

UTAH MINUTEMAN

Utah National Guard Joint Magazine

Volume X No. 2

Summer 2010

**85th CST Responds to Layton
Hazardous-Gas Incident**

**144th ASMC Departs
for Afghanistan**

**Det 50 Returns
from Afghanistan**





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The Adjutant General's Corner

DRAPER, Utah — **S**pring 2010 finds the Utah National Guard preparing for a series of challenging deployments overseas, as well as a daunting schedule of Annual Training events. As always, our thoughts and prayers are with those deployed units and personnel who are now engaged in the warfight. It is well to note that over the years, thousands of Utah Soldiers and Airmen have been instrumental in our nation's effort to combat terror. I salute all of you, your families and your employers.

As I look at the overall barometers of the condition of the Guard, I can report encouraging signs. Both the Army and Air Guard have enjoyed remarkable recruiting efforts, and the percentage of those who choose to remain in our ranks are at all-time highs. We are doing a superb job of meeting our goals to be qualified in our specialties, whether it be Army Military Occupational Specialties or Air Force Specialty Code qualification rates. The Guard has received tremendous amounts of new and greatly needed equipment, and our logistics personnel are doing a fine job of "resetting" our older equipment that has been used in the deployments.

One of our great challenges is simply this: we have skills within our formations which are indispensable in prosecuting today's conflicts. In the Army, aviation, intelligence and Special Forces are in great demand. Additionally, our engineers and artillerymen have proven adept in a host of roles. In the air, tankers remain the great shortage platform in the Air Force inventory, and our intelligence and air-control professionals are in great demand. The outlook for a high demand remains for these types of units and skills.

We have been greatly assisted by the Utah Legislature over the past three sessions in providing us with appropriations to renovate and remodel many of our older readiness centers. The Tooele and Vernal facilities have been completed. Currently underway are renovations in Springville, Price, American Fork and Camp Williams. Planned are projects in Fillmore, Manti, Brigham City, Beaver, Logan and Ogden. These projects are desperately needed and will do much to improve conditions for our Soldiers. The new fire station is well underway at the Utah Air National Guard Base and will pave the way for the restationing of the C-12 to the base. The Salt Lake Readiness Center was recently dedicated and will house the 85th Civil Support Team, 142nd Military Intelligence Battalion and 118th Sapper Company.




Photo by Greg Cullis

*The Adjutant General
Major General Brian L. Tarbet*

I want to especially thank the members of our staff who work tirelessly on behalf of the Yellow Ribbon programs. They work countless hours to assist our Soldiers and have done much good for them and their families. Likewise, great work is being done to recognize the service of our Airmen. The Hometown Hero events are a long-overdue thanks to the great work that has been done by our Air Guardmembers. Thanks to all.

It is vital to recognize the continuing efforts of our Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve team. They have an ambitious agenda of outreach to our employers both to educate and to recognize our many deserving employers. Also, they will be conducting three Boss Lifts this year: two to Fort Lewis, Wash., and one to Fort McCoy, Wis. These are invariably eye-opening experiences for our employers as they see our Soldiers and Airmen do what they do best to serve our Nation.

I am grateful to you all. You are superb professionals who are a credit to the Nation and to the State of Utah. Train hard and safely this summer—we need you all and the special skills you bring to your service as Utah Guardmembers. 

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UTAH MINUTEMAN

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Cover Photo:

Utah National Guard's 85th Weapons of Mass Destruction-Civil Support Team member SFC Shaine Richards checks his equipment prior to entering the Toone residence to check for hazardous gas levels.

Photo by Ileen Kennedy



Joint Forces and Army Enlisted Comments

Story by CSM Bruce Summers

DRAPER, Utah — **R**egion VII completed the Soldier and Noncommissioned Officer of the Year competition the last week of April. I want to thank and compliment our Soldier and NCO for a job well done. PFC Joshua Wardle, 204th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade and SFC Corey Bybee, 640th Regional Training Institute, made a great showing and represented themselves and the State of Utah with pride and determination in a grueling three-day event. The competition brought the best from the region together to compete. Our Soldiers dedicated a tremendous amount of their personal time preparing for this event. They are truly the best of the best.

We have been very busy as a Guard the last few months, and it looks like there is more to follow in the upcoming year. As units prepare for deployments or their Annual Training periods, NCOs are the key to making sure all Soldiers and Airmen receive realistic training and that safety and standards are met. At the end of the day, the training these individuals receive could mean the difference between returning home to their loved ones or being sent home under less-than-desirable circumstances.

Our job as NCOs is to train the individual Servicemember. Safety is never to be ignored to accomplish the mission. By maintaining the standard and always being alert to safety concerns, we can make sure our individuals can meet the mission and maintain the quality of life they enjoy today. We are all in an unforgiving business, and




Photo by Greg Cullis

*Bruce D. Summers
Command Sergeant Major
Utah Army National Guard*

if we cut a corner or choose to ignore a standard, then we put people unnecessary at risk. Maintain the standards and teach our force what right looks like. We must remain vigilant in our training while caring for our families and our team members. We have lost too many from our ranks who should still be here with us today.

As in the adjutant general's command philosophy, he mentions that we as professionals need to be members of professional organizations. I encourage all NCOs to make that commitment to join these organizations and help our Soldiers and Airmen receive and maintain the benefits they deserve for their service.

We need all of your support to fight the upcoming battles that will arise in the not-distant future to make sure our voice is heard in the Legislature. It is vital to have your support when the time comes.

I want to thank you for your selfless and dedicated service to this great state and to our nation. I am extremely proud to associate with such an elite organization as the Utah National Guard. Each one of you has answered the call, and it is my honor to serve with you. 



LEFT to RIGHT: CPT Emmanuel Oshitoye, CSM Bruce Summers, MG Brian Tarbet and COL Lawrence Schmidt during the annual TAG visit to Rabat, Morocco, in March 2010.

85th Civil Support Team Plays Key Role in Response to Layton Hazardous-Gas Incident



SFC Shaine Richards checks his equipment prior to entering the Toone residence to check for hazardous gas levels.



Rebecca Toone

Rachel Toone

Story and photos by Ileen Kennedy

LAYTON, Utah — **T**he Utah National Guard's 85th Weapons of Mass Destruction-Civil Support Team assisted local authorities Feb. 7-9 to identify the poisonous gas that may have taken the life of 4-year-old Rebecca Toone and her 15-month-old sister, Rachel.

The Toone family called Layton Fire Department Feb. 5 when their carbon monoxide detector alarm sounded. Questar checked the house for a CO leak but detected no such fumes, and fire officials cleared the house for occupancy.

Back in their home Feb. 6, Toone family members began to feel sick. Late that night Rebecca was found unconscious and was rushed to Davis County Hospital, where she later died. Sister Rachel was placed in intensive care at Primary Children's Medical Center in extremely critical condition, while other family members were treated and released.

Layton authorities contacted the 85th Civil Support Team Feb. 7 for assistance in investigating the incident and identifying the suspected source of the toxin, believed to be phosphine gas from pellets buried next to the house two days earlier by a local pest-control company to eliminate a rodent problem in the Toone home.

"Our readings told us that there was a gas in the house, but we didn't have the sensor specific to phosphine," said LTC Tyler Smith, commander of the 85th. "Based on the chemical applied, victim symptomology and various instrument readings,

phosphine was the suspected agent. We immediately ordered phosphine sensors from our supply center, which were shipped overnight so we could be meticulously thorough."

"We were dealing with a phosphine gas inside the residence," confirmed Capt Kevin Larsen, operations officer for the 85th CST. "We had some pretty significant readings inside."

First Lieutenant Spencer Marsh, 85th CST survey team leader, briefed the team prior to their entering the premises Feb. 8.

"We had a four-man team entry go in: two fire[fighters] from Layton and two CST," explained Marsh. "Layton Fire set up water buckets and excavated the pellets. The CST members made entry into the house, verified readings of previous entries and emplaced fans throughout the house in order to ventilate."

The two firefighters worked outside to eradicate the source of the gas under the concrete by digging it up and putting it



Layton firefighters and 85th CST members discuss mitigation procedures in the command trailer Feb. 8.



ABOVE: Members of the 85th Civil Support Team prepare to enter the Toone home to provide ventilation to help dissipate phosphine gas accumulation. BELOW: 85th CST members SSG Brett Campbell, left, and SFC Shaine Richards check phosphine levels in the entryway of the Toone home Feb. 8.



in buckets full of water. The two CST members entered the residence and ventilated the property by opening windows, doors, cupboards and closets and then set up fans throughout the home.

"We wanted to make sure we got down under the concrete" continued Spencer. "The [pest-control] technician put it about six to eight inches under. The goal was to fill the trench with water and let it off-gas from that point. Once the ground was saturated with water it neutralized the pellets."

Members of the 85th CST continued to monitor levels of phosphine inside the home, garage, along the cement driveway and sidewalk, as well as the yards of adjacent homes. When the Toone home was tested for gas levels Feb. 7, their instruments were detecting levels in the front part of the home and garage that exceeded the 50 parts per million considered deadly, explained Smith.

"The garage is where we had the highest concentration [of phosphine]," said Smith.

Authorities believe that the pellets, emitting phosphine gas, seeped through various cracks and crevices in the construction, accumulating in the attached garage and rising to the girls' bedrooms directly above the garage.

The CST recorded the phosphine gas level at the front-door opening and then in various rooms within the residence. Throughout the ventilation process they reverified the reading to watch for change. After allowing the house to ventilate for a few hours, members of the 85th recorded additional readings.

All windows and doors to the residence were then closed and the house was left to sit sealed overnight. On the morning of Feb. 8, additional readings were again recorded, and the house was deemed clear of the presence of phosphine gas. Smith informed the Davis County Health Department of their findings and left to county officials the decision on whether or not to clear the house for occupancy.

"My team is highly trained and has more specialized equipment than an average HAZMAT team," said Smith. "HAZMAT is not an additional duty for us like it is for firefighters, who have to be proficient in many other areas. We specialize in chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear and explosive agents and situations. We are organized in a way that we support civil authorities."

During a situation such as this, where there is a deadly gas that could pose a possible threat to team members, the CST has on location a physician's assistant, MAJ Larry Carpenter, who monitors team members as they work downrange and keeps track of incident victims at local hospitals.

"On any of these kinds of scenes, whether it's a training scenario or real world like this, 25 percent of the time my job is to make sure our guys are healthy and medically fit to go downrange," said Carpenter. "If anyone gets hurt, I take care of them. The other 75 percent of the time I spend coordinating between local EMS and communicating with the local hospitals to find out if there are people who have been exposed."



After leaving the residence, SFC Shaine Richards holds up the sensor that recorded the phosphine gas readings.



Layton firefighters dig up phosphine gas-emitting pellets placed under the driveway by an exterminator.



MAJ Larry Carpenter, left, monitors the vital signs of SSG Brett Campbell, above, and SFC Shaine Richards, below, after they exited a hazardous-chemical environment.



"Based on their signs and symptoms, where they were at the time of exposure, and any lab data, I come up with a differential and say, 'OK, if they were exposed to something seven days ago and now they are having symptoms, it's a biological agent and they've been exposed to a bacteria or a toxin,'" explained Carpenter. "If it is immediate onset, then I know that it's chemical. So I coordinate the signs and symptoms with whatever is going on in their bloodstream, and I try to come up with a differential as to what [the agent] probably is."

Carpenter also works closely with 85th CST science officer Maj Jared Gailey to identify the type of agent they are dealing with.

"I work with Major Gailey very closely," said Carpenter. "I take all my signs, symptoms, lab data and my differential and attach it to whatever his science brain says it has to be. We then correlate so we have angles from two different locations indicating it is exactly this type of agent."

On Sunday, when the CST team members used the photo-ionization detector to test the home, they were able to identify various levels of phosphine gas inside both the garage and residence.

"In this case, as soon as we had a positive ID for phosphine, I contacted the hospital to let them know," said Carpenter. "They need to know so they can monitor and change their treatment for anyone they have in the hospital."

Once the residence was given a final clear Feb. 9, the 85th turned over the investigation of the fatal gas leak to the Davis County Health Department.

"We're confident that the risk from the chemical has been cleared," said Bob Ballew, spokesman for Davis County Health Department. 🇺🇸

Utah National Guard's Major General Patrick D. Wilson Retires

Story and photo by LTC Hank McIntire

CAMP WILLIAMS, Utah — **J**oined by family, friends and colleagues, MG Patrick D. Wilson retired after 34 years of service in the Utah National Guard in a ceremony held April 10.

The program, emceed by COL Richard Miller, commander of the Utah Guard's 65th Fires Brigade, featured a flag ceremony conducted by Soldiers of the 65th and included remarks by Wilson's father Duane, a former Utah state command sergeant major; two of Wilson's children, Rebecca and Jeremy; retired CSM Steven Stone; COL Jerry Acton; and MG Brian Tarbet, adjutant general of the Utah National Guard.

Wilson's final tour of duty was his three years of service as deputy commanding general of U.S. Army Pacific. During his military career, which began in 1976, he served as commander of the following units in the Utah Army National Guard: I Corps Artillery; 640th Regimental Regional Training Institute; 2-222nd Field Artillery Battalion; and Alpha Battery, 2-222nd. He also served as a platoon leader, executive officer, operations officer and communications officer.

Following his military retirement Wilson will continue his civilian employment with Sevier School District, where he has worked for nearly 30 years, currently serving as business administrator.

At the ceremony Wilson's wife Brenda received the Outstanding Civilian Service Medal for a lifetime of service at her husband's side, giving "countless hours of service to community, fundraising for family-readiness groups, focusing her efforts to support military families and serving as a senior spouse mentor," according to the award citation.

Wilson received the Army Distinguished Service Medal, the second-highest peacetime award given to members of the U.S. Army. The medal is awarded to "any person who while serving in any capacity with the U.S. Army, has distinguished himself or herself by exceptionally meritorious service to the Government in a duty of great responsibility. The performance must be such as to merit recognition for service which is clearly exceptional," according to Army Regulation 600-8-22, *Military Awards*.

"General Wilson represents the Army values—every one of them," said Stone, who served with Wilson as his command sergeant major for many years. "He is a leader, he listened to people and he had confidence and trust in Soldiers."

Acton echoed Stone's assessment of Wilson.

"He is one of the greatest leaders I have ever known," said Acton. "He was always there guiding and directing, just leading and showing. He empowered me."

Taking her chance to say "whatever I want," Rebecca Wilson Christiansen praised her father's selflessness.

"My dad has made sure that everyone around him was taken care of before himself," she said. "He has never ever been a what's-in-it-for-me kind of guy."

"He does things the right way," added son Jeremy. "He always took care of his Soldiers everywhere he went."

"Now I'm going to give you my last evaluation from me," said Tarbet after pinning the medal on Wilson. "Husband and father: top block."

"I have had a no more trusted agent than Patrick Wilson," Tarbet added. "If there has been a finer Guardsman, I doubt it."


When he stood for his remarks, Wilson invited MG Tarbet and Sevier School District Superintendent Brent Thorne to come forward, presenting them flags flown over the U.S.S. Arizona Memorial at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.

Speaking from notes "because I'm afraid I may miss something that is important for me to say," Wilson gave a litany of thank-yous, beginning and ending with his family.

"Thank you for the great part you've had in my life," he told them.

"I've had the great privilege of serving alongside outstanding Soldiers, wives and family members," Wilson observed, highlighting the influence on him of so many. "No greater honor and privilege is there in life than to stand with individuals that you share the fire in the furnace with."

"What a champion!" Wilson concluded, in tribute to his wife Brenda. "I've been gone a long time. She has truly been the stabilizing force in our family. I've married way up."

"This is a family business," he said. "It's not about the one; it's about the all." 



Major General Brian Tarbet, left, presents Mrs. Brenda Wilson a certificate of appreciation during her husband's, MG Patrick Wilson, right, retirement ceremony.

Utah Air Guard Mission in Chile Changes from Training to Humanitarian

Story by SSG Jim Greenhill Photos by Lt Col Boyd Badali

ARLINGTON, Va — **F**irst they feared for their own lives, then Utah Air National Guardmembers helped others as a training mission in Chile took a no-notice turn to humanitarian relief.

Air Force Lt. Col. Boyd Badali and Senior Master Sgt. Joe Mace were among members of the 151st Air Refueling Wing staying on the 15th floor of a Santiago hotel when they were shaken awake at 3:34 a.m., by the Feb. 27 earthquake.

The two were part of a Utah team on a training mission to teach Chilean Air Force members how to conduct mid-air refueling with a newly delivered KC-135 Stratotanker aerial refueler.

Is that a bomb that just went off? Mace wondered, as the microwave and dishes in his room crashed to the floor and all the water from the toilet splashed out of the bowl.

But this was no man-made disaster—it was an 8.8-magnitude earthquake.

"As the Richter scale goes up, it goes up exponentially, and each point is 10 times worse than the last point," Mace said in a telephone interview on Wednesday.

The Chilean quake was more than 10 times worse than the Jan. 12 7.0-magnitude tremor that killed up to 230,000 in Haiti.

TOP DOWN: Members of the 151st Air Refueling Wing deployed to Chile to help provide operations and maintenance training to the Chilean Air Force on the aircraft, but the training quickly transformed into a real-world humanitarian operation after an 8.8-magnitude earthquake hit the country. Utah Air National Guard crews prepare to transport supplies to locations throughout the country in support of humanitarian operations. BELOW left to right: Several pallets of medical supplies sit on the runway of the airport in Santiago, Chile. Damage was reported to several buildings around the airport in Santiago. The first Chilean KC-135 'E' model arrives in Santiago in February 2010.



"I could barely stand, it was shaking so hard," Badali said. "When I sat back down on that bed, I fully expected the floor to drop out from under me and to ride it down."

Watching the elevator doors slamming open and shut as the building shook, Mace also feared for his life. "I thought that this could be my last moment on earth," he said. "I've never been so scared in my life."

The two made it to the street, where they would spend the remainder of the night. Within 15 minutes, U.S. Embassy personnel arrived to check on them.

Sirens sounded. The power failed. Bricks scattered the ground. Barriers once cemented in the ground lay askew.

Four Guardmembers and active-duty Airmen from Sheppard Air Force Base in Texas had arrived Feb. 16 to deliver the Stratotanker to Chile, the first of three. It was a training mission to provide flying and maintenance support to two Chilean pilots, a boom operator and more than 30 maintainers, Utah National Guard officials said.

The devastation was worse in other parts of Chile than what the team saw in Santiago.

"As soon as we saw the news, we realized that we were going to be involved," said Badali, who had been impressed during an arrival briefing by Chile's record of helping other nations in crisis.

"If you think of the priorities that people need—food, clothing, shelter—that's what we've been doing," Badali said.

The Stratotanker doesn't just carry fuel, and the Utah Guardmembers had flown a dozen relief missions by Wednesday afternoon, with more to come.

First, they moved a mobile medical care unit to Concepción, one of the worst-hit cities; then firefighters to tackle the tremor-sparked fires; then mobile field kitchens.

At first, their cargoes came from Chile, which is prepared to deal with earthquake aftermaths. Later, they included supplies pouring in from around the world, such as tents and blankets donated by China.

As they flew their relief missions, they had only to look down to realize why aid is important.

"We [saw] an area that had been hit by the tsunami," Badali said. "That was horrible. It was just wiped out."

Mace said the aftermath reminds him of the atmosphere in the United States after the man-made disaster of 9/11.

"The national pride here in Chile has been one of the things that has impressed me the most," he said. "Even with all this, being scared out of your mind, with an earthquake and everything, Chile is just a fantastic place."

The shocks continued. A 7.2-magnitude quake struck Feb 27 just as Chile was inaugurating a new president.

The Utah relief missions continue too. At least until June, possibly longer, depending on an extension the crew is seeking. 🇺🇸

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Medical Personnel with the 144th ASMC Deploy to Afghanistan

Story and photos by Ileen Kennedy



ABOVE: SSG Tyler Hill's family gives him a group hug before he begins the first leg of his journey to Bagram, Afghanistan. BELOW: With her two boys holding onto their mom, PFC Kami Erickson awaits her turn to board the aircraft to Fort Lewis, Wash.



SALT LAKE CITY — **T**he Utah National Guard's 144th Area Support Medical Company deployed approximately 80 Soldiers March 20 for a 12-month deployment to Afghanistan. Their mission will be to treat patients in a hospital/clinic setting and provide medevac and ambulance support in a combat environment.

"We set the clinics up for Soldiers to be treated for day-to-day things," said CPT David Stefl, 144th ASMC commander. "Most of the time it's sick call things: runny noses, back pain, playing basketball and they sprain their ankle on the base, but two percent of the time is going to be trauma-related stuff where we will be taking care of Soldiers from the front lines who are injured in battle."

About 10 percent of the unit, including Stefl, last deployed in 2005-2006, serving in Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

One of the missions of the 144th ASMC will be to provide medical aid to Servicemembers stationed in remote forward-operating bases. Soldiers with the 144th understand the great role their mission will play in saving lives and bringing other Soldiers home to their families.

"Our mission over there is to set up medical operations and take care of the Warriors on the front lines and get them back to their families," said SGT Marty Grant, a West Jordan resident and team leader with the 144th, who is on his first deployment.

"I'm going to save lives of Soldiers and that's important," said SPC Chelsea Jones, a medic with the 144th, who leaves behind her full-time studies in Provo to serve. "I really felt like this was an important thing to do to serve our country and to give back for everything that we have."



TOP DOWN: SGT Ryan Murtha with his wife and baby daughter. 1LT Enoch Christopherson and his young son listen to the program prior to departure. A 144th Soldier shares a tender moment as the medical personnel prepare to board the plane.

Medical care is a critical function in wartime operations, and the 144th will not only serve U.S. and Coalition forces, but will also treat DoD civilians and contractors, and in some cases, local nationals.

"I think the overall importance of this mission, as well as the whole mission in Afghanistan, is to win the hearts and minds of the people," said SSG Tyler Hill, of Springville, a noncommissioned officer who will be in charge of evacuations at Bagram Air Base, Afghanistan, for the 144th. "We have such a huge task at hand, and medical is one of the largest ways to do that. The people over there have very limited access to medical care, and for us to be able to go in and provide medical care not only to our own people but to the local nationals there as well, I think it really shows them that we care."

The 144th consists of Soldiers with specialties that include physicians, physician assistants, dentists, combat medics, X-ray and lab technicians, administration, communications, supply and logistics. Many of these professionals are leaving behind very young family members.

Grant, who will be married three years this July, leaves his wife and 10-week-old baby.

"I'm a little jittery," said Grant. "It's kind of a fear-of-the-unknown thing for me. But I have some good NCOs and leaders who have been deployed before, and they know what they are doing. I have full trust and confidence in them that they will steer me down the right path, so I can steer my Soldiers down the right path. It was important to me to be able to go and do what I've been trained to do. It's like someone training for football but never gets to play in the big game. That's why I really wanted to go."

The fear of the unknown also extends to Grant's feeling of leaving behind his wife and new daughter. Having a support system for them in place helps families cope with the trials that can arise during deployment.

"We have a really good support chain," continued Grant. "[My wife] can go to my family or her family and she goes to both. They take care of her while I am gone, and that puts my mind at ease because that's the top of my worries right now."

The Guard also has a support system in place where family members can turn to Family Assistance coordinator Cassie Leavitt, whose husband SSG Jeff Leavitt, on his second deployment, left three days earlier with the 144th ASMCs advance party.

"I support him in everything he does," said Cassie. "That's why I'm part of the Family Readiness Group. I'm concerned about him and I know how the families feel, and whatever I can do to help with the unit helps me to feel better to serve other people. It's a wonderful thing to be able to see people who are willing to give up so much for other people even when some people don't think it's worth it."

On this emotional day, many Soldiers expressed how important their family's support is in helping them concentrate on their mission and ability to serve. A brief program with encouraging words from senior leadership was held in the hangar prior to departure where families and employers were thanked for their support of their Servicemembers.



TOP DOWN: Boy Scout Erick Goodell, top left, a member of Spanish Fork Scout Troop 1503, organized his Eagle Scout project by having Troop members hand out packets to deploying Soldiers as a gesture of gratitude for their service. SPC Thomas Munford, left, receives a packet from Goodell as part of Goodell's Eagle Scout project. SGT Von Villalmil and his family review the contents of the packet given to him by a member of Troop 1503. PFC Adam Lux is given a packet from Erick Goodell's younger brother to show support to departing Soldiers.



The Patriot Guard line the tarmac with American flags as the deploying Soldiers shake hands with Utah National Guard leaders as they board the aircraft at the Utah Air National Guard Base March 20.



"To all of you who support those who go, we want to say from the bottom of our hearts, 'Thank you,'" said BG Jeff Burton, assistant adjutant general of the Utah National Guard. "We know the feeling of separation. We know the feeling that you feel of loss and the concern you have for those people you love. We want you to know that they have great leadership, and they are prepared to perform this mission. They will go and do the same thing that Utah units have done for the last decade, and that is to perform brilliantly and to get home safely."

A proud round of applause was given when COL Edward Gundersen, commander of 97th Troop Command, repeated words often heard from Adjutant General MG Brian Tarbet: "The A team is taking the field when Utah arrives."

A medic with the 144th ASMC and Highland resident SGT Von Villamil explained the importance of their mission: "We're out there to help the rest of the Soldiers. They are out

there to fight, so we are just going to take care of each other. That's what we do."

Taking care of each other is something communities in Utah are known for. Boy Scout Erick Goodell from Troop 1503 in Spanish Fork planned his Eagle Scout project to show Soldiers of the 144th ASMC that he and his Scouts were grateful for their service. They prepared send-off packets full of word-search or crossword puzzles, pencils, toothbrushes, tooth paste, soap, hand sanitizer, trail bars and a handwritten letter thanking Soldiers for their service. The troop came to the deployment ceremony and personally handed out the packets and thanked the Soldiers for their service.

"We make a living by what we get; we make a life by what we give," said Steff, quoting Winston Churchill, to Soldiers and families during the ceremony. "We are all giving today, and I appreciate your service." 🇺🇸

489th Trains in Iowa

Story and photos by SSG DaleAnne Maxwell

SALT LAKE CITY — **M**embers of the Headquarters, Headquarters Detachment and Alpha Company, 489th Brigade Support Battalion, returned from Camp Dodge, Iowa, April 2 after spending two weeks there for Annual Training.

During their stay, both HHD and A Company trained on various tasks and missions both together and as separate companies.

"HHD had two goals: First to learn the military decision-making process, training with it and practicing it," said LTC Thomas Fischer, battalion commander for the 489th BSB. "Second, to conduct a three-day exercise using the MDMP process within our tactical operations center and build an operations order."

"The staff section was running an exercise showing how they will function during a warfight," added the 489th CSM Derek Dimond. "They went through training each day, working through the mission, utilizing MDMP and the development of an operations order. The operations order was then executed in a simulated exercise, so essentially it was like they were really fighting a fight," added Dimond.

Training at the National Maintenance Training Center proved to not only have great training value, but it also provided all of the equipment that Soldiers would need to complete their missions while at Camp Dodge.

The mission for Alpha Company was to use equipment at the NMTC to train for both peacekeeping and wartime missions.

"Because we haven't been fielded our equipment yet, this training gave Soldiers the opportunity to fall in on the equipment they would be using in a war and actually see how everything is supposed to work," said Dimond.

"It's the first time, as a company, we were able to see how everything comes together and how our roles really play out," said 1SG Rene Criswell, Alpha Company. "This was the first chance for truck drivers to get out and have their own vehicles and for the water guys to use real water equipment."

Besides learning new techniques, Soldiers were able to practice their basic Soldier skills such as zeroing and qualifying on the M16, convoy training, how to react to IEDs and how to interact with locals in different situations.

Members of the 489th were able to culminate their training with live slingload training, where they were able to hook up pallets and even a humvee to a Chinook helicopter.

Overall, members of the 489th enjoyed their training; they accomplished goals and were able to work together as a unit for the first time. 🇺🇸



TOP DOWN: Members of Alpha Company, 489th Brigade Support Battalion, speak with a group of opposing forces during a situational-training exercise March 29. A Soldier from Alpha Company, 489th BSB, discusses where to aim after loading the M249 SAW during familiarization March 23. Members of Alpha Company, 489th BSB, hook up a humvee to a Chinook helicopter during slingload training March 31.



Utah Guard Members Take Running to the Top

Story by SPC Lyndsey Dransfield

DRAPER, Utah — **H**is mind was delirious. He hadn't slept, and hadn't eaten a substantial meal or drunk an adequate amount of water in well over a day. His aching body was drenched in sweat, splattered with mud and screaming at him to stop moving. Instead he tried his best to ignore it all and kept going.

Finally, with 1 hour and 17 minutes to spare, CPT Phil Lowery, command judge advocate for the 204th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade, crossed the finish line of the 1994 Wasatch Front 100 ultra-marathon, accomplishing his first organized trail race.

"I finished it in 34 hours and 43 minutes, and I can tell you, the last 25-30 miles of that thing were the most painful, gut-wrenching experiences of my life. It just sucked. I started hurting at Mile 20 and it just got worse."

Despite the pain of such races, Lowery continues to run. Throughout the past 16 years he has completed 25 hundred-mile races, as well as several ultra-marathon sporting events that involve running longer than the traditional marathon length of 26.2 miles.

Lowery doesn't run alone, however. Utah National Guard members LTC Milada Copeland, Utah National Guard comptroller and financial manager; CW3 Brian Searcy, ODT and foundry manager; and CW2 Mike Brusik, human-resource technician with the 204th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade, share his fascination with adventure, variety, challenge and excitement that come with running long distances along trails and through stunning mountains.

Last year the four Soldiers founded an informal ultra-marathon running team, making it easier to run and train with friends. Together they ran the 2009 Squaw Peak 50-miler and came in first place in the team event.

"Anyone who wants to run is welcome," said Copeland, who's been involved in trail running and competing for almost 20 years. Copeland has finished several ultra-marathons and won the Bear 100 last year. The Bear 100 starts at Hyrum Gibbons Mt. Logan Park, Logan, Utah, continues through the pines, aspens and maples with a 21,986 elevation climb to end 100 miles north at Fish Haven, Idaho.

"It's much more fun to have people to share long runs with," she said. "I prefer to run in beautiful places on the Wasatch, and it's always more fun when someone is there to hear you say, 'Look at that view!' or 'Aren't those flowers fabulous?'"

"You always have peer pressure to keep you running, especially when you don't want to," Searcy added.

"Running marathons and running ultra-trail marathons are two very different sports," Copeland explained. "The similarity is running shoes."

Whether training or competing, each time their running shoes hit the dirt these athletes are headed for an inimitable experience.



They often find themselves sidestepping roots, crawling up rocks, running through streams and topping steep hills. They run through various weather conditions and sometimes through the night without sleep. One day the ground may be hard and dry, while the next they're traversing mud or snow.

"An ultra-trail race is much more of an expedition than a marathon or road race," Copeland explained. "The average marathon takes five hours, and so many things can go wrong. During the length of an ultra, even more can go wrong."

A short training run could be 6-10 miles, while a longer run can take 6-10 hours. But there's more to training than just collecting miles.

"Every run should have a purpose," said Lowery. "Is it food, altitude, speed, climbing, descending, heat, cold, or sleep deprivation? These are all factors that affect your race and you should have three that interface with any run. If something's going to break, it's going to break. But if you train your body slowly, it will adapt."

Lowery says he struggled for years with sleep deprivation before he discovered the right methods to help his body adapt.

"One of the reasons you sleep is so your brain can process everything that's been going on and so you can reset your pattern recognition," he said. "People who've been in combat or a stressful op-tempo can probably relate to this; when you don't sleep you get loopy, and in a race you start to hallucinate. I've seen all kinds of things: a lady on a white horse, a Volkswagen, bushes forming letters.

"You can injure yourself if you're sleep-deprived all the time, but training for the situations helps your body recognize what's going on and say, 'Okay, we've done this before. Let's try to get through this again'"

"The races have aid stations set up with food and drinks approximately every seven miles," said LTC William French, G-3 training officer and Copeland's husband who volunteers as a crewmember during races. "We're there to assist people if they need to change their shoes, if they have injuries or if they're too cold, etc."

"If minor injuries are not treated immediately, they can become major problems. But if the pain doesn't signal danger to

their health, runners keep moving," Lowery said.

"I really struggle from about Mile 28 to 38 on every race," said Searcy. "I get tired and discouraged because my body really starts hurting and complaining. Normally I take some B12, ibuprofen and start drinking Mountain Dew at every race station. I always say that I'll never do it again at that point."

To date Searcy has complete five 50-mile races and is currently training with the other members to run the 2010 Squaw Peak 50-Mile Trail Run in June.

"Runners are allowed to place drop bags full of supplies they may need throughout their journey," said Copeland. "You spend a lot of time planning and preparing what you'll need. You have to decide where you'll want flashlights or a change of clothes for running at night."

There are many challenging aspects to an ultra-marathon, but finding time to balance full-time jobs, families, typical life events and training are among the top. But their determination and encouragement from families allow them to succeed.

"On weekends I typically need to do a six- to eight-hour run. That takes an entire day out of the weekend inventory and is often very hard to do, even if it's not a drill weekend," said Copeland. "My husband is very supportive of my training. We make sure to schedule all our chores and other things we need to accomplish so I can get my long training run in."

Searcy and his wife Carrie have been married more than 17 years and have three children. Carrie and the kids show their pride and support of his accomplishments by being there every time he crosses the finish line, said Carrie.

"There really aren't sufficient words in the English language to express how amazed and proud I am of my husband," she added. "He's worked very hard for many years to train his body and his mind to run such long distances. He never gives up. He never quits. The fact that he has done all of it, not for a love of running, but because he is committed to providing for his family and has to stay in shape to keep his job with the military, makes me love him all the more!"

Without a doubt, the athletes spend a great deal of time and energy training, planning, and preparing for each race, and while being the first to cross the finish line would certainly make them champions, their primary goal is to finish.





Photos courtesy of CPT Phil Lowery

PHOTOS: Ultra-marathon runners CPT Phil Lowery, LTC Milada Copeland, CW3 Brian Searcy, CW2 Mike Brusik and CPT Jamie Thomas train for various races along the Wasatch Front during the 2009 season.

"We aren't racing against the people who are in the race; we're racing against the course," said Lowery. "The person who I have the most respect for is the last person across the finish line. The person out there fighting their demons for 35 hours, 59 minutes, and 59 seconds is the hero in my view."

"When they cross the finish line there's no money nor fancy prizes. They may get a plaque or a belt buckle and a pat on the back," explained Lowery.

"Every year I tell myself I'm going to stop, but the challenge of the races keeps me coming back for more," said Brusik who started running only two and a half years ago. Brusik has completed two 50-mile races and a 50K. He also supports the

other runners by running alongside them during races to keep them going.

It's hard to believe there are people out there who are willing to run 50 to 100 miles up and down mountains on what can only loosely be defined as trails, said Carrie. "When the starting horn blows, how do they take that first step knowing they have that many miles to go before they can stop?"

For Copeland, the answer is simple.

"I know everyone thinks there has to be a reason, an inspiration, a challenge, something to overcome, but I just simply like it," she explained. "Kind of like some people enjoy going to the movies; I like running endurance races in the mountains. It's a lot of fun and you make some great friends." 🇺🇸

Unprecedented Reenlistments in a Time of War

By CPT Andrew Owens

CAMP WILLIAMS, Utah – **T**hirty Soldiers from the 118th Engineer Sapper Company re-enlisted in an open ceremony at the Camp Williams Readiness Center Jan. 23.

"They did it for their country and what they believe in, and they did it for each other," said 1SG Charles Barkey, first sergeant of the 118th Sapper Company.

Most of the thirty Sappers reenlisting have deployed before and know they will be deployed within the next six months.

"It's amazing to see so many Soldiers re-enlist during a time of war, knowing that they will be deployed soon," remarked LTC Joseph Grimmett.

The 118th Engineer Sapper Company is currently located at the Salt Lake Readiness Center with a detachment located in Blanding, Utah. They are scheduled to deploy to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom later this year. 🇺🇸



During a special reenlistment ceremony, 30 Soldiers from the 118th Engineer Sapper Company take the oath of enlistment Jan 23.



Utah ANG Aircraft and Crew Participate in Morocco's 2010 Aeroexpo Marrakech

Story and photos by AIC Lillian Chatwin

MARRAKECH, Morocco — **T**he Utah Air National Guard's KC-135 Stratotanker and flight crew participated in the Aeroexpo Marrakech 2010 at the Royal Air Forces Military Base here, from January 27 to 30.

The KC-135 from the 151st Air Refueling Wing was showcased as a static display at the international air and trade show. En route to the event, the KC-135 also refueled two F-16 Fighting Falcons from McEntire Joint National Guard Base, South Carolina. The two F-16s were to perform in the air show to demonstrate their capabilities.

The objective of U.S. participation in the air show was twofold: To demonstrate support to the Moroccan decision to purchase 24 F-16 aircraft, and to support U.S. Africa Command's strategic engagements in the region.

"The Moroccans' purchase of the F-16s is positive," said Col Dar Craig, commander of the 151st Operations Group. "Their F-16s will have a high impact for maintaining stability in the region."

The Utah National Guard and Morocco have been working together through a National Guard State Partnership Program (SPP) since 2003. The SPP's mission is to link Guard units

Members of the 17th Air Force (Air Forces Africa); 86th Airlift Wing, Ramstein Air Base, Germany; South Carolina Air National Guard and U.S. Embassy team members do a foreign-object damage inspection on the Marrakech, Morocco, flightline before F-16 Fighting Falcons from the 169th Fighter Wing, South Carolina Air National Guard, arrive.

with partner countries for the purposes of fostering mutual interests and establishing habitual long-term relationships. The program encourages the development of economic, political and military ties between Utah and Morocco through military-to-military, military-to-civilian and civilian-to-civilian exchanges. As such, it is one of the Utah Air National Guard's roles to participate in events like air shows to help strengthen military ties.

Major General Brian L. Tarbet, who has been the Adjutant General of the Utah National Guard since 2000, has overseen the Utah SPP since it was first initiated. He recently attended the air show stating that he has seen an extraordinary amount of growth within the program.

"We have learned a great deal from our Moroccan counterparts," said Tarbet. "This is a bilateral relationship where we learn from each other. We learn best practices and it has broadened our perspective."

The Aeroexpo Marrakech 2010, which focused on the developing aeronautical industries in Morocco, hosted more than 40 delegates and diplomatic authorities, mostly from Africa, at the show. Participation in this event has allowed the U.S. government to expand its network of partners by opening dialogue with other Central and West African nations.

The Utah Air National Guard also participated in the first edition of Aeroexpo Marrakech in 2008.

The Moroccan military's delivery of F-16s is scheduled for 2011. Tarbet said he anticipates that the Utah Air National Guard's KC-135 may be working closely with Morocco in the future.

"We will be working with refueling because the Moroccans refuel with drogues, and the F-16s have to be refueled with booms," said Tarbet. "We also want to be a part of the team that ferries the F-16 delivery across."

The Utah Air National Guard also participates in many humanitarian efforts in Morocco, and this trip was no exception. Among the KC-135's additional cargo were 50 school kits, which were offloaded and given to a local orphanage January 24. The school kits were assembled and donated by the spouses of the Utah National Guard senior enlisted leaders.

When visiting the KC-135 flight crew at the air show, Tarbet complimented the Utah Air Guard with a historical perspective.

"Our SPP with Morocco got off to a great start because of the Utah Air National Guard," said Tarbet. "In 2004, the northern coast of Morocco suffered a devastating earthquake. Within 48 hours, there was a Utah Air National Guard KC-135 sitting on the deck filled with donated emergency-response supplies. That got us off to a start that was hard not to succeed with. We've just deepened and strengthened those ties ever since."



MSgt Eric Henderson, a boom operator from the 151st Operations Group, unloads school supplies for a Moroccan orphanage Jan. 24.

The Utah National Guard also participates in several other humanitarian efforts in Morocco.

As part of Operation African Lion, an annual three-week deployment to Morocco, the Utah Guard sends equipped medics to travel to remote locations to treat thousands of locals in need of care.

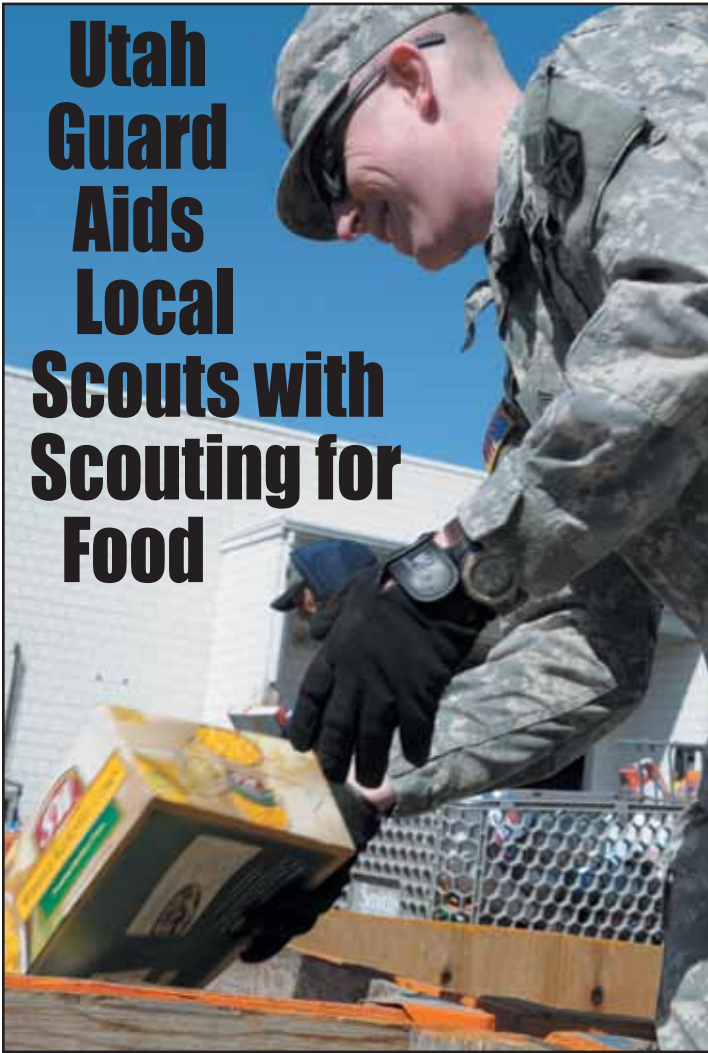
Other Utah National Guard projects include building schools, women's centers, and libraries, drilling wells that provide clean water, agriculture and pet-farming education, and most uniquely, a youth exchange program where Moroccan families and American military families exchange youth who participate in the 10-day, cultural-immersion program.

"Perhaps the highlight of our relationship with Morocco is our youth exchange program," said Tarbet. "We trust each other with our kids, which is very substantial." 🇺🇸



An F-16 Fighting Falcon from the 169th Fighter Wing, South Carolina Air National Guard, lands at the Marrakech Airport Jan. 23 to participate in the Aeroexpo Marrakech.

Utah Guard Aids Local Scouts with Scouting for Food



A Soldier sorts cans of food gathered during the annual Scouting for Food drive, which goes to replenish the Utah Food Bank.

Story and photos by PFC Ariel Solomon

PROVO, Utah — **T**he energy at the Provo Scouting for Food drop-off point was tangible this year.

Civilian and military volunteers made short work of the truckloads of food collected by local Boy Scouts and hauled in by the Air and Army National Guard to locations in both Utah and Salt Lake Counties March 27.

Every year, the Utah National Guard sends Soldiers and Airmen to help the Boy Scouts of America gather food during their annual Scouting for Food drive.

The drive helps replenish food stocks of the Utah Food Bank, which helps roughly 1,500 people per month.

Guard members and civilians took up the call to serve; they were busy and excited as they sorted food donations. They tore open bags and pulled out cans and supplies, tossing them into milk crates and carting them to the correct bin.

"We've had several vehicles come through more than once because they couldn't bring their full load," said SGT Jason Barth of 115th Maintenance Company, 97th Troop Command, Utah

Army National Guard. "So they'd come through two or three times to make sure they brought all their food."

Barth said that this was the first time he had volunteered. "They requested volunteers to help out and SPC Bantose and I volunteered. I'm actually from Salt Lake County, but I came down here [to Provo] so he'd have someone from the platoon to work with him."

Husband and wife Soldiers SGT Jason Lyday and SPC Lyday said they figured that it was a good way to help the community and get together as a family.

Lyday's son Steven, who is a First Class Scout, said that it was fun even though he had to wake up early. Lyday brought her family to help when she was invited by her unit to volunteer.

"I got a phone call from my sergeant asking me if I wanted to do it. I said, 'of course,'" she said. When she found out one more person was needed, she said she "voluntold" her husband.

Utah National Guard officer in charge of the military side of the Utah County Scouting for Food operation, CPT Jonathan Kenworthy, said this was not just an Army function, as the Air National Guard heavily supported with their drivers.

"They asked if we wanted to do it, and we volunteered our Saturday," said Airman 1st Class Jason Horne. He continued that he had just got his commercial driver's license for his civilian job and that his unit asked him if he wanted to drive for this event. Horne's normal job in the Air Guard is diesel mechanic.

Many of the Soldier volunteers participate in the food drive year after year. Tech Sgt. Thomas Johnson of the 130th Engineering Installation Squadron, Utah Air National Guard, has been involved since he joined the Guard about six years ago.

"I figure if I can't volunteer my money, I can volunteer my time," he said.

Kenworthy praised the volunteers and the community spirit surrounding the volunteer effort, describing the mission of the Guard as "neighbor helping neighbor."

Scouts take food from vehicles and sort it into bins at the Provo collection site during the annual Scouting for Food drive March 27.



In Memoriam

Col Bruce Carl Evans
Headquarters, Utah Air National Guard

SPC Jerry James Holverson
141st Military Intelligence Battalion

SPC Bryon Neil McCloud
1457th Engineer Battalion

"The work of a Guardsman is about helping their community, first and foremost," he said. "There are kids out there right now, the age of Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts, seeing members of the military performing in their community, and that's going to stick in the back of their mind."

Soldiers and Scouts working together allows the community and the younger Scout volunteers the chance to see that the military doesn't just fight in faraway lands.

"It's great," said Gavin Grow, a local scoutmaster of Troop 178. "[The military] has a tough job going on right now, and any time you guys are out here it's always impressive and a great example for the rest of these guys."

The combined efforts of the Boy Scouts and Utah National Guard will hopefully culminate in the number of people the Utah Food Bank is able to help this year.

"This (drive) is going to have long-lasting effects that you're not going to be able to quantify," said Kenworthy. "There are families out there who are going to have food because of this, who are going to have their burdens alleviated." 🇺🇸

The Lyday family poses for a photo together at the Provo collection site.



Family Assistance Centers

By Katrina Rhinehart

DRAPER, Utah — **W**hat is a family assistance center?

Family Assistance Centers (FAC) are designed to assist the families of military Servicemembers during peacetime and during training or mobilization. Centers are open to all branches of the military (Army Guard, Air Guard, active-duty Army, Air Force, Coast Guard, Marines, Navy and all Reserve Components).

Family Assistance Centers provide "one-stop shopping" and resources to help family members cope with any issue they encounter as military dependents. Locate your local FAC and contact them today.

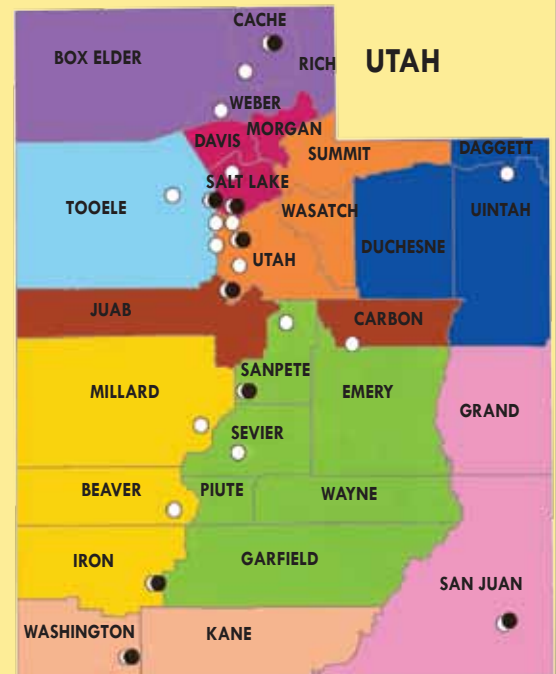
What services are provided by a FAC?

Basic services provided by FACs include the following, regardless of location:

- TRICARE/TRICARE Dental assistance
- Financial Assistance/Counseling
- Point of contact (POC) for legal and pay issues
- POC for community support
- Emergency-assistance coordination
- Counseling Support/Referral
- Family/Household Emergencies
- Family Care Plan Information
- POC for Casualty Assistance Information, Referral, Follow-Up and Outreach
- DEERS information (Defense Enrollment and Eligibility System)
- Site for family communication
- ID Cards referral
- Support FRG programs

Utah FAC Locations

- Logan (435) 753-3155 Region 1
- Riverton (801) 878-5037 Region 2
- Salt Lake City (801) 560-0864 Region 3
- Orem (801) 722-6913 Region 4
- Vernal (435) 789-3691 Region 5
- Spanish Fork (801) 794-6011 Region 6
- Cedar City (435) 867-6513 Region 7
- Manti (435) 896-4326 Region 8
- Blanding (435) 678-2008 Region 9
- St. George (435) 986-6705 Region 10
- Family Assistance Center Locations ●
- Armory Locations ○



Please do not hesitate to contact our FACs for any questions or issues you may have. We are here to serve you!

For more information visit us at www.ut.ngb.army.mil/family/index.htm. 🇺🇸

Pilots Train on New Longbows

Story by CW5 Gary Wallin

DRAPER, Utah — **T**he 1-211th Attack Reconnaissance Battalion transitioned from the AH-64A Apache helicopter to the AH-64D Longbow Apache. The past six months have been a whirlwind of change, and the unit is now well under way into a training program that will set it up for success for its upcoming Unit Fielding Training Program and future deployments.

Thanks to the Army Aviation Support Facility, the unit continues to conduct flight training during the week. Maintenance crews have been working six days a week to get the aircraft up and operational. Instructor pilots are working hard to train aviators, as the new aircraft is more demanding and requires a higher level of training.

Two aerial, live-fire training exercises were conducted at the Utah Test and Training Range, which gave the unit a chance to fire in their new aircraft. They were able to utilize the 30 mm cannon and rockets in a variety of configurations, both day and night, and have added a new tool to the fight, the IZLID. The IZLID, or Infrared Laser Zoom Laser Illuminator Designator, is mounted to the side of the 30 mm cannon and allows crews to observe the laser at night with night-vision goggles, and in doing so pinpoint targets for verification with the ground commander.

The unit recently went through a battalion change of command, as LTC James Bledsoe handed the reins over to MAJ Gregory Hartvigsen.



Photos by CW3 Jared Jones

TOP DOWN: Two AH-64D Longbows of the 1-211th Attack Reconnaissance Battalion land during gunnery near Lakeside. Members of the 1-211th ARB armament load 2.75-inch hydra rockets on the AH-64D Longbow. BELOW: An AH-64D Longbow prepares to launch for night helicopter gunnery April 9. Photo by CW2 Eric Kreitzer



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Utah Guard Special Forces Soldiers Learn Mountain Rescue the Moroccan Way

Story and photos by LTC Hank McIntire

OUKAIMEDEN, Morocco — In March of this year, as part of its ongoing State Partnership Program with Morocco, a Utah National Guard command visit coincided with a unit-level exchange between the 19th Special Forces Group and the 1st Ski Battalion of the Royal Moroccan Armed Forces.

Adjutant General MG Brian Tarbet was joined on the trip by leaders from the 151st Air Refueling Wing, 19th Special Forces Group and members of his staff. Tarbet travels to Morocco a number of times a year to maintain a regular dialog with his senior colleagues in the Moroccan military and often invites Soldiers and Airmen to join him in order to familiarize them with the Utah Guard's partnership with Morocco, in place since 2003.

Eleven Soldiers of the 19th Special Forces Group spent two weeks in Oukaimeden, one of only a handful of ski resorts in the entire continent of Africa.

With a training altitude of 10,000 feet, the focus of the exercise was on disaster preparedness, snow movement and mountain-rescue techniques.

"We're covering medical and mountaineering skills in a downed-aircraft scenario," explained CW3 Rodney Holliday, Charlie Company, 1-19th Special Forces.

In small groups and one on one, Soldiers of the 19th conducted classes with their Moroccan counterparts on first aid and land navigation.

Tarbet and other Utah Guard leaders observed the training up close and were very impressed.

"As always, when our troops are involved with the Moroccans, I think they are our very best ambassadors," said Tarbet.

"We've been exchanging techniques back and forth," said Holliday. "We show them our equipment, they show us theirs. We're working together toward those goals."



MG Brian Tarbet reviews Moroccan army troops at a base near Marrakech, Morocco, March 19.

"This Moroccan battalion is very experienced in high-altitude, cold-weather operations," added MAJ Reece Roberts, officer in charge of the Utah contingent. "They have shared with us their field-expedient methods because they don't have the deep pockets and resources that we have. We have been able to pick up ways of doing things and medical treatment and mountaineering techniques when you don't have all the nice gear that you could get at REI."

A unique capability of the Moroccan army in this environment is their experience in working with pack animals for mountain rescues.

"We have a lot of difficulties transporting equipment and materials here, so we showed them how to use mules in mountains," said Sr. Lt. Mohammed, a company commander in the 1st Ski Battalion.

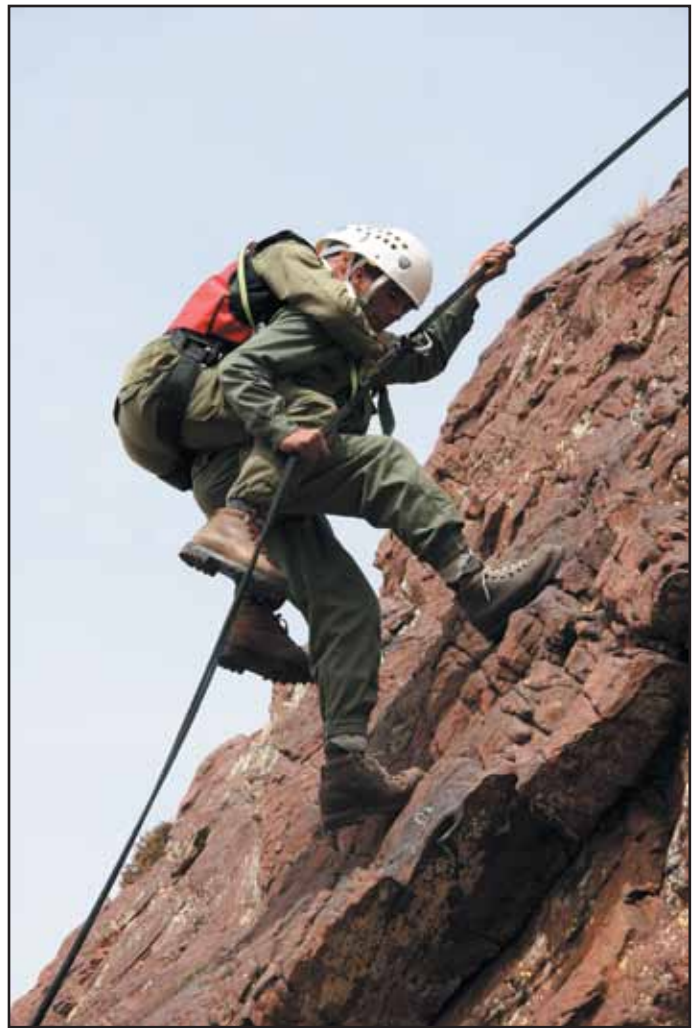
"Mules are one of their primary methods of transport," said Roberts. "What they don't carry on their backs, they pack onto their mules. We had them teach us some packing and operations with mules because our Special Forces Soldiers have had some experience with mules in Afghanistan."



A Moroccan army lieutenant explains rappelling techniques to Utah Guard visitors March 19.



A Moroccan soldier awaits his turn to ascend the cliff at the training site near Oukaimeden.



Moroccan soldiers demonstrate a military rescue for their Utah National Guard guests.

While at Oukaimeden, Senior Utah Guard leaders were also treated to an impressive demonstration of rappelling and climbing techniques by the young, but very experienced Moroccan soldiers. The event was narrated by a twenty-something Moroccan officer, who in flawless English explained each phase of the operation.

At the base of the cliff where the climbing exhibition took place, Lt Col Faouzi Naciri, commander of the 1st Ski Battalion, exchanged gifts with MG Tarbet, and Tarbet inscribed a book for his colleague in a token of friendship.

"These partnerships pay off," said Tarbet. "They have been one of the very successful things the Guard has done for nearly two decades, and the Morocco-Utah relationship has been one of those success stories. We love to work with them."

"In this combined exercise we exchange a lot of things: training, ways of thinking and ways of behaving," said

Mohammed. "We have learned a lot from the Americans, and they have learned a lot from us."

"One of our core missions is training and working with foreign troops," said Holliday. "All of us have done that previously, so we're able to build on and improve the skills we've been learning in the past. We're using language skills, we're working together. We see their ways of doing things, which will prepare us to work better with other troops in the future. This experience will help us when we go back to the combat environment."

"I have been very impressed with the Moroccan soldiers and NCOs here," observed Roberts. "They are very willing to learn, they are asking good questions, they are engaging and they have a good knowledge base. It's been very beneficial for us to work with them. We've really had a good opportunity to build some of what I hope to be long-term relationships." 🇲🇦

Utah National Guard Opens New Salt Lake Readiness Center



Governor Gary Herbert, center, and MG Brian Tarbet, right, perform the ribbon-cutting, officially opening the Salt Lake Readiness Center.

Story by LTC Hank McIntire

Photos by Ileen Kennedy

SALT LAKE CITY — In a ribbon-cutting ceremony March 30, the Utah National Guard officially opened its newest readiness center, located northeast of Salt Lake International Airport.

The Salt Lake Readiness Center, as it will be called, is a \$12 million, 54,000 square-foot training facility, which will house the headquarters of the 142nd Military Intelligence Battalion, 118th Sapper Company and 85th Civil Support Team.

On hand at the ceremony were Governor Gary Herbert, commander in chief of the Utah National Guard; MG Brian Tarbet, adjutant general; Bryce Jensen of Jacobsen Construction, the contractor on the project; and other dignitaries.

"It took about a decade to build this armory," said Tarbet at the ceremony, taking into account the actual construction time, as well as the planning, funding and design of the building.

"We've had a 'doughnut hole' in our facilities for years," he added, explaining that for many years there has been no Utah Army National Guard facility between the West Jordan-Draper area and Ogden. "Historically, we've had a substantial presence in the Salt Lake City area. This puts us back here where we need to be."

"This is a beautiful building," observed Herbert during his remarks, recalling his own National Guard service with a target-acquisition artillery unit in Provo in the 1970s. "Our armory was not near as nice as this one."

The building features classrooms, offices, a drill floor, conference rooms, the latest in audiovisual technology, exercise facilities, storage, and open bays for housing and servicing the equipment of the 118th Sappers and the 85th CST.

One unique feature of the Salt Lake Readiness Center was the effort to construct the building according to LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) standards, which include energy saving, water efficiency and improved indoor environmental quality, explained Scott Potter, engineering supervisor for the Utah National Guard.

One example of energy efficiency the new facility enjoys is the use of "light shelves" to increase the levels of natural light inside the building. According to Potter, these two foot-wide glass shelves, mounted on the interior and exterior of the building's west- and south-facing windows, bounce light upward to naturally brighten ceilings, thus reducing the energy required to illuminate those rooms.

Other environmentally friendly practices include water-efficient landscaping and plumbing fixtures, using recyclable materials in the construction and minimal disturbance of the property not devoted to the structure, said Potter.

At the ceremony Jensen, of Jacobsen Construction, described the transformation of the location, located in a manufacturing and industrial-park area of Salt Lake City.

"What a wonderful thing it is to come to a barren plot of land and turn it into something useful and productive," said Jensen. "What an opportunity to provide a structure for the men and women who serve us in the National Guard and give them the resources they need to serve and protect us here in our homeland."


Following the formal remarks, Herbert, Tarbet and Soldiers cut the ribbon and then received a guided tour from the commanders of the three units occupying the building.

Leaders were impressed with what they saw.

"I commend all of those involved in this [project]," Herbert said. "I know these things don't just happen. Somebody understood the need, started to anticipate, had a vision and then implemented that vision with some commitment and drive."

"[This facility is] a visible presence in the community as people see you coming and going, knowing that we have people on the job, ready to defend our constitution and our way of life," Herbert told those in uniform. "It's a symbol to the community that needs to be seen and heard."



"Take pride in it. Take care of it," Tarbet told his Soldiers in his to-the-point style. "It was built for you and your use." 

Governor Gary Herbert examines an energy-efficient light shelf that increases the levels of natural lighting inside the building.

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300th MI Hosts Language Conference

Story and photos by SGT Shana Hutchins

DRAPER, Utah — **T**he 300th Military Intelligence Brigade held their 21st annual Language Conference at the Utah National Guard headquarters in Draper March 5-7.

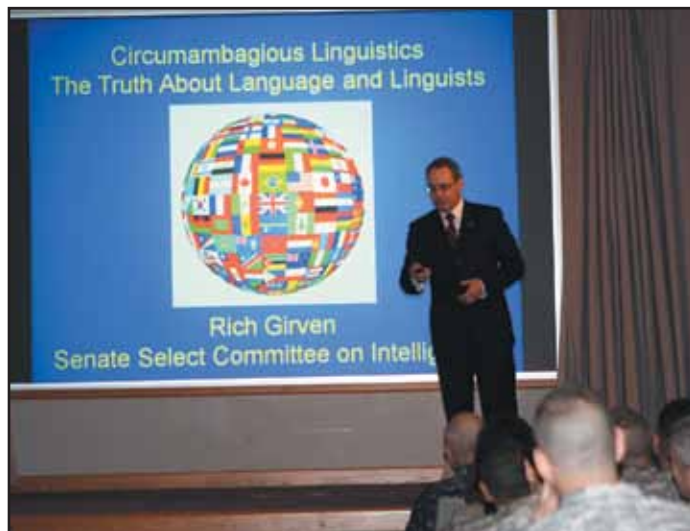
The conference brought in defense-sector vendors and military and civilian keynote speakers from the military intelligence community. A large number of the attendees were from different Department of Defense entities.

"These conferences do a number of things: one is they provide an opportunity for us to work different issues that we have in the military intelligence community by bringing people together and providing a forum where these issues can be discussed," said COL Val Peterson, commander of the 300th MI Brigade. "The other thing we see is the opportunity to educate the people about the strength of the military intelligence branch here in Utah and the quality and the number of Soldiers that we have who are available for military intelligence missions."

Over 30 vendors attended the language conference giving Soldiers, their leaders and the intelligence community the chance to interact and assist each other in training future linguists. There were representatives from several language-based businesses and tactical-technology businesses that deal with communication equipment, all for the benefit of MI Soldiers and other Servicemembers.

"For us, it is one of our key events as a brigade," said LTC Derek Tolman, a resident of Draper who serves as brigade operations officer (S-3) with the 300th. "We bring together a lot of the key language players in the Department of Defense and from industry as well. It is a great collaboration every year with wonderful networking, where we try to tackle the major language issues we are dealing with."

Soldiers speak with various vendors regarding language technologies during the 21st annual 300th Military Intelligence Brigade Language Conference.



Richard Girven, of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence professional staff, gives a presentation during the 21st Annual 300th Military Intelligence Brigade Language Conference March 6.

"The majority of our Soldiers who join the organization were involved and have been involved for decades in real-world foreign language intelligence missions and that's our passion. Because of that, we want to be on the cutting edge of everything, and we want to be the leaders in the industry," said Tolman.

Speakers and presenters for the breakout sessions during the conference ranged from dignitaries from Capitol Hill to vendors and cultural scholars.

Peterson explained that this year's conference has been highlighted by key individuals from around the country talking

Richard Girven, of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence professional staff, and LTC Derek Tolman, 300th MI operations officer, speak briefly before Girven's presentation during the Language Conference.





A presentation entitled, "The Truth about Language and Linguists," was given by Richard Girven at the Utah National Guard Headquarters in Draper March 6.

about language and cultural issues. BG Mary Legere, commanding general, United States Army Intelligence and Security Command, located at Fort Belvoir, Va., opened the conference as keynote speaker with her topic of "Language as Combat Multiplier."

"We have also been fortunate to have Mr. Richard Girven, who is the key staffer for the Senate Committee on Intelligence who talked about the importance of language and some of the gaps they see from the Senate side on language," Peterson said.

Dan Scott, Senior National Intelligence Service Director of the Foreign Language Program for the Office of the Director of National Intelligence, addressed some of the ways they are trying to fill the gaps in the language needs.

The conference also gives military intelligence leaders the opportunity to bring in speakers who educate their Soldiers about where they will be performing combat operations. There were cultural-awareness presentations by three experts on Iraq, Afghanistan and Iran. The discussions highlighted the need to have a better understanding of the areas where Soldiers will possibly be conducting operations.

"Just the three cultural speakers that we had provided a tremendous amount of insight for our Soldiers, who were looking at these areas in a way that is strategic in nature or tactical in nature and how they are going to interact with the populace," Peterson said.

"This conference also gave the 300th MI the opportunity to bring people from around the country to Utah and let them see firsthand the quality of Military Intelligence Soldiers serving in the Utah Guard and the 300th," said Peterson. 🇺🇸

151st ARW KC-135 Tasked to Support AMC

Story by AIC Emily Hoferitza

SALT LAKE CITY — Twenty-one Air Guardsmen are on call through July while one of the Utah Air National Guard's KC-135s will be made available to the Air Mobility Command for mission support.

Major Corey Love, 191st Air Refueling Squadron chief of current operations, said there are 10 tankers across the country tasked for the mission.

"We're assigned as a duty tanker," he explained. "There are 10 Guard KC-135s performing this long-range duty that AMC has at their disposal to use for whatever missions come up that they can't fill on a volunteer basis."

The unit has averaged one mission per week, he continued.

Tech. Sgt Vincent Littlejohn, a boom operator with the 191st ARS, said they have flown mostly transport missions.

"We leave here and shuttle all sorts of crews from McChord and Dover to Charleston, where they stage C-17s to go to the Middle East," he said.

Love also said they are planning two Pacific aeromedical evacuation missions in the next couple of months. The mission has also opened up many doors to Utah Air Guardsmen that may have otherwise stayed closed.

"It allows a lot of the maintainers to experience how the whole Guard-lift thing works," said Tech. Sgt Dave Hudson, 191st ARS boom operator. "They have the chance to get out on the road and experience different scenarios that they wouldn't have been involved in otherwise."

Hudson also said that it is a good opportunity for unit visibility.

"We're able to play a small part in the bigger picture, as opposed to day-to-day ops here," he said.

The mission also gives crewmembers opportunities to further their training, said CMSgt Doug Cline, also a boom operator. "Young crewmembers are given command experience that they might not otherwise have had," he said.

"The bottom line is that, in actuality, we could be tasked to do anything," said Hudson.

The duty tanker is scheduled for its next mission April 14. 🇺🇸

Utah Guard's SGT Shauna Rohbock: Sliding for Gold and Country

Story by SFC Scotten Whaley

Photos by Ileen Kennedy

PARK CITY, Utah — **T**he Winter Olympics come along just once every four years. It is a chance for citizens the world over to come together and cheer on athletes regardless of creed, race or country. For athletes, it is a chance to represent their nation. And a select few have the honor to represent their country a little more frequently.

As a member of the Utah National Guard and National Guard's Outstanding Athlete Program, Olympic bobsledder SGT Shauna Rohbock not only represents her country in this year's Olympics, she also stands for flag and country every day. Rohbock has been in the National Guard since 2000 and calls the decision to enlist "the best decision of my life."

Training to be the best in the world requires "a lot of hard work and dedication," Rohbock said. "It takes a big support group like the National Guard. It's very hard. People asked me if I could have a nine-to-five job. There's no chance. We're not professional athletes. We can't just go to practice and come home and sit around and play video games all day."

The bobsled is not a year-round event, so the pilot, or driver, and brakeman only get to train in season. Rohbock said the Outstanding Athlete Program has given her options that not all her teammates get to enjoy. During the off season she drills with her National Guard unit and tours the country speaking about her Olympic experiences and how the military has impacted her success. And Rohbock has definitely been successful.

Rohbock won a silver medal in both the 2006 Winter Olympics in Torino, Italy, and the 2009 World Championships in Lake Placid, N.Y. Rohbock is also a favorite to win gold at this year's Winter Olympics in Vancouver, B.C. She currently holds the track record of 53.53 seconds at the Whistler Sliding Centre for the two-woman bobsled, which she set en route to a gold medal at last year's World Cup event there. Whistler is also the site of the bobsled events at the Vancouver Olympics.

Even though she is a favorite and the track record holder, Rohbock does not feel any extra pressure.

"People ask if I feel a lot of pressure because I'm supposed to win a medal," she said. "Actually, I feel like I got that monkey off my back in 2006. I just want to have four great runs and be happy with my performance in the end. I want to look back and say, 'You know what, those were four great runs and this is what I came out with.' And if it's a medal that's great. But I don't want to have the 'coulda, woulda, shouldas.' I just want to be happy with all four runs."





SGT Shauna Rohbock, right, is interviewed for U.S. military publications Feb. 4 during the U.S. Bobsled team's media day.

Just getting through the Whistler Course is one thing that will definitely put a smile on her face when she makes those four runs on the 12th and 13th days of the Olympics. Whistler is one of the fastest tracks in the world with speeds reaching upwards of 95 m.p.h. The 16-turn course is 1,450 meters long and drops 148 meters in vertical elevation. The average slope is 10.5 percent with some stretches reaching a maximum grade of 20 percent.

The most difficult portion of the track comes during the "Gold Rush Trail." It is a four-turn series (turns 12-15) at the bottom of the run with no straightaway between turns. Crews go from turn to turn to turn to turn. (To get a feel of how fast the Whistler Course is, go to http://fibt.pixabit.de/index.php?id=216&track_id=36&L=0.)

"You have to watch out for Curve 13," SGT Rohbock said. "They call it the '50/50 curve.' It pretty much is 50/50. You're either on four runners on the end or you're over. I crashed there this year and it's not a fun crash."

"It's such high speed," she continued, "I wish people knew just how fast it was. The TV does not tell you how fast the sleds are going. My hands are trying to move as fast as they can at the bottom. Sometimes I feel like it's going to get to the point where it is beyond your physical ability to drive that fast, to drive the next curve, for your brain to catch up with your hands. So definitely the track is fast and it's dangerous, but everyone has to go down the track."

Another aspect Winter Olympians have to compete with is the elements. The team's skintight Under Armour uniforms do not offer much protection from the cold. Rohbock found this to be especially true at this season's runs at Altenberg, Germany. She said the temperatures dropped well below zero.

"Most times there's just so much adrenaline, you don't even realize how cold it is, but when it's minus 20 and you tear your pants and jacket off at the top and the cold air hits you,

it's cold. Sometimes, too, when it's that cold, I don't usually go down with gloves. I can really feel it on my hands and I'm like, 'This course needs to end because my hands are so cold.'"

At colder temperatures the track's ice will be harder, which Rohbock said will give the pilots less control. She said she would not mind a warm day, with maybe a light rain so they will have a little more control at Whistler.

Rohbock also had some advice for the viewers at home cheering for her. She said the bobsled run is more than just those first five seconds at the start. It is important to watch for "speed killers." Watch for the sleds that are early coming into a turn because those will tend to jump high on the track where there are fewer grooves and less track ice. Also, if a sled is late for a turn, that could cause a big direction change. And obviously, "if you're hitting the walls, that's a bad run."

One event that viewers are sure to watch is the opening ceremonies on February 12. Rohbock said the feeling of entering the stadium behind the United States flag is "pretty much indescribable. The energy is so amazing in the stadium. It's an awesome experience."

She said standing on the medal podium is equally indescribable.

"I hope this time it'll be our flag being raised and our national anthem being played. It'll be awesome."

When asked if that does happen, if she does bring home the gold, will the tears flow? She responded that tears will flow "for sure."

Rohbock plans to stay in Vancouver for the entire Olympics and take in as many events as she can. She said there is a great sense of camaraderie among the bobsled and skeleton teams this year, which they hope can turn into great runs, great results and great chances to medal.

And as they strive and slide for the gold, the USA Bobsled team will definitely have the backing of the nation and its National Guard. 🇺🇸



Men's bobsled team members prepare to push off on a training run at Utah Olympic Park Feb. 4.

UTAH GUARD MARATHON TEAM CLEARS HURDLES TO TAKE TEAM THIRD AT LINCOLN



Story and photos by LTC Hank McIntire

The Lincoln National Guard Marathon starts with 8,000 registered runners May 2.

LINCOLN, Neb. — **T**hree members of the Utah National Guard's marathon team, LTC Eric Petersen, CPT DeAnne Trauba and Cadet Chris Odekirk, traveled to Nebraska to compete in the annual Lincoln National Guard Marathon, held May 2.

Joining the 8,000 registered civilian runners in the race were 265 Guardmembers from 46 states and Guam, up from 160 runners from 30 states last year, according to the Nebraska National Guard's SFC Mike Hagen, coordinator for the event.

"It's getting the word out, the love of the sport and the thrill to come here and compete with fellow Guardsmen," said Hagen about the reason for the uptick in Guardmember registrations for the race. "This is the most we've had in the last 15 years."

At stake for Soldiers and Airmen were the Top 5 team awards and 40 male and 15 female individual spots on the All-Guard Team. While states were free to send any number of runners, team awards would be calculated by the average time of only their first three finishers.

In preparation for this year's race, Utah was confident of a strong team showing with perennials Petersen, Trauba and LTC George Graff in the running, as well as Odekirk, who finished in a very respectable 2:57 in his first and only marathon at the 2009 Lincoln.

Two differences for this year's team, however, were the loss of standby SFC Ray Workman to retirement, as well as an injury to Graff, who sustained a broken collarbone and rib in a cycling accident in early April during a cross-training session.

Those circumstances combined to put extra pressure on Trauba, of the Utah Guard's Joint Forces Headquarters and a resident of Draper, whose race time would now be factored into Utah's team score with her two male teammates.

"I'll be helping the team qualify, where most teams it will be three men," she explained the day before the race. "It's a disadvantage, but it will help me try to be tougher and stronger. I'll leave it all out there on the course."

Despite Graff's injury, Hagen invited him to Lincoln to assist with the race, and while there he could act as a coach to his Utah teammates and provide moral support to the team.

"When I became injured, I was kind of let down because I always really enjoy the experience here," said Graff of the uniqueness of the Guard presence at Lincoln. "It's like a big family gathering all rolled into a race."

That atmosphere included Utah's team—Petersen, Trauba, Odekirk and Graff—taking its turn at the National

Guard recruiting booth at the race expo to talk to runners who may have interest in wearing the uniform. Many racers stopped by to ask questions and to pick up a free set of inflatable thunder sticks.

"I call them my 'Utah Foursome,'" said Hagen. "I'll put them in my expo booth any time of day, and I'm guaranteed that they will get me ten signatures for my recruiting leads. They are my dream team."

Sunday morning at race time the mercury read 47 degrees, with a few clouds and very little wind—all ideal conditions for a marathon.

"I'm cautiously optimistic," said Peterson, from Holladay and member of 97th Aviation Troop Command, envisioning a 2:58 race, while Salt Lake resident Odekirk, of the Utah Guard's Medical Command, had a goal to run a 2:40.

"I've done everything I can do," said Trauba as she did her final warmup, feeling that she had to better her 3:24 time from last year. "All that's left is putting the action toward all the training that has gone into this."

The Utah Foursome—minus one—inched toward the front of the pack for the start, knowing that awards were based on the gun time and not when runners crossed the starting line.

The gun sounded and the Utahns were off, leading the scrum of thousands of runners, who took more than 15 minutes to cross the starting line.

At the halfway point of the race, Odekirk was leading all Guard runners and was in the top ten overall, while Petersen and Trauba were at or ahead of their goal pace.

Trauba made a point to hit each water stop to stay hydrated, but she started to get tired after the midpoint.

"At Miles 13 to 15 I was in la-la land," she said, admitting that it was becoming hard to focus. "I lost my pace for a couple of miles, but I found someone to pace me. I thought, 'This is a race; race it!' It was good for me to push it."

Each of the Utah runners said the last six miles of the race were the most grueling, with Odekirk and Trauba mentioning the warm temperature and the lack of shade along that stretch of the course as a factor they had to deal with.

"At Mile 22 the heat got to me a little bit" recalled Odekirk after the race, slowing him down enough that Guard runner 1SG Seven Richmond, of Oregon, passed him at Mile 24.

The heat notwithstanding, one positive from those last few miles was the hundreds of spectators lining the streets, cheering runners on.

"The crowds here are incredible," said Trauba, recalling that kids were giving her high-fives along the route. "People like Utah; they shout 'Go Utah!' all the way."

The 'Go Utahs' also helped spur Odekirk on.

"It's hard to make it 26 miles if you don't have a little bit of encouragement," he said.

Petersen begged to differ with his teammates, however, on the impact of drawing strength from spectators and fellow runners.

"Some people get energy from other people, but I like the solitude of thinking through what I need to do," he said.

Captain DeAnne Trauba, left, enters Nebraska's Memorial Stadium on the last leg of the Lincoln Marathon with a young spectator, right, trying to keep up.





*LEFT TO RIGHT:
Cadet Chris Odekirk, LTC Eric Petersen and CPT DeAnne Trauba cross the finish line
securing a third-place team finish, and all three were named to the All-Guard Marathon team.*

At the finish, a new twist in the 50-year history of the Lincoln race was changing the course so that runners crossed the finish line on the turf field of the University of Nebraska's 85,000-seat Memorial Stadium. About 10,000 spectators filled the east stands, greeting lead runners with the same Husker Nation volume as if the home-team tailback had just reached the red-painted end zone after a 60-yard breakaway run.

"It was really cool coming through [the tunnel], seeing the Jumbotron and people announcing your name," said Odekirk, finishing in 2:43:38, fifth overall and second in the Guard rankings, just behind Richmond.

"I had thoughts of what runners feel like when they run into Olympic Stadium," added Petersen, whose 2:58:29 time matched his prerace prediction. "All the spectators in one place and with all that Cornhusker history, it was a very meaningful way to finish."

"It was tough finish; I was really tired," added Trauba, the first Guard woman to finish and tenth overall, beating her 2009 time by three minutes with a 3:21:17. "But it was cool to come into the stadium and run across the 50 yard line."

After a postrace massage and a pork-sandwich lunch, courtesy of the Nebraska Pork Growers, runners were honored at the awards ceremony at the Champions Club next to the stadium. Odekirk and Trauba accepted their trophies and

prize money for their top-ten finishes, and Petersen received a plaque as a top finisher in his age group.

The three added to their hardware collection at a ceremony at the Embassy Suites hotel for their performance among their Guard peers.

Trauba and Odekirk were again recognized for their individual efforts, and all three were called up to the stage for their third-place finish, the only team in the top 5 with a female runner's time factored in. The three also returned to the podium when the names for the All-Guard team were announced.

With that distinction, they will now represent the National Guard for the next 12 months at races around the country.

"Coming off a knee injury [in 2009], I was more prepared this year than last year," said Odekirk. "This year I had a decent base behind me. I went out faster."

"We couldn't be happier with a top-three finish," said Petersen. "Everybody had to step up this year with George being injured. There were a hundred more runners this year, so the competition was stiffer."

"Lincoln is one of those races where you never know what you're going to get," said Trauba, surprised and gratified at her team's individual and collective performances. "I love competing for Utah. I love that we're a team." 🇺🇸

Utah National Guard Gets a Financial Counselor

Story by PFC Nicolas Cloward

Photos by SPC Rebecca R. Hansen

DRAPER, Utah — **T**ammie Anstead, a personal financial counseling intern through the National Military Family Association, is completing 400 hours of her practicum here at the Utah Army National Guard Headquarters in Draper to receive her financial counseling certification.

Anstead will be available every Thursday for free financial counseling to help all military personnel gain control of their budgets, whether they're going to, or coming home from a deployment or even if they're heading off to Basic Training.

"She's doing her practicum in support of the family program that provides financial services," said CPT Gloria Parks, deployment-cycle support officer for the Utah Army National Guard.

"It's part of a charitable trust that we help people financially when we can," said Parks, "When the military causes a hardship for a Soldier, they look at their budget and determine if they need financial counseling."

Some services that Anstead will be providing includes awareness of Servicemember benefits, debt management, Military OneSource services, Department of Defense Web sites guidance, budgeting, education about checks-and-balance sheets and financial guidance.

Taking control of your money can be remarkably easy, but for some it can feel like pulling teeth.

"Sometimes getting it down on paper will help you to focus," said Anstead, "but people don't want to sit down and take something fun like money, and make it something boring, like paper."

"It's not difficult these days to fall into a negative financial situation.



Military spouse Kaisha Elphick, right, speaks with Tammie Anstead about financial planning at Draper headquarters Feb. 25.



Tammie Anstead discusses her new position as the Utah National Guard financial planner.


Taking the time to form good habits has its benefits; it can eliminate stress in your life," said Anstead. "It puts people in control of their money instead of the money in control of them."

Anstead has degrees in marriage and family development and law, so she understands how money can affect a marriage.

"Statistically, 80 to 90 percent of divorces relate back to money problems, and money problems have been at the root of many suicides," said Anstead.

She is enthusiastic about the service she can provide to Servicemembers and their families all over Utah. She's been getting involved with Yellow Ribbon events and using the power of word of mouth to let people know she's here and available to help them get prepared for financial success.

"It's so important and I feel so passionate about it," said Anstead, "I want to help people to be free of the restraints debt and money stresses can cause for [Servicemembers] and their families, by giving them the knowledge and tools to combat it."

If you would like to contact Tammie Anstead for financial counseling, you can contact her to set up an appointment via E-mail at tammie.anstead@us.army.mil. 

Utah Guard's 128th MPAD Supports Successful Cobra Gold 2010

Story by SSG DaleAnne Maxwell

UTAPAO AIR BASE, Thailand — **M**embers of the Utah National Guard's 128th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment returned home Feb. 12 after completing their mission to Thailand in support of the annual Cobra Gold exercise.

Cobra Gold is a yearly joint multinational exercise designed to train military forces from Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Singapore, Thailand and the U.S. in peacekeeping, humanitarian and disaster-response operations in a Coalition environment.

The six-member team from the 128th worked alongside U.S. Army Pacific Public Affairs and Coalition partners in the Combined Joint Information Bureau at Utapao Air Base.

Utah public affairs professionals were assigned various tasks during Cobra Gold 2010 to include supporting new media (Facebook, Flickr); Digital Video and Imagery Distribution System (DVIDS); editing Cobra Strike, the official publication of Cobra Gold 2010; and producing print, broadcast and new-media articles for internal and external distribution.

Working with active-duty Soldiers and Marines at Cobra Gold 2010 also helped 128th Soldiers to fine tune their public affairs skills.

"I worked with counterparts from different Services in the U.S. Military and was able to learn how to be a more efficient and stronger broadcaster because of their influence," said SPC Ashley Baum, a broadcaster with the 128th. "Since I am in the National Guard, I don't have the ability to practice my MOS as often as some of the active-duty Soldiers and Marines. They helped me see what areas I need to work on and how those improvements will enhance my broadcast work in the future."

Working with active-duty Servicemembers, Soldiers of the 128th were also able to use systems not available back home, such as DVIDS, a state-of-the-art, 24/7 operation that provides a connection between the media



Photo by CPT Wencke Tate

SSG DaleAnne Maxwell, left, and SPC Ashley Baum, right, of the 128th MPAD, shoot the band's performance at Cobra Gold 2010.

SPC Ashley Baum, left, and SSG DaleAnne Maxwell, right, capture the Cobra Gold 2010 opening ceremony Feb. 1.



Photo by CPT Wencke Tate

SPC Ashley Baum, left, records LTG Benjamin Mixon, commanding general of U.S. Army Pacific, foreground, at Cobra Gold 2010 in Thailand.



Photo by SSG Dale Anne Maxwell

around the world and the U.S. military.

Not having used DVIDS previously did not stop SFC Nichole Bonham, DVIDS non-commissioned officer in charge and 128th unit-readiness NCOIC, from accomplishing her mission.

Bonham was able to upload directly to the DVIDS site and managed a successful live interview with the Commanding General of United States Army Pacific, Benjamin R. Mixon for a Pentagon press brief.

Overall, serving at Cobra Gold 2010 helped members of the 128th to train and grow together.

"I feel the training exercise allowed me to grow into a better Soldier," said Baum. "And now I can take what I learned and apply it to the broadcast section in the unit and help other broadcasters grow." 🇺🇸

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Utah Army National Guard Hosts Training Exercise for 10th Mountain Soldiers

Story by ISG Charles Schmidt

Photos by PFC Nicolas Cloward

CAMP WILLIAMS, Utah — February 2010, 2nd Battalion, 4th Infantry Regiment, 4th Brigade, 10th Mountain Division, from Fort Polk, La., trained more than 800 Soldiers for their Afghanistan deployment during 15 days at Camp Williams and Dugway Proving Ground.

Staying consistent with Army training guidance, Camp Williams offers terrain, altitude and climate to "train as you fight" when looking for a high-mountain desert environment.

"Just looking out the window, from what a lot of folks have said, you step out the back door here at Camp Williams and Dugway Proving Ground and it's eerily similar to the terrain and [climate] in Afghanistan," said Major Clayton Meals, executive officer, 4th Infantry Regiment.

Being able to train teams in such an environment builds confidence in leadership, and Soldiers gain confidence in their abilities.

"Our Soldiers have adjusted well here," Meals said. "It has boosted their confidence in their cold-weather gear and how to use their systems appropriately, to keep them warm and help them survive in this type of environment."

"The cold was the hardest part for me," said SGT Michael McAdams, Alpha team leader, 1st Squad, Bravo Company. "I don't think that I have been anywhere this cold. This is like, I don't know, you can't escape from it. It's everywhere and it doesn't let up at all!"

Others found the mountains to be very difficult, but by the end they had a better understanding of what their deployment would bring and how well they can operate under such conditions.



10th Mountain Soldiers use smoke as they assault across and clear an objective at Camp Williams.

The 10th Mountain spoke highly about how well the Utah Army National Guard supported their operation.

"There are some things that we as first timers, getting out and doing something on this scale, have not taken into consideration," said Meals. "Whenever we reached a friction point, the Utah National Guard has stepped up and greased the skids for every kind of support you can imagine."

Private Owen Jacobsen, assistant gunner, 3rd Squad, Bravo Team, added, "I am actually surprised; [Camp Williams] is a lot more than I thought it would be. It is a pretty good set-up with all the accommodations we need."

Overall, the training was a huge success and Soldiers found confidence in their equipment and abilities. With their new-found skills and mountain training, there was a feeling of reassurance, that they have what it takes to not only succeed, but excel in Afghanistan.

McAdams put it best: "It's just a great place to train, and I am amazed that it is such a secret. I never knew this place existed. I think that when we get back, the other battalions are going to catch wind of this and want to get a piece of it because it's a challenge." 🇺🇸

10th Mountain Soldiers from Alpha Team, 1st Squad, 3rd Platoon, Bravo Company, show hand signals during an after-action review Feb. 22.



Good Times All Around at Utah's Annual Military Ball

Story and photos by PFC Nicolas Cloward

SALT LAKE CITY — Soldiers, Airmen and their significant others danced the night away at the Utah Army and Air National Guard's Annual Military Ball held at the Rail Event Center in Salt Lake City March 13.

As the 23rd Army Band filled the busy dance floor with the sounds of both old and new music, chattering conversations and laughter could be heard throughout the event center. The night was a chance for Utah Servicemembers to get out of the house, get dressed up and converse with familiar faces.

"It's fun to see those faces you haven't seen in a long time," said SFC Robert Hill, recruiter for Recruiting and Retention Command in Draper. This is Hill's fifth year attending the military ball with his wife Alicia.

"This is one of the perks, for wives to get dressed up and come to events like this," Alicia said. "It's so nice to see the people he works with and put names with the faces."

The Military Ball is a unique chance to show the gentler side of the military. It gives military wives a chance to enjoy an inexpensive date night and mingle with other military spouses.

"It's a great time for a once-a-year event. We wives can get together and hang out and get to know each other a little better," said Lydia Randall, who has attended the military ball for the last four years with her husband, Thayne Randall, senior enlisted leader of Alpha Company, 2nd Battalion, 211th Aviation. "I think it builds a good bond," she added.

Some Soldiers and Airmen joked that if it weren't for the Military Ball, their dress uniforms would never be "squared away." Many wives and girlfriends enjoyed the opportunity to get their hair done and slip into a fancy dress for a fun night of dancing.

"How often do you get to dress up, get your hair done and get all pretty?" Lydia said with a laugh.

In addition to the dancing, the ball also included a drawing for the chance to win a variety of prizes such as televisions, gift cards and jewelry.

"The drawings are always a nice incentive," said Randall. "And the music—you can't beat the music."

Whatever one's reasons for attending, the annual event serves as a break from the high-tempo, daily routine of life as a citizen-Soldier and brings people from all walks of military life together for a good time, good music and good company. 🇺🇸



Utah Servicemembers enjoy a night of dancing at the annual Military Ball hosted by the Utah National Guard and held at the Rail Event Center March 13.



Utah National Guard's 142nd Military Intelligence Celebrates Its 50th

Story by LTC Hank McIntire

DRAPER, Utah — **T**he Utah National Guard's 142nd Military Intelligence Battalion celebrated its 50th anniversary at a ceremony Feb. 27 at Draper headquarters.

A handful of original members of the 142nd Military Intelligence Linguist Company, created Feb. 12, 1960, joined dozens of other current and former members to include its sister unit, the 141st Military Intelligence Battalion, in Draper Headquarters auditorium to honor the unit and its members' service.

Having suffered from a lack of proficient linguists during conflicts in World War II and Korea, the Department of the Army founded and based the linguist company at Fort Douglas to take advantage of the unusually high number of foreign-language speakers in Utah.

Lieutenant Colonel Walter C. Blakemore was the first commander of the 142nd, which soon grew to include 90 members speaking a variety of languages to include German, French, Italian, Dutch, Swedish, Danish, Norwegian, Finnish, Greek, Spanish, Portuguese, Japanese, Korean and Chinese.

The company was reorganized as the 142nd Military Intelligence Battalion in 1980 and later was divided into two battalions (the 141st and 142nd) in 1988, thus creating the 300th Military Intelligence Brigade.

The 300th currently manages over 1,600 linguists in eight states, half of whom reside in Utah, and who collectively speak and are trained in over 25 languages.

Speakers at the commemoration ceremony included former commanders of the 142nd: MG Brian Tarbet, adjutant

general of the Utah National Guard; retired COL Robert Stack; and retired COL Richard Roberts, author of *Legacy: A History of the Utah National Guard*.

Beginning his remarks, Tarbet asked former commanders of the 142nd to stand. Then, addressing "the guys who did all the work," Tarbet invited former command sergeants major and first sergeants to stand and be recognized. Both groups were met with thunderous applause.

"How great a debt we all owe you [original members]," said Tarbet. "To you on whose shoulders we stand, what a remarkable thing you built here. Know this: what you did was good."

Pointing to the young crop of Soldiers who are current members of the 142nd, Tarbet told former members of the unit, "They are a lot better than we were; better trained, seasoned and exceptional in every way."

"This is a very tough business that your successors are in," Tarbet continued. "Tough, deadly, unforgiving, unrelenting. And they do it with a smile. These guys aren't the 'B' Team."

"In the early era of the 142nd, our emphasis was on training, setting the base, getting organized and getting recruited," said Roberts in his remarks as he outlined the challenges of the early days. "Those were the problems we faced."

"We set the foundation of this unit and its capabilities," Roberts continued. "That was our main job and we did it well, and others have built upon it and taken the unit to greater heights. We're thankful to have served and are appreciative of what you people are doing now. I know we're in good hands."



Members of the 141st and 142nd Battalions and 300th MI Brigade joined former members of the unit in Draper Headquarters auditorium to honor the unit and its members' service.



Memorabilia collected over the past 50 years was on display at the 142nd MI Battalion's 50th anniversary celebration Feb. 27.

Colonel Stack, as did those who spoke before him, reminisced about the old days and complimented the young Soldiers now carrying the 142nd banner.

"I look out at you in uniform and salute you for your real attention to giving this country the patriotism that it always needs," he said.

To conclude the program, eight original members of the 142nd, who were in attendance at the ceremony, were invited to the stage to receive a commemorative plaque: Bernard Barnes, Paul Keil, Gary O'Brien, John Blankenstein, Lawrence Raty, Christopher Mettos, Yost Madrian and Myron Horne. All were given a standing ovation as the presentation concluded.

Following the program, 142nd graybeards and greenhorns lingered to compare notes and catch up.

"It's an absolute treasure to get back and see your dearest friends," said retired CW4 Doug Bell, a Dutch linguist with the 142nd for nearly 40 years. "I spanned the whole age, from the 1960s to the 2000s and then saw us grow to be deployed and

be of service. It's a miracle."

"I've wanted to have a reunion like this for many years," said retired CW4 George Vaieland. "What struck me today was the pride of seeing what we started out with and seeing what we are able to do nationally and internationally today."

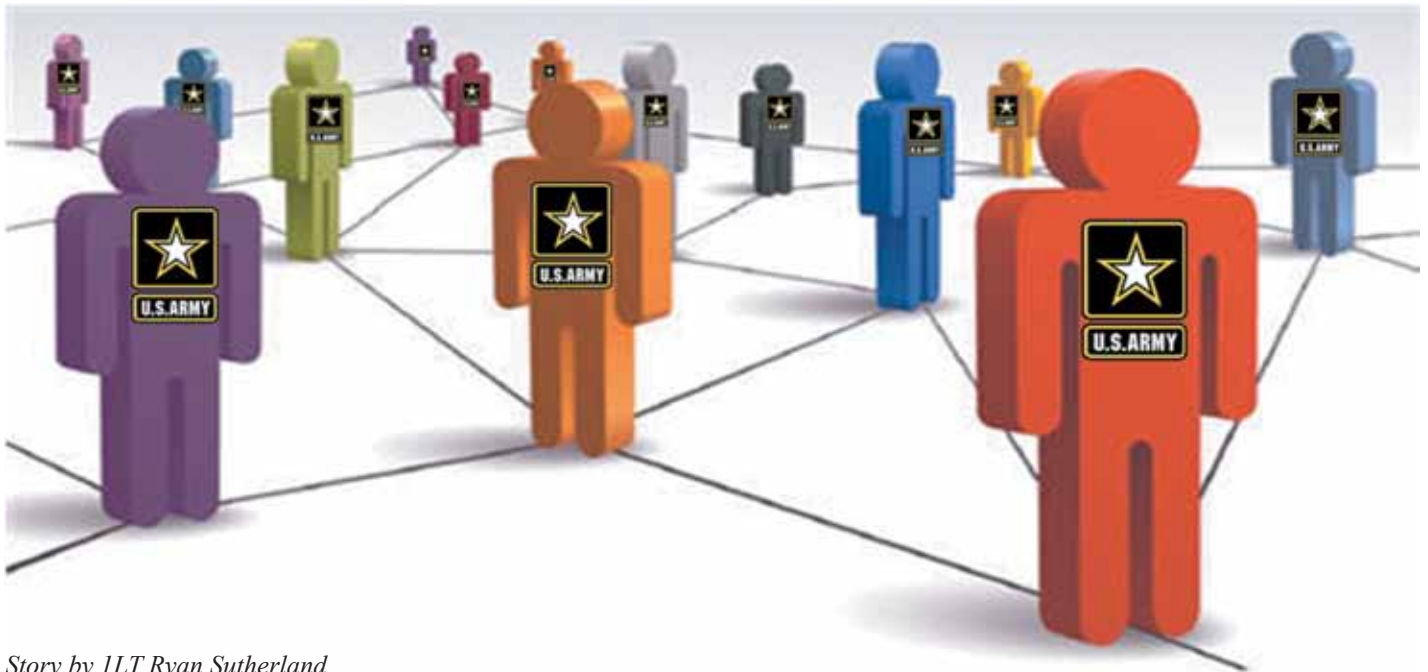
Retired CW4 John Blankenstein, a charter member of the unit, whom Vaieland called "Mr. 142," was company first sergeant for 11 years.

"It started with us doing the right things," said Blankenstein. "We had no concept of what to do. We pursued it in both directions: intelligence and language."

Current commander of the 142nd, LTC Steve Stevens, knows he has a tough act to follow.

"Today was really educational and humbling," said Stevens. "I wouldn't be here today if it weren't for the shoulders of former unit members that I'm standing on. The unit has an incredible reputation, and it's my goal that it's maintained in the future." 🇺🇸

Social Media and the U.S. Military: Open Access with Some Limits



Story by 1LT Ryan Sutherland

DRAPER, Utah — **T**he Defense Department officially embraced the online world with the release of its new directive regarding social media Feb. 26, 2010.

The new policy, Directive-Type Memorandum (DTM) 09-026, requires military and defense agency leaders to make Internet-based capabilities, including social-networking services available through the military's Non-Classified Internet Protocol Router Network.

Prior to the new directive, access to social media sites varied widely across Defense Department components, resulting in numerous overlapping policies. The Marines for example, outright banned all social media sites from its official networks. But after a lengthy review weighing the benefits and risks of social media, the Defense Department opted for a policy of "open access with some limits." The new directive brings all Defense components under one clear policy.

Social Media Best Practices

The Utah National Guard recently posted a social media web guidelines link on its portal and public sites. Here you can find the new Defense policy letter, along with the Army's "Social Media Best Practices" link which offers the following guidelines for Soldiers and other Defense personnel to consider:

1. Whether or not to participate in social computing is an individual's personal decision. Soldiers maintain their First Amendment rights and do have the right to express themselves in a public forum. If, however, a Soldier is participating in a social-networking site where he or she is or may be identified or associated with the United States Army they must be very cognizant of how they appear to represent their organization and the United States of America. UCMJ and other guidelines and regulations apply in the virtual space just as they do in any other.

2. Before engaging in any social computing space Soldiers must be aware of all pertinent regulations including UCMJ, AR 25-1 and AR 530-1.

3. Any individual making statements on a public forum should identify him or herself and their affiliation with the U.S. Army if they are commenting on U.S. Army matters or issues. Be transparent. If an individual is not a public affairs officer speaking on behalf of the U.S. Army, he or she should make it clear that the statements are their own and do not represent an official U.S. Army stance (Example: This statement is my own and does not constitute an endorsement or opinion of the U.S. Army or Department of Defense).

4. Stay in your lane. It applies in public forums as much as it applies to conversations with the media. If you're not the best person to comment on a topic, you shouldn't do so in an official capacity.

5. Operations Security is paramount. Any information that may compromise OPSEC should not be discussed. If a person is in doubt as to whether information may violate OPSEC, they should consult with their immediate supervisor or operations officer for a review.

6. Play nice. If you wouldn't want your mother seeing it, you probably shouldn't post it.

7. Be cognizant of how you represent yourself in personal social-networking sites such as Facebook, MySpace, and Friendster. If you are posting information to those sites that would reflect poorly on the U.S. Army, reconsider. Even information posted to personal profiles lives in the public domain. You never know who might see it. If you refer to the U.S. Army in your personal social network profile, you are identifying yourself as a part of a large network that includes both your colleagues and your chain of command. The information you post there should be consistent with your role as a Soldier and representative of the U.S. Army.

Deputy Defense Secretary William Lynn, who authored the directive, was asked about the new Defense Department policy on National Public Radio's "Talk of the Nation."

"This policy recognizes that emerging Internet-based capabilities offer both opportunities and risks that need to be balanced in ways that provide an information advantage for our people and mission partners," he said.

Defense employees now have an open line to communicate with family and friends, and with that comes unique problems. "Operational security, or OPSEC, as the Defense Department has called it for short, is a concern that we've had since the beginning of the U.S. military, and that doesn't change with access to social media," added Lynn. "You need to be cognizant of what you say and write, either on a cell phone or in a Twitter or social media site. It can be seen and heard not just by the people you're sending it to, but by the enemy as well."

The new directive provides commanders the discretion to temporarily limit Internet access in order to preserve OPSEC or bandwidth constraints. The directive also states that commanders at all levels and heads of Defense components shall continue to defend against malicious activity affecting Defense networks and take immediate and commensurate actions, as required, to safeguard missions.

Defense personnel should be aware that the Uniform Code of Military Justice and the joint ethics regulation still apply, so don't say or do anything on these sites that you wouldn't do in any other form of communication.

Lieutenant Colonel Patrick D. Osmond, state judge advocate and ethics officer for the Utah National Guard, stresses the importance of not engaging in any social networking that would affect the performance of official duties.

"The Joint Ethics Regulation states very clearly that individuals who work for the Defense Department should not engage in any activity that would reflect adversely on the DoD, and that is to include the Utah National Guard," said Osmond.

The directive preserves the practice of prohibiting users from accessing Internet sites, or engaging in activity via social media sites involving pornography, gambling, hate crimes and other prohibited activities. And it reiterates that members of military, defense and related agencies must continue to follow existing ethics and privacy guidelines.

Osmond also cautions that employees should not engage in any events that would be of an unreasonable duration or frequency.

"The idea is that in general, when individuals engage in a lot of this, first of all it's an ethical violation, but our communication system is limited and it is an unauthorized expense to the government; and two, it overburdens the communications system, which is why the rules are in place," he said.

The directive is the Defense Department's recognition that the Internet has changed the way we communicate and that social media has become an increasingly important aspect of the Defense's communications platform.

A new report from Forrester Research, "The Broad Reach of Social Technologies," found that social networking is now the number-one activity on the Web. With more than 80 percent of Americans using social media Web sites monthly, and an average user spending more than 55 minutes per day on such sites, this is a networking tool that cannot be dismissed.

Facebook alone has more than 350 million users, and the Army National Guard Facebook fan page has attracted more than 400,000 fans, allowing users to interact with larger audiences than we ever have before. The Defense Department believes that this is a unique opportunity to offer the public a look at the ever-changing life of the military, while also shedding a more humanistic light on the Armed Forces.

Lieutenant Colonel Hank McIntire, public affairs officer for the Utah National Guard knows firsthand of the impact social media has made in the Public Affairs world.

"The question can be asked, How does this help the warfighter? Ultimately, it's about communication, and it's about embracing and securing new technologies in support of our ever-changing mission," he said.

For instance, on an operational level, social media is an effective way of engaging and combating misinformation faster and to a larger audience. A recent example was the Army's use of Facebook and Twitter as a crisis communications tool following the Fort Hood shootings. The airwaves were flooded with erroneous reports following the incident, and the media soon learned that the Army was posting responses on its official Facebook and Twitter pages, and that is where the media ultimately turned their attention.

Fort Hood was the most blogged and tweeted topic of the week with more than 20,000 responses and interactions expressing support over the pages. The result was better

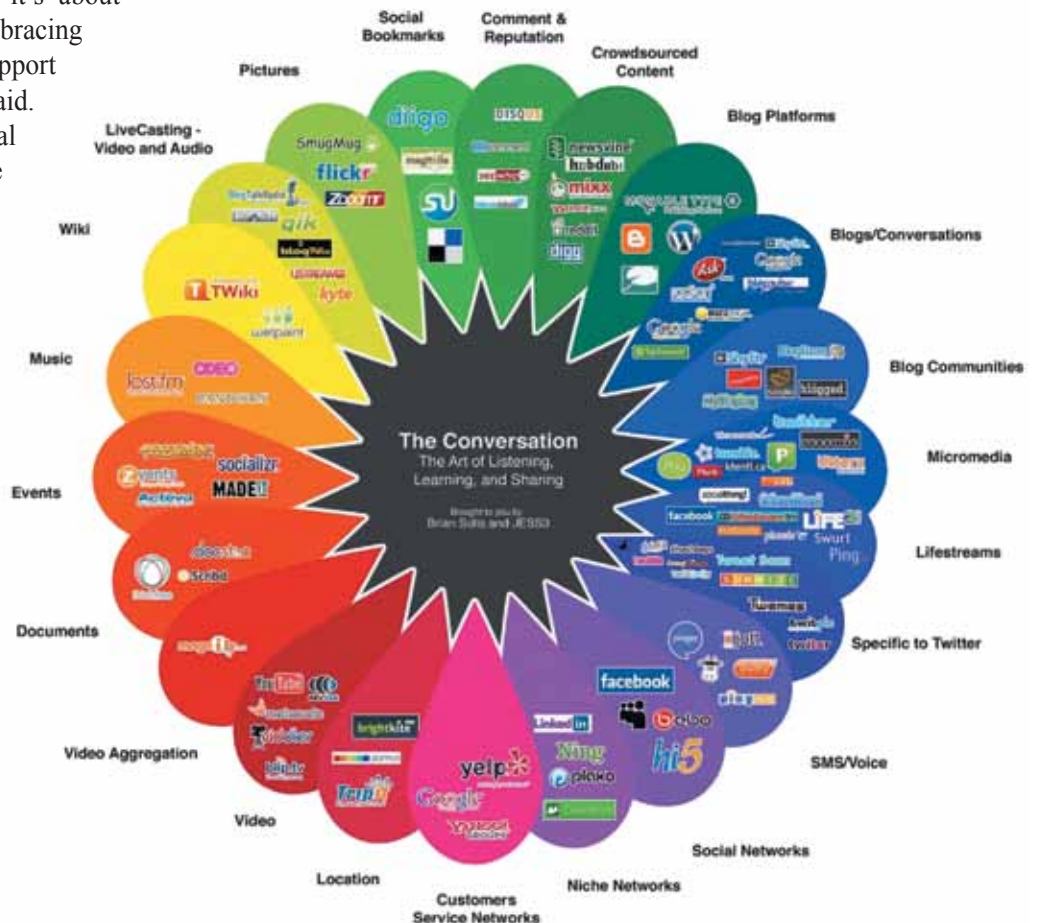
control of command information during a crisis.

Social media is also an effective tool in keeping personnel connected and informed of events and activities, providing them with a wide range of information such as command updates, keeping family members informed and building support in the community.

The Utah National Guard Public Affairs office currently uses the photo-sharing site Flickr, where they upload high-resolution photos of events they cover for Servicemembers and their families to access, and they have started the practice of including the Flickr link in press releases for the media to access for their stories.

McIntire finds it's a good practice to research what platform best fits the needs of your organization before engaging in the online community.

"You shouldn't engage social media just to be engaged, you should have a well thought-out strategy of what social media tools work best for your organization," he said. "The question to ask is, How are the people that we need to reach, interact with and tell our stories to, going to use this new tool and how can we better educate our personnel about the risks while also helping them to achieve their goals?"



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Utah Warriors Compete for Soldier-of-the-Year Distinction

PFC Josh Wardle, Forward Support Company, 1457th Engineer Battalion, runs to the finish line at the end of the night land-navigation course March 20. Wardle was named Utah's Soldier of the Year and competed in the national SOY competition.

Story and photos by PFC Nicolas Cloward

CAMP WILLIAMS, Utah – **S**oldiers and noncommissioned officers from across the state competed in the 2010 Utah National Guard Soldier and NCO of the Year competition at Camp Williams March 19-21.

Major commands from across Utah held competitions to determine who would represent their commands at the state-level event. Winners of the competition then go on to compete in the national-level Soldier and NCO of the Year competitions.

The grueling competition tested the physical and mental toughness of the participating Soldiers, as well as their ability to complete Warrior tasks and drills.

"It's a competition that tests your physical endurance and your military knowledge," said SSG Aaron Slaughter, a human resources analyst for Joint Forces Headquarters. "And I'll tell you, it does just that. I can't tell you the last time I've been this physically beat."

On the first day of competition, Soldiers conducted the Army Physical Fitness Test, ate breakfast, and went on to perform a combination of battle drills. The amount of physical activity in the first day was tiring, said Slaughter.

Competing Soldiers trained a great deal prior to coming to Camp Williams for the event. Everyone put themselves through a lot of extra physical training and studying to refresh their Army knowledge, said SSG Eric Steele, who serves with 489th Brigade Support Battalion. "Win, lose or draw, it's a competition and you gotta do what you gotta do," Steele said.

The Soldier of the Year competition is a highly anticipated event for all Soldiers who plan to compete, and it gives them something to aspire to, said Slaughter.

"It's a motivation factor for a lot of Soldiers," he said.

The competition is designed to motivate and push Soldiers physically and mentally, and help build confidence in the individuals who do participate. It consists of a written test, physical fitness test, a board, Warrior tasks and battle drills, day and night land navigation, rifle qualification, and a 5-mile ruck march.

After the ruck march, participants and their leaders gathered in the Officers Club at Camp Williams for a formal dinner and an award ceremony. During the ceremony the names of the winning Soldiers and NCOs were announced.

The title of First Sergeant of the Year was awarded to 1SG David Sauer, senior enlisted leader of Company B, 141st Military Intelligence Battalion. The NCO of the Year award went to SFC Corey Bybee, 640th Regional Training Institute. Soldier of the Year was awarded to PFC Josh Wardle of Forward Support Company, 1457th Engineer Battalion. 🇺🇸



1SG David Sauer, first sergeant of Company B, 141st MI Battalion, was recognized by MG Brian Tarbet in a ceremony following the Soldier and Noncommissioned Officer of the Year competition at Camp Williams March 21. Sauer was named Utah's First Sergeant of the Year during the ceremony.

Memory of Utah's Fallen Warriors Takes Flight with Eagle

Story and photos by SGT Whitney Houston

CAMP WILLIAMS, Utah — **U**tah Servicemembers who have made the ultimate sacrifice in the Iraq and Afghanistan wars were honored with the release of a rehabilitated golden eagle at Camp Williams Veterans Memorial Park April 10.

A fitting symbol for such a memorial, the eagle was released in memory of 39 Utah Servicemembers who have died since 9/11.

"Eagles throughout time in ancient Greece, Rome and Egypt have been used to inspire the hearts of warriors," said Ben Woodruff, founder of Skymasters Wildlife Foundation, a nonprofit organization dedicated to the rehabilitation of wild animals. "A warrior is a woman or man who knows what's worth fighting for, and the eagle can embody that for us."

Adding to the significance of this tribute release, the wounded golden eagle was cared for at the Great Basin Wildlife Rehabilitation Center. Upon arrival at the center, the eagle was not given a traditional name but was instead prepared to bear the names of Utah's fallen.

"This young golden eagle hasn't had a name until today," said Patti Richards, director of the Spanish Fork-based wildlife rehabilitation center. "Today he bears the name of our fallen Soldiers, and my wish is that every time you see an eagle in the wild you remember our Soldiers."



Close-up of a rehabilitated golden eagle prior to its release at Camp Williams Veterans Memorial Park April 10.



MG Brian Tarbet unties the eagles eye-covering cap prior to the once-injured eagle's release back into the wild in honor of 39 Utah Servicemembers who have died in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Hundreds of military and civilian spectators gathered to participate in the ceremony and watch the eagle's release. Among them was Kim Black Olsen of Salem, mother of Utah's most recent fallen Warrior, Marine Lance Cpl. Nigel Olsen, who died in an improvised explosive device attack in Afghanistan in March.

"I am very grateful and emotional over this experience," Olsen said through moist eyes. "This release of the eagle, the symbol of our nation, is a great gift to the fallen Soldiers whose spirits soar high."

The release of the eagle aligns itself with other such memorial acts in the military that help to ensure that the living remember their fallen comrades.

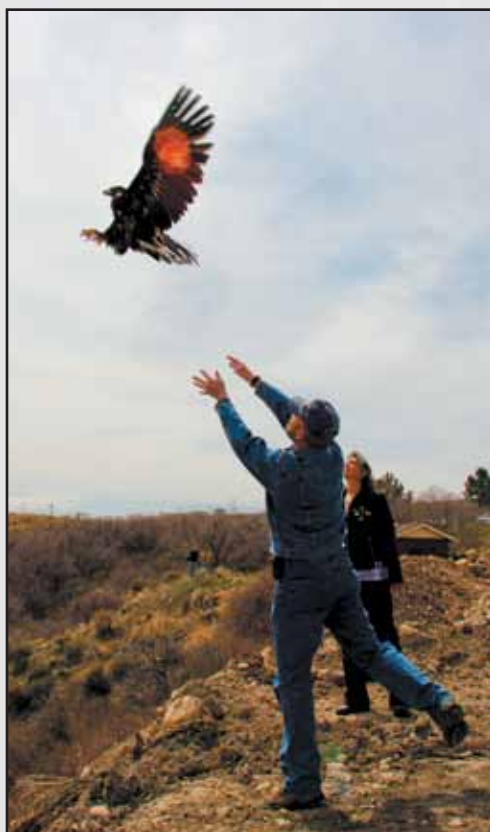
"Nothing will replace a father's absence at a table, a father wishing a child good night or a father caring for his child's fears," said COL Robert Dunton, commander of Camp Williams. "So it is the duty of us in uniform and the duty of us here to remember our Servicemen and women who serve in harm's way overseas. We miss these men in our

The rehabilitated golden eagle takes flight over Camp Williams April 10. BELOW Buz Marthaler of Wildlife Rehabilitation Center of Northern Utah releases a golden eagle at Camp Williams Veterans Memorial Park.



formations and communities, and we can never take away the void that is left in our lives. We are grateful to honor their memory."

Upon its release, the eagle circled and soared out of sight, leaving those in attendance with their eyes to the sky and with another memory to help them both remember and celebrate these honored Utah heroes. 🇺🇸



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UNITED CONCORDIA

Employers of Utah Guard Soldiers Get a 'Lift' to Fort Lewis

Story and photos by LTC Hank McIntire

FORT LEWIS, Wash. — **T**wenty-nine civilian employers of members of the Utah Guard's 144th Area Support Medical Company hopped aboard a 'Boss Lift' April 1-3 to Fort Lewis, Wash., to see their Soldiers in action as they prepared for a 12-month deployment to Afghanistan.

Boss Lifts, sponsored by Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve, are part of a national ESGR program which gives civilian employers of Guard members an on-the-ground taste of what their Employee-Soldiers are going through during their preparations to deploy.

The Camp Williams-based 144th consists of 80 Soldiers with the mission to treat patients in a hospital/clinic setting and provide medevac and ambulance support in a combat environment at Bagram Air Base and forward locations in Afghanistan.

En route from Salt Lake City to Fort Lewis on a Utah Air National Guard KC-135R Stratotanker, by luck of the draw—literally—a few passengers had the rare chance to sit in the cockpit's jump seat for takeoff and landing.

"That was really cool!" said Justin Withers, of Questar Gas, of his few minutes in the cockpit. He was on the trip to see employee SPC Tom Munford. "I tried to soak it in and enjoy all of it. It was exciting and a lot of fun."

Employers also got an up-close look at a midair refueling operation as a group of A-10 Thunderbolts—better known as Warthogs—from Mountain Home Air Force Base, Idaho,



Arriving at McChord Air Force Base, Wash., employers of Soldiers of the 144th ASMC pose in front of a Utah Air National Guard KC-135 stratotanker.

sidled up one by one to the boom at the rear of the KC-135.

Passengers did a bit of sidling as well as they peeked over boom operator MSgt Jason Blood's shoulders while each A-10 received its share of the KC-135's liquid payload: 8,000 pounds of fuel dispensed in just three minutes flat.

Once on the ground at Fort Lewis, employers received a briefing from leaders of the 191st Infantry Brigade, the active-duty unit responsible for training Soldiers of the 144th for their mission in Afghanistan.

"It's important for employers to see the quality of training that the Armed Forces provide their workers, who will come back to them after a year in Afghanistan," said COL Jay Gordon Flowers, commander of the 191st. "It's also important for Soldiers to see that they will have a job on the other side of this deployment."

To get a sense of what their employees go through each day, after the briefing employers received and assembled the same personal-protection gear their Soldiers wear to include helmet, goggles and flak jacket.

After checking into the Rainer Inn, the hotel at Fort Lewis, employers rested for a few hours from their early-morning start before being bused to a formal dinner and social with senior officers and enlisted members of the 144th.

"The training is going well, and my Soldiers are very motivated," CPT David Stefl, commander of the 144th, told employers. "We've had nothing but praise since we've been here. It's the Soldiers who make that happen."

"You'll gain a greater respect for the person wearing this green suit during the training tomorrow," Stefl promised.



Employers receive Soldier "battle rattle" to wear while at Fort Lewis April 1.

"We've been pretty punishing on you employers over the last decade," added MG Brian Tarbet, adjutant general of the Utah National Guard, during his remarks at the dinner. "In the National Guard and Reserve, we don't do business without you."

"You see someone leave your ranks, and it affects your bottom line," he continued, acknowledging the sacrifice required to support their Soldier-Employees. "It's money out of your pocket. It's a challenge for co-workers to cover. We're aware of that."

"As you will see tomorrow, your Soldiers aren't out on a lark," Tarbet concluded. "These medical people have performed miracles. Soldiers, Marines, Airmen and Sailors are alive today because of what these guys do."

As Tarbet predicted, the following day proved to be far from a lark, with the cold, rainy weather that Fort Lewis is famous for.

Employers reported at 0545 (5:45 a.m.) for a bus ride to enjoy an Army breakfast of eggs, sausage and all the trimmings with their Soldiers at the dining facility.

Bosses and employers chatted excitedly in a modern version of the mess tent seen on the sitcom M*A*S*H, catching up after saying goodbye March 20 when the 144th left Utah for this first leg of its deployment.

Wendell Winegar, owner of an RV park in Island Park, Idaho, sat with his employee, 1LT Jeremiah Davies, who also happens to be his grandson.

"I've seen a lot of growth, mentally and physically," said Winegar, recalling his impressions of Davies and his fellow Soldiers. "You see them and they are compassionate with people. They are a tribute to the Service."

Davies, of Plain City, a platoon leader with the 144th, was touched and surprised to see his grandfather, who not only signs his paycheck, but as a retired Army officer also administered the oath to him when Davies joined the military.

"I just filled out the paper to give him an award," said Davies of his employer-grandfather. "I didn't know they were going to fly him out here. He supported me all through college and when I commissioned he swore me in."

Winegar also spent time with another grandson, PFC Michael Winegar, 151st Signal Battalion, who happens to be stationed at Fort Lewis, preparing to deploy in October.



A medical technician explains to employers the triage techniques taught to deploying Soldiers.

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"It was really nice to see him," said Michael. "I haven't seen him since I left for Basic."

Another duo reunited on this trip had even more in common than Winegar and Davies. Leland Slaughter, a civilian employee with the Utah Guard's Survivor Outreach Services, met up with PFC Leland Slaughter, a medic with the 144th, employed with Provo City's water department.

"This was pretty cool—I didn't expect it," said Leland, Jr. "It's been nice having him around. It's made a difference."

The senior Slaughter, while thrilled to spend a few hours with his Soldier son, saw how this trip will make him a more effective resource to military families back home.

"This gives me a better understanding of what they are going through," said Leland, Sr. "I think it will help me in talking with the families and help me relate better to them and their Soldiers' experiences."

After breakfast, Soldiers of the 144th left for the day's training, and employers broke out their "snivel gear," as Soldiers call it, to stay warm and dry. They had a hands-on tour of the Mine-Resistant, Ambush-Protected (MRAP) vehicle, the planned replacement for the humvee, and walked through the IED (improvised explosive device) "petting zoo" to see real examples of the deadly tactics and weapons the enemy uses against Coalition forces in Afghanistan.

Rounding out the morning, employers observed their Soldiers run through an exercise that required them to move a convoy through a danger area en route to a meeting with a tribal elder in a built-to-scale Afghan village complete with shops, huts, mosque and native role players chattering in Pashto.

Employers watched in the rain from a distance and monitored the event on portable radios, hearing them successfully navigate the hazardous route to the village and seeing them learn some tough lessons. Their encounter in the village turned "deadly" with the "loss" of a handful of Soldiers when one of the women role players detonated an explosive device hidden under her clothes.

"I learned today that it's hard," said a wet and cold Justin Withers after the exercise. "Sometimes in the civilian world [we] have it a lot easier. [Soldiers] don't stop if the weather's bad. If it's a rainy or snowy day, we [civilians] can slow down a little bit, but these guys don't have that opportunity."

Employers and Soldiers returned to the mess tent and dined on the Army's version of fast food, the infamous MRE (Meal Ready to Eat). At table after table Soldiers gave impromptu classes to their bosses on how to use the heaters that come in every package to bring the food to a palatable temperature.

As Soldiers continued with their training for the day, employers returned to the main garrison for a tour of the Medical Simulation Training Center to see how each Soldier is trained and prepared to provide basic emergency medical aid.



Leland Slaughter, left, joins his son, PFC Leland Slaughter, April 2 at Fort Lewis.

After a chance to clean up at the hotel, employers moved to the Allen Reserve Center to prepare for a barbecue dinner with their employees, many carrying the care packages brought from home or the office.

As members of the 144th entered the hall, spontaneous applause erupted from employers. Soldiers were visibly moved by the tribute as they formed a line around the perimeter of the room.

Soldiers needed little coaxing to move through the food line manned by Utah Guard leaders and Fort Lewis staff serving up barbecued ribs, chicken, hot dogs and hamburgers in the closest thing to a home-cooked meal that they would have for a long time.

Bosses and employees sat together to eat, chat and share their packages. Employers looked like parents on Christmas morning as they watched their "children" open the gifts they had brought.

This final opportunity to spend time with their employees was the highlight of the trip for many employers. Angelo Aguilar, of Honeywell International, is a supervisor to SPC Benjamin Carr at Hill Air Force Base.

"Ben brings a level of maturity to the job," said Aguilar, a retired Marine, believing that Carr's military service enhances his work performance. "He helps train people; he stays on task. He knows how to communicate with me."

"And he is in the [military] brotherhood," added Aguilar. "That's why I'm here supporting Ben, because he is in the Club."

Carr, of Roy, knows that with Aguilar's Marine background, his boss understands what it takes to be a Citizen-Soldier, and he's glad that Boss Lifts help educate those who haven't fully seen the light.

"It gives them a better appreciation for what we do out here and how we get ready for what we're going to do," said



Employers select and receive instructions on the fine art of eating an MRE.



Utah Guard senior leaders serve up a barbecue dinner to Soldiers of the 144th April 2.

Carr, speaking candidly. "Some employers don't really get what we do in the Guard. This is a really good chance to understand completely what we do. Instead of sitting back and saying, 'Oh, you just get to play Army,' well, they come out and see our training and see if we're really playing or not."

"It's nice for them to see what they let us have our time off to do," added SSG Rachael Kotter, of Taylorsville, a medic with the 144th. In civilian life she is a phlebotomist with Intermountain Medical Center in Murray, Utah.

Kotter is thankful that her boss, Shannon Atkinson, also "gets it."

"They hired me knowing that there was a possibility of my deploying," explained Kotter.

"I have a deeper respect for what these people go through," said Atkinson. "Getting to see her in her uniform just puts it into context. I see that when she is not at work, this is what she is doing. They deserve our support and respect. What they are doing is an honorable thing."

"What an honor to be invited here," Atkinson continued. "If [employers] have the opportunity, it's a chance of a lifetime to spend these last few days with their Soldier. It's inspiring."


Other Soldiers take comfort in knowing that their employment is secure and will be waiting for them when they return.

"I know my job is there when I get back, and I can step right back into my old shoes and pick up where I left off," said SPC Tom Munford, of Brigham City. "Other people, you can see the concern in their eyes. They're not as sure as I am. Even my family was concerned about my job at Questar. I told them, 'It'll be there. I know they will support me.'"

Unit commander Stefl, a Farmington resident and physician's assistant with Mountain Orthopedics in Bountiful, also knows what it means to have a supportive employer in Dr. Pepper Murray.

"I had a difficult time last time I deployed, but Dr. Murray has been great," Stefl said. "I've worked for Pepper for three years. It's been quite a contrast from my last deployment. Night and day."

Stefl hopes that civilian employers truly understand how much they can contribute to the success of the Guard and Reserve.

"They are serving their country by letting their Soldiers serve in the Guard, making sure our freedoms are protected," he said. "It's important that we make sure they have a way to come home and take care of their families." 

19th SF Participates in Operation Foal Eagle



Photos by MSG Scott Sudweeks

Story by 1LT Spencer Randle

SOUTH KOREA—**S**tepping off the ramp of the C-130 into the blackness was not unlike jumping into a dark pond at night. Outside of aircraft, the roar of the engines quickly gave way to the quiet stillness of the evening. The moon shone brightly, and far below a strange drop zone awaited the combat-loaded Soldiers. The mission: work with our Korean counterparts to conduct partisan warfare against a determined enemy.

Soldiers of 1st Battalion, 19th Special Forces Group (Airborne) participated in Operation Foal Eagle, a joint combined training exercise with Republic of Korea (ROK) Special Operations Forces, 1st Special Forces Group (Airborne) and Special Operations Command–Korea.

Led by LTC James Slagowski and CSM Scott Bollinger, Soldiers of the 1-19th took part in a training scenario based on a potential conflict with North Korean forces. The exercise, conducted in South Korea, was supported by a white cell and exercise support group that developed and managed the scenario during the exercise.

The 1-19th deployed to Korea in March and established a Special Operations Task Force to conduct and support joint-combined unconventional warfare operations with Korean Special Operations Forces.

One of many unique aspects of this exercise was that the location of the task force was nowhere near a U.S. Military base; instead, Soldiers trained in a rural area. They worked in Korean barracks, slept in Korean bunks, ate Korean food, trained on Korean equipment, and experienced Korean culture in order to better understand and integrate with their counterparts.

"It was a great training experience for our Soldiers to live and operate with the Republic of Korea soldiers," said Slagowski, Special Operations Task Force commander. "The language barrier presented its own unique problems, but we were able to adapt and overcome in order to accomplish the mission."

The Special Operations Task Force Operations Center consisted of current operations, plans and intelligence sections.



Soldiers of 1st Battalion, 19th Special Forces Group (Airborne), participate in Operation Foal Eagle, a joint training exercise with the Republic of Korea, where they had the rare opportunity to parachute from a hot-air balloon during training.

The intelligence section established and managed a secure computer network for the task force, as well as provided analysis of the enemy situation, which in turn drove plans and shaped future operations. Current operations focused on battle tracking of tactical units and managed all incoming and outgoing message traffic. These activities



allowed the Joint Operations Center to use Command Post of the Future as a single-point conduit for providing a battle picture for higher elements, as well as tactical elements.

Signal Center activities included establishing a SOFTACS (Special Operations Forces Tactical-Assured Connectivity system) 2.4-meter

satellite dish, which provided Internet connectivity to the task force; setting up a tactical local-area network to distribute e-mail and shared services to 50 users throughout three Department of Defense networks (secure, nonsecure and ROK); and integrating a radio base station into the Korean network, allowing ROIP (Radio over Internet Protocol) to any user in the network to use tactical radios via laptop computer. These capabilities allowed the task force to communicate simultaneously with elements in Korea; Japan; Hawaii; Fort Lewis, Wash.; and Camp Williams, Utah.

Support Center activities included rigging and dropping resupply bundles. Soldiers operated and maintained generators that supplied power to the various centers of the task force. Other support operations included supply, personnel and refueling.

The mission lasted 24 days and was a complete success, helping to prepare the 1-19th for deployment later this year. To culminate the exercise, 1-19th Soldiers participated in a joint airborne operation, Foal Eagle, that has been conducted every year since 1961. Its purpose is to demonstrate Republic of Korea-U.S. Military resolve to deter war on the Korean peninsula and to improve the combined and joint operational posture.

"We have great respect for our Korean counterparts," said Slagowski. "These soldiers are disciplined, well trained, motivated and well led. We learned as much from the ROKs as we taught them. That's why this training is so valuable." 🇺🇸

Utah Guardsman Presented First Steel Defleury

Story and photo by CPT Andrew Owens

FORT LEONARD WOOD, Mo. — Utah Guardsman CPT Blake Bingham captures a couple of "firsts" for Guardsman everywhere. Bingham was one of three National Guard recipients and the first officer awarded the Steel Defleury at the Annual Engineer Force Conference April 21.

The Engineer Regiment's newest award honors Engineer Soldiers and civilians who stand ready at the front lines of the Regiment, the Army and our country, for demonstrated outstanding performance within the first ten years of service to the Regiment and the Engineer Corps.

Bingham was selected for the Steel Defleury based on his outstanding accomplishments during his first eight years of service: graduating cum laude from Utah State University with a degree in Civil Engineering, registering as a professional Engineer in the State of Utah, serving as a project manager/principal of Bingham Engineering, Inc., and being distinguished military graduate of both his Reserve Officer Training Corps program and Engineer Officer Basic Course. In 2006, he deployed to Afghanistan and filled the role of an infantry officer advisor to the 2nd Kandak, 201st CORPS Mechanized Infantry, of the Afghan National Army. Bingham was awarded an Army commendation with "V" device (valor) and the Combat Action Badge for his performance in theater.

Bingham currently serves as company commander for the 118th Engineer Sapper Company and will lead them on their deployment to Afghanistan in 2010. 🇺🇸



LEFT TO RIGHT: COL Don Summit, CPT Blake Bingham, Briana Bingham, LTC Joseph Grimmert, CSM Richard Thalman.

Utah's Recruiting and Retention Battalion Stays at Number 1

Story by CPT Andrew Owens

DRAPER, Utah — **T**he Utah Army National Guard's Recruiting and Retention Battalion has had a phenomenal year thus far. Although our nationwide end strength for Fiscal Year 2010 remained constant at 358,200 personnel, with Utah's slice remaining at 5,600, our state continues to lead the pack in Recruiting and Retention.

Since Oct. 1, 2009, Utah has increased its ranks by 581 new members, more than 10 percent of our overall numbers. Every single Recruiting and Retention Noncommissioned Officer is meeting mission goals, an uncommon occurrence in Recruiting circles. And many of our RRNCOs are exceeding mission goals, most noteworthy of which are SFCs Paul Klimack and Bret Jackson, whose combined number of enlistments so far this year is 55. Most recently SFC Ben Dahl was recognized as "Hero of the Month" for his individual recruiting efforts.

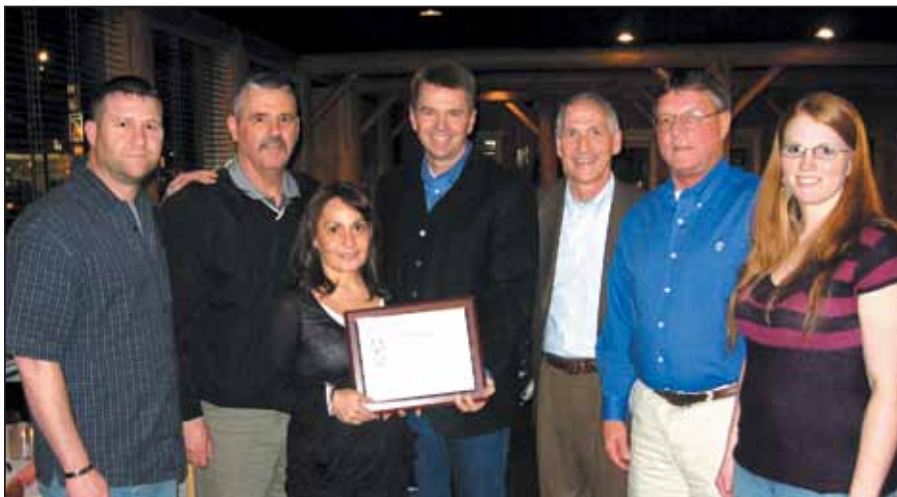
Additionally, since the beginning of this fiscal year, our Recruit Sustainment Program for new enlistees has continued to outpace every other RSP in the nation. Under the leadership of CW2 Russell Johnson, our newly appointed RSP commander, the RRNCOs do such an outstanding job of preparing new enlistees prior to shipping to Basic Training that more often than not, Utah Guard members are the honor graduates. These leaders of our new recruits rely on volunteers to help mentor these new Warriors. If you would like to help in their efforts, please contact CW2 Russell Johnson at (801) 432-4888.

For an update on one of our new initiatives from last year, the "Road to Ranger" program is doing great things for the Boy Scouts of America's Venturing program, which serves 16- to 21-year-old young men and women. The Utah Army National Guard and Venturing BSA have partnered to build youth into honorable and productive citizens with integrity. We share common values, and this program provides an ideal environment for building a relationship that has the potential to benefit thousands everywhere. To learn more about the program please go to www.utahguard.org or <http://bsa.utahguard.org>

Finally, our Recruiting and Retention Battalion has become more involved with a marketing partnership with the Utah Blaze arena-football team and BYU Athletics. Plan on seeing Utah Army National Guard Soldiers rappelling from the rafters at your next visit to The E Center. Also, look for the Utah Army National Guard logo at upcoming BYU athletic events. Although these are great ways to market the National Guard and what we are about, nothing replaces our members themselves. Please remember when talking to potential applicants to register them on the www.guardrap.com Web site, so you can be rewarded for your recruiting efforts.

Less than two percent of all Americans currently wear or have ever worn the uniform of the Armed Forces. Thus, it is a privilege to live in the greatest nation in the history of the world and an honor to wear the uniform of the Utah Army National Guard. Anyone who has sacrificed themselves for our freedom deserves our gratitude.

It is an exciting time we live in; there is unrest and misery all over the world and yet thousands still serve and seek to serve to relieve the oppressed. Anyone willing to be trained in an 18-series Military Occupational Specialty to fill the needs of 19th Special Forces Group should contact their recruiter. Although the training is extremely demanding, the rewards are great. Enlistees should expect an obligation of 18 to 36 months of active-duty Training to become qualified. If you think you have what it takes and would like to learn more about this unique opportunity call SGM Grant Watkins at (801) 432-4432. 🇺🇸



LEFT TO RIGHT: James Chandler, Todd Bennett, JaNea Raines, BG Jefferson Burton, Jimmy Shafe, Duane Dudley and Annie Ramirez. Shafe presented Utah representatives a certificate from Career Training Concepts commending the Utah RSP contractors on their success as the number-one team in the nation.

Artillery's Ancient Order of St. Barbara Awarded to Two Utah Guardmembers


Story by ILT Spencer Randle

DRAPER, Utah — **T**he 65th Fires Brigade held their annual Redleg Social honoring 76 Artillerymen and women. Awards were given out to deserving Soldiers and their spouses.

Colonels Jerry Acton and Lawrence Schmidt, were inducted into the Ancient Order of Saint Barbara during an awards ceremony Jan 9.

Of the three awards that honor the Artillery community, the highest is the Ancient Order of Saint Barbara. It recognizes the select few who stand above their brethren and sisters of the Honorable Order of Saint Barbara. These individuals have made conspicuous, long-term significant contributions to the Artillery branch and are members in good standing of the United States Field Artillery Association (USFAA).

At the social, 36 Artillery members were inducted into the Honorable Order of Saint Barbara. This order recognizes those USFAA members who have demonstrated the highest standards of integrity and moral character, displayed an outstanding degree of professional competence, served the United States Army or Marine Corps Field Artillery with selflessness, and contributed to the promotion of the Field Artillery in ways that stand out in the eyes of seniors, subordinates and peers of the recipient.

Several Soldiers' spouses were also inducted into the Artillery's Order of Molly Pitcher. This award recognizes spouses who have voluntarily contributed in a significant way to the improvement of the Field Artillery community. 



ABOVE: Colonels Jerry Acton, left, and Lawrence Schmidt receive Artillery's highest award as they are inducted into the Ancient Order of Saint Barbara Jan. 9.



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Lehi City Signs Community Covenant at the Home of the Pioneers

Story and photos by ILT Casey Staheli

LEHI, Utah — **P**ioneer: a person or group that is the first to do something or that leads in developing something new—so says the Encarta World English Dictionary.

It seemed only fitting that at the home of the Pioneers, the mascot of Lehi High School, the City of Lehi became the first in the state of Utah to sign a Community Covenant.

The Community Covenant program was nationally launched in 2008 as a formal commitment by state and local communities to foster continued support of Servicemembers and their families, whether they are on active duty or in the Guard or Reserve. In Utah, the program was recently initiated under the direction of MAJ Annette Barnes, director of Utah National Guard's Family Programs.

Barnes views the Community Covenant as an opportunity to "gather resources to help Guard and Reserve members in outlying communities best meet the challenges of military life and to educate community leaders on the needs of their military families."

The program strives to bring together a collaborative group of civic leaders, educators, law enforcement, clergy and employers who decide how a community can help Servicemembers and their families. Each covenant is unique and tailored to the resources and desires of that city.

Those who participated in Lehi's covenant-signing ceremony included Mayor Bert Wilson, Lehi Civic Improvement Association President Stan Lewis, Alpine School District board member Donna Barnes, Lehi Area Chamber President Donna Milakovic, Boy Scout Lehi Chairman Lloyd Brooks, American Legion Post 19 Commander Reese Day Jr., LDS Church representative Jim Haswell and several other community leaders.

When Lehi city was approached about signing a covenant, Councilmember Kay Collins thought it appropriate that Lehi be the first to do so.

"We do have a pioneering spirit here in Lehi, and we aren't afraid to lead out on important issues," said Collins.

When Collins presented the idea to the mayor and the rest of the city council she stated that "they were quick to get behind the cause and gave me permission to run with the idea. We are proud to be the first in Utah to adopt a Community Covenant, and we will continue to find new ways to support our Servicemembers and their families."

Mayor Wilson hopes the program "makes more people aware of military personnel and their families and gives them and the city the opportunity to render service."

Mary Jane Seamons attended the ceremony to support her husband, Army Captain and Lehi High School band teacher Nathan Seamons, who is deploying with the California National Guard in a few weeks.


"In an era where so many of those serving overseas in dangerous situations are Guardsmen and women and Reservists, a community pledging to help those in the community whose family and friends are deployed is a large step in the right direction," said Seamons. "I'm happy that the city of Lehi would implement such a program."

Seamons encourages any city considering this program to do what it can to increase publicity about local military personnel.

"If we don't know who is serving from our neighborhoods and communities, we can't help them," Seamons added.

Captain Jason Seegmiller, officer in charge of the Community Covenant team couldn't agree more. He stressed the goal of getting as many cities and towns in Utah as possible to show their support by participating in the Community Covenant program and hold covenant-signing ceremonies.

Such participation, said Seegmiller, will "increase awareness within our communities of the sacrifices Servicemembers and their families are making and help find ways in which our communities can reach out and support them."

While Lehi was the first city in Utah to sign a Community Covenant, Seegmiller hopes there will be many more pioneering efforts at the local level to "stand up and show support for our Servicemembers and their families." 



Lehi residents sign the Lehi City Community Covenant, pledging their support for Guardmembers April 21.

Utah's Detachment 50, Operational Support Airlift, Returns from Afghanistan

Story by LTC Hank McIntire

DRAPER, Utah — **T**he six members of the Utah National Guard's Detachment 50, Operational Support Airlift, returned to Utah in mid March after a 12-month deployment to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

Unit members were based at Bagram and Kandahar, Afghanistan. The five warrant-officer pilots and one enlisted Soldier included CW5 Don Jacobson, CW5 Fabian Salazar, CW4 Will Gummingsall, CW4 Stephen Holder, CW2 Lynn Adams and SSG Mathew Adams.

The home-station mission of Det 50, as it is known, is to fly an eight-passenger C-12 aircraft to transport personnel and equipment. While deployed, they flew a similar airframe to provide surveillance and reconnaissance support to the Coalition as part of Task Force ODIN.

The name ODIN is an acronym for Observe, Detect, Identify, and Neutralize. The task force is composed of manned and unmanned aircraft. It was created in 2006 to help defeat the threat of improvised explosive devices (IED) in Iraq and to give reconnaissance, surveillance and target-acquisition support to field commanders, according to an Aug. 19, 2009, Multi-National Corps-Iraq press release.

After seeing significant success against "thousands of roadside-bomb emplacers in Iraq," the Army fielded additional units for Afghanistan, said a Dec. 15, 2008, *Army Times* article.

Det 50 pilots flew regular sorties over their area of operations, while on-board operators used cutting-edge technology to gather data and images to help Coalition forces defeat enemy emplacers of IEDs, explained Jacobson, a 29-year veteran of the military and commander of the Utah unit.

"Insurgents are using electronic devices that we're able to track," he said. "We can understand what their movements are, where they are going and what they are doing. With our technology we try to track their technology."

The six Utahns joined National Guard pilots and Soldiers from Minnesota, Virginia, West Virginia, New York, Louisiana, Oregon and Puerto Rico to carry out their mission. They came together to apply what they learned at Hagerstown, Md., where they trained for several months before arriving in Afghanistan.



CW5 Don Jacobson and his C-12 aircraft in Kandahar, Afghanistan. Jacobson and his five Soldiers supported Task Force ODIN during their 12-month deployment.

Because the ODIN mission is fairly new to Afghanistan, the biggest challenge was having all the needed aircraft in place, said Jacobson, who described months that alternated between flying daily and not flying at all.

"We were the only manned aircraft in the battalion," he said, drawing a stark comparison to his frenetic first combat tour in Afghanistan with the Utah Guard's 1st Attack Helicopter Battalion, 211th Aviation, in 2004-2005. "Waiting for the equipment made this a difficult deployment. We had a lot of down time."

What kept morale high for Det 50, however, was word that the information they helped gather resulted in the elimination of enemy forces, as well as the camaraderie they shared with their fellow Guard pilots.

"We did get some snippets back when a high-value target was actioned," said Jacobson. "We all did really well, due in part to the group of people we worked with."

"They were an excellent group," he added, praising his Guard colleagues. "We had a lot of stand-up people who were anxious to do the job. We melded together real quick, like we were all one unit. It was great." ■

A R M Y P R

LIEUTENANT COLONEL

Becker David Albert
Hartvigsen Gregory Beesley
Mismash Michael Shawn
Savageau Marc Paul
Simondi Delight Victoria
Verboncoeur Kenneth Gary

CAPTAIN

Kimber Kelly Keith
Masid Luke Joseph
Nagle Jeffrey
Webster Steven Benjamin

FIRST LIEUTENANT

Ashton Thomas Scott
Carpenter Nathan Scott
Nelson Gregory Cameron
Otis Jonathan David
Porter Weslie Meletino
Quarnberg Jeffery Warren
Randle Spencer Alan
Schultz Michael David
Sherman Adam Christopher
Staheli Casey Alan
Sutherland Ryan Reade
Tigert Lisa Katherine

SECOND LIEUTENANT

Johnson Jeremy Jennings
Seol Sejin

CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER 4

Buckley Neil Edward
Davis Brandon Bart
Grover Stephen Andrew
Miles David Bertrand Landon

CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER 3

Adamson David Milton
Whiting Eric John

CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER 2

Blanchard Townsend
Bown Jay Stephan
Leggett Breton James
Mercer Clark Orton
Saunders Denny Lee

WARRANT OFFICER 1

Archibeque Stephanie Mary
Chapman Brent David
Lebaron Merrill Sutherland
Pilgeram Darin Allen
Ryan Christopher Michael
Simmons Jordan Hildt
Smith Carlyle S
Walker Cory Williams

SERGEANT MAJOR

Fallon Paul Edward
Richards Carl Adolph III

MASTER SERGEANT

Beals Lesia Jeanette
Bonzo Howard Kenneth
Cottle Robert Frederick
Hegg David Scott
Johnson Collin Arvid
Robinson Gerald Lawrence
Whatcott Garrett H

SERGEANT FIRST CLASS

Anderson Song Hak
Baba Jeffrey Dennis
Black Ken Ezra
Boardman Levi Eugene
Canto Tony Afton
Earl Nathan Vaughn
Gardner Glen Micheals
Garn Justin Earl
Gladwell Dustin Barrett
Kitson Carl Jonathan
Martineau Tad Carlton
Mcclure Phillip Dennis
Muramoto Joey Jack
Perkins Bryan Joseph
Pettersson Edward Michael
Rayl Scott Alan
Richardson Ryan Verdan
Ricks Daniel Jonathan
Shute Gordon Reginald
Tarum Shane Thomas
Weatherspoon Shawn
Lawrence
Wingate Randall Dean
Witte Christopher Cord

STAFF SERGEANT

Abrams Joshua Michael
Bagley Adam Keplar
Barney David Patrick
Baum Ryan Bud
Beck Shawn Lee
Binggeli Laron James
Bowler Kyle Matthew
Chadburn Norman Edward
Chavez Albert Anthony
Chronister Brennan Wayne
Day Tiffinie Michelle
Eyre Kiley Dale
Ferrin Kelly Allen
Gillespie David Frank
Green Michael Kelvin
Guile Benjamin Eric
Hallock Jennifer Lee
Hansen Gray Karry
Hansen Jeremy Craig
Harding Danielle Ann
Harris Wayne Robert
Hastings David Danielsen
Hill Tyler John
Humann Jeffery Warren
Jensen Jason Delos
Jones Deanna Suki
Jones Nathan William
Jonte Harry Robert II
Judd James Clinton
King Reade Everett

Larsen Christian Lyal
Latimer Carl James
Lenahan Nathan Thomas
Marble Jacob Glen
Maxwell Daleanne Elizabeth
Mcgee Archie Chedrick Jr
McNulty Richard Sean
Mcphee Matthew Wade
Mock Darrel Ray
Napper Ian Donavon
Packer Gary Lynn Betsill
Parrish Daniel Wade
Patterson Lee Demar
Pharmer Travis Jeremy
Pinon-Molina Ricardo
Poulson Jason Alma
Ritzert Phil James
Robinson David Anthony
Rodriguez Joel David
Sarager Seth Mcconkie
Shibata Corey Tadashi
Teynor Thomas Christian
Thompson Kevin Todd
Tobler Gregory Kyle
Truex Sterling Jay
Walden Robert D
Weber Jacob Merrill
Winkler Udell Duane
Youngblood Meggan Suzanne

SERGEANT

Allen Ryan Kevin
Anderson Michael Robert
Argyle Matthew Robert
Baker Stephen Grant
Berget Scott Anthony
Berry David W
Boren Jason Frederick
Brucker Michael Paul
Bruemmer Steven Gerard
Bruno Anthony Dominic
Burg Matthew Eugene
Burton Scott Paul
Call Lucas Will
Carter Jeffrey Hall
Chen Jian
Child Derrek Laws
Chruma Clint Jack
Cleveland Aaron Spencer
Close Ryan Patrick
Crofts Michael Don
Crouder Allen Albert
Devocht Kevin James
Doan Phat Tan
Dyrenng Travis Paul
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Harmon Andrew Johnlloyd
Harmon Dylan Lane
Hawkins Howard Russell
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Hinderman Jonathan Michael
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Hurtado Helaman Luis
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Julander Grant Paul
Kehrer Felicia Marie
Kinross Tyler William
Kinsman Kasey J
Lial Danielle Gale
Malichanh Chandler Douglas
Marshall Tiffany Joann
Martineau Kyle Francis
May Jesse David
Medina Tracy Christopher
Monson Mark Allen
Moultrie Kevin Randy
Newkirk Justin Dewayne
Olsen Christopher Eian
Olson Amber Elizabeth
Ostler Jeremy Robert
Pierce Jeremy I
Poindexter Nathan Joel
Puffer Lenzy Jared
Quant Mario E
Record Amy Shirin
Reuling Jennifer Brook
Robertson Mark Steven II
Robinson Scott Wayne
Rosenberger Daniel Caleb
Saavedra Omar Francisco
Samuels Michael Robert
Sharette Matthew Keith
Sievers Phillip George
Slagowski Matthew Vaughn
Smith Rebecca Marie
Sommerfeldt Aaron Quin
Sorensen Samuel Alan
Sorenson Jace Robert
Stapp Zakary Evan
Stevens Justin Jay
Stratton Eric Reagan
Strebel Timothy Spencer
Teagle Skyler Winston
Torgerson Chad Heber
Tracy Lewis Andrew
Valenzuela Jason Con
Winder Benjamin Cade
Wozab Heather Joy
Yarisantos Lizadel Bautista

SPECIALIST

Adams Shaun Ryan
Allred Jeremy David
Alvarez Steven
Andersen Clinton Lynn
Anderson Darrell Allen
Anderson Jayme Michelle
Anderson Jeremy Chris
Anderson Matthew Eric
Anderson Robert Kenneth
Anderson Tyler D
Artiglio Frank Eugene
Baker Sloan Lewis
Barnes Kevin Michael
Boswell Jason Blake
Boyle Sean Bernard

Bradford Mark Blaine
Bradley Christopher Rex
Brown Benjamin Garth
Brown Jeffrey Ryan
Buchanan Kayle Kevin
Bunker Aaron Chadwick
Burke Jason Alan
Burmester Julie Kay
Caldwell Brett Cale
Caramanna George Michael
Carr David Michol
Christensen Cole Jerry
Clark Chelsea Ann
Clemans Chad Austin
Cooksey Anthony Von
Cope Natasha Lyn
Couch Patrick Ryan
Cox Tyler Lee
Cullen David Robert Jr
Damani Kelly Raga
Davis Jason Victor
Davis Randy Kevin Jr
Decker Alexander Jonathan
Dilworth Vincent Edward
Dolce Jason Andrew
Dotson Chad Everett
Dredge Jesse David
Dunn Cody Nicholas
Edwards Tyson Merrill
Eisenberger Stuart Eugene
Engum Eric Wade
Enkey Dietrich Lon
Erickson Jonathan Odell
Evans Jedediah Alma
Eyring Casey Murr
Falcon Marcos Jose
Ferris Jerami John
Flanary Ryan Howard
Franco Luis Angel
Funk Jacob Walker
Garrett Andrew Frank
Gonzalez Andres Emilio
Goold Andrea Lynn
Green Zachary Steven
Grisham Colton Earl
Halbert Justin
Hansen Samantha Jean
Harvey Jared Randall
Hatch Stewart Quentin
Hawkins Robert Tyrel
Heaton Paul Marion
Hemsley Aaron Thomas
Henderson Mark Adam
Holloway Brittany Chere
Hull Joseph Brian
Iorg Lane B
Ivory Kyle Ronald
Jackson George Kendall
Jarrett Bryce Collier
Jensen Cabe Arvie
Jensen Seth Niels
Jiles Tyler J
Johansson Charles Erik
Johns Justin Scott
Jones Jakob Michael
Jordan Michael James
Kane John Patrick

O M O T I O N S

Kester Joshua Aaron
 Kish Robert Michael
 Kissilles Joseph Anthony
 Koplin Gordon Todd
 Kremer Kenneth Christian
 Kretschmann Eric Daniel
 Lake Jeffrey Michael
 Lake Spenser Robert
 Larsen Riley Laurence
 Lebaron Jacob Dewey
 Lefevre Dusten Michael
 Lewis Dewayne David
 Lindsay John Andrew
 Lindsey David Price
 Loken James Spencer
 Long Kelly Thomas
 Lopez Bryan Oswaldo
 Lopez Jesus
 Love Bridger John Steve
 Lowe Eric Daniel
 Lucas Robert Grayson III
 Mackay Nicholas Foster
 Maldonado Nelson Esau
 Marden Chad Dewayne
 Marler David Jay
 Matheson Casey Cooper
 McArthur Michael
 McLaughlin Nathan Shawn
 McMullin Matthew Glen
 Menlove Brady Andrew
 Millward Mercedes
 Mitchell Joshua Jeffrey
 Morrison Paul Andrew
 Moyers Spencer William
 Newman Rendell Dane
 Newman Taylor Brent
 Oomrigar Jal William
 Pearce William Garrett
 Perkins Tyler James
 Peterson Derek Daniel
 Powell Chad Daniel
 Rockhill Delmo Trevor
 Rogers Benjamin Todd
 Romaine Ronald Joseph
 Roper Kirstin Leigh
 Ross Niklas Sebastian
 Rowley Brian Keith
 Ryantodd Myles Robert
 Sanders Justin David
 Schear Jesson Ray
 Schlichte Joshua Benjamin
 Schow Erich John
 Schrock Colin Thomas
 Schultz Scott Jeffrey
 Seelye Daniel Noel
 Shaw David William
 Shurtliff Jenny Ann
 Sievers Andrea Dawn
 Smart Christopher James
 Smith Chelsea
 Stephenson Robert Benjamin
 Stransky Jonathan Joseph
 Stream Ryan Andrew
 Suarez Hyrum Moroni
 Summit Eddie Vern
 Tanner Benjamin Paul
 Tapiafernandez Julio Cesar

Taylor Dandy Hugh
 Thacker Brent Earl
 Thompson Kareem Malik
 Tinnell Sean Ellery
 Tuckett Paul Landon
 Tyler Erik Hunter
 Visser Anthony Mathew
 Visser Julius Richard
 Vogl Jared Lee
 Wallingford Stephen Mac
 Webb Jedadiah Paxton
 Whitaker Mark Philip
 Whitney Derek Michael
 Wilcock Jason Kennard
 Wilde Daniel Spencer
 Yarbrough Camron Jesse
 Young Joshua Lewis
 Young Kashea Lynn
 Zaccardi Julius James

PRIVATE FIRST CLASS

Adams Jordan Leigh
 Adsit Bryant Joel
 Ahlborn Michael Jaeger
 Allen Shay Colby
 Ames Tyler Glen
 Angel Joshua Drew Thomas
 Aranda Bryan Eugene
 Arnold Jeremy Robert
 Arnold Kevin Maxfield
 Ayers Ronald Paul Jr
 Balderree Thomas Ian
 Barlow Richard Dean
 Barney Shana Elyse
 Barton Jesse Ray
 Bawden Scott Thomas
 Beals Alexander Stephen
 Beardshall David Scott
 Beckstrand Christopher W
 Bell Michael Peter
 Benavides Jonathan Rueban
 Bevan Danielle Lee
 Bishop Christopher Ryan
 Black Everett Harrington V
 Black Gregory Adam
 Black Michael Edward
 Blackmon David Scott
 Blair Brooke Rachel
 Bleazard Paul Thornton
 Booth Charles William
 Bowers Andrew Jacob
 Bradford Bryan Cleal
 Bradford Lionel Briton
 Bradley Justin Terry
 Brown Corey James
 Brown Travis Leany
 Bugg Richard Edward
 Bulloch Shelley Stout
 Bunjes David Michael
 Busenbark Todd Garrett Jr
 Butterfield Dallan Ian
 Canada Jonathon Casey
 Carpenter Ryan Gabriel
 Carr Christopher David
 Carter Kolton James
 Cazier Tamara Lynn
 Cebrowski John Michael

Chapman Kendall Blair
 Christensen Brett Bulloch
 Christensen Jacob Kelly
 Clark Andrea Joyce
 Clayton Brandon James
 Collier Mckennon Brady
 Collings James David
 Colver Evan Dean
 Colvin Chase Alexander
 Conde Jorge Luis
 Cook Dallin Craig
 Coombs Tyler Colby
 Cornelius Cameron Joseph
 Courtney Craig Russell
 Cowley Trevor J
 Cox Brad Leigh
 Crawford Alexa Catelin
 Dagostini Adam Shaun
 Daly Jacen Todd
 Darley Jonathan David
 Davidson Shannee June
 Davis Kevin Earl
 Deagostini Felipe Gaertner
 Dearden Ryan Stewart
 Decaria Alena Jesse
 Diaz Linda Patricia
 Dilello Michael Don
 Dougherty Devin Alex
 Duncan Brandon Michael
 Duncan Jeremiah Seitzinger
 Dunham Joseph Jay
 Dunston Kailub Matthew
 Eckles David Don
 Elliott Michael Richard
 Engberg Patrick Levi
 Fell Eric Gordon
 Fish Rachel Eve
 Fogt Brent William
 Freeman Allan Ray
 Fryer Joshua Thomas
 Fuchs Andrew Peter
 Gannon Adam Scott
 Gibbs Jace Brinton
 Gilmore Colby Longbow
 Goates Michael Joseph
 Goeke Dustin Blair
 Goonan Michael Christopher
 Green Sierra
 Gurule Kevin Andrew
 Guzman Santiago Jr
 Gygi David John
 Hailstone Neal Ammon
 Hall Nathan Andrew
 Hamner Samantha Ella
 Hansen Matthew David
 Hansen Reese Lynn
 Hoggan Taylor James
 Holden Jacob Thomas
 Howlett Justin Samuel
 Ichikawa Makoto
 Izurieta Jose Carlos
 Jackson Paul Elias
 Jennings Steven James
 Jensen Anthony John
 Jensen Jeffrey Ray Devere
 Jensen Tony Lee
 Johnson Adam Vern

Johnson Brock Calvin
 Johnson Mathew Thomas
 Johnson Tyler Craig
 Joseph Tracie Lynn
 Kawamura Robert Shigeo
 Kearl Joshua Jeffrey
 Kendrick Jordan John
 Keune Johncharles Colton
 Kibler Rebecca Anne
 Kingery Kyle Berend
 Lambert Charles Cannon
 Lancaster Brittney Ann
 Lanier Dawn Marie
 Larsen Corey Allen
 Larsen Kendall Freeborn
 Lawrence Peter
 Le Henrick
 Lefevre Shad Young
 Letters Calvin Brant
 Lewis Cara Lena
 Long Matthew Eric
 Louhinejadian Yoseph Bryon
 Lowry Jordan Levea Allen
 Loy Jordan Chase
 Lytle Ashley Maryah
 Mackelprang Scott Roy
 Maloy Richard Anthony
 Maples Zachary Carl
 Mckay Kenna Louise
 Miller Nathan Gilson
 Miller Samuel Aaron
 Milligan Matthew Robert
 Mills Casey Allan
 Mitchell Kyle Lynn
 Moralescorona Jose
 Morris Jordan David
 Morris Scott Robert
 Muir Kyle Puckett
 Mulberry James Tucker
 Mulberry Nicholas Anthony
 Murray Jacob Ronald
 Murray Wren Evan
 Nelsen Mckay Reed
 Nelson Chase Steven
 Newman Ryan Gary
 Nutzman Robert James
 Odell Harrison Thomas
 Oneal Jerred Eugene
 Oscarson Joel Erick William
 Pantuso Nicholas Scott
 Park Melodie Fay
 Parke Brett K
 Pay Michael Richard
 Peronto Jace Lee
 Petajan Bohzidar David
 Peterson Trent Ryan
 Piccolottimoye Alexander J
 Poncequintero Anays D
 Pressley Michael Francis
 Pulsipher Edwin Mitchell
 Ramirez Juan Manuel
 Richins Casi Jo
 Rose Caleb Collin
 Rosenlund Todd Kevin
 Saupan Paul Robert
 Scow Todd Curtis
 Shelley Joseph Erick

Sherman Adam Joseph
 Sherratt Dustin Loraine
 Sloan Joshua David
 Smart Quinton Milo
 Sneed Joseph William
 Sorenson Jason Ron
 Spencer Jessica
 Spendlove Kalub Clayton
 Stacy Brennan Sean
 Staheli Matthew William
 Starley Andrew Jeffrey
 Stoker Cuyler John
 Sullivan Sean Douglas
 Sundell Zachariah Prince
 Sunderman William Scott
 Thompson David Samuel
 Thompson Ronilea
 Tobiasson Brett Parker
 Tripp Casey Lee
 Trombly Jennifer Eunji
 Trujillo Leopoldo Rafael Jr
 Turkington Lucas Bradley
 Tuttle Samuel Alden
 Vanhavermaet Ryan Gary
 Vanwynen Brian David
 Vreeken Luke Skylar
 Wagstaff Skyler Edwin
 Wallberg Ashley Hazel
 Wanlass Matthew Robert
 Warren Samuel Derek
 Watts Charles Zachariah
 Wenzel Stephen James
 Wenzl Christopher Michael
 Westwood Samuel Jerard
 Whatcott Camille Judy
 Whitney Joelle Marie
 Widerburg Jeffrey Brian
 Wilcox Brady Layne
 Wilcox Nathan Rex
 Williams Dustin Ray
 Williamson David Victor
 Wolverton Austin David
 Wood Nathan Zachariah
 Young Corina Dawn

PRIVATE (PV2)

Adamson Travis David
 Alge Walter Alexus
 Allred Ron Austin
 Barnes Matthew Kendal
 Bennett Andrew Thomas
 Bishop Levi Del
 Bowler Angelia
 Brackett Christopher Ray
 Brimley Trevor Kyle
 Cheney Aaron Lewis
 Christensen Brian Ross
 Christensen Casey Norman
 Clark Sarah Ann
 Clark Travis Russell
 Colomb Robert Jay Jr
 Connor Robert Michael
 Conrad David Lee
 Cornejo Arthur Thomas
 Cowan Scott Alexander
 Cutler Samuel Reed
 Dutton Stan Kelly

ARMY PROMOTIONS

PRIVATE (PV2)

Edwards Corey Michael
 Evans Cody James
 Evans Ty Colten
 Flowers Timothy Paul
 Foster Brad Russell
 Fryar Bracken David
 Garcia Jacob John II
 Garner Jolene Allison
 Gines Nicholas Scott
 Gordon Colton Wade
 Green Colin Mcleod
 Greer Timothy Karl II
 Hale Alexander James
 Hansen Dustin Gary
 Hanson Jason Michael
 Harkins Richard Mitchell
 Harris Brandon Scott
 Harris Brant Morgan
 Hart Ari Addison
 Hebert Michael Jeffrey
 Herrera Corey Shuman
 Hicks Kinzi Nicole

Higgins Shane Bell
 Hill Patrick Allen
 Hitchcock Joshua Kenneth
 Holman Scott David
 Honeycutt Grady Eugene II
 Hull Tyler Don
 Ingram Chet Larry
 Iverson Corbin Clark
 Jensen Justin Koby
 Jensen Myriah
 Johnson Jordan Dean
 Johnson Max Malonerivers
 Johnston Mitchell David
 Jolley Matthew David
 Jones Andrew Willis
 Jones Tarik Nickolai
 Jones Tyler Joseph
 Josephson Cody Michael
 Joyner Kirk Staton
 Keller Michael William
 Kinsman Robert Eugene
 Kinsman Trevor Don
 Knight Andrew Vincent

Kofoed Jake Lee
 Krueger Robert James
 Lacy Roy Guy
 Langford Spencer Paul
 Luman Seth Charles
 Matheson Luke Ashby
 Maynard Scott James
 Mogahee Justin Alexander
 Meacham Justin Jonathon
 Miczo Jaron Parker
 Millette Cameron Lyn
 Mills Randall Rich
 Montierth Talia Evelyn
 Montroy Adam Benjamin
 Moore Andrea Kae
 Moore Jeremy Andrew
 Morris Nathan Allen
 Morrison Ty Arling
 Neeley Robert Scott
 Nielsen Christopher Spencer
 Nielsen Evan Troy
 Norcross Cameron Edward
 Nordahl Bo James

Olmstead Reid Douglas
 Oswald Kyle Bradley
 Oswald Trevor Dean
 Owen Quentin David
 Palmer Alicia Lee
 Parga Joshua
 Perry Jacob
 Petersen Matthew Carl
 Petersen Robert Reid
 Peterson Kayden Hayes
 Pinegar Cole Walker
 Prescott Charles Frederick
 Prete Brandon Eugene
 Rice Christopher Michael
 Richards Christian Alan
 Rivera Jason Nuriah
 Robertson Michelle Dawn
 Robinson Clark Neil
 Russon Cody Jared
 Schofield Lasca Elizabeth
 Schramm Jameson Matthew
 Sellers Eric Joe Patrick
 Smith Austin Nikolas

Smith Trevor C
 Snyder Andrew Martin
 Sorenson McKay Dan
 Sprake Daniel William
 Stewart Julie Ann
 Sullivan William Warren
 Sutton Ashley Lynn
 Swapp Parke Kent
 Todd Charles William
 Tomlinson Justin Kent
 Travis Ian
 Tubbs Brandon David
 Tuckett Steven Lamar
 Tuttle Amber Lynn
 Wahlquist Simon Richard
 Washburn Keith Thomas
 Waterfall Charles Cole
 Wells Jesse Michael
 Wilkin Jared Ray
 Williamson David Allen
 Willoughby Jason Paul
 Wolverton Ricky Lee Jr
 Yadon Sean Kent

AIR PROMOTIONS

LIEUTENANT COLONEL

Pehrson, Mark T

MAJOR

Dang, Liem T

CAPTAIN

Bringard, Christine Baird
 Delamare, Timothy Aaron
 Geerdes, David Ellsworth

FIRST LIEUTENANT

Butler, Philip E
 Gines, Steven B

SECOND LIEUTENANT

Deagostine, Keith M
 Waddell, Scott W

CHIEF MASTER SERGEANT

Edwards, Michael L
 Redd, Eric W

SENIOR MASTER SERGEANT

Baker, Burke J
 Clark, Michael C

MASTER SERGEANT

Broadhead, Adrian R
 Cordero, Honorio D
 Duran, Dru J
 Glade, Chlain A
 Glade, Paul L

James, Robert C
 Jonkman, Christina N
 Lilya, Sandy S
 Ridgeway, Steven E
 Silver, Gerald A Jr
 Sparr, Melanie A

TECHNICAL SERGEANT

Adams, Mandy A
 Bauer, David L
 Bridgewater, Craig D
 Carpenter, Thomas R
 Christensen, Lydia V
 Durfee, Cameron Robert
 May, Robert L Jr
 Montano, Martin A
 Smith, Michael J
 Stahl, Craig A
 Stevens, Jason Lynn
 Treutlein, Eric E

STAFF SERGEANT

Bailey, Andrew Titus
 Barr, Gregory James
 Black, Kandice D
 Crosby, Marc Ezra
 Eicher, Daniel Evan
 Ferry, Jason Christophe
 Hale, Patrick S
 Hansen, Tyler James
 Johnson, Jordan L
 Lacombe, George Lawrence
 Nicholson, Zachary Arthur

Peters, Christopher L
 Porter, Benjamin Deon
 Prawitt, Douglas G
 Taylor, Justin J

SENIOR AIRMAN

Abadian, Gary B
 Archuleta, Ashton J
 Cornell, Nichole M
 Huff, Jon Curtis
 Naylor, Austin James
 Ruggiero, Andrew Michael
 Trujillo, George Terry Jr
 Wahlen, Dustin Robert
 Woodruff, Kyle Neal
 Young, Paul S

AIRMAN FIRST CLASS

Arbuckle, Tyler S
 Arcia, Czeleste D
 Bowen, Gregg J
 Burr, Michael A
 Cook, Christopher J
 Forbes, James A
 Fuchs, Justin M
 Lamb, Scott D
 Lefevre, Justin C
 Marsh, Nathan J
 Morris, Alicia M
 Sutton, Bryan J
 Youngs, Hollie D

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