

GRIZZLY

Official Newsmagazine of the California National Guard



9 Leading the charge

22 new CNG Army officers
earn their gold bars

Ukraine hosts CNG partners for peace

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California National Guard Leadership



Brig. Gen. Mary J. Kight



**Brig. Gen.
Lawrence A. Haskins**



**Command Sgt. Maj.
William Clark Jr.**

Army Division



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John S. Harrel**



**Command Sgt. Maj.
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Joint staff

Grizzly

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the California National Guard

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Brig. Gen. Mary J. Kight
The Adjutant General

Director of Communications

Maj. Thomas W. Keegan

Editor

Brandon Honig

Layout, Graphics, Photo Editing

Erin Wetzlerberger

Editorial Staff

Staff Sgt. Jessica Inigo
Sgt. Jonathan Guibord

Photographers

Tech. Sgt. David Loeffler
Tech. Sgt. Joseph Prouse

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- ★ Spell out acronyms, abbreviations and
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- ★ If there is a public affairs officer assigned to
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- ★ No retouched photos
- ★ Caption (what is happening, who is
pictured and the date of the photo)
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E-mail submissions by the 15th
of the month to:
GrizzlyMag.ngca@ng.army.mil

Feedback:

brandon.honig@us.army.mil

Cover Shot



Photo by
Sgt. 1st Class Jesse Flagg

Twenty-two officer candidates march Aug. 13
during the Platoon Leaders Course on Camp San
Luis Obispo, Calif., a day before the Soldiers were
commissioned as officers.

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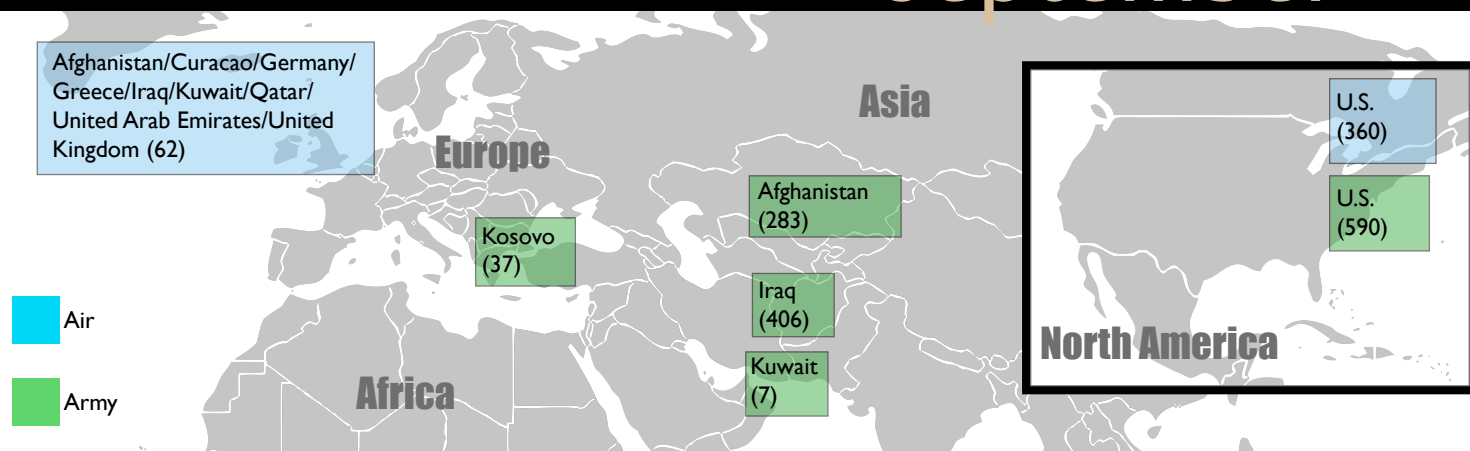
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The California National Guard as of **September** 2010



I-140th air assault battalion departs for Iraq

By Sgt. Jon Guibord

Joint Force Headquarters Public Affairs

More than 300 Soldiers and twenty UH-60 Black Hawk helicopters assigned to the California National Guard's 1st Battalion, 140th Aviation Regiment (Air Assault), departed Joint Forces Training Base-Los Alamitos in August for a yearlong mission to Iraq in support of Operation New Dawn.

About 900 family members, friends and fellow Soldiers attended a deployment ceremony Aug. 7 in Anaheim, Calif., where leadership from the 40th Infantry Division and the California National Guard aviation community offered words of encouragement for the deploying Soldiers.

Maj. Gen. John S. Harrel, commander of the California Army National Guard, addressed the Soldiers as they stood in formation alongside their families in the 28,000-square foot ballroom of an Anaheim hotel. He compared the U.S. efforts in Iraq to those made in U.S. history centuries ago.

"Gen. Washington took a nation of people that nobody wanted and turned them into an Army," Harrel said.

In Iraq the 1-140th will serve a crucial role in supporting the theater-wide troop drawdown. Primarily in Iraq's central region, the 1-140th will provide a variety of aviation support to military personnel.

"The 1-140th Aviation Battalion, Task Force Long Knife, has been preparing for deployment to Iraq for a year," said Lt. Col. Jeffrey Holliday, commander of the 1-140th. "We are eager to serve our country and state and look forward to our safe and successful return."

Harrel also addressed the Soldiers' children and said they are not off the hook from chores and homework while Mom or Dad is away.

"If you are not getting good grades in Spanish, work harder," he said. "If you are getting B's in Math, try for A's. Or if you are like me and getting C's, go for B's."

The 1-140th will complete pre-deployment training on Fort Hood, Texas, before leaving for Iraq on Oct. 6.



ABOVE: Lt. Col. Jeffery Holliday and Command Sgt. Maj. Troy B. Eck case their battalion's colors Aug. 7 during a deployment ceremony in Anaheim, Calif., for 1st Battalion, 140th Aviation Regiment. **RIGHT:** Family and friends wave goodbye to Soldiers of the 1-140th as they depart Joint Forces Training Base-Los Alamitos for Fort Hood, Texas, where they will complete premobilization training before departing for Iraq.



PHOTOS BY SGT. (CA) GENE ARIAS



Soldiers of the California National Guard's 1st Battalion, 140th Aviation Regiment, shoot at targets on North Fort Hood, Texas, in preparation for deployment to Iraq.

I-140th door gunnery training goes 'hot'

Story and photo by Pfc. Carl Havlik
166th Aviation Brigade Public Affairs

The scorching sun wasn't the only thing that went 'hot' Aug. 20 on North Fort Hood, Texas, as Soldiers of 1st Battalion, 140th Aviation Regiment, tested their skills on .50-caliber and M240 machine guns.

The 166th Aviation Brigade on Fort Hood is training the 1-140th for its upcoming deployment to Iraq.

In the Aug. 20 exercise, California National Guard Soldiers fired live rounds at targets in two phases. First they fired their weapons from the ground in seated and prone positions. Next they mounted their weapons in their UH-60 Black Hawk helicopters and fired at ground targets from the air.

"It was my first time firing from the aircraft," said Spc. Tommy A. Flores, a 1-140th door gunner. "I really enjoyed it."

Crews shot tracer rounds so they could see where they were hitting.

"This is good quality training to prepare Soldiers for combat," said Sgt. 1st Class Robert Minnella, standardization instructor for 1st Battalion, 337th Aviation Regiment, 166th Aviation Brigade, which trains nearly all reserve component aviation units.

The 1-140th, which also includes members of the Alaska National Guard, will deploy as a helicopter assault battalion.



Blowing up on Camp Roberts

217th Ordnance Company gains experience, improves base safety

Story and photos by Spc. David S. Choi
217th Ordnance Company

The 217th Ordnance Company used 30 blocks of C-4 explosives to eliminate three unexploded ordnances found on Camp Roberts, Calif., during the unit's September training. After making careful calculations to deal safely with the ordnances, members of the explosive ordnance disposal (EOD) team used 1.2-pound blocks of C-4 to take care of the threat.

"Minimizing the chance of a misfire and directing the trajectory of the blast, there are a lot of calculations to be made before the actual explosion," said Sgt. 1st Class Bradley R. Merrill of Sacramento.

First Sergeant Timothy R. Shields of Citrus Heights, Calif., noted that the exercise provided good training for the 217th and also mitigated risks for Soldiers and staff on Camp Roberts.

In addition to C-4 and blasting caps, the 217th used the M107 Long Range Disruptor to take out targets during the September training. The M107, often perceived to be a sniper rifle to eliminate live targets, is primarily used by EOD teams to disrupt ordnances that pose a threat to service members. With .50 caliber rounds and an optical scope, the weapon can be used to clear hazardous areas from a safe distance.

"One of the biggest differences between our job and other military occupational specialties is that we're a combat [force]

multiplier," Shields said. "We help other Soldiers, such as the infantry, to be able to move, shoot and destroy.

"If there's an ordnance obstacle in the way or an [improvised explosive device], we're the ones who clear it for them so that they can accomplish their mission," he continued. "We're not a combat arms unit, but play a support role so that the combatant commander can do what he needs to do and get where he needs to go with minimal risks."

Not all September training, however, consisted of loud explosions accompanied by plumes of smoke. Members of the 217th also completed the Leadership Reaction Course on Camp San Luis Obispo, Calif. Soldiers were required to finish several mock scenarios with a limited amount of time and overcome obstacles created out of items such as crude metal pipes and wooden planks.

"It's really vital that we mentor and develop junior leaders by spending some time running scenarios at the Leadership Reaction Course on Camp San Luis Obispo," Shields said. "It gives them an opportunity to be in charge, make decisions and learn how to organize themselves as a great team [leader]."

"It never ceases to amaze me how these guys will pull together to make things happen every drill weekend," Shields said.



TOP:The 217th Ordnance Company sets off a controlled explosion using thermite grenades on Camp Roberts, Calif., during training in September. **ABOVE:** Pfc. Jamie Q. Langton, left, holds a plank steady for Spc. Ricky J. Aguirre to cross over to complete the Leadership Reaction Course on Camp San Luis Obispo, Calif., in September.

144th Fighter Wing soars over Hawaiian islands

By Capt. Jennifer M. Piggott
144th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Seven F-16 combat fighter aircraft and 112 Airmen from the Fresno, Calif.-based 144th Fighter Wing deployed to Kona, Hawaii, in support of the Navy's Rim of the Pacific (RIMPAC) exercise in July.

RIMPAC is a biennial total-force exercise involving 14 countries that enables service members to train in combat-operation scenarios.

"This was a superb deployment with exceptional leadership and execution," said Gen. Gary North, Pacific Air Forces commander. "I was especially impressed with the Fresno unit's bare base set-up and smooth flying operations."

The 144th worked closely with local officials and airport authorities in Kona prior to the exercise, as this was the first time an F-16 had ever landed on the island or taken off from it.

"This was the first time in recent years that the 144th has deployed to a bare base with no existing military support," said Maj. Russ Piggott of the 144th. "We spent over six months planning every aspect of this deployment to ensure total success."

This deployment allowed the Fresno unit to practice its primary mission of air sovereignty alert for the protection and defense of the skies of the southwestern U.S. Participating in RIMPAC also allowed the 144th to shine by flawlessly executing seven secondary missions, including executing adversary air support, offensive and defensive counter air missions and leading several large force exercises. As adversary aircraft, playing the role of the enemy, the 144th helped ensure the combat-readiness of the other seven U.S. military components that participated in this exercise.

In total, 140 combat-ready exercise missions were flown by the 144th during a three-week period.

"From the maintainers to the support staff to the pilots, this deployment is a shining example of a job well done by all participants," said Lt. Col. Scott Seyfarth of the 144th. "This joint exercise is a perfect example of our total force capabilities."



ABOVE: Two U.S. Marine Corps CH-46 Chinook helicopters fly over F-16C Fighting Falcon aircraft from the California National Guard's 144th Fighter Wing at Kona International Airport, Hawaii, on July 15 during Rim of the Pacific 2010, the world's largest multi-national maritime exercise. The biennial event enables participating nations to work together to improve maritime security. **BOTTOM LEFT:** Staff Sgt. Jesus Mata and Airman 1st Class Justin McTeer of the 144th conduct a postflight inspection of an F-16C. **BOTTOM RIGHT:** Senior Airman Chris Russek and Tech. Sgt. Chris Whaland troubleshoot an issue in an F-16C.

PHOTOS BY SENIOR MASTER SGT. CHRIS DRUDGE

Vigilant Guard 2010 Guam tests CERFP

Story and photo by Tech. Sgt. Charles Vaughn
144th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Nearly 100 members of the California National Guard CERFP team joined forces with CERFP teams from other states as well as local firefighters and first responders in Guam for this year's Vigilant Guard exercise Aug. 24-26.

CERFP is the Chemical, Biological, Radiological/Nuclear and Explosive Enhanced Response Force Package, which incorporates search and extraction, decontamination and medical capabilities along with a command-and-control element. It is a rapid response team responsible for quick reaction to an incident involving a weapon of mass destruction, a terrorist attack or any man-made or natural disaster.

"Vigilant Guard 2010 Guam is a regional exercise which incorporates many capabilities and assets from multiple states and territories," said Lt. Col. Rob Swertfager, the California CERFP medical opera-

tions officer. "It is designed to foster working relationships between National Guard units and local first responders while also testing the Guam National Guard's reach-back capabilities as it calls on resources from other states in the region and the National Guard Bureau during a large-scale emergency."

Army National Guard Soldiers make up two-thirds of the CERFP, handling search and extraction and decontamination. Airmen are in charge of the CERFP's medical capabilities.

"We are the bridge between the first responders in the local area and the follow-on federal resources," said Maj. Chris Angle, operations officer for the Army section of the California CERFP. "We've learned very valuable lessons about what it takes to get logistical support and to do operations in the Pacific theater of operations."



Spc. Ronald Doren, a member of the California National Guard's Chemical, Biological, Radiological/Nuclear and Explosive Enhanced Response Force Package, is lowered off a three-story building to extract a victim trapped in a mock parking garage collapse Aug. 25 during Vigilant Guard 2010 Guam.



Middle East or Mojave Desert?

1-185th trains for combat on Fort Irwin, Calif.

By Pfc. Chalon E. Hutson
301st Public Affairs Detachment

Infantry Soldiers jump over a fence outside an adobe-style home in the middle of the desert. The squad stacks on the door and waits for their moment to breach. Their mission: to clear the area of anyone making homemade explosives.

As the squad enters the building, the Soldiers encounter a group of unarmed enemies on the first floor. One team pulls security as the other takes the enemies prisoner. Then Soldiers climb the stairs to clear the rest of the building.

On the second floor, Soldiers find additional enemies and secure them, then search the house. Behind a bookcase, they find a small hidden door. And when they open the door, they are surprised by an explosive device about to go off.

As real as all of this seemed to Soldiers of Company A, 1st Battalion, 185th Armor Regiment (Combined Arms Battalion), in August, the breach took place at the National Training Center on Fort Irwin, Calif., where a mock village simulated a settlement in Afghanistan.

"It's good to get a feel for the environment [we will face] out there in theater," said Sgt. David Villegas, a squad leader for Company A, noting that the company has many new Soldiers straight out of basic training. "The Soldiers are trying to get as much experience as possible. ... They will be prepared when they [get overseas]."

The Soldiers are getting to know each other, Villegas said, and he expects they will unite as one unit through hard work and training together. With many different types of experience in the unit — some Soldiers have been through Army Ranger School, and some have served as private security contractors, for example — Company A has many ways to complete a mission, he said.

"It motivates me and all the other [noncommissioned officers] to see these guys jumping over fences," said Sgt. Robert Millan, a team leader from Lindsay, Calif. "We don't have one bad attitude out here. All these young [Soldiers] are really motivated."

Sgt. Oscar Demara, a squad leader from Barley, Calif., said it's important to practice close-quarter combat training in

appropriate weather and terrain, but it is hard to simulate those conditions anywhere other than the National Training Center. "It's really close to being the real thing."

"We are better preparing the sons and daughters of the United States to have a better survivability overseas," said 2nd Lt. Pete Fortier, a platoon leader from Fresno, Calif. "We are exposing them to realistic threats that they will encounter in urban environments of both Afghanistan and Iraq."

"Realistic training hones realistic skills."

TOP: Spc. Andrew Park, a Soldier with 1st Battalion, 185th Armor Regiment, yells instructions to fellow I-185th Soldiers who are following close on his heels as he breaches and clears the front door of a mock dwelling at the National Training Center on Fort Irwin, Calif. **LEFT:** Park provides cover for Soldiers securing a courtyard during training. **RIGHT:** Park covers one room while two team members cover other rooms down the hall during training.

PHOTOS BY SGT. 1ST CLASS RAFAEL RODRIGUEZ



PHOTO BY TECH. SGT. DAVID J. LOEFFLER



Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger presents a plaque to Sgt. Ryan Anderson of Joint Force Headquarters in Sacramento at the state Capitol on Sept. 8. Anderson was the first student to complete a degree using funds from the California National Guard Education Assistance Award Program.

Governor congratulates EAAP's first recipient

Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger presented a plaque to Sgt. Ryan Anderson of Joint Force Headquarters on Sept. 8 for being the first student to complete a degree using funds from the California National Guard Education Assistance Award Program (EAAP).

Anderson used a grant from the EAAP to complete his Master of Arts in Education from the University of California, Davis. He graduated from UC Davis on June 9 of this year with a 3.9 grade-point average. He said he plans to use his education to attain a leadership role in either the military or a California school system.

"I feel that I can use my degree to be more

successful as a Soldier and an educator," Anderson said. "In the military, Soldiers are constantly called upon to train other Soldiers. My degree will help me to provide better training and assist others in creating training that is more effective."

Anderson, who joined the California National Guard in 2006, deployed to Camp Taji, Iraq, from June 2007 through May 2008 with 1st Battalion, 143rd Field Artillery Regiment.

He is one of 253 service members who have received money for school through the EAAP during 2010, the first year of the new education assistance program. In total, they have received about \$820,000.

University of Phoenix eligibility expanded

California National Guard Education Assistance Award Program (EAAP) funds can now be used at all University of Phoenix campuses and learning centers in California.

If you are attending or if you're interested in attending a University of Phoenix location that was previously ineligible for



the EAAP, you are encouraged to submit your application today. Online programs through the University of Phoenix are still ineligible for EAAP awards.

EAAP applications are being accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. The application steps can be found at www.calguard.ca.gov/education.

You served, now let us serve you.

www.veterans.ca.gov
or call 1-877-741-8532

California's Operation Welcome Home ensures that veterans are aware of and participating in the full spectrum of benefits and services available to them:

- Employment
- Health care
- Education
- Housing

For more information, visit www.veterans.ca.gov or call 1-877-741-8532.



California National Guard commissions 22 Army officers



ABOVE: Officer candidates march Aug. 13 during the Platoon Leaders Course on Camp San Luis Obispo, Calif. BOTTOM RIGHT: Graduating officers are commissioned in a ceremony Aug. 14 on Camp SLO.

OFFICER CANDIDATE SCHOOL AWARD WINNERS

2nd Lt. Jared Snow
The Erickson Trophy,
 presented to the graduate who demonstrated the greatest academic and leadership ability throughout Officer Candidate School

2nd Lt. Edlynn Atkins
The Association of the U.S. Army Leadership Award,
 presented to the graduate who demonstrated the greatest leadership ability throughout Officer Candidate School

2nd Lt. Joseph Rosa
The National Guard Association of California Award,
 presented to the graduate who demonstrated the greatest academic ability throughout Officer Candidate School

2nd Lt. Paul Nangle
The General Albert L. Leman Annual Award,
 presented to the graduate who was chosen to deliver the candidate response on behalf of the Class of 2010

OCS GRADUATES

Edlynn Atkins
 Jan Bender
 Raul Briseno
 Pravin Chandrasekaran
 Matthew David
 Matthew Fulton
 Joshua Jones
 Diana Lawag
 Aaron Mallary
 Ronald Manlangit
 Ian McNear

Michael Molina
 John Monti
 Paul Nangle
 Kerry Page
 Craig Parent
 Travis Pitcher
 Richard Porter
 Luis Rodriguez
 Joseph Rosa
 Jared Snow
 Wilson Ugah



PHOTOS BY SGT. 1ST CLASS JESSE FLAGG

By Sgt. Jon Guibord
Joint Force Headquarters Public Affairs

The California National Guard’s newest officers were commissioned in a ceremony at the theater on Camp San Luis Obispo, Calif., on Aug. 14.

This year’s graduating class of 22 lieutenants was split down the middle between candidates who completed the state’s traditional officer training program on Camp SLO and those who endured the accelerated Officer Candidate School (OCS) course on Fort Meade, S.D.

Although the young lieutenants took varying routes to complete their training, the entire class was brought together to attend the Platoon Leaders Course before they were officially commissioned. This weeklong leadership course was held on Camp SLO the week before the commissioning ceremony and served as the culminating event to bond the class and ready the officers for their first platoons.

“The Platoon Leaders Course was the end of my yearlong journey through the OCS program but the beginning of my career as an officer,” said 2nd Lt. Richard Porter, who previously served on active duty as a mortarman with the 4th Infantry Division. “My hat goes off to everyone who put it together, for challenging us and preparing us with the tools needed to be successful with our new platoons. I left this course much more confident and excited to meet my platoon.”

Of the 22 officers who completed the course, eight had previously served in the Army, five in the Marine Corps and one in the Navy. All tallied, they bring the experience of 97 years of enlisted time and 15 combat tours into the

Guard’s Officer Corps.

“It feels great to be through with the trials of Officer Candidate School,” said 2nd Lt. Jan Bender, who served four years as a Marine combat correspondent with the 1st Marine Division. “As a former [noncommissioned officer], I look forward to working hard for those in my charge, while growing into this new rank.”

The keynote speaker for the graduation ceremony was the deputy adjutant general of the California Army National Guard, Brig. Gen. Louis J. Antonetti, who was commissioned 37 years earlier in a similar ceremony on Camp SLO.

“Today we are in the presence of academy candidates who have perseverance, courage and conviction,” Antonetti said. “We are in the presence of those who have been prepared to work hard and study long hours. We are in the presence of those few who dare to win. We are in the presence of the future of the Army and the California National Guard.”

Second Lt. Paul Nangle, 29, of San Jose, who was selected to give the class response to Antonetti, spoke of the transformation he had witnessed.

“We came into the program as individuals and are leaving today as members of the Officer Corps,” Nangle said. “Everything we accomplished was as a team, and I can honestly say that without the help and support of one another, we would not be standing here today. We have met and made brothers and sisters in arms who will remain a part of our careers and lives.”



Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger congratulates Staff Sgt. Emmett Spraktes, left, Chief Warrant Officer 2 Scott St. Aubin and Staff Sgt. Thomas A. Gifford of Company C, 1-168th General Support Aviation Battalion, at the Capitol in Sacramento on Sept. 8. Schwarzenegger was unable to attend a ceremony for the Soldiers in June, when Spraktes received the Silver Star and St. Aubin and Gifford each received the Distinguished Flying Cross with Valor Device for heroic actions during a medical evacuation mission in Afghanistan last year.

Photo by Tech. Sgt. David J. Loeffler



Soldiers of Company B, 40th Brigade Support Battalion, gather for a photo during a ceremony which hosts units preparing to deploy to Afghanistan or Iraq. Among other achievements, the soldiers, while in support areas, collaborated on missions with active-duty personnel and augmented units.

Photo by Lt. Col. Julian Bond



Capt. Kincy Clark, commander of San Diego-based Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 79th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, shows off the brigade's new insignia patch during a re-patching ceremony Sept. 11. The color version of the insignia shows a red lightning bolt going through yellow and blue fields surrounded by a white border. Yellow is the traditional color for armor and cavalry, and blue is associated with infantry. Red is for artillery and engineers. The thunderbolt symbolizes speed and power, and white is adapted from the state flag. The division of the yellow and blue fields alludes to the meeting of land and sea — California's coastline.

Photo by Staff Sgt. Jessica Inigo



Sgt. Bach Zamboni, a member of the 40th Infantry Division, demonstrates proper weapon handling on the Engage Skills Trainer to 33 students at the Colombia College who are part of the Joint Forces Base-Los Angeles. Sept. 3. The students visited several other parts of their training.

Photo by Laura Herzog



Brig. Gen. Scott W. Johnson, commander of the 40th Infantry Division, swears in four Soldiers as they re-enlist Aug. 4 during their unit's annual training on Camp San Luis Obispo, Calif.

Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Rafael Rodriguez

At a Glance



During a three-week maintenance sustainment program in Hohenfels, Germany, soldiers, Company B completed 40 job-order repairs, reorganized two supply units and supported North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) maintenance operations.

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Staff Sgt. Edward Shenault of the 330th Military Police Company engages citizens during a patrol in Khowst Province, Afghanistan, prior to the Sept. 18 national election.

Photo by
Sgt. Jeffrey
Alexander



Brook and Kourtney Osborne receive National Guard backpacks from Col. John Lathrop, chief of staff, Army Division, California National Guard, after they performed the national anthem at the Battle at the Capital football tournament in Loomis, Calif., near Sacramento on Sept. 4th. The Battle at the Capital was a two-day high school football showcase with an emphasis on military appreciation hosted by Del Oro High School.

Photo by Sgt. (CA) Jessica Cooper



ABOVE: An Air National Guard hydroplane boat speeds across Mission Bay in San Diego during San Diego Bayfair from Sept. 17-19. The main event of the weekend was the Air Guard Championship hydroplane race. RIGHT: Staff Sgt. Anthony Daino of the 147th Combat Communications Squadron, 162nd Combat Communications Group, speaks with teens during the races.

Photos by
Master Sgt. Julie Avey



Soldiers of 1st Battalion, 185th Armor Regiment, work as a team to clear a house during an exercise at the National Training Center on Fort Irwin, Calif.

For more on the 1-185th, see page 7.

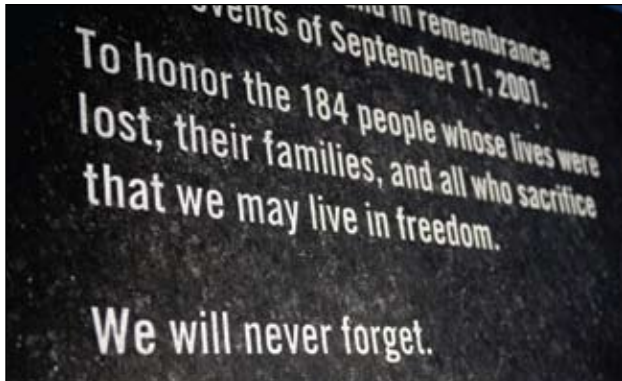
Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Rafael Rodriguez

REMEMBERING SEPTEMBER 11TH

PHOTO BY SGT. (CA) JESSICA COOPER



PHOTOS BY CHERIE CULLEN



TOP: A memorial created by Sacramento firefighters sits atop the Renaissance Tower in downtown Sacramento. On Sept. 11, a total of 343 Sacramento area firefighters climbed 110 flights of stairs in the 28-story building to honor the 343 New York firefighters who died in the attacks on the World Trade Center in 2001. Several ascents of the Renaissance Tower were made, to equal the number of floors in each World Trade Center tower. **ABOVE LEFT:** President Barack Obama laid a wreath at the Pentagon Memorial in Arlington, Va., on Sept. 11 to mark the ninth anniversary of the attack on the building. **ABOVE RIGHT:** Part of the Pentagon Memorial.

Attacks prompted Guard reshaping

By Sgt. Darron Salzer
National Guard Bureau

Since the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, the National Guard has made some of the most dramatic changes in its 373-year history.

"We have evolved and we have changed," said Air Force Maj. Gen. William Etter, acting director of domestic operations for the National Guard Bureau. "In the past, the Guard was a strategic reserve, and just like the name, it was held in reserve, waiting for the big one."

"Like any change, it was kind of insidious and started out small, so we may not have recognized it," he said.

The "big one" that entirely changed the dynamic of the National Guard came in early 2003, when Operation Iraqi Freedom began after multinational forces invaded Iraq.

"What happened there was such a large demand for [the American military] that the Guard became a part of going overseas," Etter said. "We're very proud of that, and it's something that we don't want to stop doing."

About three-quarters of all National Guard members have deployed once, and 25 percent have deployed

more than twice.

"The Guard feels like it's a battle-tested, hardened organization now, with many combat veterans," Etter said. "With that kind of experience level, it just makes for an extremely professional and capable [organization]."

The changes have been hard, he said, and like with any change, there has been some turbulence along the way. But the Guard is proud of the changes that have been made. Etter pointed out that the structural organization of the Army National Guard now closely mirrors that of the active duty Army.

During the Cold War, the Guard was often referred to as a force of "weekend warriors," which is a title that Etter said no longer applies as the National Guard gains respect among active duty forces.

"As we work together as a team, we see nothing other than being accepted as an equal partner on the team during the missions that we're on," he said. "Cultures take a long time to shift, but you've got a lot of combat veterans in the Guard right now, and they know what they're doing."

10k run honors 9/11 victims on COB Adder, Iraq

Story and photo by 1st Lt. Nathan Lavy
224th Sustainment Brigade

Hundreds of service members gathered for a 10-kilometer race early on the morning of Sept. 11 on Contingency Operating Base Adder, Iraq, to remember those who lost their lives during the terrorist attacks of Sept 11, 2001.

"We gather today to honor the lives of those killed in the attacks nine years ago," said Brig. Gen. Randal Dragon, deputy commander for 1st Infantry Division and senior mission commander on COB Adder, prior to the start of the race. "This is our way to honor them. Take a moment to reflect on your service and everything you've done in the service of our nation."

Sgt. Gregory Jackson of 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, finished the race with the fastest time. Sgt. Janelle Drennan of the 201st Battlefield Surveillance Brigade was the fastest woman.

Chief Warrant Officer 2 Sandy Andrade, a transportation movement request officer-in-charge with the California National Guard's 224th Sustainment Brigade, 103rd Sustainment Command (Expeditionary), was the top finisher in the women's 35-to-45-year-old group, with a time just over 51 minutes.

"I'm here in Iraq for my second tour because of what happened that day," Andrade said, recalling the events from nine years ago. "I will always remember where I was and what I was doing 11 September 2001."

Jackson is a sponsored runner who participates in many races each year, but he said winning the COB Adder race on Sept. 11 was special.

"To race on 9/11 is an event where I dig a little deeper and push a little harder," he said. "At least once a year we can show in our own way the motivation and determination that has grown from the rubble of the World Trade Center."



Sgt. 1st Class Antonio Costa of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 224th Sustainment Brigade, gives a thumbs-up during a memorial 10K race Sept. 11 on Contingency Operating Base Adder, Iraq. Chief Warrant Officer 2 Sandy Andrade of the 224th, left, was the top female finisher in the 36-to-45-year-old group that day, with a time of about 51 minutes.

Rapid Trident 2010

Co-hosted by the Ukrainian Army and the California Army National Guard, the annual Rapid Trident training mission teaches interoperability between armies and promotes cultural diversity and tolerance.



Ukrainian dancers perform for Soldiers participating in Operation Rapid Trident during a Friendship Dinner on Sept. 11 in Central City, Ukraine.

Ceremony kicks off multinational mission

By Spc. Nevada J. Smith
69th Public Affairs Detachment

Each year, Soldiers from North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) countries participate in a multinational training mission as part of a Partnership for Peace exercise in Ukraine. This mission, which lasts slightly more than two weeks, promotes friendship and builds communication skills while cross-training members of the various countries' militaries.

On Sept. 6 at the Central City training base near Lviv, Ukraine, the exercise kicked off with a commencement ceremony.

"I have much enthusiasm for this exercise, as I have been personally involved with this exercise since 2003," said Brig. Gen. Charlotte Miller, assistant adjutant general, Army Division, California National Guard. "I have seen

many positive developments in the training value of the contributing nations and the service members from the U.S. and Ukraine. It is my wish by the end of Rapid Trident 2010, you too will share my enthusiasm."

Maj. Gen. Vyacheslav Nazarkin, deputy commander of the 8th Army Corps, Ukrainian Armed Forces, said all 1,400 troops from the various nations will learn how to function as a cohesive body in war fighting and peacekeeping missions, but will also learn to incorporate the many differences that each nation's army brings culturally and tactically.

"If this is your first time to this exercise, either as an individual or contributing nation, I believe you will find a rich environment for learning and reinforcing coalition operations," Miller said.

Medevac training aids Ukrainian, CNG troops

By Pfc. Marilyn Lowry
69th Public Affairs Detachment

Kneeling in a meadow tall with grass, Soldiers from Company A, 1st Battalion, 184th Infantry Regiment, prepared for a real-time medical evacuation (medevac) involving both helicopter and ambulance transportation Sept. 10.

Working together with Ukrainian Soldiers, the exercise utilized patients with simulated injuries.

"Everything's very realistic," said Spc. Victor Garibay of Kingsburg, Calif. "It gives us great practice."

Garibay pulled security from a stationary position as the medevac helicopter flew over him and landed nearby to pick up the first injured Soldier. With good teamwork, the Soldier was successfully loaded into the helicopter, which left for a hospital in Lviv, Ukraine, shortly before an ambulance arrived to evacuate a second wounded Soldier.

"This gives us a good idea of how much time an actual evacuation will take," said Sgt. 1st Class Renato Matheson of the Utah National Guard. "This way we can try to reduce the casualties in the field by knowing what kind of support is required."

Matheson added that possible delays associated with working through language barriers were taken into account to provide the most accurate total response time for each portion of the exercise.



TOP: Pvt. Rick Price jokes with fellow Soldiers of 1st Battalion, 184th Infantry Regiment, before an exercise Sept. 10 in Central City, Ukraine. MIDDLE: Polish Soldiers escape from a mock ambush during a multinational field training exercise Sept. 14 as part of Operation Rapid Trident. BOTTOM: Polish Soldiers prepare for an ambush during a field training exercise Sept. 14.

Field training breaks language barriers

By Pfc. Marilyn Lowry
69th Public Affairs Detachment

Holding very still in deep fields and heavy fog, Soldiers hid quietly under brush and trees in anticipation of their opponents' strike during an oppositional forces field training exercise Sept. 15.

The multinational Soldiers of Operation Rapid Trident were required to work together to issue orders up and down the chain of command while under small arms fire and attacks from rocket-propelled grenades.

"They're all doing excellently, given the different language barriers and standard operating procedures," said Staff Sgt. Shawn Peterson of the Utah National Guard, one of the people coordinating the exercise.

Peterson said the exercise will benefit Soldiers who need to communicate with troops from different countries in future combat situations.



Soldiers of 1st Battalion, 184th Infantry Regiment, carry a Soldier during a medical evacuation exercise that teamed them with Ukrainian Army troops on Sept. 10 in Central City, Ukraine.

PHOTO BY PFC. MARILYN LOWRY

PHOTO BY SPC. NEVADA J. SMITH

PHOTOS BY PFC. MARILYN LOWRY

163rd breaks ground for new hangar

By Staff Sgt. Paul Duquette
163d Reconnaissance Wing

The Air National Guard broke ground Aug. 24 at Southern California Logistics Airport in Victorville, where the National Guard is building its first hangar designed specifically for remotely piloted aircraft.

The hangar will support the needs of the 163rd Reconnaissance Wing Formal Training Unit (FTU). The 163rd FTU's MQ-1 Predator launch-and-recovery operation is currently based in a temporary facility at SCLA.

"This is a great day for the 163rd Reconnaissance Wing," said Maj. Gen. Dennis G. Lucas, commander of the California Air National Guard. "[The wing] made the transformation from a tanker mission to a combat operational Predator unit in less than seven months [in 2005]. I don't think any other unit could have done that, active duty or otherwise."

The Predator has been operational for 15 years, accruing almost 1 million flying hours. Of those hours, 50,000 were flown by the 163rd.

"The Predator has brought the fight to the enemy, and the California Air National Guard is leading the way," said James Clark, director of the Air Force Combat Support Office and deputy chief of staff for air and space operations. "It was the first aircraft over the skies of Afghanistan after the World Trade Center tragedy."

Of all the war machines the U.S. military has overseas, the enemy fears the Predator and MQ-9 Reaper unmanned aerial systems the most, Clark said.

Maj. Gen. Dennis G. Lucas, commander of the California Air National Guard, left, breaks ground for a remotely piloted aircraft hangar Aug. 24 at Southern California Logistics Airport in Victorville with Col. Randall Ball, commander of the 163rd Reconnaissance Wing, and Rudy Cabriaes, mayor of Victorville.



PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. PAUL DUQUETTE



Maj. Gen. Peter M. Aylward, special assistant to the chief of the National Guard Bureau, right, learns about the equipment used by California National Guard members at inland and coastal sites in southern California to support U.S. Customs and Border Protection and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement. The name of the CNG Soldier with Aylward has been withheld for security reasons. Aylward visited National Guard troops along the U.S.-Mexico border in all four border states in September.

NGB general visits border troops

Story and photo by Staff Sgt. Jessica Inigo
Joint Task Force Sierra Public Affairs

In order to gain a broad picture of the beginning operations of the Southwest border mission, Maj. Gen. Peter M. Aylward, special assistant to the chief of the National Guard Bureau, visited all four border states in September, saving California for last.

After crossing Texas, New Mexico and Arizona, Aylward was joined in San Diego on Sept. 15 by Brig. Gen. Kevin Ellsworth, director of the California National Guard Joint Staff and standing joint task force commander for domestic support from CNG Joint Force Headquarters in Sacramento.

Joint Task Force Sierra leadership escorted Aylward and other officials to Border Patrol Sector Headquarters in Chula Vista, Calif., to learn about and discuss each facet of the mission.

Briefings from task force leadership detailed the number of troops on the ground as well as the reserve individuals trained and ready to be added to the mission if needed. U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) officials then showed a video portraying the extensive work done in San Diego County during the last decade. Finally, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents explained classified details on adding military criminal analysts to their mission of intelligence data processing.

After the briefings Aylward took a flight on an AS350 helicopter used by CBP to see the different land and coastal locations where California National Guard troops are stationed to act as additional eyes

and ears for CBP agents.

Later he visited scope sites in the San Ysidro Mountains and spoke to entry identification team members about their day-to-day mission.

"The whole purpose of coming out here, frankly, was to look the commander and the Soldiers in the eye and tell them how really important it is what they are doing for this nation, what they are doing for our colleagues at Customs and Border Protection and Immigration and Customs Enforcement — what it really means to this mission set," Aylward said while visiting a scope site and speaking with troops who man the site 24 hours a day. "I'm impressed by the morale, the training that they've gone through and the way they've conducted themselves across the board."

Task force leadership also brought the general to armories so he could see the daily work environment for the Soldiers and Airmen who act as support personnel for the entry identification team and analysts in the field.

"It's extremely important to have open communication and for key leadership to actually see what's happening on the ground," said Col. William "Rudy" Arruda, Joint Task Force Sierra commander. "The visit made for a good exchange of information, opened better communications between the four border states and opened avenues of exchange [with the National Guard Bureau]."

Hometown Heroes event honors 261st CCS Airmen

By Tech. Sgt. Jose Leo D. Jamir
261st Combat Communications Squadron

The 261st Combat Communications Squadron honored about 70 service members and their families July 11 during the unit's Hometown Heroes event, which recognized Airmen who had deployed for more than 30 consecutive days in support of peacekeeping operations between 2001 and 2008.

Each recipient received a letter of appreciation from Gen. Craig R. McKinley, chief of the National Guard Bureau, which was accompanied by a Hometown Heroes coin and encased in a rosewood frame. Each spouse received a Hometown Heroes pen-and-pencil set, and children received personalized dog tags in appreciation of their sacrifice.

"Our people have stepped up to the challenge of

responding when their country calls and sacrificed time away from loved ones, school and civilian jobs," said Lt. Col. Victor Adame. "They represent what a true citizen-Soldier is all about, and I am very proud of them."

The honorees included 20 Airmen who returned this year from tours in Iraq and Afghanistan.

"We are here to recognize, honor and thank our past, present as well as our future Hometown Heroes for their service and commitment," said Master Sgt. Ron Hazelton, first sergeant for the 261st. "We also honor our family. They give us the strength and courage to carry on in our toughest of times, and for that we also thank them."



PHOTO BY ANDREW STRAUSS

The 261st Combat Communications Squadron Honor Guard stands before a satellite communications antenna during the unit's Hometown Heroes event July 11 in the San Fernando Valley, Calif.

Flying High in Sacramento

California Capital Airshow takes to the skies

More than 120,000 people attended the California Capital Airshow last month at Mather Field near Sacramento, where they were wowed by demonstrations of military and civilian air prowess.

Among the aircraft showcased Sept. 11-12 were the F-16C Fighting Falcon jet, HH-60G Pave Hawk helicopter and MC-130P Combat Shadow aircraft, all of which are flown by the California National Guard. Additional aircraft at the show included the F-22A Raptor, F/A-18C Hornet, T-38 Talon-Multi-ship, B-52H Stratofortress and U-2 Dragon Lady Spyplane.

The nonprofit air show uses proceeds to provide scholarships to students who are interested in aviation, aeronautics, aerospace and related fields.

"The California Capital Airshow strives to show gratitude for veterans and current military personnel and to inspire and educate youth in our region," Rep. Dan Lungren said before the event. "Those who have served their country and young people looking forward to future service will be in awe."

Last year's California Capital Airshow was held in conjunction with Air Force Week Sacramento, which included a mud run, concerts and visits with high school students. Air Force Week is an annual series of events throughout the country, designed to showcase the Air Force's people, equipment and mission.

PHOTOS BY TECH. SGT. DAVID J. LOEFFLER



Training workshop fosters equal opportunity practices

Story and photo by Tech. Sgt. David J. Loeffler
Joint Force Headquarters Public Affairs

Members of the California National Guard joined with more than 325 equal opportunity professionals in August and September for the annual National Guard Bureau EO-EEO Training Workshop in Los Angeles.

"This year's Equal Opportunity-Equal Employment Opportunity (EO-EEO) conference proved to be yet another valuable assembly of more than 300 equal opportunity professionals," said Chief Master Sgt. Michael Hunt, chief of equal employment labor and employee relations for the California National Guard. "The training was phenomenal and the diverse array of speakers proved to be exciting and enlightening for the attendees."

The theme of the workshop was "Back 2 Basics ... R U Ready?" The intensive sessions and breakouts covered a wide array of topics, from the "nexus effect" to the military's "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy, and often charged the rooms with open, energetic debate. Attendees were challenged throughout the workshop to create new methods of ensuring a positive climate for the home stations.

"The military continues to be one of the most respected organizations in America," said Clarence A. Johnson, principal direc-

tor and director for civilian equal opportunity in the Office of the Deputy Undersecretary of Defense. "Its strength comes from its leadership. It is up to you to be a leader in the equal opportunity field."

The workshop also included a visit to the Simon Wiesenthal Museum of Tolerance in Los Angeles and a presentation by Terrence Roberts, one of the original nine African-American students who integrated Little Rock Central High School in 1957 in Arkansas.

"It is true that I was born in Little Rock. I had no choice in that," he said. "I emerged from the comfort of the embryonic fluid to then be deposited onto the soil of Little Rock, with black skin when the preferred color was white. That was just the beginning of the irrationality of my life."

Roberts recounted the challenges he and the Little Rock Nine faced daily.

"Although I wanted to quit every single day, for me it was a simple choice: A better school meant a better education and a better life," Roberts said. "There are times in life when the goal is so overwhelming and so important that you will risk life and limb to reach those accomplishments."



Terrence Roberts, one of the original nine African-American students who integrated Little Rock Central High School in Arkansas in 1957, speaks to equal-opportunity workshop attendees at the Simon Wiesenthal Museum of Tolerance in Los Angeles.

Lt. Col. Judith J. Mathewson, director of the National Guard Bureau Office of Equal Opportunity, said a good equal opportunity climate means people are motivated when they go to work, they're motivated when they deploy and they know they have each other's backs.

"If you have a climate where people are happy and feeling valued, they make a difference. It takes people working together as a team to make a cohesive unit," she said. "When people feel honored and valued, they are able to get the mission done. ... And that is what equal opportunity is all about."

LG Wyatt: ANG a more cost-effective operational force

**By Tech. Sgt. John Orrell
National Guard Bureau**

For the Air National Guard to continue as an operational force, it should be fielded with the same equipment as its active-duty counterparts, the director of the Air Guard said Sept. 13.

"That costs money, but it doesn't cost nearly as much money as trying to maintain an operational force and a tiered readiness or strategic reserve-only force," Lt. Gen. Harry M. Wyatt said during the Air Force Association Air and Space Conference and Technology Exposition in Maryland.

"I think the National Guard is positioned exactly where we want to be to show that we are [an] efficient force," he continued. "We provide the capability that the country needs, we are an operational force, and as long as we are fielded concurrently with the active component ... we can be operational at a fraction of the cost."

Wyatt said the Air Guard should continue to build off of its past experiences but also adapt to the changing times and missions.

"When you take a look at what the Air National Guard has done through the years, it's nothing new," he said. "We've been doing it for a long time ... [and] we think we're pretty good at it. But we're going to have to sharpen our pencils and get even better at what we're doing."

Another topic being discussed at the Pentagon is the appropriate active component and reserve component mix.

"There will have to be some tough decisions made regard-

ing force structure and end strength ... in the three components of the Air Force as we go forward in the future," Wyatt said.

There will be difficulties, Wyatt said, but he has confidence the Air National Guard will be able to adapt and overcome those difficulties because of the quality of its Airmen.

"Our Airmen will figure out a way to take whatever deficiencies ... handed them and they will figure out a way to win," he said.

Wyatt added that senior Air Guard leadership must also help Airmen adapt.

"We've got to invest in education," he said. "We've got to invest in support of their families, and we've got to invest in joint experiences to make sure that these Airmen are at the top of their game."



PHOTO BY TECH. SGT. RAY AQUINO



PHOTO BY SENIOR MASTER SGT. CHRIS DRUDGE

RIGHT: Pilots from the California National Guard's 144th Fighter Wing prepare to launch F-16C Fighting Falcon aircraft from Kona International Airport, Hawaii, in support of the multinational Rim of the Pacific Exercise on July 13. **INSET:** Tech. Sgt. Jimmy Ford, an aerial gunner for the 129th Rescue Wing, conducts a preflight inspection of a GAU-2C Minigun on an HH-60G Pave Hawk helicopter March 24 on Moffett Federal Airfield, Calif.

Guard role continues as Iraq combat mission ends

Army Guard provides stability operations in support of Operation New Dawn

**By Lt. Col. Ellen Krenke
National Guard Bureau**

The U.S. combat mission in Iraq ended Aug. 31, but Army National Guard members remain on duty in the region to provide stability operations in support of Operation New Dawn.

"We have drawn down our forces proportionately to the active duty, but that number will remain constant for [fiscal year 2011]," said Col. Ted Hildreth, chief of operations at the Army National Guard Readiness Center in Arlington, Va.

Fewer than 50,000 U.S. troops are now in Iraq, including about 5,000 from the Army National Guard.

Four Army Guard units, including the 40th Combat Aviation Brigade from California, will rotate into the theatre during the next year.

"Potentially, these could be the last remaining mobilizations of Army National Guard units to Iraq," Hildreth said, adding that all American troops will be out of Iraq at the end of 2011.

As part of Operation New Dawn, the Army National Guard and other U.S.

forces will have three primary missions: advising, assisting and training Iraqi security forces; conducting counterterrorism operations; and providing support to provincial reconstruction teams.

"I think certainly the National Guard has demonstrated over time its ability ... in both Afghanistan and Iraq," Hildreth said. "These Soldiers are adding value when they put the uniform on."

A wave of attacks in Iraq in late August demonstrated that al-Qaeda is still capable of operating in the area, U.S. Central Command officials said.

"Even though combat operations have ended, [that] doesn't mean that the enemy has stopped trying to interdict or stop us from doing what we need to do to support the Iraqi government as they continue to stand up and improve their ability to support the people of Iraq," said Lt. Col. Phillip Appleton, commander of 3rd Combined Arms Battalion, 116th Cavalry Brigade Combat Team, one of the Guard units scheduled to deploy this year in support of Operation New Dawn.



PHOTO BY SPC. EDDIE SIGUENZA

Spc. Wesley Adams, left, and Spc. Rommel Vazquez of the California National Guard's 49th Military Police Brigade greet Iraqi police officers while supporting security operations March 7, the day of Iraq's national election.

EXECUTIVE PERSONNEL COUNCIL RESULTS, Q4 2010

Last month, Grizzly featured the results from the General Officer Executive Personnel Council for the fourth quarter of fiscal year 2010. The results from the Executive Personnel Council are listed below.

All officers must complete their respective pre-command course before they can assume command.



Command

Lieutenant Colonel Nick Ducich, J33, JFHQ, transferred to Commander 79th Brigade Special Troops Battalion (BSTB), effective NET 1 Mar 11.

Lieutenant Colonel Anthony F. Noll, J35, JFHQ, transferred to Commander 1-160th Infantry Battalion, effective NLT 1 Jan 11.

Major Michael J. Leeney (DA-Select), ADM Operations Officer, 40th ID, transferred to Commander 1-143rd Fires Battalion, effective 1 Jul 11. Promote IAW 05 Control Grade OML.

Staff

Lieutenant Colonel Michael A. Byers, Liaison Officer, 40th ID, reassigned to Chief of Protection, 40th ID, effective NET 1 Feb 11.

Lieutenant Colonel John E. Burick, Commander, 1-160th Infantry Battalion, transferred to ACoFS, G9/CMO, 40th ID, effective NLT 1 Jan 11.

Lieutenant Colonel David M. Kelly, Operations Officer, TAC CP, 40th ID, transferred to Plans and Operations Branch Chief, J6, JFHQ, effective REFRAD + 120 days.

Lieutenant Colonel Kimberly M. Lalley, Excess Position, CA ANG, JFHQ, transferred to Equal Opportunity Officer (EEO), J1, JFHQ, with subsequent appointment as LTC, CAARNG, effective NET 1 Dec 10.

Lieutenant Colonel George A. Leone, Commander, 79th Brigade Special Troops Battalion (BSTB), transferred to Director, Public Works (DPW), Camp Roberts, effective NET 1 Mar 11.

Lieutenant Colonel Barbara J. McPhail, S6, 49th MP Brigade, transferred to Personnel Recovery Coordination Cell (PRCC) Director, 40th ID, effective 1 Jan 11.

Lieutenant Colonel Daniel T. Monaghan, Deputy Commander (over-strength), 224th SB, reassigned to Chief, Red Team, 40th ID, effective REFRAD + 120 days.

Lieutenant Colonel Emily S. Perry, JFHQ Fwd 60, transferred to Mobilization Branch Chief, G3, Army Division, JFHQ, effective 1 Jan 11.

Lieutenant Colonel William H. Poppler, S3, 100th TC, transferred to Surface Maintenance Division Chief, G4, JFHQ, effective 1 Sep 10.

Lieutenant Colonel William E. Roberts, Chief Data Processing, USPFO-CA, transferred to Deputy G6, JFHQ, effective 1 Oct 10.

Lieutenant Colonel Lori R. Schanhals, IST, AKARNG, assigned to Plans and Policy Branch Chief, G4, JFHQ, effective 1 Aug 10 (information only).

Lieutenant Colonel Kurt A. Schlicter, J5 Plans Branch Chief, JFHQ, reassigned to Deputy J3, JFHQ, effective 1 Oct 10.

Lieutenant Colonel Robert T. Wooldridge II, Commander, 1-143rd Fires Battalion, transferred to Fire Support Coordinator, 79th IBCT, effective 1 Jul 11.

Lieutenant Colonel Stanley F. Zezotarski, PRCC Director, 40th ID, transferred to J5 Plans Branch Chief, JFHQ, effective 1 Oct 10.

Major Scott D. Cameron, Facilities Construction Management Engineer, JFHQ, reassigned to Engineer Branch Chief, JFHQ and promote, effective 1 Nov 10. Promotion is contingent upon selection by the 10D DA Board.

Major Jerald L. Clements II (DA-Select), Operations Officer, J3, JFHQ, transferred to Rear Detachment Commander, 40th ID and promote, effective 1 Dec 10. Promote IAW 05 Control Grade OML.

Major David C. Dumond, Assistant CBRNE Officer, 40th ID, reassigned to CBRNE Officer, 40th ID and promote, effective 1 Feb 11. Promotion is contingent upon selection by the 10D DA Board.

Major Nicholas W. Fleischmann Jr (DA-Select), Logistics Support Officer, J4, JFHQ, reassigned to Current Operations Chief, J33, JFHQ and promote, effective 1 Mar 11.

Major Tamara J. Frattalone, Assistant Supply Management Officer, G4, Army Division, transferred to Supply and Services Chief, USPFO-CA and promote, effective 1 Sep 10.

Major Gilbert R. Granado (DA-Select), Plans and Policy Officer, G4, Army Division, reassigned to Supply Management Branch Chief, G4, JFHQ and promote, effective 1 Sep 10. Following promotion, reassign to Public Affairs Officer (PAO), 40th ID.

Major Martin R. Juarez, Liaison Officer (LNO), 40th ID, reassigned to Electronic Warfare (EW) Officer, 40th ID and promote, effective 1 Sep 10. Promotion is contingent upon selection by the 10D DA Board.

Major Kenneth M. Koop (DA-Select), Network Operations Officer, 40th ID, transferred to S2/S3, 100th TC and promote, effective 1 Sep 10.

Major David A. Mazi Jr (DA-Select), CBRNE Officer, 40th ID, reassigned to Liaison Officer (LNO), 40th ID and promote, effective 1 Feb 11.

Major Donnie M. Miller (DA-Select), S4, 49th MP Brigade, transferred to Supply Management Branch Chief, G4, Army Division and promote, effective 1 Dec 10. Promote IAW 05 Control Grade OML.

Major Louis B. Millikan (DA-Select), Executive Officer, 1-160th IN, transferred to Future Operations Chief J35, JFHQ and promote, effective 1 Jan 11.

Major James L. Parsons, Operations Officer, J5, JFHQ, transferred to S6, 49th MP Brigade and promote, effective 1 Jan 11.

Major Anthony E. Paulson III (DA-Select), Support Operations Officer (SOO), 115th RSG, transferred to Liaison Officer (LNO), 40th ID and promote, effective 1 Feb 11.

Major Collins J. Sullivan (DA-Select), General Dentist, CA MED DET, reassigned to State Dental Officer, CA MED DET and promote, effective 1 Sep 10.

Warrant Officer Actions

Chief Warrant Officer 4 Paul E. Neveu, D/1-140th AVN (AASLT), transferred to TAC Operations Officer, 40th CAB and promote. Promotion contingent upon retirement of CW5 Shawn F. O'Neill and completion of WOSSC.

AGR Control Grades

06/COL CG Status: REQ: 6. AUTH (FY10): 7. Temp CG: 1. Total: 8. Assigned: 9 (1 promoted using DA Mob Authority). Available: 0. Pending Losses (FY10): 1.

Lieutenant Colonel Andrew R. Flynn (DA-Select), Deputy Commander, 79th IBCT has been placed on the OML for the first available 06/COL CG.

05/LTC CG Status: REQ: 26. AUTH: 30. Temp CG: 1 Total: 31. Assigned: 31 (1 promoted using DA Mob Authority). Available: 0. Pending Losses (FY11): 9.

Order of Merit List (OML).

- (1) **Major Angel M. Ortiz** (DA-Select) - Command.
- (2) **Major Kevin K. Bender** (DA-Select) - Staff.
- (3) **Major John J. McBrearty** (DA-Select) - Command.
- (4) **Major Kevin D. Eldridge** (DA-Select) - Staff.
- (5) **Major Zachariah S. Delwiche** - Command.
- (6) **Major David L. Hall** (DA-Select) - Staff.
- (7) **Major Michael J. Leeney** (DA-Select) - Command.
- (8) **Major Jerald L. Clements II** (DA-Select) - Command.
- (9) **Major Donnie M. Miller** (DA-Select) - Staff.

04/MAJ CG Status: REQ: 91. AUTH (FY10): 69. Temp CG: 0 Total: 69. Assigned: 60. Available: 9. Pending Losses (FY10): 0. No additional AGR Officers were allocated a 04/MAJ CG this quarter.

Vacancies

The projected date for the fiscal year 2011 first-quarter Executive Personnel Council is Oct. 21, 2010, at Mather Field. The following 05/LTC positions are vacant or projected to be vacant in the next 12-18 months and will be considered:

S3, 224th SB
 Commander, STB, 224th SB
 Liaison Officer, 40th ID
 Medical Operations Officer, 40th ID
 Deputy Commander, CA Med Det
 Chief Data Processing, USPFO-CA
 Current Operations Chief, J4, JFHQ
 Chief, Environmental Office, JFHQ
 State Inspector General (IG), JFHQ
 Deputy SJA, 40th ID
 Operations Officer, AMS 40th ID
 Field Surgeon, CA Med Det
 Deputy Commander, 224th SB
 Internal Review Br Chief, USPFO-CA
 Mental Health Officer Chief, JFHQ

OUR CREEDS

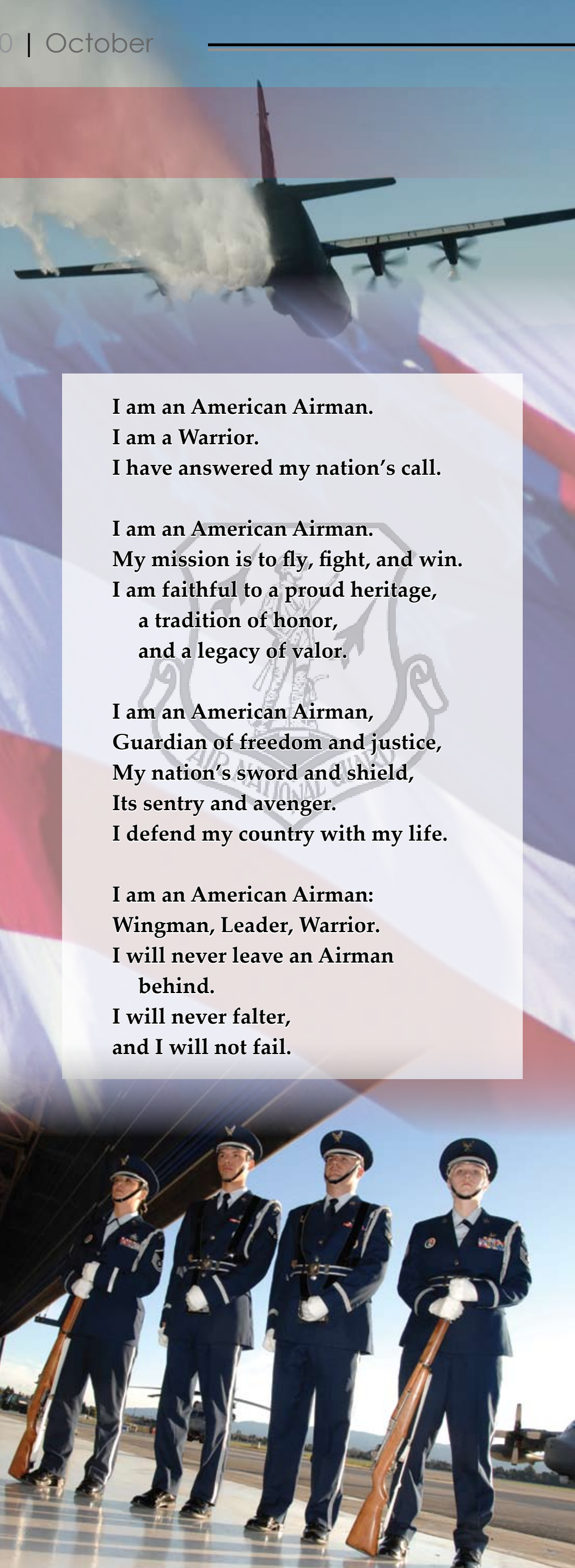
I am an American Soldier.
I am a Warrior and a member of a team.
I serve the people of the United States,
and live the Army Values.
I will always place the mission first.
I will never accept defeat.
I will never quit.
I will never leave a fallen comrade.
I am disciplined, physically and mentally
tough, trained and proficient in my
warrior tasks and drills.
I always maintain my arms, my
equipment and myself.
I am an expert and I am a professional.
I stand ready to deploy, engage, and
destroy, the enemies of the United
States of America in close combat.
I am a guardian of freedom and the
American way of life.
I am an American Soldier.

I am an American Airman.
I am a Warrior.
I have answered my nation's call.

I am an American Airman.
My mission is to fly, fight, and win.
I am faithful to a proud heritage,
a tradition of honor,
and a legacy of valor.

I am an American Airman,
Guardian of freedom and justice,
My nation's sword and shield,
Its sentry and avenger.
I defend my country with my life.

I am an American Airman:
Wingman, Leader, Warrior.
I will never leave an Airman
behind.
I will never falter,
and I will not fail.





Biathlon event, memorial fund honor Lt. Col. Chuck Lyda

The Auburn Ski Club in Soda Springs, Calif., will host a summer biathlon (run and shoot) Oct. 31 in memory of Lt. Col. Charles C. Lyda, who served the California National Guard from 1983 until his death from cancer in June at age 57.

In addition to his dedicated military service, Lyda was a two-time Olympian and two-time world champion in the sport of canoe/kayak. He was also a member of the Olympic Biathlon Team coaching staff at the 1998 and 2002 games. He was a member of a U.S. national team in biathlon or canoe/kayak 28 times.

Registration ranges from \$20 to \$50 for members, non-members, adults and children. The Chuck Lyda Memorial Fund, which has been established to help the club's aspiring young athletes, will receive 20 percent of the registration fees. For more information: www.biathlon-asc.com or 530-426-3313, x100.

Solve a gov't problem & get paid

The Department of Defense and other government agencies are inviting creative solutions to government problems at www.challenge.gov, a White House initiative that launched in September.

Pentagon officials submitted four challenges to the website, which offers millions of dollars in prizes to those who find solutions to challenges that span all areas of government.

Among the Defense Department submissions is a challenge from the Air Force, in partnership with the Defense Department's Cyber Crime Center, to pioneer new investigative tools, techniques and methodologies. The Army Research Laboratory is seeking people to create innovative and interactive solutions in virtual environments, with a focus on artificial intelligence.

Deadlines vary. See www.challenge.gov for details.

Stop-loss claim period running out

Less than half of the \$534 million set aside by Congress for military members whose service was involuntarily extended after Sept. 11, 2001, has been claimed — and the deadline to claim your money is Oct. 21.

The 2009 War Supplemental Appropriations Act provided \$500 for each month or partial month served in "stop-loss" status. Service members, veterans and beneficiaries of service members whose service was involuntarily extended under stop-loss between Sept. 11, 2001, and Sept. 30, 2009, are eligible for retroactive pay. The average benefit is \$3,700.

"Qualifying individuals have served — or are still serving — their country nobly and deserve to be paid the money they've earned," said Adm. Mike Mullen, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. "The application process is simple and straightforward. No strings attached. But once the deadline passes, we cannot by law extend it. ... It's your money, so come get it."

Stop-loss service members who voluntarily re-enlisted or extended their service, and received a bonus for that re-enlistment or extension, are not eligible for retroactive stop-loss special pay.

For more information, visit www.defense.gov/stoploss.

Get absentee, mail-in ballot today

California has scheduled a general election for Nov. 2. The last day to register to vote is Oct. 18.

Any registered California voter can vote by mail. A mail-in ballot must be requested by Oct. 26.

Military members, spouses and dependents may also qualify as special absentee voters. For more information, visit the California secretary of state's website for military and overseas voters: www.sos.ca.gov/elections/elections_mov.htm.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Oct. 5-6 in Bakersfield, CA (8 a.m.):
Living in the New Normal: Helping Children Thrive Through
Contact/register: www.militarychild.org or Mindi Ward at 254-953-1923

Oct. 12-13 in Redding, CA (8 a.m.):
Supporting Children of the National Guard and Reserve Institute
Contact/register: www.militarychild.org or Mindi Ward at 254-953-1923

Oct. 21 in McClellan, CA, near Sacramento (10 a.m.):
'Honor a Hero, Hire a Vet' Job and Resource Fair
Contact: Carol Katalbas at 916-227-0301

Oct. 23 in Sacramento, CA (5 p.m.):
Best Warrior Banquet, California Army National Guard
Registration costs \$45 to \$65.
Contact/register: Sgt. Christian Guillory at christian.guillory@us.army.mil or 916-854-3460

Nov. 9-10 in Fresno, CA (8 a.m.):
Supporting Children of the National Guard and Reserve Institute
Contact/register: www.militarychild.org or Mindi Ward at 254-953-1923

Nov. 15-16 in Modesto, CA (8 a.m.):
Living in the New Normal: Helping Children Thrive Through
Contact/register: www.militarychild.org or Mindi Ward at 254-953-1923

DID YOU KNOW...

... specific procedures must be followed to process a conditional release from the California National Guard?

A conditional release, once approved, releases a Soldier or Airman from the National Guard for the remainder of their commitment. The Soldier or Airman seeking a conditional release must submit to their unit a completed Defense Department Form 368 and a release-request letter that explains the reason for requesting a conditional release. Service members must clear all supply actions before a conditional release can be completed.

California Army National Guard Personnel Policy Bulletin 09-05 requires that the conditional release process be completed within 45 days from submittal of DD Form 368 and the release-request letter. The unit commander will recommend approval or disapproval, then send the documents through the chain of command to the deputy adjutant general, Army Division, for final approval or disapproval.

Airmen who wish to transfer from the Air National Guard to another branch of service are required to initiate this request using DD Form 368. Airmen use Air Force Form 1288 to initiate "Blue to Blue" transfers between the Air National Guard, Air Force Reserve and active duty Air Force. Both types of releases are routed through the chain of command to the director of staff—Air for final approval.

Reference: Army Regulation (AR) 135-91, AR 135-205, AR 635-200, National Guard Regulation 600-200, and the U.S. Air Force Fact Sheet for Conditional Releases.



Public Affairs Directorate, California National Guard

9800 Goethe Road, Sacramento, CA 95827-3561



PHOTO BY SGT. (CA) JESSICA COOPER

A memorial bell created by Sacramento firefighters sits atop the Renaissance Tower in downtown Sacramento, overlooking the Capitol, on Sept. 11. Three hundred and forty three Sacramento area firefighters climbed 110 flights of stairs in the 28-story building on Sept. 11 in honor of the 343 firefighters who died in the attacks on the World Trade Center in New York on Sept. 11, 2001. Several ascents of the Renaissance Tower were made, to equal the number of floors in each World Trade Center tower. Tech. Sgt. Erin McPherson of the 562nd Air National Guard Band sang the national anthem during a ceremony following the climb.

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Submissions: GrizzlyMag.ngca@ng.army.mil

Feedback: brandon.honig@us.army.mil

Address/subscription: Current Guard members must make all changes through their unit.
Retired Guard members, email GrizzlyMag.ngca@ng.army.mil.

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