## YEAR IN REVIEW





The Idaho Military Division
2022



Dear Gov. Little and members of the Sixty-seventh Idaho Legislature,

The Idaho Military Division is Idaho's premier public service organization, consisting of the Idaho National Guard, the Idaho Office of Emergency Management, Idaho Public Safety Communications, the Idaho Youth ChalleNGe Academy, STARBASE Idaho and the Idaho Military Museum.

As the state's adjutant general, my strategic imperatives are to prepare our Soldiers and Airmen to defend our national interests throughout the world when called upon, remain ready to respond to any emergencies here at home, and to build and foster strong relationships with our local, state, national and international partners.

These priorities, and our commitment to achieving them, provide enhanced opportunities for Idahoans to work, raise their families and remain here in Idaho. I recognize and deeply appreciate your contributions to, and strong support for, the Idaho Military Division, ensuring our ability to develop the professional workforce our community and nation needs in order to meet these objectives.

More than 1,000 citizen-Soldiers and Airmen spent part of 2022 deployed overseas. The manning, training and commitment to serving as the combat reserve of the U.S. Army and U.S. Air Force also make the Idaho Military Division a strong partner here at home.

For the third year in a row, Idaho National Guardsmen assisted the state with its COVID-19 relief efforts while the Idaho Office of Emergency Management continued to staff the state's emergency operations center. IOEM also responded to flooding in multiple counties.

The Idaho National Guard also prepared 170 Soldiers and Airmen to aid with wildland firefighting efforts across the state. We conducted training exercises with the Boise Fire Department, Idaho Courts, multiple state agencies and school districts, as well as law enforcement officials from across the state. We also provided multiple medical assistance visits and health screenings for our Tribal partners.

Over 250 Idaho students graduated from the Idaho Youth ChalleNGe Academy in 2022, the largest class in the program's 10-year history. These students join the previous 1,582 Idaho students who have earned a second chance to graduate from high school with their peers. For our younger students, STARBASE Idaho provided "hands-on, minds-on" STEM enhancement training to more than 2,400 Title I fifth grade students, bringing the number of program graduates to more than 8,000 over the past five years. Together, these programs help ensure Idaho's most important resource, our children, receive the education and training they will need to work and raise their families here in Idaho as they grow into adults.

For the second year in a row, the 124th Fighter Wing won Hawgsmoke, the nation's premier A-10 Thunderbolt II combat capabilities competition. You can have confidence that the men and women of the Idaho Military Division aren't just good at their jobs, they are among the best in the nation at what they do.

While our uniformed members remain ready to accomplish whatever our nation asks of us, our civilian employees are equally committed to our mission here at home. Together, we stand ready as your premier public service organization, attracting our leading citizens while promoting a safe and secure environment for our state and nation.

Michael J. Garshak Major General

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Editor's Note: The Year in Review is an Idaho Military Division publication composed of stories published throughout 2022. Some positions and ranks may have changed during the year. Views expressed may not be those of the U.S. Army, U.S. Air Force, Army National Guard, Air National Guard, Department of Defense or the U.S. Government.

On the cover: Idaho Army National Guard and Idaho Air National Guard aviation units conduct combat search and rescue and escort training together in March throughout the Owyhee Mountains.

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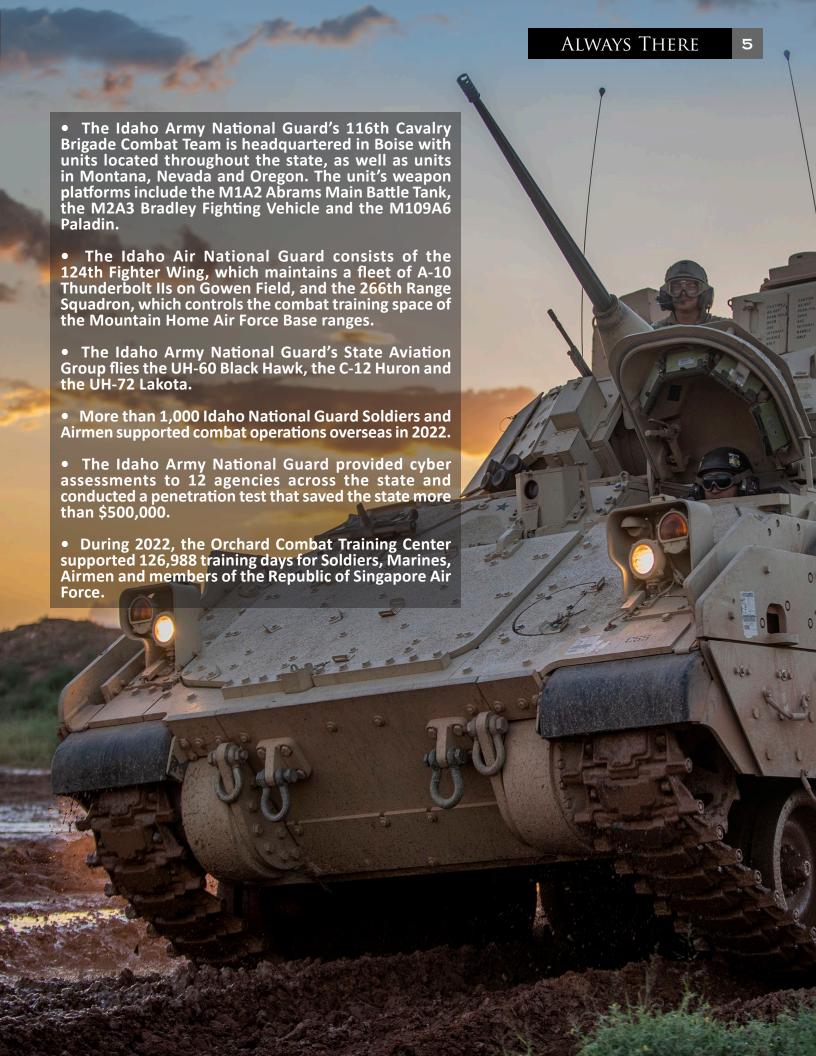
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## COMBAT CAPABLE

Our Soldiers and Airmen live and train in Idaho, while standing ready to respond to emergencies or in defense of our national interests throughout the world.





## 116th CBCT deploys to Southwest Asia

More than 800 Idaho Army National Guard Soldiers were deployed to Southwest Asia in 2022. In November, approximately 200 of those Idaho Soldiers returned home after a year-long deployment. The returning Soldiers were part of Task Force Griz, which was relieved in October by 600 Idaho Soldiers from Task Force Rattler.

"These Soldiers embody what the National Guard is all about: citizen-Soldiers who serve their nation when called upon and return home to their families and communities," said Brig. Gen. Farin Schwartz, commander of the Idaho Army National Guard.

Both task forces were part of the 116th Cavalry Brigade Combat Team and assigned to support Operation Spartan Shield, conducting security and stability operations to demonstrate continued commitment to deterring adversaries while supporting regional allies.

Task Force Griz deployed in November 2021 and was led by the Montana Army National Guard's 1st of the 163rd Combined Arms Battalion, which is part of the 116th CBCT. Idaho Soldiers comprised nearly 20 percent of the task force, which included Soldiers from the Nevada, Oregon and Florida National Guards.



Idaho Soldiers made up nearly 65 percent of Task Force Rattler, which was led by the 116th CBCT's 2nd of the 116th Combined Arms Battalion. The task force was supplemented by Army National Guard Soldiers from Montana, Ohio, Oregon and South Carolina.







"The Soldiers of the 116th are trained and ready," said Col. Eric Orcutt, 116th CBCT commander. "I could not be prouder of these men and women and the efforts they've put forth in training and preparing for this

women and the efforts they've put forth in training and preparing for this m

mission. They are eager and they are focused and as always, they will achieve the highest level of success."

Each task force received approximately 45 days of training at Fort Bliss,

Texas, before deploying overseas. Task Force Rattler Soldiers will return in October 2023.

OSS is a joint mission under the United States Central Command and is part of Operation Enduring Freedom. The 116th CBCT previously deployed to Iraq to support Operation Iraqi Freedom III in 2004 and Operation New Dawn in 2010.





#### C-12 unit returns from Africa

The Idaho Army National Guard's State Aviation Group deployed a small unit to the AFRICOM Area of Responsibility in February in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. The C-12 Huron unit returned to Idaho in December 2022.

"The Idaho National Guard always answers the call when we are needed," said Chief Warrant Officer 5 Spencer Widman, the unit's commander. "The Africa mission is a noble example of this. I'm proud of the exemplary work the unit has accomplished when called upon in the past



and I know their professionalism during this mission falls in line with the Idaho National Guard's high standards."

The small unit is based at Gowen Field and flies the C-12 Huron aircraft. This is a routine mission and the unit has supported several of these rotations in the past.

In 2010, the unit deployed to Afghanistan in support of Task Force Odin and returned to Afghanistan in support of Task Force Caesar in 2013. In 2015, the unit deployed to Bogota, Columbia, and deployed again to Kuwait in 2016 in support of Operation Spartan Shield.

The C-12 Huron can readily accommodate cargo, passengers or both. It is also equipped to accept litter patients during medevac missions. The first C-12 models entered service with the U.S. Army in 1974 and were used as a liaison and general personnel transport.



#### 1-148th FAR modernizes, trains in Morocco

In 2022, the Idaho Army National Guard's 1st of the 148th Field Artillery Regiment became certified on the U.S. Army's most modernized artillery ammunition kit and trained in the Sahara Desert with the Royal Moroccan Army.

Throughout the month of June, the unit, which provides field artillery support to the 116th Cavalry Brigade Combat Team, participated in African Lion '22, a multinational, combined joint exercise conducted in Morocco, Ghana, Senegal and Tunisia. More than 4,000 U.S. service members and 4,000 troops from Brazil, Canada, Ghana, Morocco, the Netherlands, Senegal, Tunisia and the United Kingdom participated in U.S. AFRICOM's largest annual exercise.

"One goal of the National Defense Strategy is to have strong international relations and partnerships,"





said Maj. Ryan Batt, operations officer for the 1-148th FAR. "Building multinational relationships, increasing their tactical proficiency and understanding how to work together reduces deployment requirements for our military and our international partners, and helps provide global security."



During the two-week exercise, Idaho Soldiers conducted annual crew certifications and participated in a combined arms live-fire multinational mission. During the training mission, Marine Reservists called in air strikes as Idaho Soldiers fired M109A6 Paladins in support of Soldiers from the Oregon, Utah and Wisconsin Army National Guards and the active duty Army conducting ground operations.

In May, the unit conducted its first live-fire training and certification using the M1156 Precision Guidance Kit.

"The Idaho Army National Guard is one of the most modernized Guards in the nation, with equipment that enhances our capability to be interoperable with our active duty peers," said Brig. Gen. Farin Schwartz, commander of the Idaho Army National Guard.



The modernized GPS guidance kit with fuse functions and integrated GPS receiver weigh three pounds and attach to existing 155 mm artillery shells, converting them to smart weapons for improved target trajectory. Small aerodynamic fins on the fuse allow the system to make flight adjustments to the round's trajectory and steer the shell to its target.

The kit enables the 1-148th FAR to deploy munitions within 30 meters of an intended target, as opposed to the average 50 meters of traditional artillery, increasing the battalion's lethality, while decreasing costs.

"Being PGK certified greatly increases the lethality of the field artillery battalion," said Lt. Col. Brady Johnson, battalion commander. "The modernized weaponry allows 18 separate targets to be simultaneously targeted and attacked at a third of the cost of conventional missions with minimal clearance of fire issues."

The 116th CBCT plans to participate in Exercise African Lion again in 2023. The 1-148th FAR is located in Eastern Idaho.

#### A-10 pilots win Hawgsmoke, again

The 124th Fighter Wing's 190th Fighter Squadron hosted and won Hawgsmoke 2022 in September.

The biennial competition was hosted at Gowen Field and the Saylor Creek Bombing Range. The 2022 win was the wing's fourth since 2000. The unit also won in 2021 after the



event was delayed in 2020 due to COVID-19.

Airmen from the Air Force, Air National Guard and the Air Force Reserve from 15 squadrons participated in the A-10 Thunderbolt II gunnery competition.

"The overall competition is about tactical training," said Col. Ryan Richardson, the 124th Operations Group commander. "Yet it's more than that, it's about the community of pilots and maintainers, and about showing our local community who we are and what we do."

The biennial event tests the combat capabilities of A-10 pilots in bombing, missile and gunnery tactics, techniques and procedures. The competition is traditionally hosted by the winners of the previous event.



#### Cyber warriors collaborate with state agencies

The Idaho Army National Guard hosted a regional cyber exercise in June that provided cybersecurity assessments to a dozen Idaho agencies.

The exercise, Cyber Discovery, provided a week of cybersecurity training for more than 50 Soldiers and Airmen from the Alaska, Idaho, Montana, North Dakota, Oregon, South Dakota, Washington and Wyoming National Guards.

During the second week, teams provided assessments to Idaho Courts, the Idaho Department of Labor, the school districts of Blaine County, Caldwell, Fruitland, Melba, Mountain Home, Twin Falls and Vallivue; as well as Gem, Power and Washington counties.

"There's a benefit for our team to have a mutual third party provide an "The test itself was unquestionably \$500,000 of savings.

overview of our controls with regard to cybersecurity," said Jennifer Dvorak, chief information security officer for Idaho Courts. "It helps us understand where to focus our energy."

The exercise was conducted under the DoD-sponsored Cyber Innovative Readiness Training program.

During the exercise, Idaho Soldiers briefed Idaho Technology Services, the information technology directorate for the Office of the Governor, on the results of a recent penetration test. The results provided in-depth detail and analysis that addressed three domains of cybersecurity: reconnaissance, vulnerability finger-printing and limited demonstration of exploit.



the most thorough and difficult we've endured," said Jeff Weak, director of ITS. "Not only was it the best to date, the report and outbrief were exceptional, as well. I appreciate all they did for us, and I look forward to working with the Idaho Army National Guard in the future on some of the remediation actions."

The test and assessment took more than a month to complete and provided the state with more than

#### 1-183rd AHB upgrades Black Hawks



With the arrival of its final two new UH-60M Black Hawks in January, the Idaho Army National Guard's 1st of the 183rd Assault Helicopter Battalion completely modernized its previous fleet of A/L models to the Army's most technologically advanced multi-role helicopter.

"It's an exciting and unprecedented opportunity to have access to the newest airframe in the U.S. Army's fleet," said Lt. Col. Nicole Washington, 1-183rd AHB commander. "It's exciting being on the leading and cutting edge of aviation. The M model has really set us up as a state and a National Guard entity to continue to lead the way and be on par with active duty counterparts."

The UH-60M is an upgraded version of the legacy UH-60, designed to execute missions under all weather conditions. Its improvements allow commanders to move Soldiers and equipment faster on

the battlefield and to mass effects across the full spectrum of conflict.

Improvements include a new airframe and propulsion system, more powerful engines and advanced digital avionics inside the cockpit. The glass cockpit is larger to give pilots more situational awareness of what is happening outside the aircraft and four multifunction display screens give pilots access to multiple systems in real time.

Pilots can track their location on a moving map as well as friendly and enemy positions within the battlespace while communicating securely with other aircraft and ground personnel.

Pilots can also map out an air route while in the cockpit to account for a change in mission mid-flight, Washington said.

The aircraft physically vibrates less,

which makes pilots less tired after flying all day, and features an automated flight director system that functions similarly to a vehicle's cruise control system. The system aids in low visual environments, such as dust and snow conditions, which improves the safety and efficiency of inserting ground forces on the battlefield.

In addition, the helicopters' stiffer blades handle sling loads better. The improved blades proved effective in 2021 when the 1-183rd AHB participated in Idaho's wildland firefighting efforts. Crews dumped more than 200,000 gallons of water on multiple fires in northern Idaho using the new aircraft.

The 1-183rd AHB flew the AH-64A Apache for almost 20 years before transitioning to the AH-64D Longbow model in 2012 and then to the UH-60A/L Black Hawk through 2016 to 2018.



## 124th FW ready to fight anywhere

Airmen from the 124th Fighter Wing participated in Agile Rage '22 in June, a joint live-fire exercise held in Alpena, Michigan.

Air National Guardsmen from more than a dozen states with four different airframes participated in the two-week exercise that focused on Agile Combat Employment capabilities in an austere combat environment.

"Exercises like these give everyone a better perspective of the entire operation," said Col. Chad Kornberg, 124th FW commander. "Whether it's your most experienced pilot or your newest Airman, training in a new location like this enables units to form camaraderie at an accelerated pace – something you





don't often experience in the month-to-month Guard weekend schedule."

ACE is the ability to project combat power anytime, anywhere, to complicate an adversary's decision-making process. During the exercise, pilots deployed aircraft with short notice while ground crews quickly rearmed and refueled running jets to reduce their time on the ground to get them back in the fight.

"We go to great lengths to get our Airmen trained, so that when they go into a situation, it's not the first time they've seen it," said Kornberg. "Every day, we're out here doing things to make our Airmen ready to go to combat, if called upon, and then to return home safely."

## Idaho Army, Air medics train together

Medics from the 124th Fighter Wing trained with Idaho Army National Guard pilots and flight crews on medical evacuations in February.

The 124th Medical Group Airmen who participated in the training are part of the wing's Critical Care Air Transport Team and were able to train with medevac

Soldiers from the 1st of the 168th Aviation Regiment, on one of the unit's UH-60 Black Hawk helicopters.

"Doing this training stateside allows us to see and learn about each other's capabilities," said Senior Master Sgt. Virginia Holmgren, a wing respiratory therapist. "The significance of this training is huge because it gives us an opportunity to train with the Army before being in a deployed environment."



## Republic of Singapore Air Force trains at OCTC

Service members from the Republic of Singapore Air Force and the Arizona Army National Guard trained in July and August at the Idaho National Guard's Orchard Combat Training Center, completing day and night AH-64 Apache aerial gunnery exercises.



The RSAF Peace Vanguard detachment formed in 2001, and is supported by the AZARNG's U.S. Army Flight Training Detachment. They have trained together on Idaho's premier ranges annually for the past 11 years. Both Idaho and Arizona provide the opportunity for Singapore military members to train in desert environments.

"The Peace Vanguard detachment has trained all over the United States and Idaho has one of the best training sites in the country," said Master Sgt. Joel Mann, the AZARNG detachment's operations noncommissioned officer in charge.

Located 18 miles south of Boise, Idaho's OCTC is a 171,000-acre training center that provides vast terrain and 23 world-class ranges to prepare ground forces and pilots with experience in a tough and realistic training environment.

The U.S. Army Flight Training Detachment, based in Marana, Arizona, includes Army National Guard pilots who fly the AH-64 Apache Longbow Attack Helicopter alongside RSAF pilots. Together, they build and develop qualification programs to ensure each pilot receives the same level of training.

While at the OCTC, Peace Vanguard pilots and crews trained on several

ranges in air-to-ground and air-to-air qualifications, including the Digital Air Ground Integrated Range.

The DAGIR is one of two in the U.S. Army and allows air and ground units to train together while receiving accurate and real-time feedback on their performance.



RSAF service members rotate through the detachment in Arizona, accompanied by their families during their training in the U.S.

Besides providing high training value, the RSAF's training in the U.S. improves interoperability between the two armed forces.

## Western Strike '22 brings 2,000 Soldiers to Idaho

In June, the Utah National Guard's 65th Field Artillery Brigade, "America's Thunder," participated in Western Strike '22, a large-scale, multi-state field artillery training exercise, at the Orchard Combat Training Center. Western Strike '22 was an eXportable Combat Training



Photo courtesy U.S. Army Sgt. Alejandro Lucero

Capabilities exercise, which provides National Guard units with highly immersive and fully instrumented training comparable to a combat training center.

The OCTC enabled the 65th FAB to train with its subordinate and partner units, which are normally stationed in different geographic locations throughout the country.

Approximately 2,000 National Guard Soldiers from California, Iowa, North Carolina and Utah, along with active duty Soldiers stationed in Washington and Texas participated in the exercise.

"The 65th Field Artillery Brigade spent 15 months planning and preparing for Western Strike '22, which focuses on mastery of the fundamentals at the platoon and squad level in preparation for large-scale combat operations," said Col. Shawn Fuellenbach, commander of the 65th FAB. "My training objective for America's Thunder is to build lethal, cohesive teams that are highly trained and disciplined, ready to fight and win."

## IDARNG expands OCTC railhead capabilities

The Idaho Army National Guard conducted a ribbon-cutting ceremony in June, unveiling the recently expanded railhead facility at the Orchard Combat Training Center.

The \$30 million expansion added seven new rail spurs to the center's existing four, giving it the capacity to load/unload a brigade combat team in less than 72 hours.



"The completion of this expanded railhead means Soldiers can load and unload military equipment on the railcars more safely, quickly and efficiently, saving us time," said Brig. Gen. Farin Schwartz, Idaho Army National Guard commander.

"The days saved during rail load operations can instead be used to

train and gain competency in their specified combat skill set."

The expansion took 20 months to complete and included new loading ramps and a mainline to accommodate four trains.

Representatives from the Idaho Department of Lands and Bureau of Land Management participated in the ceremony.

In addition to the ability to transport combat equipment quickly, the 171,000-acre training center provides vast terrain and world-class ranges to prepare units for combat in a tough and realistic training environment.

"Our mission is to prepare to fight and win our nation's wars and the completion of this project will help us accomplish that mission," said Schwartz.

The OCTC includes 23 ranges to train on everything from individual weapon qualifications to tank



crew qualifications on the National Guard's only Digital Air Ground Integration Range. The premier training center also includes grenade ranges, demolition ranges, a live-fire shoot house, a combined-arms collective training facility and more, providing realistic combat training to service members from all components and branches throughout the year.

In addition to training facilities, the OCTC also provides sleeping accommodations for up to a battalion-size element, with additional buildings for administrative and classroom use, company headquarters and a dining facility.

#### Apache training certifies Idaho's DAGIR range

The Idaho Army National Guard completed its Government Acceptance Test on the Orchard Combat Training Center's newest range in March. Pilots and crews



from the U.S. Army's 1st of the 229th Attack Reconnaissance Battalion stationed at Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Washington, used the Digital Air Ground Integration Range to conduct Apache helicopter crew qualifications.

The DAGIR, which is one of only two ranges of its kind in the U.S. Army, was completed in 2021 and became fully certified in 2022 after the 1-229th ARB conducted its training, serving as the DAGIR's final validation. Previous components of the test were completed in 2021 with Abrams

tanks, Bradley Fighting Vehicles and Strykers. The range allows air and ground units to train together while receiving accurate and real-time feedback on their performance.



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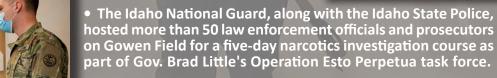


## SECURING THE HOMELAND

The Idaho Military Division remains committed to providing education and training opportunities for our citizens while working, raising families and remaining here in Idaho. Our ability to fight and win our nation's wars leaves us well equipped to serve our communities in their times of need.

- More than 170 Soldiers and Airmen are trained and standing by to assist the Idaho Department of Lands with wildfire fighting efforts in the event of an emergency.
- Soldiers and Airmen completed missions to support the state's COVID-19 relief efforts for the third calendar year. The Idaho Office of Emergency Management maintained the state's emergency operations center throughout the state's response to the pandemic.
- 253 students graduated from the Idaho Youth ChalleNGe Academy in 2022. Nationally, the cost per student for the program is \$24,000 compared to approximately \$112,000 per year for a youth in juvenile custody.





## IDNG hosts ISP undercover narcotics training

In September, the Idaho National Guard and Idaho State Police hosted nearly 50 law enforcement officials and prosecutors from across the state for a five-day narcotics investigation course as part of Gov. Brad Little's Operation Esto Perpetua task force.

The narcotics investigation course was held on Gowen Field and at the ISP Meridian location. Throughout the week, participants underwent undercover training through classroom lectures and intense practical skills scenarios designed to prepare narcotics teams for frontline combat against the current drug epidemic.



"The Idaho National Guard's role is to provide a safe environment on base for the course to take place, and because it is a National Guard Bureau counterdrug-facilitated course, we provided billeting, meals and role-playing Guardsmen for the training environment," said Sgt. 1st Class Ryan Lohmiller, senior analyst for the Idaho National Guard counterdrug program. "We are proud to support our law enforcement agencies in this battle."

The course included role-players selling drugs in a simulated bar situation; controlled purchases and undercover operations; staged vehicle drug stops and undercover rescue training; and raid training in buildings to safely enter drug encounters. Sheriff deputies, municipal police officers, ISP troopers and deputy prosecutors joined personnel from the Montana Department of Criminal Investigations, Oregon



State Police, the U.S. Marshals Service and the U.S. Attorney's Office for the training.

"We hope to have an impact on the drug crisis that's facing Idaho by placing well-trained professional investigators back on the street everywhere in the State of Idaho," said Idaho State Police Captain John Kempf. "We are sending officers back to these areas, better trained in narcotics investigations."

The governor launched "Operation Esto Perpetua" in March to reduce the flow of fentanyl and methamphetamine into the state.

# TO THE RESCUE: Boise firefighters show Idaho Guardsmen the ropes



"To utilize the CST in rope rescue, there would be an instance where something serious happened like a natural or man-made disaster or an emergency where the local search and rescue team wouldn't have enough resources and could call us," said Lt. Col. Robert Grimes, 101st CST commander.



Throughout the month of October, the Idaho National Guard's Weapons of Mass Destruction 101st Civil Support Team partnered with the Boise Fire Department Technical Rescue Team to participate in a rope rescue course taught by Boise fire-fighters. The course, which served as an annual recertification for the CST, entailed two weeklong sessions for Soldiers and Airmen that helped the Boise fire-fighters refine their skills as trainers.

"This training benefits both the Idaho National Guard and us," said Brent Matthews, captain of the technical rescue team. "Not only are we certifying our partners on rope rescue training, but our instructors also get valuable experience and more proficient as certifiable instructors."

Training started the first week learning the ropes inside the classroom before Guardsmen rappelled from tops of buildings at the Boise Fire Department's Fire Training Center.

Once the 22-member team was proficient at rappelling, they practiced techniques using wire rescue baskets at cliffs near Table Rock to simulate a large-scale rescue of multiple people.



The second week of training focused on confined space rescues at the Lucky Peak Power Plant. The training involved a large-scale catastrophic event scenario, like an earthquake, severely damaging a building where chemicals were stored. The response required a large number of rescues within confined spaces using ropes and Sked stretchers under HAZMAT conditions.

These incidents could be intensified by a lack of oxygen in a non-ventilated area, complicated by the tight confines of the space, requiring rescuers to wear oxygen tanks during a rescue.



"Confined space refers to a rescue of people, for instance, inside of a building, in a tunnel or inside tanks where there could be a HAZMAT situation. They might be injured too badly to get out on their own or they could be unconscious," said Grimes. "The CST has the capability to respond to weapons of mass destruction and HAZMAT scenarios already. The rope rescue and confined space training adds another capability for the CST to assist the local fire departments and other local agencies."

## Academy improves lives of Idaho teens

Idaho Youth ChalleNGe Academy celebrated its 10th year in operation by graduating its largest class yet. In May, 119 students graduated from the Idaho Military Division's residential high school and a record 134 students completed the 22-week program in December.



The academy provides a second chance to Idaho students who are at risk of dropping out of high school, or who already have, with an opportunity to earn their high school diploma, a GED or enough credits to get back on track and return to



their high school to graduate with their peers. The program is one of 40 National Guard youth challenge programs and has helped more than 1,833 students from nearly every county in the state.

Since 2014, the program has issued 228 high school diplomas, 183 GEDs and helped students recover over 26,000 high school credits. In addition, the communities around its Pierce location have benefited from more than 83,000 hours of public service provided by the cadets, at a value of over \$2,485,850. Since 2014, IDYCA has leased fif-

teen modular units, in which the cadets reside during the 22-week program. Phase One of building permanent barracks is finally underway.



The new permanent barracks will replace the modular units, saving millions in leasing costs. The construction of the permanent structure will occur in three phases. The first phase started with ground clearing in October 2022 with the ground level of the barracks scheduled for completion in the fall of 2023.

#### STARBASE enhances youth STEM experience

In 2022, STARBASE Idaho provided STEM enrichment to more than 2,400 students in eight school districts across Idaho; was awarded Level II-Advanced Program certification; expanded its afterschool program from three to five programs in three schools; and provided eight summer academies across the Treasure Valley.



STARBASE is a Department of Defense program that offers fifth

grade students from Title I schools 25 hours of "hands-on, minds-on" STEM instruction on Gowen Field. The Idaho Military Division opened STARBASE Idaho in 2018 and has instructed more than 8,000 Idaho students.

During the year, students from Basin, Boise, Caldwell, Emmett, Kuna, Middleton, Nampa and Wilder school districts traveled to Gowen Field. Staff members conducted camps in partnership with the Treasure Valley YMCA, Caldwell Migrant Summer School and 4-H during the summer. The program increased its reach and resources for its partnering districts by providing extension activities to students and

teachers through its website.

STARBASE Idaho also expanded its after school program, STARBASE 2.0, to schools in Boise and Middleton. STARBASE 2.0 provides sixth and seventh grade students the opportunity to continue to participate in STEMbased training in a club environment.

STARBASE Idaho received its Level II certification in September, which designates it as an advanced performing program.



#### IOEM shifts focus from COVID, looks forward

The Idaho Office of Emergency Management transitioned from coordinating the state's COVID-19 response back to its focus on preparing for and mitigating the effects of any and all hazards that may occur in Idaho. The department had been activated for nearly two years, until April 15, when the state's public health declaration for the pandemic ended.

Throughout the pandemic, IOEM coordinated the acquisition and delivery of more than three million items of personal protective equipment, facilitated the establishment of testing facilities across the state,



and assisted in the development of the distribution plan to get vaccines to healthcare facilities across Idaho.

The department also supported state disaster declarations for flooding events in Nez Perce and Idaho counties and wildfires across the state.

IOEM completed its new Idaho Response Center. The center is located on the state's Chinden Campus and can accommodate more than 120 response personnel for training and real-world missions. IOEM used the center in June to host a multi-jurisdiction Demonstration of Capabilities exercise.

In the fall, IOEM hosted its Annual Preparedness and Cyber Security Conference for the first time since 2019. The conference is an educational outreach and training event for local and state emergency managers, county commissioners and tribal council members.

## Guardsmen ready to fight wildland fires

More than 60 Idaho National Guardsmen completed wildland firefighting training in Boise throughout June, bringing the number of available Idaho National Guardsmen to approximately 170 to assist the Idaho Department of Lands in the event the governor declares a state of emergency.

"Part of the appeal of the National Guard is serving the state and there's not really a better way to do it than to fight wildfires," said Lt. Col. Anthony Vincelli, Idaho National Guard director of joint/domestic plans and training.

The four-day certification course was offered multiple times throughout June and qualified Soldiers and Airmen to earn an Incident Qualification Card, commonly known as

a Red Card certification. The Idaho National Guard began certifying citizen-Soldiers and Airmen in 2020 to be prepared in the event additional wildland firefighters were needed throughout the state.

The training and preparation was put to good use in August 2021 when Gov. Brad Little issued an emergency declaration and authorized Idaho National Guard firefighters and the use of its helicopters to assist with wildland fires across the state. Eighteen Guardsmen volunteered to fight fire on the frontlines, in addition to UH-60 Black Hawk crews who dropped more than 200,000 gallons of water on multiple fires and nearly a dozen Guardsmen who assisted with logistical and operational support in Coeur d'Alene.

The Idaho Department of Lands, the Idaho Office of Emergency Management and the Idaho National Guard have developed a partnership through a Joint Powers Agreement, which defines the process involved in interagency coordination, support, training and planning for emergencies involving mutual aid of wildland fire relief within Idaho. The agreement was updated based on lessons learned from the 2021 fire season.



n e r S p S



Enduring relationships benefit our communities, state and nation while enhancing our readiness.

- The Idaho Military Division participated in the 11th annual Return of the Boise Valley People in July and dedicated an M1A1 Abrams Main Battle Tank in honor of the Tribes' ancestors. The Idaho National Guard previously dedicated an A-10 Thunderbolt II and UH-60 Black Hawk to the Boise Valley People.
- The Idaho National Guard helped provide more than 300 dental exams and sealants, and more than 60 wellness exams and sports physicals for local student-athletes at Nezperce School, located in Nezperce.
- More than 180 seventh grade students from Heritage Middle School experienced science through a hands-on field trip at the Morley Nelson Snake River Birds of Prey National Conservation Area within the Orchard Combat Training Center in April.
- Members of the Orchard Fire & Emergency Services responded to more than 40 emergency service calls along a stretch of the I-84 corridor.



#### Hoist training prepares IDNG, BFD for joint rescues



#### Gov. Little activates Guard to support IDOC

Gov. Brad Little activated the Idaho National Guard in January to assist Primary Health Medical Group and the Idaho Department of Correction as the state dealt with an increase of COVID-19 cases. The mission was the fourth time the Idaho National Guard was activated to support the state's COVID-19 relief efforts.

More than 75 Soldiers and Airmen processed COVID-19 tests at mul-

tiple Treasure Valley Primary Health locations in February and performed non-security duties at the Idaho Department of Correction until April.

Soldiers and Airmen provided administrative support, which allowed medical staff and cor-

rectional officers to conduct other essential operations.







#### Airmen help build homes for Cherokee vets

More than two dozen Airmen from the 124th Fighter Wing's 124th Civil Engineer Squadron spent two weeks in June conducting an Innovative Readiness Training project in Tahlequah, Oklahoma, building homes for the Cherokee Veterans Housing Initiative.

"It makes me proud for our Airmen to contribute to such a meaningful cause in providing housing for Cherokee Nation Veterans," said Lt. Col. Timothy Gannon, 124th CES commander.

124th CES Airmen provided structural, electrical, plumbing and general construction work. Idaho Airmen worked with Soldiers and Airmen from other National Guard and Reserve units, active duty components,



and members of the U.S. Public Health Service during the project.

IRT projects produce missionready forces, civil-military partnerships and stronger communities by leveraging military skills. IRTs give back to communities while providing military members with real-world training.

## Guard partners with tribes for medical support

The Idaho National Guard conducted an Innovative Readiness Training event in July, providing over 300 dental exams and sealants, along with more than 60 wellness exams and sports physicals for local student-athletes at Nezperce School, located in Nezperce.

The Idaho Army National Guard team consisted of a doctor, a physician assistant, a family nurse practitioner, a registered nurse, two paramedics, four emergency medical technician medics and a dietician. The majority of the team are citizen-Soldiers who serve in the same role in their local communities when not performing National Guard duty. IRTs provide Soldiers the chance to use their skills in a way that benefits our fellow Idahoans while receiving real-world training.

The IRT Team worked closely with the Nimiipuu Clinic staff, including their medical director, PA student, immunizations nurse and support staff.



## IDNG honors Boise Valley People's heritage

In June, the Idaho National Guard participated in the 11th annual Return of the Boise Valley People, which took place in downtown Boise and on Gowen Field, and included a tank dedication in honor of the Tribes' ancestors.



"This relationship is very special and important to me," said Maj. Gen. Michael Garshak, adjutant general of Idaho. "We remember the past, we acknowledge the past and now we join our efforts to improve the present and make a better future. Some of our shared values and priorities are to preserve and enhance our environment, improve the physical and behavioral health of our people and continue the education and development of our youth."



Tribal leaders joined Idaho National Guard leaders on Gowen Field during the four-day event, where the Idaho Army National Guard's 204th Regional Training Institute dedicated an M1A1 Abrams Main Battle Tank in honor of the Tribes' ancestors.

The tank, designated "Rock Frog," honors the original Boise Valley People's warrior spirit and symbolizes the Idaho National Guard's strong partnership with each Tribe. The Idaho National Guard previously dedicated an Idaho Army National Guard UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter in 2018 and an Idaho Air National Guard A-10 Thunderbolt II in 2016 to the Boise Valley People.

Since then, the organization has shared flags flown over combat

zones, conducted several community outreach events and worked with several of the Tribes on multiple construction projects. In 2021, the Idaho National Guard mobilized to Fort Hall to provide assistance during the COVID-19 pandemic.



Descendants of the original Boise Valley people include the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes of Fort Hall, Idaho; the Shoshone-Paiute Tribes of Idaho and Nevada; the Burns Paiute Tribes of Burns, Oregon; the Fort McDermitt Paiute and Shoshone Tribes of McDermitt, Nevada and the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs from Warm Springs, Oregon.

## OCTC firefighters respond to emergencies

Members of the Orchard Fire & Emergency Services responded to more than 40 emergency service calls along the I-84 corridor and to more than 120 calls within the Orchard Combat Training Center in 2022.

The department was established in 2013 to provide emergency services to members training on the OCTC and to assist motorists in the area during times of need. The department of civilian emergency In May, firefighters were the first

responders are employed by the Idaho Army National Guard. Its facility more than doubled in size after renovations were completed in 2021 to increase its capability.

The department has the ability to respond to various emergencies along I-84 between mile posts 64 Blacks Creek/Kuna Mora Exit and 72.6, the Ada County/Elmore County line.



on the scene after a vehicle rollover on I-84. The passenger's arm was pinned under a truck. Firefighters used high pressure airbags to free the passenger and then applied a tourniquet to stop the bleeding. The patient was stabilized and transported by civilian first responders for further treatment.

#### Boss Lift provides military experience

Approximately 50 National Guard and Reserve employers and supervisors participated in the Idaho ESGR's annual Boss Lift in August.



"We enjoy tremendous support from our employers and the ESGR throughout Idaho and we do not take that for granted," said Maj. Gen. Michael Garshak, adjutant general of Idaho. "Boss Lift is a great opportunity to create awareness of our missions in the Idaho National Guard and to express our appreciation to those employers who actively support their military employees, which directly contributes to our mission readiness."

Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve promotes, recognizes and develops employer support for Guard and Reserve service through employer opportunioutreach ties. As part of Boss Lift, Guardsmen and Reservists invited their employers to spend a day in their boots touring training simulators, Gowen Field and Orchard Combat Training Center facilities and ranges, aircraft and other military equipment used by Idaho National Guard units.



Training simulators offered employers a realistic look into how service members develop tactical and technical skills in combat operations. The tour included the 124th Fighter Wing's A-10 Thunderbolt II flight simulator and a familiarization ride in an Idaho Army National Guard M2A3 Bradley Fighting

Vehicle, as well as the chance to see an M1A2 Abrams Main Battle Tank and M109A6 Paladin up close.

Employers flew to the Orchard Combat Training Center in Idaho Army National Guard UH-60M Black Hawk helicopters escorted by two Idaho Air National Guard A-10 Thunderbolt IIs.

For Tony Dally of Micron, it was a chance to see his employee, Capt. Chris Goodale, in action. Goodale, a UH-60 pilot, flew Dally and two other Micron employees to the OCTC.



"It's exciting to come see what Chris does and see the capabilities of Gowen Field," Dally said. "I haven't been here before and now I have a better appreciation for what Chris does."

#### Candidates improve grounds at old penitentiary



Idaho Army National Guard warrant officers and warrant officer candidates helped clean up the grounds at the Old Idaho Penitentiary in August. Each year, candidates in the Warrant Officer Candidate School located on Gowen Field complete a civil military project in the Treasure Valley.

Upon completion of the six-month course, candidates, which also include members of the Utah National Guard, are eligible to become warrant officers.



## IDNG, partners provide environmental education

More than 180 seventh grade students from Heritage Middle School experienced science through hands-on field trip at the Morley Nelson Snake River Birds of Prey National Conservation Area within the Orchard Combat Training Center in April.

The Idaho National Guard partnered with Boise State University, Bureau of Land Management, Idaho Rangeland Resources Commission and University of Idaho to bring science education to Treasure Valley students through its Idaho Adopt-a-Scientist program.



"The focus of the Idaho Adopt-a-Scientist program is to create an environment where middle and high school students can participate in local research to promote conserva-

tion and management of Idaho wildlife and their habitats," said Zoe Duran, a biologist with the Idaho Army National Guard Environmental Management Office.

Additionally, the program brings a greater understanding of the Idaho National Guard's environmental stewardship and increases connectivity be-

tween students and Idaho researchers with field trips to the OCTC throughout the year.

The NCA is home to the largest and most diverse population of breeding raptors in North America and one of the only places where military training, extensive research, public land use and livestock share the same land. Biologists from the Idaho Army National Guard EMO have been helping manage military training and conducting research used to protect the environment and limit land disturbance since 1987.





# MOST VALUABLE RESOURCE Service in the Idaho Military Division enhances

the lives of our members and their families.

- The Idaho Military Division consists of more than 3,000 Idaho Army National Guard citizen-Soldiers, more than 1,300 Idaho Air National Guard citizen-Airmen and 450 civilian employees.
- Soldiers and Airmen live in nearly every community in the state.
- The Idaho National Guard Service Member & Family Support Directorate logged more than 5,400 calls and 1,000





The Idaho National Guard conducted more than 300 community relations events in 2022.



## Recognizing the best

Gov. Brad Little joined Soldiers, Airmen, veterans, family members and friends on Gowen Field in March to celebrate the Idaho National Guard's 131st birthday and to present the annual Lt. Col. Clinton R. Taylor Integrity in Leadership Award along with the Governor's Outstanding Unit Award.

Gov. Little presented the annual Outstanding Unit Award to Idaho's 101st Civil Support Team for their outstanding performance throughout 2021.

Mrs. Teri Taylor and Maj. Gen. Michael Garshak, adjutant general of Idaho, presented the leadership awards to Maj. Robert Steiner, 1st Lt. Nathan Napper, Sgt. 1st Class Marshall Cook and Master Sgt. Chad Wilson. Cook's wife, Summer, accepted the award on his behalf.

## Soldier leads the way

Pfc. Cooper Hayes enlisted into the Idaho Army National Guard in October 2021. He spent most of 2022 training and completing some of the U.S. Army's most challenging schools.

Hayes, a Boise State University student, completed the U.S. Army Infantry School, the U.S. Army



Photo courtesy U.S. Army

Ranger School, the Basic Airborne Course and Air Assault School, all in 2022.

"I wanted to challenge myself and be the best Soldier I can be," he said. "It's the most rewarding thing I've done in my life."

Hayes is assigned to the 116th Cavalry Brigade Combat Team's Company C, 2nd of the 116th Combined Arms Battalion, the state's only infantry company. He plans to earn his commission through the Boise State University Army ROTC program.

#### Programs support Guardsmen, their families

The Idaho National Guard Service Member & Family Support Directorate provided assistance to Soldiers, Airmen and family members throughout the year, as more than 1,000 Idaho National Guard members spent part of the year deployed overseas.



The directorate hosted the Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program's first joint Yellow Ribbon event for more than 1,400 Soldiers, Airmen and family members in various stages of the deployment cycle, including the 116th Cavalry Brigade Combat Team. The Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program provides resources and information for Guard and Reserve members and their families for all stages of the deployment cycle.

More than 60 vendors and 40 support staff assisted with the event.



Families attended sessions taught by specialists in personal finance, mental health counseling, TRI-CARE enrollment and more. Other vendors included programs and resources for military youth, transition assistance, therapy dogs and representatives from Military One-Source.

During the year, military and family readiness specialists across the state logged over 5,400 calls and 1,000 hours of outreach to families with a deployed service member. The counseling team provided \$213,000 in free mental health counseling to veterans, service members and family members.

The Service Member & Family Support Directorate implemented its new total health concept as a way to communicate the importance of balance in all areas of life for the welfare of military members and their families. This concept encompasses eight dimensions of wellness: financial, social, spiritual, physical, occupational, environmental, emotional and intellectual. The programs within the Service Member & Family Support Directorate provide free resources, classes, counseling and events to fill those needs for the members of the Idaho Military Division.

More than 1,000 Idaho youth from across the state participated in 15 free events throughout the year, including overnight camps in the winter and summer that teach resilience skills and provide an oppor-



tunity to connect with other Idaho children whose parents serve in the military. A partnership with the University of Idaho and 4H generated a \$250,000 grant that allowed more than 1,300 children of Idaho National Guard members to attend a once-a-month day camp where they learned STEM activities, art projects, and healthy living lessons while their parents attended drill weekends.

Families received free financial counseling and help with tax preparation through personal finance counselors. Over 300 families struggling with financial hardship benefitted from grants and zero-interest loans as well as Thanksgiving and Holiday Assistance programs. These programs ensure each family has food on the table and gifts for their children during the holidays.



MIND

#### Guardsmen build community relationships



Every year, the Idaho National Guard conducts more than 300 community relations events, both on Gowen Field and across the state.

These events inform the public about the Idaho National Guard's dual state and federal missions and help maintain viable relationships with our community members and their leaders.



Community relations activities include tours of Gowen Field and local armories; vehicle and aircraft static displays; the use of the color guard at public events; public concerts performed by the 25th Army Band and more.

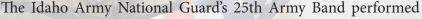


#### Idaho National Guard honors veterans

As the COVID-19 pandemic concluded, the Idaho National Guard renewed its strong relationship with Idaho's veterans.

In October, Maj. Gen. Michael Garshak, adjutant general of Idaho, resumed his quarterly "Coffee with Vets" visits at the Idaho State Veterans Home in Boise. Nearly a dozen Idaho Military Division

employees joined Garshak at the home to spend the morning visiting with residents.



twice for residents in December to help celebrate the holidays. Members of the Idaho National Guard also donated hundreds of gifts for residents as part of its annual Camouflage Christmas Gift Drop.







## Idaho Military Division Economic Report

TOTAL ECONOMIC IMPACT IDAHO MILITARY DIVISION					
	DIRECT AND INDIRECT JOBS	DIRECT IMPACT	INDIRECT IMPACT	INDUCED IMPACT	TOTAL
	JOBS		MILLIONS (\$)		
IDAHO ARMY NATIONAL GUARD	5,339	224.95	15.59	123.40	\$363.94
IDAHO AIR NATIONAL GUARD	2,212	128.95	2.17	74.47	\$205.59
EMERGENCY/MILITARY MANAGEMENT	257	25.78	0.15	15.16	\$41.09
IDAHO MILITARY DIVISION CONSTRUCTION	312	27.72	10.74	9.71	\$48.17
TOTAL	8,120	\$407.40	\$28.65	\$222.74	\$658.79

The Idaho Military Division, which includes the Idaho Army National Guard, the Idaho Air National Guard, the Idaho Office of Emergency Management and the Idaho Office of Military Management, contributes more than \$658 million annually to Idaho's economy.

A recent study conducted by consulting economist Don C. Reading, Ph.D., found that the Idaho Military Division, comprising state, federal, and contracted employees, is the state's fourth largest employer, ultimately responsible for providing 8,120 jobs in Idaho.

The Idaho Military Division has a large economic footprint in Idaho, magnified by the fact that it is a state agency supported largely by federal dollars. The Idaho Military Division contributes far more to Idaho's tax revenues than it costs to run the division. The division's total economic impacts are estimated to generate nearly \$30 million in Idaho tax revenue, compared to the \$7 million the state appropriates for the Idaho Military Division each year, a robust return on the state's investment. To see the full study, visit www.IMD.idaho.gov.

**Direct Impacts:** Changes in economic activity associated with the project or program being studied. In this case, they are the expenditures made to support the IMD.

**Indirect Impacts:** Changes in economic activity made by the businesses providing goods and services to, or using the goods and services of the project or program.

**Induced Impacts:** Changes in economic activity that flow from employees using their wages to purchase household goods and services within Idaho.

**Total impacts:** The total of direct, indirect and induced impacts on the defined economy.

The study was conducted between September 1, 2020, and July 31, 2021. Unless specified, all data is FY 2020, and all impact numbers are expressed in 2020 dollars.

This study uses an Input-Output model called IMPLAN (Impact Analysis for Planning), which contains a set of county-specific data derived from 505 separate sectors of the U.S. economy. It is maintained by the IMPLAN Group, LLC. The version of IMPLAN used in this study was calibrated specifically for Idaho using 2020 data.

## Idaho Military Division

Adjutant General and IDNG Commander

**Idaho National Guard** 

Idaho Army

Idaho Air
National Guard

Idaho Office of Emergency Management Public Safety
Communications

Idaho Youth ChalleNGe Academy STARBASE Idaho Idaho Military Museum



Maj. Gen. Michael Garshak Adjutant General and IDNG Commander

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**Brig. Gen. Farin Schwartz** Assistant Adjutant General and IDARNG Commander



Brig. Gen. Timothy Donnellan Assistant Adjutant General and IDANG Commander



**Brad Richy**Director, Idaho Office of
Emergency Management



Ben Call
Director, Public Safety
Communications



Trevor Sparrow
Director, Idaho Youth
ChalleNGe Academy



Courtney Taylor Director, STARBASE Idaho



Jeff Packer Director, Idaho Military Museum





**OPENTOTHE PUBLIC** 









FEATURING: THUNDERBIRDS • F-35 DEMONSTRATION TEAM • JET WACO GOLDEN KNIGHTS • LADY LIBERTY • HELL-ER BUST • THE MISTY BLUES ADDICTION AIR SHOWS • FRANKLIN'S FLYING CIRCUS