

# 56TH THEATER INFORMATION OPERATIONS GROUP 2023 ANNUAL REPORT





# COMMAND TEAM'S MESSAGE

The 56th Theater Information Operations Group (TIOG) is proud to present the Annual Report for 2023, highlighting the achievements of our unique blend of Information, Intelligence, and Special Operations professionals. This year's accomplishments reflect our commitment to the strategic initiatives and enduring partnerships that enable our global operations - only made possible through the dedication of our Soldiers and the unwavering support from their families and employers.

2023 marked another steady year of contingency and theater security operations, deploying units to more than twenty countries on six continents. From Washington state to the Indo-Pacific and Middle East, and Maryland to the Horn of Africa, the 56th was there to maintain a competitive advantage in this complex and dynamic global security environment. Persistent engagement through joint and multinational exercises enhanced regional and global security, building trust and confidence with our partners including the enduring relationships with our State Partners Thailand and Malaysia.

While the 56th continues its commitment to overseas security cooperation, we remain steadfast in our role to provide tailored and equipped domestic response packages to protect and reassure our citizens. In 2023, the 56th continued to train and posture wildland fire fighting response teams when called upon.

Additionally, participation in Cyber Shield was key to enhancing interagency partnerships and protecting critical networks and infrastructure in the homeland.

Looking forward to 2024, the 56th remains postured with Soldiers trained, ready, and equipped to accomplish both state and federal mission sets. We will accomplish this by maintaining our unique culture of professionalism and excellence, sensibly balancing Soldier care with mission accomplishment. We value relationships and collaboration while embracing innovation and creativity. Today's evolving competition across all domains requires such and we remain committed to our strategic priorities to help the state and nation maintain its competitive advantage.

Lastly, our success hinges on the support our Soldiers receive from their families and employers. Without their backing, we could not meet the rigorous training and operational demands, critical to both our nation's defense and times when the State of Washington needs us most. I extend my deepest gratitude for your commitment to the Soldiers of the 56th.

Defending Mercury!

**COL Nick Parker**  
Commander

**CSM Amy Patterson**  
CSM



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## HISTORY OF THE 56TH THEATER INFORMATION OPERATIONS GROUP



When you think of Army Information Operations, you rarely think of Infantry, Artillery or Ordnance, but that is where the 56th TIOG started its path 100 years ago.

On September 30, 1918, Company D, 3d Infantry was organized and federally recognized in Seattle, Wash. The short lived Infantry Company was converted to Field Artillery in May 1921, under the flag of Battery D, 146th Field Artillery Regiment.

As tensions grew in the European and Pacific Theater during World War II, Battery D was called into federal service on February 16, 1940 for mobilization training in Seattle. Following the attack on Pearl Harbor, the unit conducted outreach to the community, preparing them for a possible attack in the Puget Sound area all while preparing to mobilize.

In February 1942, Battery D, was reorganized for mobilization to New Guinea at Battery A, 167th Field Artillery, under the 41st Infantry Division.

From 1942 to December 1945, the men of Battery A would fight in Luzon, Southern Philippines and travel to Japan for inactivation and demobilization back home.

After returning home, the unit moved from Seattle to Vancouver and continued to serve at Battery A until a consolidation in April 1959. Battery A joined with Service Battery to create Company A in the newly developed 241st Signal Battalion with a focus on communications. As part of the 41st Infantry Division the unit worked alongside other Washington National Guard units; 1st Battalion 161st Infantry and 2nd Battalion 146th Field Artillery.

The 1960s saw a lot of changes for the unit, as it would undergo multiple reorganizations, consolidations and moves. In October 1971 the unit saw one of its most important consolidations when it joined together with 115th Transportation Group, to become the 116th Support Center, stationed in Olympia before moving to Camp Murray.

In August 1990, the world saw a new threat emerging in the Middle East, as Saddam Hussein's Iraqi military invaded Kuwait, causing a reaction by the United States to mobilize more than 700,000 troops

for Operation Desert Shield from January 17, 1991 to February 28, 1991. Eight members of the 116th Support Center (Rear Area Operations) traveled to the Middle East on a 90-day tour in August 1991. As tensions on the Iraq, Saudi Arabia border heightened, the entire 80 member unit was mobilized on December 6, 1990 for a six-month tour in the Middle East. On June 24, 1991, all members would return home to Camp Murray. The unit was relocated to the Ellensburg armory in September 1992.

One more consolidation in September 2006 prepared the unit for its future reorganization as Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 56th TIOG, which was federally recognized in January 28, 2009, under the 96th Troop Command.

As conflicts around the world changed, a greater need for synchronizing the non-kinetic battlefield began to take shape. Unit commanders were asking more from non-traditional warfighters, like public affairs, civil affairs and psychological operations. The Army noticed that Information Operations was becoming as important to the combatant commanders as traditional means.

During a major transformation in July 2015, the Washington Army National Guard found the perfect opportunity to stand up the 56th TIOG as a Brigade-sized element.

"Placing units with similar missions in the same MSC provide better opportunities to support one another," said Col. (Ret) Curt Simonson, former commander, 56th TIOG in 2016. "This benefits our soldiers, the Washington Army National Guard and the commanders we support in the Pacific Theater."

The 56th TIOG, would now combined specialized units under one umbrella. Soldiers in the Military Intelligence, Special Operations and Information Operations career fields would work together for better collaboration and planning while completing their individual missions.

"Another commonality of these units is engagement in the Asia-Pacific region," said Simonson. "A significant portion of the Washington Army National Guard's participation in this region comes from special forces, military intelligence and information operations units. Bringing them together will make it easier to synchronize efforts in support of commanders in the Pacific."





# 56TH THEATER INFORMATION OPERATIONS GROUP

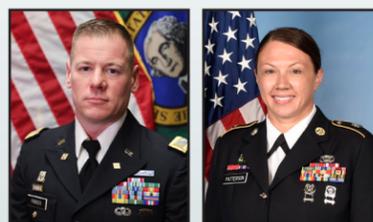


## 56TH THEATER INFORMATION OPERATIONS GROUP

**Federal Mission:** On order, the 56th TIOG provides trained and ready, tailored Information Operations, Military Intelligence, and Special Operations forces to Army Service Component Commands and Combatant Commands to synchronize efforts across all phases of operations.

**State Mission:** On order, the 56th TIOG conducts Domestic Operations within the State of Washington and maintains an expeditionary capability to respond outside the State in order to support state and local agencies in response to civil unrest or natural disasters.

**Location:**  
Joint Base  
Lewis-McChord



COL Nicholas Parker  
CSM Amy Patterson



## 110TH INFORMATION OPERATIONS BATTALION

**Federal Mission:** 110th Information Operations Battalion provides trained, deployable, culturally aware, and regionally focused Information Operations Teams, including cyber, in direct support at all echelons to perform tactical through theater/strategic IO tasks.

**State Mission:** 110th Information Operations Battalion remains prepared to conduct limited, approved Information Operations (including Defensive Cyber-space Operations-Internal Defensive Measures (DCO-IDM)) tasks ISO state and local authorities during Governor-declared state emergencies.

**Location:**  
Annapolis,  
Maryland



LTC Adam Kavalsky  
CSM Ramon Burks



## 156TH INFORMATION OPERATIONS BATTALION

**Federal Mission:** On order, the 156th IOB provides trained and ready, tailored IO forces to Army Service Component Commands, functional task forces, and Combatant Commands to synchronize IO effects in concert with other lines of effort across all phases of operations.

**State Mission:** On order, 156th IOB provides expeditionary units of action to support state defensive cyber operations, OPSEC assessments, and all hazard responses to supported headquarters and functional task forces.

**Location:**  
Joint Base  
Lewis-McChord



LTC Daniel Wessman  
CSM Thomas Wickesser



## 341ST MILITARY INTELLIGENCE BATTALION (LINGUIST)

**Federal Mission:** On order, the 341st Military Intelligence Battalion (Linguist) provides the Army with CI, HUMINT, SIGINT and foreign language support for all Army echelons, and serves as a center for language training and development.

**State Mission:** On order, the 341st Military Intelligence Battalion (Linguist) provides National Guard Civil Support to State and local civil authorities in response to a natural or man-made disaster or emergency. Civil Support tasks include, but are not limited to, providing general disaster relief, humanitarian assistance, armory support, civil liaison, security and traffic control, firefighting, and incident analysis and assessment.

**Location:** JBLM,  
Fairchild Air  
Force Base,  
Vancouver



LTC Nolan Rinehart  
CSM Jacqueline Lavelanet



# UNIT BREAKDOWN



## 122ND THEATER PUBLIC AFFAIRS SUPPORT ELEMENT

**Federal Mission:** To provide direct public affairs support through planning, coordination, execution, and supervision of public affairs operations in support of Theater Army, joint, interagency, intergovernmental, and multinational operations

**State Mission:** To inform and educate Soldiers, prospective Soldiers, and members of the public by providing public affairs coverage and support to higher headquarters public affairs offices to tell the story of the WAARNG during IDTs, Annual Trainings and Domestic Operations.

**Location:**  
Joint Base  
Lewis-McChord



LTC Johnny Walker  
CSM Thomas Davis



## SPECIAL OPERATIONS DETACHMENT - PACIFIC (SOD-P)

**Federal Mission:** Special Operations Detachment - Pacific (SOD-P) provides trained, prepared, and equipped augmentation to the United States Army Special Operations Command (USASOC) and the Special Operations Command Pacific (SOCPAC). On order, conduct command and control, staff integration, and synchronization of joint special operations forces as a unit or as individual augmentees as determined by USASOC and SOCPAC.

**State Mission:** On order, deploy Special Operations Detachment - Pacific (SOD-P) to conduct interagency coordination as directed in support of Domestic Operations (DOMOPS)

**Location:**  
Joint Base  
Lewis-McChord



COL David Coughran  
CSM Eric Clarkson



## ALPHA COMPANY, 1ST BATTALION, 19TH SPECIAL FORCES GROUP

**Federal Mission:** Company A, 1st Battalion, 19th Special Forces Group (Airborne) mans, trains, equips and deploys to conduct full spectrum irregular warfare missions in support of Theater Special Operation Command's.

**State Mission:** Company A, 1st Battalion, 19th Special Forces provides specialized equipment and personnel to facilitate command and control, search and rescue and liaison elements ISO state operations.

**Location:**  
Buckley



LTC Denny Frey  
SGM Brendan Headrick

56th Theater Information Operations Group , 6205 Pendleton Ave. Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Wash. 98433  
Phone: 253-983-7337

### STAFF

- S1 - MAJ Callie Kiaunis
- S2 - LTC Tana Avellar
- S3 - LTC Denny Frey
- S4 - MAJ Michelle Kelly
- S6 - CW3 Jeffrey Immer

- Chaplain - LTC David Hatheway
- JAG - CPT Brian Baker
- OPS SGM - SGM Andrew McKay
- Medical - LTC Jason Reese

**Website:** <https://www.mil.wa.gov/national-guard/army-guard/56th-information-operations-brigade>

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/56thTIOG/>



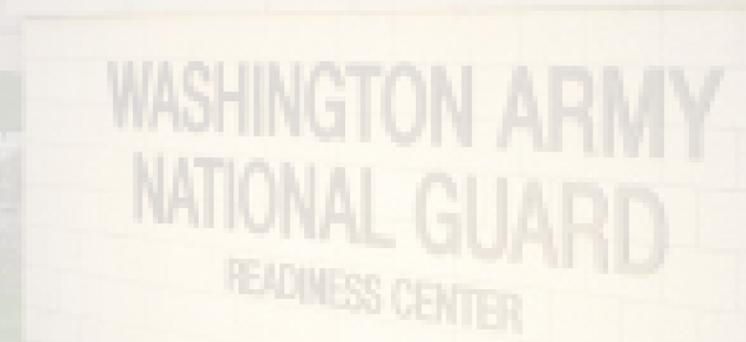
# STRATEGICALLY ALIGNED TO ACCOMPLISH THE MISSION

# INFORMATION OPERATIONS READINESS CENTER



Broke Ground - October 24, 2013  
 Ribbon cutting - Sept. 29, 2015  
 Cost - \$27 million  
 Builder - Burns McDonnell

This 127,100-square-foot facility provides administrative, operations and specialized telecommunications spaces to serve as the headquarters of the 56th TIOG for the Washington Army National Guard. Designed for LEED Silver certification, the new facility features specialized administrative, planning, briefing and support areas to support the five operational units who occupy the facility. The work areas contain a mixture of command suites with self-contained private offices for each unit and large, open-plan workstation areas configured for a collaborative work environment. The facility at Joint Base Lewis-McChord reflects the character of the historic red brick facilities in the Old Fort District. The project was designed under contract with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Seattle District in collaboration with small business subconsultants Helix Design Group and AHBL. The project received a Seattle Society of American Military Engineers Project of Excellence Award and an Excellence in Masonry Award from the Masonry Institute of Washington.



# BATTALION COMMANDERS' MESSAGES



## 110th INFORMATION OPERATIONS BATTALION

The 110th IO welcomed home our two deployed IO field support teams from CJTF-HOA and JIATF-S. We appreciate MAJ Chapple and MAJ Bayles and would like to recognize their teams' hard work stewarding the IO profession to advance our national military objectives. We also sent out our next HOA team, led by CPT Sarate, and we expect great things.

This summer, the 110th IO conducted its Annual Training at Fort Indiantown Gap, Pennsylvania. During the training, the battalion and deploying team members qualified on M4 and M17. Additionally, sixteen soldiers completed the Defense OPSEC Planners Course for Joint credit. The hard work of SGT Powell, SSG Genius, and SSG Denta helped make the Annual Training a success.

The 169th Cyber Protection Team participated in its major Cyber Shield 2023 exercise. The 169th plays a key role in recertifying National Guard cyber protection teams. CW3 Chow and CW3 Milligan were instrumental in planning, running, and evaluation for the 179th CPT recertification. Our cyber operators have partnered with Anne Arundel schools on a State cyber assessment and recruiting event.

The 110th IO supported the Pacific Sentry exercise at Camp Smith, Hawaii. Our Soldiers plugged into the exercise white cell and current operations planning cells, where we built relationships with USINDOPACOM and plied the IO trade. We are looking forward to more Pacific exercises to build on our success. SSG Morales and SFC Gilbert went above and beyond preparing our team for the exercise and had outstanding performance in the white cell.

September marked our IO Staff Training Exercise, which serves to validate our outgoing IO field support teams. We also celebrated the promotions of MAJ Fox and LTC Adams. MAJ Fox is preparing his team for mobilization to CJTF-HOA, while LTC Adams will lead the IO CYBERCOM mission next year. Congratulations to both of them and good luck to our deploying teams!

- LTC Adam Kavalsky



## 122nd THEATER PUBLIC AFFAIRS SUPPORT ELEMENT

In 2023, the 141st Military History Detachment returned from a very successful deployment in the Middle East. The 122nd TPASE supported the Washington National Guard's public affairs efforts covering over 30 events statewide, highlighting service members, units, and training. Most notably, stateside coverage of the 205th Regiment-led Officer Candidate School Phase III, at Joint Base Lewis-McChord, was tremendous. OCS Phase III is the culminating event for National Guard officer candidates and tests their leadership and critical thinking prior to commissioning as second lieutenants. The unit also led the Thai-U.S. co-sponsored Cobra Gold 2023 Combined Joint Information Bureau, as the core component of the Joint function, in the Kingdom of Thailand, contributing to communications that built upon the long-standing friendship between the two allied nations and highlighted the robust multinational exercise promoting a free and open Indo-Pacific. At year's end, the 122nd maintains readiness for missions stateside and postures for another lead role at Cobra Gold.

- LTC Johnny Walker, Apollo 6



## 156th INFORMATION OPERATIONS BATTALION

The 156th Information Operations Battalion spent 2023 focusing on Basic Soldiering Skills through tough realistic training, Readiness Oriented Tasks, Mobilizing Field Support Teams, and Overseas Deployments for Training throughout INDOPACOM. The BN continues to prepare and deploy Field Support Teams on a heel to toe rotation in support of Special Operations Joint Task Force - Operation Inherent Resolve in Jordan and Iraq. The Battalion remained closely tied to our regionally aligned Compo one counter parts in the INDOPACIFIC Theater while supporting training events such as Cobra Gold, Cyber Shield, and Talisman Sabre. We honed our information operations warrior skills through realistic STX put on by our own ASCC Detachment and the Battalion's culminating training event FST Olympics 2023. There is an increasing need for the Army to answer the call for real world support in Competition Phase of Operations and IO remains a key part in that effort force wide. The 156th will answer that call.

"We own the narrative"

- LTC Dan Wessman, Serpent 6



## 341st MILITARY INTELLIGENCE BATTALION (LINGUIST)

The 341st Military Intelligence Battalion (Linguist) cemented our commitment to the alignment to the USINDOPACOM AOR and the 500th MIB-T by developing a sustainment augmentation model providing agile and sustainable support past 2030. The Soldiers of the 341st successfully supported numerous engagements, events, and exercises aligned to USARPAC objectives and requirements. These included Vigilant Pacific, Yama Sakura, and Key Insight. Department of the Army G2, LTG Laura Potter, recognized the work accomplished by the 300th Military Intelligence Brigade (Linguist) and its subordinate battalions, including the 341st, as "phenomenal" during the ARNG G2 Workshop. In FY23, The 341st MI BN (LING) sent a team of linguists to compete in the Polyglot Games in Utah, three of whom placed in individual competition. In Q4FY23, we sent Soldiers to hone their intelligence skills at the FY23 Panther Strike exercise, also in Utah. Finally, in Q1FY24, the 341st executed its first annual Valor Language Games, testing our tradecraft and language skills to set future benchmarks. Moreover, we continued our efforts to support civil authorities by training Soldiers in Wildland Firefighting. Our Soldiers have been postured over the past several summers to respond anywhere in the state to support fire suppression efforts and protect life and property. This past year, we welcomed back numerous deployed personnel from across the globe supporting America's National Security Objectives in the CENTCOM and EUCOM AORs. These Soldiers supported 10th Mountain Division and Alpha Company, 1st Battalion/19th Special Forces Group (A). As we look ahead, the 341st MI BN (LING) is postured now more than ever to provide intelligence and language support capabilities to drive operations in the Pacific.

- LTC Nolan Rinehart, Valor 6



## SPECIAL OPERATIONS DETACHMENT - PACIFIC (SOD-P)

SOD-P continued to support special operations within the USINDOPACOM AOR in 2023. As of 2021, SOD-P assumed full responsibility for planning, resourcing and executing the Special Operations contingent of the Staff Planning Exercise (STAFFEX) and the Command Post Exercise (CPX) for COBRA GOLD. COBRA GOLD is a large JCS exercise in the Kingdom of Thailand, one of Washington State Partnership Program's (SPP) partners. The 2023 year saw SOD-P execute the COBRA GOLD 23 STAFFEX along with a weeklong Joint Special Operations University (JSOU) led Bilateral Exercise with our Thai Special Forces partners. In preparation for COBRA GOLD 24, SOD-P also attended two separate two week planning conferences in Thailand. Finally, SOD-P members worked on Special Operations Forces - Conventional Force Interdependence, Interoperability and Integration (SOF-CF I3) in another exercise in Malaysia: KERIS STRIKE 23. SOD-P successfully brought SOF integration to a traditionally conventional exercise in Malaysia, Washington's State's other international partner. The SOD's performance at KERIS STRIKE laid the groundwork for more SOF-CF I3 in 2024 in the form of a Rigger Subject Matter Expert Exchange (SMEE) through the auspices of SPP. SOD-P achieved all of these effects while also working on some major deliverables for SOCPAC while at home station.

- COL David Coughran, SEVEN 6



## ALPHA COMPANY, 1ST BATTALION, 19TH SPECIAL FORCES GROUP

Through 2023, Alpha Company remained engaged throughout CENTCOM and EUCOM. The Company HQ and 4 ODA's deployed to CENTCOM in March, focused on continuing to ensure the everlasting defeat of ISIS and compete with other adversaries throughout CENTCOM. Two ODA's deployed to Iraq, one ODA to Lebanon and a forth to UAE. This summer, a fifth ODA deployed to Poland in support of ongoing efforts in Ukraine and will remain deployed through early 2024. The company will spend 2024 resetting and preparing for future ODT's, JCET's and Global Operational requirements as directed.

-LTC Denny Frey, Ronin 6



# 56TH THEATER INFORMATION OPERATIONS GROUP

# ENGAGEMENTS, TRAINING AND DEPLOYMENTS

## NORTHCOM

WASHINGTON  
UTAH  
MARYLAND  
PENNSYLVANIA  
WASHINGTON D.C.



Leadership from the 341st Military Intelligence Battalion joined members of the 300th Military Intelligence Brigade in Utah to visit soldiers participating in Panther Strike 2023.

## EuCOM

BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA  
ESTONIA  
GERMANY  
POLAND

Members of the 141st Military History Detachment took part in a Key Leader Engagement with the Peshmerga in Kurdistan in March while deployed.



## CENTCOM

KUWAIT  
IRAQ  
SYRIA  
JORDAN  
AFGHANISTAN

## AFRICOM

HORN OF AFRICA



Soldiers from the 110th Information Operations Battalion supported INDO-PACOM J-39 during Pacific Sentry at Camp Smith, Hawaii.

## INDOPACOM

KINGDOM OF THAILAND  
MALAYSIA  
SOUTH KOREA  
HAWAII  
AUSTRALIA

## SOUTHCOM

GUATEMALA



In May the 56th Theater Information Operations Group said farewell to Field Support Teams 1556 and 1567 as they prepare to deploy in support of SOUTHCOM and CENTCOM areas of responsibility.



Members of Alpha Company, 1st Battalion, 19th Special Forces Group (Airborne), conducted a Shoulder Sleeve Insignia patching ceremony for 25 personnel assigned to the Company Headquarters in Baghdad, Iraq at 1st Iraqi Special Operations Forces (ISOF) Killed-in-Action memorial. LTG Hussein, Commander of 1st ISOF, spoke at the ceremony, highlighting the shared work of United States Army Special Forces and Iraqi Special Operations Forces throughout the storied history of the units.



Soldiers from the 156th Information Operations Battalion provided FST support during Talisman Sabre 2023 in Australia.

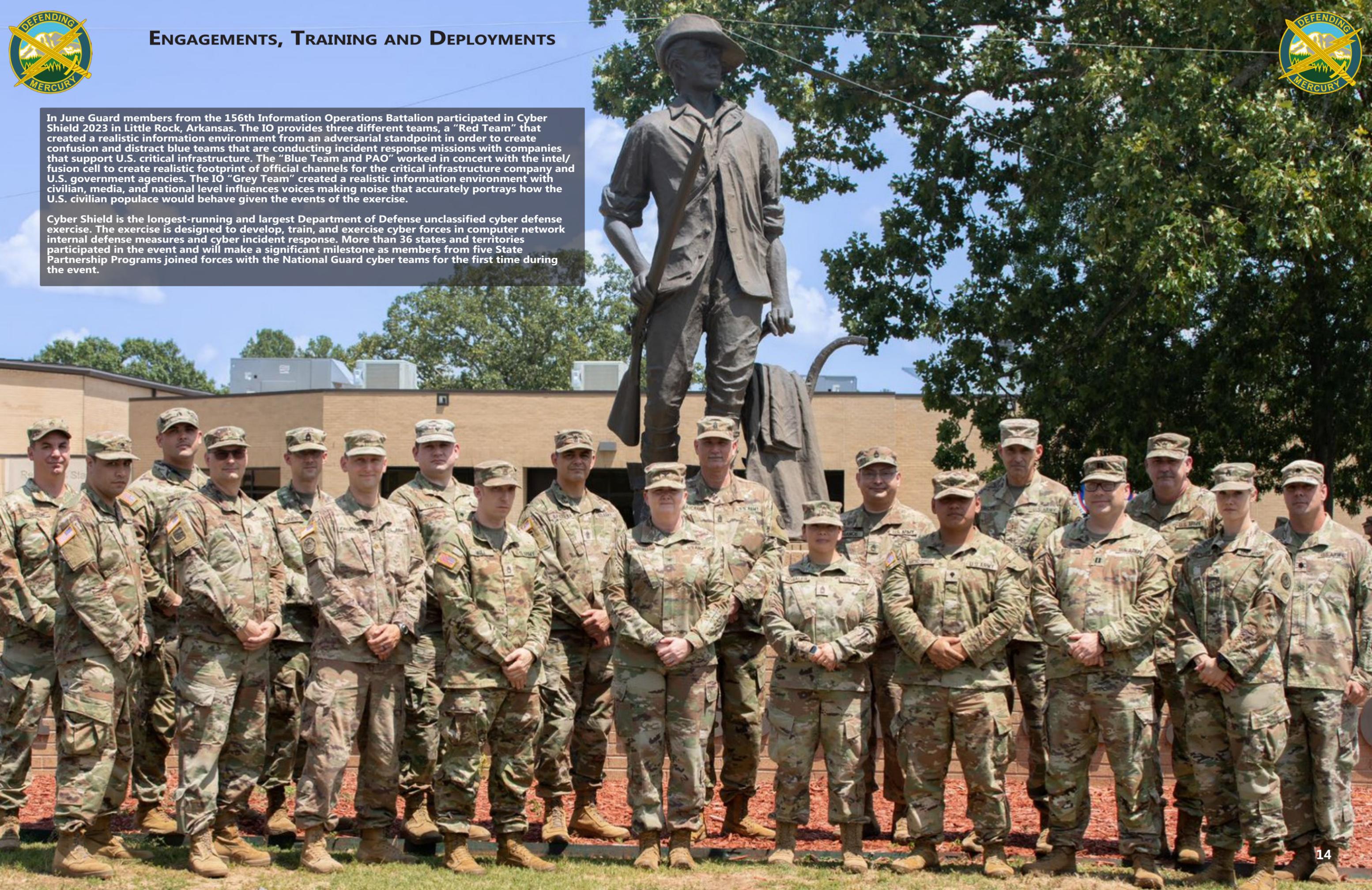


## ENGAGEMENTS, TRAINING AND DEPLOYMENTS



In June Guard members from the 156th Information Operations Battalion participated in Cyber Shield 2023 in Little Rock, Arkansas. The IO provides three different teams, a "Red Team" that created a realistic information environment from an adversarial standpoint in order to create confusion and distract blue teams that are conducting incident response missions with companies that support U.S. critical infrastructure. The "Blue Team and PAO" worked in concert with the intel/fusion cell to create realistic footprint of official channels for the critical infrastructure company and U.S. government agencies. The IO "Grey Team" created a realistic information environment with civilian, media, and national level influences voices making noise that accurately portrays how the U.S. civilian populace would behave given the events of the exercise.

Cyber Shield is the longest-running and largest Department of Defense unclassified cyber defense exercise. The exercise is designed to develop, train, and exercise cyber forces in computer network internal defense measures and cyber incident response. More than 36 states and territories participated in the event and will make a significant milestone as members from five State Partnership Programs joined forces with the National Guard cyber teams for the first time during the event.





# ENGAGEMENTS, TRAINING AND DEPLOYMENTS



## FIELD SUPPORT TEAM OLYMPICS - JULY

During July drill the 156th Information Operations Battalion executed the annual Field Support Team Olympics. The winning Field Support Team was recognized during a Battalion MWR event for their hard work and dedication. The Battalion was able to execute a leaflet drop that had not been exercised by both the Aviation community or Military Information Support Operations community in more than ten years. Events during the Olympics included, air movement, physical fitness event, Information Operations related lane training.

## COBRA GOLD 2023 - MARCH

12 members of the 122nd Theater Public Affairs Support Element provided coverage during Cobra Gold 23 in Utapao, Kingdom of Thailand. Cobra Gold is a Thai-U.S. co-sponsored training event that builds on the longstanding friendship between the two allied nations and brings together a robust multinational force to promote regional peace and security in support of a free and open Indo-Pacific.



## VALOR LANGUAGE GAMES - NOVEMBER

Soldiers with the 341st Military Intelligence Battalion (Linguist) put their language skills to the test during the annual Valor Language Games on Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Wash., Nov. 4, 2023. The Valor Language Games, named after the battalion's call sign and motto, "Vigilance and Valor", consists of three events, each testing intelligence soldiers on their expertise in tactical questioning, voice intercept/analysis, and briefing a senior office on the commander's priority intelligence requirements (PIR) they found during their questioning. Linguists are tested as individuals and as a team on their abilities to read, speak, and listen to the languages including Russian, Korean, Chinese, Spanish and French.



The 110th Information Operations Battalion supported the Pacific Sentry exercise at Camp Smith, Hawaii. Soldiers plugged into the exercise white cell and current operations planning cells, where we built relationships with USINDOPACOM and plied the IO trade.



## OCS PHASE III - JULY

In July the 122nd TPASE led a multi-state public affairs team to provide coverage of the 205th Regiment led Officer Candidate School Phase III, at Joint Base Lewis-McChord. OCS Phase III is the culminating event for National Guard Officer Candidates testing their leadership and critical thinking abilities prior to commissioning as second lieutenants in the U.S. Army. The team set the standard for future OCS iterations and built relationships among other states to tell the story.



## HONORING MSG SANTOYO - SEPTEMBER

Alpha Company and SOD-P conducted a combined airborne operation where former A Co Commander and SOD-P member LTC(R) Matt Casteel attended the operation. During the airborne operation, MSG Santoyo, a Green Beret that inspired LTC (R) Casteel to become a Green Beret, had his final wishes met. LTC Frey conducted a combat equipment jump with MSG Santoyo's ashes inside the ruck sack, as MSG Santoyo wished to have his ashes jumped during in an airborne operation in his final days. The Santoyo family joined A Co and SOD-P on the Drop Zone and shared stories with the current Soldiers, ensuring the preservation of our SOF legacy.



While deployed to Jordan, Capt. Jesse Morgan and Chief Warrant Officer 4 Andrew Rose, members of the Information Operations Team deployed in support of Combined Special Operations Joint Task Force - Levant completed the arduous 30km (18.6-mile) march carrying a ruck sack of 11kg (24lbs) of the Norwegian Foot March.



# FAREWELL TO OUR 2023 RETIREES



- SFC Joel Crandall - 20 years
- MSG Emily Cronin - 20 years
- SSG Jennifer Muhonen - 20 years
- SFC Jerrod Nawrocki - 20 years
- MSG Paris Purnhagen - 20 years
- CPT Brien Waldron - 20 years
- SGT Alexander Yoruw - 20 years
- MSG Laszlo Cosorus - 21 years
- SGT Tim Wachtman - 21 years
- CPT Justin Williams - 21 years
- SSG Micky Glaze - 24 years
- MAJ Andreas Bohman - 24 years
- CPT Peter Taylor - 25 years
- SFC Rodney Siegler - 27 years
- SFC Darin Crosby - 28 years
- CSM Larry Weidinger - 30 years
- LTC Nathan Howard - 32 years
- SFC Sarah Rubin
- SFC Peter Hart
- SFC Bryan Nelson





## 56TH THEATER INFORMATION OPERATIONS GROUP

110TH INFORMATION OPERATIONS BATTALION

156TH INFORMATION OPERATIONS BATTALION

341ST MILITARY INTELLIGENCE BATTALION

SPECIAL OPERATIONS DET. - PACIFIC

ALPHA 1ST BATTALION, 19TH SPECIAL FORCES

122ND THEATER PUBLIC AFFAIRS SUPPORT ELEMENT

~ **DEFENDING MERCURY** ~