



## From Iraq to U.S. and back again

*Iraqi-American Soldier, an OMI cadre member, returns to native country during 40th CAB deployment*

by Maj. Jason Sweeney

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## Joint Programs, Missions & Response



### 21 for '21: Grizzly Magazine's most-read stories of 2021

(Dec. 29, 2021) – Which Cal Guard stories and videos were Grizzly Magazine's most-read and most-watched of 2021? Click here to find out! *by Grizzly editorial staff*



### Training for Chaos: Civil Support Teams improve teamwork during exercise

(Dec. 15, 2021) – VIDEO + STORY: Cal Guard Civil Support Teams test their teamwork during multi-agency exercise in Merced. *by Sgt. 1st Class Amanda Johnson and Staff Sgt. Kimberly Hill*



### DoD to field 5G communications network in California

(Oct. 29, 2021) – Cal Guard among state's first responders to benefit from DIU prototyping project. *by David Vergun*



### Video + Story: Former adjutant general remembered

(Oct. 27, 2021) – State honors rendered during memorial service for Maj. Gen. William H. Wade II. *by Staff Sgt. Eddie Siguenza*



### Elevating enlisted rights: Improving the Guard one benefit at a time

(Oct. 21, 2021) – Air and Army National Guardsmen, civilians, veterans and military

### More Joint Programs, Missions & Response News...

retirees gathered in early October to consider one topic: how to better serve California National Guardsmen through legislative support and benefits. *by Sgt. 1st Class Amanda Johnson*

# 21 for '21

*Looking back at Grizzly Magazine's most read stories of 2021.*

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VIDEO

## Not quite home for the holidays

*40th Combat Aviation Brigade sends holiday message home from Kuwait.*

by Sgt. 1st Class Ryan Sheldon

[WATCH VIDEO](#)

## California Army National Guard News



### **Iraqi-American returns to his home country as a U.S. Army Soldier**

(Jan. 5, 2022) – Sgt. Aqeel Ahmed, a motor transport operator, returns to native country of Iraq as a linguist and cultural advisor during deployment to Middle East with Cal Guard's 40th Combat Aviation Brigade. *by Maj. Jason Sweeney*





## 21 for '21: Grizzly Magazine's most-read stories of 2021

(Dec. 29, 2021) – Which California Army National Guard stories and videos were Grizzly Magazine's most-read and most-watched of 2021? Click here to find out! *by Grizzly editorial staff*



## 1st Battalion, 185th Infantry Regiment prepares for future deployments

(Dec. 22, 2021) – Soldiers from the 1st Battalion, 185th Infantry Regiment, accomplish predeployment exercises during their annual training at Camp Roberts. *by Christian Jadot*



## Cal Guard Soldiers were first killed at Pearl Harbor

(Dec. 1, 2021) – Story + Video: Three California Army National Guard Soldiers from the Los Angeles area are believed to be the first three American service members killed Dec. 7, 1941, during the attack on Pearl Harbor. *by Staff Sgt. Crystal Housman*

**More California Army National Guard news...**

# California Air National Guard News



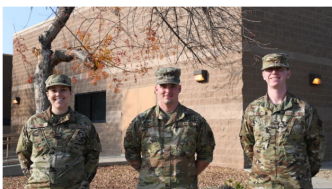
## 21 for '21: Grizzly Magazine's most-read stories of 2021

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## 195th Wing spearheads virtual reality training for Security Forces defenders and augmentees

(Dec. 22, 2021) – 195th Wing adds virtual reality technology as a cost-effective innovation plan to help implement security forces training for defenders and augmentees at the wing locations throughout the state. *by Senior Airman Melanie L. Nolen*



## 144th FW Airmen return from Operation Allies Welcome

(Dec. 16, 2021) – Four Airmen from the 144th Fighter Wing recently returned from volunteering in Operation Allies Welcome! OAW was a coordinated operation by federal government agencies to provide safe, temporary housing facilities and resettlement for evacuated Afghan refugees. *by Staff Sgt. Mercedes Taylor*



## 195th Wing chaplain commissions to serve fellow Airmen

(Dec. 15, 2021) – New chaplain earns lieutenant's bars after 25 years of enlisted service. *by Senior Airman Melanie Nolen*

**More California Air National Guard news...**

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## SPECIAL COVERAGE

### 2021 WILDFIRE TRAINING & MISSIONS

Continuing coverage of Cal Guard's wildfire training and response during 2021.

### COVID-19 PANDEMIC RESPONSE

Cal Guard responds to missions statewide as nation grapples with COVID-19 pandemic.

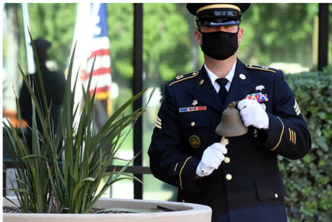
### SUMMER OF FIRE

Cal Guard responds to historic fire siege during summer and fall 2020.

[Special Coverage archive...](#)

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## California State Guard News



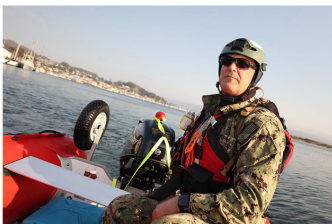
### California Military Department reflects on 9/11 attacks

(Sept. 23, 2021) – The California Military Department commemorated the 20th anniversary of the 9/11 terrorist attacks and honored Cal Guard service members who sacrificed their lives since, during a somber ceremony, Sept. 11, at Cal Guard's Joint Force Headquarters in Sacramento. *by Christian Jadot*



### Cal Guard promotes new lieutenants

(Sept. 22, 2021) – More than 40 California National Guard and California State Guard service members earn commission as officers during Cal Guard's Officer Candidate School graduation ceremony, Aug. 21, at Camp San Luis Obispo. *by Maj. Kara Greene*



### California State Guard maritime unit dives into tsunami training

(Aug. 25, 2021) – California State Guard's Maritime Command conducts interagency tsunami scenario and water rescue training with the U.S. Coast Guard in Morro Bay. *by 2nd Lt. Jennifer Brofer*

[More California State Guard news...](#)

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## Youth Programs



### OMI cadre member returns to native Iraq as a U.S. Army Soldier

(Jan. 5, 2022) – Sgt. Aqeel Ahmed, an Oakland Military Institute cadre member, returns to native country of Iraq during deployment to Middle East with Cal Guard's 40th Combat Aviation Brigade. *by Maj. Jason Sweeney*





## 21 for '21: Grizzly Magazine's most-read stories of 2021

(Dec. 29, 2021) – Which Task Force Torch youth programs stories were Grizzly Magazine's most-read and most-watched of 2021? Click here to find out! *by Grizzly editorial staff*



## Sunburst Youth Challenge Academy graduates 28th class

(Dec. 15, 2021) – Sunburst Youth Challenge Academy holds program commencement for Class 28 and awards high school diplomas to California teens. *by Staff Sgt. Crystal Housman*

**More Youth & Community Programs news...**



# GRIZZLY

Grizzly Magazine is an ongoing publication of the California Military Department, which encompasses both the California State and National Guards. It is produced by Cal Guard's statewide public affairs team.

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