson had volunteered at age 13 to serve as a messenger during the Revolution, he had longed for what he called military "fame" through battle. Jackson had been elected Major General of the Western Division of the Tennessee Militia at age 29. But Andrew Jackson had never commanded a military expedition or battle. The War of 1812 was his chance. He offered the same fame to militia who would volunteer to follow him to New Orleans in December 1812. Tennessee males, like citizens from other states and generations before them, were expected to serve in the militia to defend their homes. In 1812, citizen Soldiers normally met at appointed times throughout the year for training. Without an imminent threat,





drilling was unfocused. Besides speeches from politicians, much of the training time turned into shooting matches, wrestling contests, and town picnics. Fighting against complacency, Jackson pushed his soldiers to be the best trained and outfitted in the nation. One biographer said that Jackson used his own funds to pay for equipment for his troops that a young state could not afford. When the inevitable threat of invasion arose, Jackson wanted to be recognized as the general with the best troops to mount a defense. The voluntary militia system forced leaders to justify war to motivate men to volunteer. Jackson later admitted that he constantly worked to keep militia “animated” to go to war. Jackson published orders in the newspapers telling troops of the dangers their families faced on the frontier and offering them rewards of victory. Almost every issue of the newspapers owned by Jackson’s friends highlighted the growing risk of “British Intrigue” and “Indians!”

Jackson’s motivation worked. On the date set for the first muster, companies of recruits walked and rode to Nashville through a blizzard and a foot of snow to enlist. When even more men arrived than requested, Tennessee began earning its moniker “The Volunteer State.”

Like Jackson, the companies of Tennesseans, mainly teenagers, who marched toward Nashville to answer the Call to Arms had never fought in battle. Drummers were as young as 12. For many, it was their first time away from home.

#### **ENCAMPMENT AND TRAINING**

Training began in earnest in the camps spread out across Nashville. Jackson’s aide-de-camp Thomas Hart Benton (future U.S. Senator) told the men that their relationship to their commander General Jackson was be that of children to a father. The General would teach them the discipline to survive and provide for them. Volunteers, in turn, were to honor Jackson with respect and obey his orders.

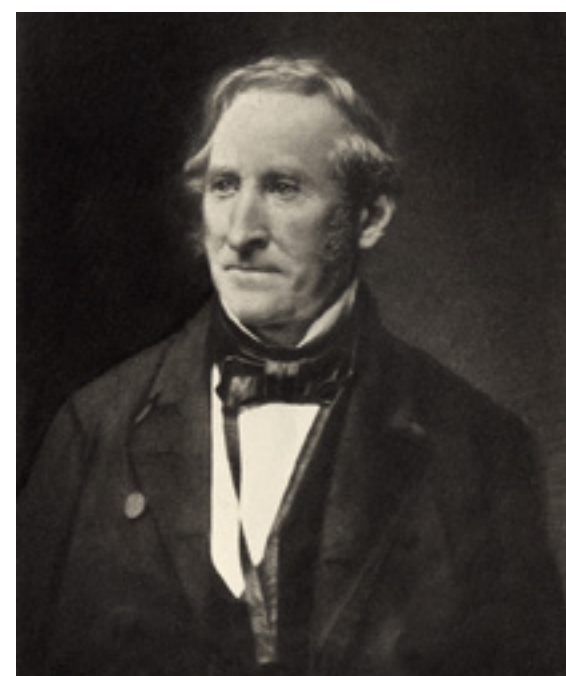
Volunteers’ relationship within the fam-



A Reenactment at the Hermitage in Nashville in early 2019 featuring Jackson-Era Soldiers.  
*Photo by Sgt. Robert Mercado.*

ily was to be that of brothers. Adopting the term “band of brothers” from Shakespeare’s Henry V that George Washington had used in the Revolution, Jackson’s cavalry commander John Coffee told soldiers that they were to be a band of brothers, which he said meant “share and share alike” even when provisions were low. No man was to feast while another starved. Soldiers referred to each other as “brother” even when complaining about another soldier’s actions.

The lower rank’s typical cotton or linen tent was four feet by eight feet, which allowed little room for any activity but sleep for the six soldiers assigned to it. The design formed a “mess” or military family that acted as a unit in the field as soldiers became aware of each other’s strengths and weaknesses. A sick soldier bound to his tent could count on



Future U.S. Senator Thomas Hart Benton was Jackson’s aide.



Painting by artist David Wright, shows a flatboat heading down a river.



a mess mate to kill a squirrel to brew a broth to attack the illness.

Formal military training was taken mainly from books. West Point had barely graduated many formally trained soldiers. Commanders studied tactics mandated by Prussian Revolutionary War volunteer Baron Frederic Wilhelm von Steuben's Regulations of the Order and Discipline of the Troops of the United States. Nashville company captain Shelton began training his men with such rigor that soldiers began calling him "Captain von Steuben."

One training goal was to teach soldiers to form a human wall with fixed bayonets to provide overwhelming offensive force. The term "walking shoulder to shoulder" was a literal description of how soldiers would share the risk and overwhelm the enemy or

die together fighting. By the time the soldiers arrived in Natchez, they could form a line within a few minutes.

A second goal was to teach soldiers to fire their muskets and rifles in unison. The projective force of guns fired in union created greater a greater firepower.

### LOGISTICS

Most commanders at the time avoided a winter expedition when possible. A regiment of 2,000 troops would require about two tons of food a day, based upon the two pounds per man that even prisoners were allowed by statute at the time. Transporting that amount of food overland required wagons. About 11 wagons of food were needed daily.

The army had just completed construction of a wagon highway from Nashville to Natchez along the Natchez Trace for just that purpose, but the dirt road was firm enough for wagons only from mid-spring to late fall. Jackson improvised by placing about 1,400 infantry on 33 flatboats to travel the Cumberland River to the Ohio and the Mississippi. That option added its own dangers, because ice floes began on the Ohio by mid-December. Ice could smash a flatboat to small pieces in minutes. Jackson would find the Mississippi River frozen over.

Coordinating a flotilla of flatboats to move as one unit added its own challenges in the days before electronics. Each captain stopped for men to chop wood when supplies ran low. Soldiers tended to wander into the wilderness to hunt for fresh game





at each stop. It was a time when lone hunters died in the winter environment. Jackson grew frustrated as captains claimed that they could not hear the trumpets blown to signal boats were to move or halt. The General finally developed a communication system using shots from rifles.

A separate regiment of 672 cavalry, the mobile tank unit of its day, was ordered to travel down the Natchez Trace. Quartermasters placed enough food to reach the Tennessee River on pack horses. Once the Soldiers crossed over into the Chickasaw and Choctaw nations, Jackson planned for contractors to lay out supplies for the troops at inns along the Natchez Trace.

### EXPEDITION OF SEEMING DEFEAT

Jackson succeeded in leading the Volunteers toward a rendezvous at Natchez. But he miscalculated the power and influence of the real enemy he faced: U.S. General James Wilkinson who commanded the defense of the Gulf Coast. Jackson was correct in his suspicions that Wilkinson was a spy on the payroll of the U.S. enemy Spain. In fact, part of Jackson's plan was to take advantage of his higher rank of major general, overwhelm Wilkinson with a greater number of troops, and seize command of the Gulf Coast. It was still uncertain under the relatively new Constitution whether Wilkinson as a brigadier general would be subordinate to Jackson because of his status as a federal general. Jackson packed his dueling pistols in anticipation of their conflict.

However, Jackson failed to appreciate that Wilkinson controlled the U.S. quartermasters and contractors 450 miles from Tennessee. As supplies began to dwindle, Volunteers became ill from the lack of medicines, and ammunition and weapons failed to appear. Jackson understood that he had led the Volunteers into Wilkinson's trap at Natchez, a dilapidated fort baited with the promise of food and pay.

Finally, General Wilkinson sent Jackson a letter supposedly containing an order from the Secretary of War dismissing Jackson from service 450 miles from home and ordering him to turn over every piece of equipment to his enemy Wilkinson. Jackson suspected the order was a forgery. But many of the Volunteers had become sick,

Illustration of Andrew Jackson during the Battle of New Orleans by F.C. Yohn, c1922.



and Jackson said that most were too poor to be able to return home. He believed that they would die if he abandoned them. Jackson was forced to choose between allowing many Volunteers under his command to die by obeying the order or disobeying the order and potentially facing a firing squad.

Jackson, a lawyer, cited a statute providing that a commander who led men into the field had a duty to return them to their homes. He refused to abandon his "sons." Instead, he told them he would march them back to their homes. He said that if he died along the way, he trusted them to bury him with the honors of war.

The Volunteers barely survived the return. Jackson gave up his horses for sick men to ride and walked hundreds of miles up the Natchez Trace alongside them. Some days they marched miles through the waist-deep Mississippi swamps. Jackson took every step with his soldiers, and they began to refer to the tough general who would not bend to his enemies or adversity as "Old Hickory." He accepted the name as potentially the only honor he would receive from the expedition. By not abandoning the boys at the risk of his own life, Jackson won their undying loyalty. Chickasaw and Choctaw tribes provided food for the men, and Soldiers' families raced toward the Tennessee River with supplies,

wagons, and horses to rescue their sons. For Jackson it seemed a humiliating defeat. The General then had to face his men at their dismissal ceremony and admit that due to the War Department's decisions, he had no money to pay them for their service.

One young soldier who turned 20 on the return wrote that his loyalty was not changed by the lack of pay; he was rewarded by the reception of his friends back home. To the young boys who survived, the expedition had been a grand adventure.

### DEFEAT AS A FOUNDATION FOR VICTORY

Jackson would never accept defeat. A few months after the return, Jackson called the Soldiers to the tented fields again for a campaign in the Creek Nation and then to New Orleans. What had seemed to be a wasted expedition had actually prepared the Soldiers to face the greatest military on Earth. The battle of legend at New Orleans may not have been won so quickly had the Volunteers not first trained with Jackson on the Natchez Expedition. It hardened the boys to warriors and Jackson to "Old Hickory." And through their mutual struggles and survival during the Natchez Expedition, Jackson placed his indelible stamp on the Tennessee Volunteers.



# About the Author

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Tony L. Turnbow has studied the history of the Natchez Trace for more than 30 years. He practices law in Franklin, Tennessee. With a Bachelor of Arts and a concentration in southern U.S. history from Vanderbilt University and a Juris Doctorate from the University of Tennessee College of Law, he has continued to use his training to explore unpublished primary sources about the Natchez Trace. He authored “The Natchez Trace in the War of 1812” in *The Journal of Mississippi History*, and he has published articles in the *Tennessee Historical Quarterly* and the *Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation* journal “We Proceeded On.” He also wrote a full-length play “Inquest on the Natchez Trace” about the mysterious death of explorer Meriwether Lewis. In the course of writing a book about Lewis’s death, Mr. Turnbow discovered unpublished accounts of Andrew Jackson’s 1813 Natchez Expedition.

Mr. Turnbow represented the Natchez Trace Parkway Association on the Tennessee War of 1812 Bicentennial Commission, and he was the recipient of the Tennessee Society U.S. Daughters of 1812 “Spirit of 1812” award. He has spoken frequently about his research to meetings of DAR, SAR, Colonial Dames, U.S. Daughters of 1812, General Society of 1812, and other historical organizations.



Tony L. Turnbow





## SOLDIER SPOTLIGHT

# RISING TO THE CHALLENGE

by SGT. ARTURO GUZMAN

Starting a new job can be an intimidating ordeal. Before starting, you don't know anyone. You're oblivious of the team dynamic and even your job role is a bit of a mystery. Let's face it; who isn't intimidated by the unknown? Nevertheless, Pfc. Gabriel Camasta, a native of Seymour, Tenn., and a full-time student enrolled at Pellissippi State Community College, began his new career on an overseas deployment. Camasta's first day began with the Soldier Readiness Program, which prepares all Soldiers for their deployment. Camasta was told he would deploy for Operation Atlantic Resolve, Enhanced Forward Presence in Eastern Poland. Despite his inexperience, Camasta has displayed nothing but professionalism. He has constantly risen to the challenge, in spite of his inexperience in operating new heavy equipment. Camasta has overcome the challenge and improved daily to the point of now being an inspiration to his fellow Soldiers.





Pfc. Gabriel Camasta.  
*(Photo by Sgt. Arturo Guzman)*





# WRAPPED IN GRATITUDE

In Honor of the 75th Anniversary of D-Day, 278th ACR Troops Receive Hershey’s Chocolate in Poland.



**BEMOWO PISKIE TRAINING AREA, Poland** - June 6 marked 75 years since Hershey’s Company sent specially made chocolate bars to the U.S. Soldiers as part of D-Day rations during World War II. In honor of the 75th anniversary of D-Day, Hershey’s Company partnered with local Pennsylvania schools - Hershey Elementary School, Hershey Middle School, and Franklin High School - to donate handwritten cards and chocolate bars to the Soldiers deployed in Poland. We thank you all for this donation and appreciate the opportunity to honor the history of D-Day. - **BATTLE GROUP POLAND**





# BEYOND THE HORIZON

## The Bulgarian Military Police and the Tennessee National Guard Begin Joint Exercise Beyond the Horizon 2019.

**NOVO SELO, Bulgaria** (*BulgarianMilitary.com*) – The international exercise Beyond the Horizon 2019 of the Military Police Service was held from May 13 to May 16, 2019, at Novo Selo Training Area, Bulgaria. Servicemen and personnel from Bulgaria (Military Police Service and National Service for Protection), the National Guard of the United States – state of Tennessee, Romania, Ukraine, Northern Macedonia and Armenia participated, learned BulgarianMilitary.com.

The military-police exercise was opened on May 13 in the training area range. During Strike Back 2019, the servicemen improved their capabilities in vehicle inspection actions at a built checkpoint outside of an inhabited locality; searching for underwater incriminated objects; VIP security, ambush response and evacuation on an alternative route to a safe place; as well as clearing a building with hostage-taking terrorists in it.

“For Bulgaria, the cooperation with the United States in the field of security and defense is of strategic importance. Both sides enjoy excellent relations not only on a bilateral basis, but within NATO,” Chief of Defense General Andrei Botev said at a meeting with the Adjutant General of the Tennessee National Guard, Major General Jeff Holmes.

Maj. Gen. Jeff Holmes stressed that the



Photo courtesy BulgarianMilitary.com

bilateral cooperation between the Ministry of Defence of the Republic of Bulgaria and the US National Guard – Tennessee, was one of the first to be started in 1993. “This tradition continues with me and my colleagues,” he said. “I can say that my soldiers and officers are always extremely pleased with the opportunity to train and work with their colleagues from the Bulgarian side. I look into the future with hope we continue developing our joint partnership.”

**- BOYKO NIKOLOV**







# REUNION FOR 278TH IN KOREA

278th Regimental Combat Team Holds Korean Reunion.



**PIGEON FORGE, Tenn.** - Veterans from the Tennessee Army National Guard's 278th Infantry Regimental Combat Team held their 2019 annual reunion on March 14 and 15 in Pigeon Forge, Tenn., to celebrate their 69th anniversary of their mobilization in support of the Korean War.

In the early 1980s, over 600 attended their first reunion. Only six veterans were able to gather this year to honor friends lost and remember their years of service.

The 278th IRCT, the precursor to today's 278th Armored Cavalry Regiment, has a proud history. It was originally created as an Armored Infantry Battalion in 1946 from the 1st Battalion, 117th Infantry Regiment, which had just returned from combat in the European theater during World War II. In March 1947, the 278th Armored Infantry Battalion expanded to become the 278th Infantry Regiment headquartered in Cleveland, Tennessee. At that time, the 278th In-

Veterans and family pose for a photo during the reunion. *(Photo by Capt. (Ret.) David Roberts)*

fantry Regiment, along with the 190th Combat Engineer Company headquartered in Dayton, and the 191st Field Artillery Battalion headquartered in Maryville, comprised the 278th Regimental Combat Team headquartered in Athens, Tennessee.





Soldiers from the 278th IRCT during the Korean War.

On September 1, 1950, over 2,600 Tennessee National Guardsmen from the 278th Regimental Combat Team were mobilized in support of the Korean War. The unit was part of the fourth increment of National Guard mobilizations called up starting in August. The Combat Team mobilized at their home stations under the direction of Col. Warren C. Giles, the Regimental Commander.

The 278th convoyed to their mobilization stations, but the Soldiers did not deploy to Korea as a unit. It was divided among three different base camps. Regimental Headquarters, 2nd Battalion, the 191st Field Artillery, and the 190th Engineers reported to Fort Devens, Massachusetts. The battalion would stay permanently at Fort Devens as a training battalion for replacement Soldiers deploying to Korea. Over the next few years, they would train thousands of new Soldiers for wartime service.

1st Battalion and the Regimental Tank Company reported to Pine Camp, now Fort Drum, in New York State. The unit participated in winter maneuvers against the 82nd Airborne and also helped train new recruits. In the summer of 1951, 1st Battalion's B Company reported to West Point and trained new cadets, the first National Guard unit to be given that honor.

3rd Battalion reported to Reykjanesbaer, Iceland, where they were a part of the Iceland Defense Force and used as a training battalion and force protection. The battalion

participated in Operation Snow Fall and was cited as the top unit during the exercise.

Within a year of being mobilized, many members of the 278th were sent to fight in Korea as individual replacements. Most Tennessee Guardsmen would volunteer for service in Korea, but they would not fight in guard units or with their fellow Tennesseans.

They were ordered to help fill numerous infantry divisions in the Active Army. Normally after a 9 month tour, the Soldiers would return to the 278th and help train newly inducted Soldiers, teaching them based on their experiences. Some Tennessee Guardsmen would return to Korea for a second and even third tour overseas. 278th Soldiers fought in numerous battles and campaigns to include the Chosin Reservoir.

Beyond combat honors, the regiment had numerous other distinctions. Their football team was undefeated against all other teams in 1st Army. Etowah's A Company deployed with 19 sets of brothers. Close to one third of the 278th's Soldiers were under age when they mobilized. Many were sent home once their age was discovered, but some as young as fifteen would see combat in Korea.

While on active duty, the 278th wore the 1st Army patch until they were authorized wear of their own shoulder sleeve insignia in September of 1951, a gold pheon on a blue shield. The pheon, an ancient combat weapon, symbolized the unity and readiness of the regiment. The patch was worn until



1954.

After four years on active duty, the 278th was released from federal service on September 8th, 1954, and reverted to state control.

One month after returning home, the 278th Infantry Regiment became Combat Command A, a brigade of the 30th Armored Division. In 1973, Tennessee's loss of the 30th Armored Division resulted in the brigade being redesignated as the 278th Infantry Brigade. The brigade was then converted to the 278th Armored Cavalry Regiment in 1977.

In 1979, the 278th Infantry Regimental Combat Team Association was created under the leadership of Karl D. Saulpaw. In the past several years much of the 278th IRCT Association's historical collection has been lost. Anyone having photographs or stories pertaining to the 278th Infantry Regiment (1946-1977) or the 117th Infantry Regiment (1917-1995) may contact the Association Historian at (615) 517-1940 or davidroberts1970@gmail.com.

**- LT. COL. DARRIN HAAS**



# DRAFT DAY SAFETY

The Tennessee National Guard’s 45th Civil Support Team Ensures the NFL Draft Goes Smoothly in Nashville.



**NASHVILLE, Tenn.** - As football fans geared up for the 2019 NFL Draft being held in downtown Nashville from April 25 to 27, the Tennessee National Guard’s 45th Civil Support Team was on the ground ensuring everyone has a safe weekend.

Headquartered in Smyrna, the 22-member unit provides first responders and civil authorities the ability to conduct rapid on-site analysis and identification of Chemical,

Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear agents or materials that could put citizens at risk.

“This weekend we’re working alongside the Nashville Fire Department’s Special Operations Unit,” said 1st Lt. Wesley Groves, the head of the 45th CST’s Joint Hazmat Assessment Team. “Along with other partner agencies, we’re doing all we can to protect everyone during this huge event.”

The main function of the 45th during

A member of the Tennessee National Guard’s 45th Civil Support Team checks readings to determine if any dangerous contaminants are present in the air near Nissan Stadium in Nashville. *(Photos by Sgt. Robert Mercado)*



the draft was to assist, advise, assess consequences, and support the Nashville Fire Department in CBRN matters said Groves. “Because of our unique training and equipment, we’re able to provide support that many others can’t.”

The 45th began their NFL Draft mission on Thursday, starting with sweeps of the area to identify possible threats. Throughout the draft, they watch for any changes using sensors that can detect CBRN agents in real-time. Should there be a change, the team members notify state and local officials.

“Should something be detected, the response and decisions on how to react are made by local, state and federal agencies,” said Groves. “We support them. We’re not in charge of the event or response, we are solely there at the request of the emergency managers.”

Because of the size of the event - estimates of more than 100,000 visitors will be downtown for the draft each day - the 45th was being assisted by specialists from the 92nd CST in Nevada and the 43rd CST out of South Carolina.

“Every state has a CST and we support one another when major events, like the NFL draft, occur,” said Lt. Col. John Brownell, commander of the 92nd CST. “Right now members from my unit are assisting in Nashville as well as gaining great experience for when the 2020 NFL Draft comes to Nevada.”

Taking part in the behind-the-scenes aspect of large events like the NFL draft is not new for the 45th. They often provide similar support to emergency managers at other events across Tennessee and the nation.

“The 45th is the best trained and equipped unit in the state to counter CBRN threats,” said Groves. “There is no other unit like this in the Tennessee National Guard. It is our job to protect the homeland from these threats and we take our job very seriously.”

**- LT. COL. DARRIN HAAS**



Members of the 45th Civil Support Team working with the Nashville Fire Department to ensure safety at the NFL Draft in Nashville. (Photos by Sgt. Robert Mercado)





# COMMUNITY OUTREACH

## Tenn. Soldiers and Airmen Give Students from West Nashville Dream Center a Tour of Berry Field.

**BERRY FIELD BASE, Tenn.** – U.S. Students from the West Nashville Dream Center, a nonprofit ministry center, received a special tour around Berry Field on Tuesday, June 18. Lt. Col. Patrick Wade and Maj. Nash Legrand guided the youth around the base and explained how the Tennessee National Guard protects people in Tennessee and around the world.

The group was able to hear from a variety of Air and Army personnel about the various career and educational opportunities that are available through the National Guard. They also got the opportunity to try on protective armor, look through night vision goggles and even got to hang out inside of a helicopter.

At the end of the tour, the center even had two students who were interested in learning more about future careers in the National Guard. The West Nashville Dream Center is a nonprofit ministry center serving an under-resourced community in West Nashville with the goal of improving the safety and quality of life in surrounding neighborhoods.

A great connection between two amazing organizations.

Special Thanks go to Col. Raymond Scott, Lt. Col. John Rigdon, Lt. Col. Patrick Wade, Maj. Nash LeGrand and Chandler Parker MacDonald, MBA for coordinating this event. - **ROB PENNINGTON**



Students from the West Nashville Dream Center getting a hands-on tour of Berry Field. Photo by Chandler Parker MacDonald, MBA.



# REFUEL IN BULGARIA

Bulgarian Media are Given Chance to Observe a Tennessee KC-135 Stratotanker in Action.



**SOFIA, Bulgaria** – Members of the Bulgarian media were treated to a flight aboard a KC-135 Stratotanker, from the 134th Air Refueling Wing out of McGee Tyson Airfield in Knoxville on June 21. The journalists observed as the tanker refueled an F-16 in mid-air near the city of Sofia, Bulgaria.

Tennessee partners with Bulgaria under the State Partnership Program, which

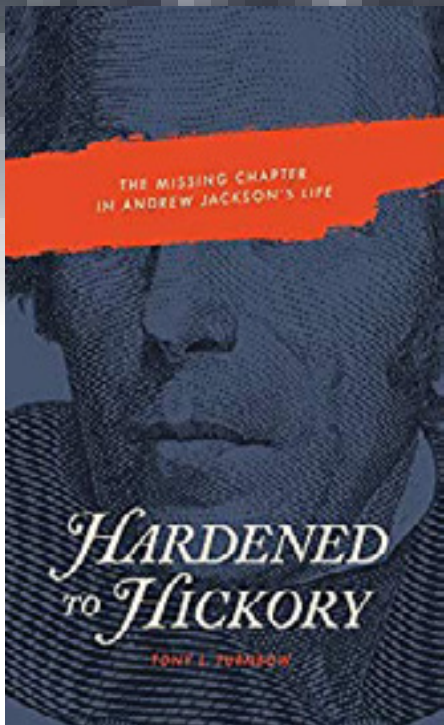
is designed to provide cooperative training to allied military forces, strengthen global partnerships and enhance regional security around the world.

Lt. Col. Tucker Rojas is the Bilateral Affairs Officer that manages this partnership for the Tennessee National Guard at the U.S. Embassy in Sofia.

**- ROB PENNINGTON**

View from the KC-135 Stratotanker as it refuels an F-16 above Bulgaria.





***Hardened to Hickory:***  
***The Missing Chapter in***  
***Andrew Jackson's Life***  
By Tony L. Turnbow  
(September 17, 2018)

## Lt. Col. Darrin Haas Gives his Review of:

# **HARDENED TO HICKORY:**

## **THE MISSING CHAPTER IN ANDREW JACKSON'S LIFE**

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When the War of 1812 began, Tennessee's Maj. Gen. Andrew Jackson was an untested commander of the Tennessee Militia who had never led troops in a major battle. Within a few short years, he was a decorated leader and the Hero of New Orleans for soundly defeating a highly trained and professional British Army. But to get there, Jackson underwent trials where the odds always seemed stacked against him. Thanks to author Tony L. Turnbow's work, "Hardened to Hickory," we learn how Jackson began the transformation to become a celebrated commander and later the President of the United States.



Portrait of James Wilkinson. Courtesy  
US Army Center for Military History.

Utilizing countless primary and secondary sources, many never used until now, Turnbow weaves together a detailed and fascinating story that examines the period of Jackson's life prior to the Battle of New Orleans. Focusing on how Jackson earned his nickname "Old Hickory," the importance of the Natchez Expedition, and the rivalry between Jackson and Gen. James Wilkinson, he vividly narrates these key moments and how it affected Jackson's military leadership and the outcome of the War of 1812. The trials Jackson goes through at the start of the war greatly affect the outcome of the Creek War and his rise as a military commander.

The most critical part of the book is the examination of the Wilkinson and Jackson rivalry. In 1813, Jackson marched over 2,000 Tennesseans down the Natchez Trace to fight against Creek Indians that were attacking settlers throughout the southern United States. Once he arrived in Natchez, Jackson was ordered to turn over his forces to Wilkinson, who he felt was a traitor. Even though facing a possible court martial, Jackson refused, defying his orders and marching the Tennessee Soldiers back to Middle Tennessee at his own expense. Utilizing previously unpublished sources, Turnbow explains the antagonism and conflict between Jackson and Wilkinson. The later was an ambitious competitor who challenged Jackson for power and prestige. Jackson felt Wilkinson was a traitor and agent for the Spanish government and doing what he could do to undermine Jackson's success. This rivalry caused a series of problems



Portrait of Andrew Jackson. Courtesy of Smithsonian American Art Museum.

and issues Jackson successfully navigated which actually increased his popularity and earned him the nickname “Old Hickory.”

Turnbow’s expertise on this topic made him the perfect author to write such a narrative. A lawyer from Franklin, Tennessee, he spent the last 30 years studying the history of the Natchez Trace. With a Bachelor’s degree from Vanderbilt University and a concentration in southern U.S. history and a Juris Doctorate from the University of Tennessee, he’s authored articles in *The Journal of Mississippi History*, the *Tennessee Historical Quarterly*, and the journal of the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation. During the Bicentennial of the War of 1812, he represented the Natchez Trace Parkway Association at Tennessee’s War of 1812 Bicentennial Commission. He is also the recipient of the Tennessee Society U.S. Daughters of 1812 “Spirit of 1812” award. While researching about the death of Meriwether Lewis, Turnbow discovered unpublished accounts of Andrew Jackson’s 1813 Natchez Expedition which led to the writing of this book.

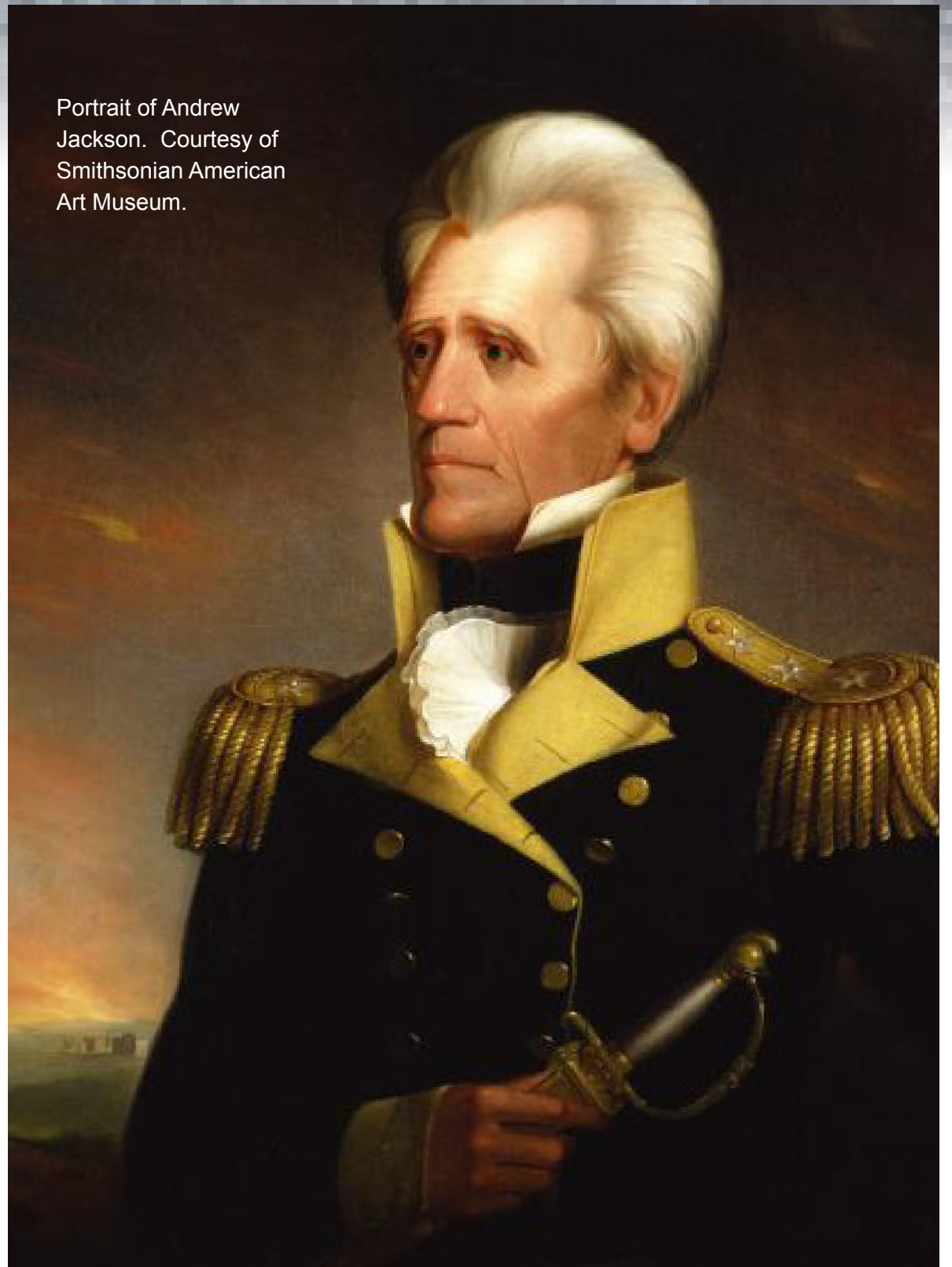
A detailed, scholarly, and needed account of a key time in the life of Andrew Jackson when he was first emerging as a capable military commander, *Hardened to Hickory* has an incredibly readable style and pacing. Turnbow masterfully interweaves and creates a complex narrative that fully immerses you in the period and allows the reader to

fully comprehend the dynamic and nuanced issues involved in how Jackson became “Old Hickory.” The author’s knowledge of the story is unrivaled and it is one that needs to be understood by everyone in the Tennessee National Guard.

I strongly recommend this work to every Soldier, Airman, and civilian in the Tennessee Military Department as well as anyone interested in military history, Andrew Jack-

son, and leadership. The story told is a key part of the Tennessee National Guard’s history and heritage, celebrated in our patches, insignias, and mottos. Thus the work is a great introduction into Jackson’s military career and the early years of the Tennessee militia. Turnbow’s work is well written and thoroughly researched, and will stand as the key source on this topic for years to come.

**- LT. COL. DARRIN HAAS**







Produced in collaboration with the Tennessee Military Department  
and the Tennessee National Guard