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### ZIONS BANK

WE HAVEN'T FORGOTTEN WHO KEEPS US IN BUSINESS:



#### Major General Jefferson Burton The Adjutant General

he Utah National Guard continues to be a premier organization, dedicated to the defense of our state and nation and committed to providing the absolute best value at the most reasonable cost. As we face current budget shortfalls, now more than ever, the National Guard is the most sensible solution to national security both at home and abroad.

As I travel both inside and outside the continental United States, I am reminded of the sacrifices made every day by our Servicemembers and their families. These sacrifices have forged strong professional relationships and in most cases have brought our families closer together.

Over the past 13 years we have risen to our nation's call and performed admirably in the warfight, with many units and individuals deploying multiple times. Utah Guardsmen continue to enjoy a reputation for excellence under fire. Your team work and work ethic are unparalleled, and it makes me proud to have the privilege to serve with you. I am mindful of the strain that this frenetic operational tempo has placed on individuals and families and am committed to providing the assistance that is needed to return each member of our formations to full health and vigor. You have my pledge to stand by you with an aggressive resiliency program and by evolving our culture to encourage open dialogue and to provide access to top-quality healthcare.

For those who suffer from separation anxiety, stress, addictions, communication problems and other challenges, I encourage you to get help. We will do everything in our power to assist you and to help you build resiliency. Our Servicemembers are our most important resource. I have great respect for each one of you and for the unmatched service that you render to our communities, our state and nation.

For many Soldiers and Airmen, this era of diminished resources may be your first experience with budgetary challenges since you entered uniform, but as history

has shown, it is part of the natural ebb and flow of the wartime/peacetime budget cycle. Be assured that we will fight vigorously to fund our programs and to maintain our readiness for whatever may lie ahead. As you are well aware, Guardsmen have the responsibility to perform a dual state and federal mission. We must ensure that we continue to fulfill those obligations and maintain the spirit of the National Guard's Motto "Always Ready, Always There."

Our communities and our families depend on our vigilance and our readiness. I was recently reminded by some of our citizens of just how comforting it was to see Guardsmen responding to disaster following a recent wildland fire. Many residents reported that they were cheered and strengthened when the saw the National Guard "roll into their communities" to assist with the recovery and clean-up efforts. You can be justifiably proud of this heritage of service and commitment to those in serious need. Responding to threats in the homeland will remain a priority mission for the National Guard, and it is one where we must never fail nor falter.

Less than one percent of the American population serves in uniform. That makes each one of you "the cream" of our society and as a result, you enjoy an unprecedented level of trust from our fellow citizens. Return that trust by being positive and professional role models. During these volatile times you have much good to offer our local communities, our state and our nation. Take advantage of opportunities to serve and strengthen those around you. Embrace and live the Army and Air Force values and be a positive influence for good. Display faith and confidence in your fellow Servicemembers and never leave a fallen nor struggling comrade without lending a helping hand.

We will face the future with a vision of excellence and with the same tools of commitment and dedication that have served us so well in the past. As a team, there is absolutely nothing that we cannot accomplish!

The Adjutant General Maj. Gen. Jefferson S. Burton

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Thrice-yearly magazine for members of the Utah National Guard

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Staff Sgt. Christopher Johnson, 151st Civil Engineering Squadron explosive ordnance technician, accesses how to destroy an improvised explosive devise he located in a tunnel during a training exercise at Camp Williams.

> Photo by Staff Sgt. Ann Edwards



## Command Sergeant Major Michael Miller Senior Enlisted Comments

As we closed out another year and start the journey on 2015, I am deeply humbled by the marks we set, the missions we accomplished and the professionalism of those serving this great organization. In my eyes, the successes we enjoy draw from the standards we adhere to, the high expectation set by each of us personally and as a collective force, and by the values we live by.

Last year we faced multiple challenges and for each one we hit them head on and ultimately learned and became even more proficient. We did so by setting and enforcing standards. It does not matter whether it is an Air Force, Army, National Guard, or a unit standard. By knowing, adhering, and enforcing the standards, we enable not just ourselves, but those in our formations the best opportunity to meet and often surpass any challenge. This was proven in 2014 as we received accolades for our achievements on both sides of the Air and Army.

Our units were faced with funding shortfalls, multiple mission sets, new programs, and even a large-scale, domestic-operation-training event. We accomplished all and did so above the standard.

A couple of examples included the Army reaching its highest MOSQ level and the Airmen setting an all-time high with civilian education graduation rates. This took place due to the efforts from the warrior level up through to the wing and brigade leadership. As we continue to prosper and progress, we need to continue to set, adhere to, and enforce standards. This will ensure we have the discipline necessary to accomplish any mission.

Being a part of the Armed Forces is something special. Yet, it also requires that each one of us uphold the values of our profession. Over the past 14 years, our force has deployed around the world and has earned the highest respect from the citizens we serve with, and for, each day. Our responsibility is to live up to this respect and continue to serve at the highest levels possible, whether it is maintaining our individual training, our equipment, or passing collective training events. It takes each warrior doing their part to ensure we are prepared and living up to the requirements of the profession. I challenge each of us to live the Army and Air values, make them a part of your daily lives, and incorporate them into the decisions and actions you take. When doing so, we are making it possible to maintain our arms and live up to the high respect our citizens and families have bestowed upon us for our continuous commitment to serve something bigger than any one individual. It does not matter if you're a full-time or a traditional Guardsman—in the eyes of those around you, you are a member of the military and the Utah National Guard. We are expected to live up to the values and the standards that are set and not sway. I have complete confidence in each of you and ask that you be that professional in and out of uniform, on or off duty.

I am extremely honored to serve side-by-side with the best warriors our Armed Forces have to offer. We have come a long way, yet have a long way to go. I trust that we will accomplish any task or goal that we as individuals set or those set by our commanders. We will do so by living the Air and Army values, meeting and enforcing the standards, and lastly by working as a team. I look forward to what we will accomplish this year. Thanks to each of you, our members, families, employers, and citizens.

Pride in ownership.





#### 2-211th Returns from Kosovo

Story by Shana Hutchins

SALT LAKE CITY - Soldiers from the Utah Army National Guard's 2nd Battalion, 211th Aviation, returned home to family and friends after an 11-month deployment to Kosovo on Oct. 13, at the Salt Lake International Airport.

The Soldiers arrived at Fort Hood, Texas, earlier in the week for their demobilization processing. Only 45 Soldiers, from the 52-Soldier element of the Utah Army National Guard, returned from their planned 12-month deployment to Kosovo. The remaining Soldiers will arrive at a later date when their missions have been completed.

The returning Soldiers arrived throughout the day on different flights starting from mid-morning to late evening.

"The whole intent is to make sure the people of Kosovo are safe. Our people did outstanding," said Maj. Chad Koon, an officer with the 2-211th.

"The 2-211th provided the air piece to the Multinational Battle Group-east and assisted in providing a safe and secure environment, enabling NATO forces and the people of Kosovo the freedom to maneuver throughout Kosovo safely," stated Koon.

"My job over there was very close to what I do here," said Staff Sgt. Meredith Donovan, a full-time medic with the 2-211th Aviation. "I'm a medic and I take care of people when they are sick. People are people, worldwide."

Donovan has two children, an 11-year-old girl and nine-year-old boy. Madison, Donovan's daughter, said it was "horrible" having her mom deployed and her brother, Michael said it was "awesome" when his mother came home. Both children expressed their excitement for the coming family vacation to Disneyland with big smiles.











Utah National Guard Soldiers with the 2nd Battalion, 211th Aviation arrive at the Salt Lake International Airport after serving 11 months on deployment to Kosovo Oct. 13.

Photos by Ileen Kennedy

Staff Sgt. Greg Archeletta, a flight operation noncommissioned officer (NCO) with the 2-211th, said it is great to see his wife, family, friends, and his two young boys.

This is Archeletta's fourth deployment and he said, "They are all different and they all get harder."

Sgt. 1st Class Jaclyn Smith, 2-211th Human Resources NCO said, it's been an emotional roller coaster; watching the guys who did the medevac missions was absolutely incredible, intense and rewarding. Meanwhile she was missing the soccer season back home, her daughter started junior high school and her son started high school.

"You never want to miss anything and my kids are troopers,"said Smith.

Smith's plan for herself and her family is to "kick back and spend time with the kids."

Jessie Cornelieous, wife of Spec. Cameron Cornelieous with the 2-211th said she is feeling overwhelmed with everything.

"At the beginning you put your head down and say 'OK, I'm going to do this' and you don't feel emotion. And I am feeling everything now." She stated she is very proud he is willing to serve our great country.

"I'm very, very, happy to be home. It's hard to be away from home," said Donovan. "It's always an honor to wear a uniform, but the best day is always the day you come home."







# Utah Air Guard Base Renamed to Honor 96-Year-Old Hometown Hero

Story by Capt. Jennifer Eaton

SALT LAKE CITY — The Utah Air National Guard base located on the east side of Salt Lake City International Airport was renamed Roland R. Wright Air National Guard Base during a formal dedication ceremony here Nov. 18 in honor of retired Air Force Brig. Gen. Roland R. Wright, a combat pilot with a distinguished military career spanning more than three decades.

Maj. Gen. Jeff Burton and retired Brig. Gen. Jake Garn, former astronaut and Senator, were keynote speakers during the ceremony and highlighted Wright's distinctive accomplishments and contributions to the legacy of the Utah Air National Guard.

"Brigadier General Roland Wright is a great patriot who has served this country with distinction during times of war and peace," said Burton. "As a fighter pilot during World War II, he represented the best America had to offer demonstrating great skill and valor in the face of danger."

Wright flew 200 combat hours in the P-51 Mustang during WWII, and was one of the first pilots to enlist in the 191st Fighter Squadron when the Utah Air National Guard was created.

Burton called Wright an aviation pioneer in Utah and praised his decades of outstanding leadership in the Utah Air National Guard.

"To those of us in uniform, Roland Wright is truly a giant; and it's only fitting that this Air base where he so faithfully served our state and our nation be named in his honor," said Burton.

More than 350 community guests and military members attended the event to recognize Wright who holds the distinction of serving as Utah's first chief of staff for Air from 1969 to 1976, and who was appointed to the Air Force Reserves Policy Committee in 1972.

A command pilot in multiple aircraft, Wright logged 7,800 flying hours during his military career, approximately 4,000 of which are in various types of fighter aircraft. As an Air Guardsman, he served as a fighter-aircraft flight lead, squadron operations officer, squadron commander, and group commander, to include flying a number of missions to Vietnam.

In his civilian career, Wright graduated from the University of Utah College of Law in 1958 and practiced law in Salt Lake City until 1991.



Retired Air Force Brig. Gen. Roland R. Wright addresses a group of community and military guests at a ceremony to rename the Utah Air National Guard Base in his honor held in Salt Lake City, Utah on Nov. 18, 2014. Wright, a combat pilot with a distinguished military career spanning more than three decades, served as Utah's first Chief of Staff for Air.



Retired Air Force Brig. Gen. Roland R. Wright (center) stands with Brig. Gen. David Fountain, assistant adjutant general for Air, (left), and Maj. Gen. Jeff Burton, adjutant general (right), at the entrance to the newly named Roland R. Wright Air National Guard Base.

Photos by Staff Sgt. Annie Edwards

Upon initially learning that the base would be adorned with his moniker, the 96-year-old said he couldn't believe the news, and considers it one of the greatest honors of his lifetime.

"The thing I'm most proud of in my Air National Guard career is the fact that this military calling gives people something substantial and worthwhile to embrace," he said. "Not everyone is fortunate enough to have that incredible sense of purpose."

Wright was one of the featured speakers during the ceremony, and along with senior leaders, helped to unveil the new front gate signage.

The ceremony's November 18 date is significant, as it represents the day in 1946 when the Utah Air National Guard and its 191st Fighter Squadron were established.



Maj. Gen. Jeff Burton, center, and Brig. Gen. David Fountain, left presents a flag to retired Air Force Brig. Gen. Roland Wright Nov. 18, 2014. The flag was flown over the Roland R. Wright Air National Guard Base, as well as on a KC-135 Stratotanker mission.

### Utah Air National Guard Airmen Return From Deployment

Story by Tech. Sgt. Amber Monio

SALT LAKE CITY — More than 90 Airmen from the Utah Air National Guard's 109th Air Control Squadron (ACS) returned home after a six-month deployment to Southwest Asia in support of Operation Inherent Resolve, the U.S.-led intervention against the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant Nov. 22.

While deployed, the operators worked alongside Army Air Defense personnel as part of a joint-operations crew to detect, track, and control aircraft in their assigned areas of operation.



An excited family awaits the arrival of their Airman with the 109th Air Control Squadron at the Wright Air National Guard Base.



A Utah Air National Guard Airman with the 109th Air Control Squadron reunites with family at the Wright Air National Guard Base Nov. 22.

"The ease with which our team took on a brand-new mission, with no preparation or extra manning by the way, impressed me the most," said Lt. Col. Randy Stevens, commander of the 109th ACS. "My squadron lives and breathes the Air Force Core Values, and with that embedded in our DNA, there is not a single challenge that is impossible."

In addition to facing the usual challenges of deployment, two members of the 109th, faced a less-common hardship while serving overseas—missing the births of their children back in Utah.

Senior Airman Christopher Burns, a surveillance technician in the operations section, and Tech. Sgt. Cody Valdez, a maintenance technician with the aerospace ground equipment shop, both met their newborn babies for the first time when their plane touched down at the Roland R. Wright Air National Guard Base.

"I remember I was sitting on the plane, and it kind of hits you," said Burns. "You're like, 'Wow, we are almost home, and when I get home there's going to be a little baby, and there's going to be my wife.' So it's just a strange mixture of a lot of anxiety and nervousness as well as just being super happy because I finally got to meet my little girl."

Burns' wife, Rosalind, said she doesn't believe their situation is unique.

"There are a lot of people who have had babies while their husbands have been gone or missed other important events," she said. "It's something that someone has to do. Someone has to fight to defend our country and other people who can't defend themselves, so I was very honored to be able to make that sacrifice for my country."

Aside from the joys of hearing about births at home, Stevens said some of his more memorable experiences during the deployment were seeing Airmen committed to the mission and excited to be deployed, as well as witnessing camaraderie even after his team worked 12-hour shifts together.

"To be able to watch the 109th ACS Warlocks excel during wartime—something we've been training for since 2010—is awesome," said Stevens. "I cannot underscore enough how much I appreciate the sacrifice these Airmen and their families made on behalf of our unit and our great nation."

The mission of the 109th Air Control Squadron is to provide reliable and secure command, control, communications, and intelligence anytime, anywhere.







Utah Air National Guard Airmen with the 109th Air Control Squadron arrive by commercial air at the Wright Air National Guard Base after serving on a six-months deployment to Southwest Asia. An Airman-father holds his newborn child for the first time.

#### 128th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment Soldiers Return Home

Story and photos by Sgt. Scott Wolfe

SALT LAKE CITY — Eight members of the Utah Army National Guard's 128th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment returned home after a nine-month deployment to Afghanistan Dec. 17.

The returning Utah National Guard Soldiers were spread out over three flights, with most coming into Salt Lake International Airport.

Sgt. 1st Class Brock Jones, the senior enlisted Soldier in the deployment, said he was proud of the members of his team and what they were able to accomplish.

"Everyone was able to step up and do what was asked of them, regardless of what it was," Jones said. "Spec. Solomon became the VIP photographer, we had one person stuck in a FOB (Forward Operating Base) for almost a month and Staff Sgt. Houston did any assignment asked of him. We all did an extremely difficult job and we did it well. I'm just glad we're back and safe."

The mission of the 128th was twofold: first, they provided public-affairs support to the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) mission in Afghanistan, and second, they trained their Afghan military counterparts to provide public-affairs support to military operations.

Specifically, Soldiers of the 128th performed print and video coverage of U.S. Soldiers working to accomplish ISAF mission goals, assist civilian media covering Soldiers in the field, and offer public-affairs guidance to U.S. Soldiers and ISAF command.



Staff Sgt. Richard Stowell and his son are interviewed upon his return from Afghanistan Dec. 17. Below: Staff Sgt. Richard Stowell is greeted by his two sons. Sgt. Chloe Barnes is embraced by her husband, Bryan. Barnes and Spec. Ariel Solomon descend the escalator at the Salt Lake International Airport after their nine-month deployment to Afghanistan Dec. 17.

Sgt. Chloe Barnes was met at the bottom of the escalator by her husband, Bryan, who wrapped her in his arms and did not appear to want to let go. The couple married shortly before the deployment and will now take their postponed honeymoon.

"We're going to California," she said, when asked what her plans were now that she was back home. "We're going to Disneyland for our honeymoon."

Jones and Spec. Ariel Solomon were planning on a surprise arrival for their families and left as soon as friends were able to pick them up.

Staff Sgt. Richard Stowell, the broadcast lead on this deployment, held his two sons for the first time since March, after his wife, Esther arrived at the airport.

"I missed you guys," Stowell said, holding them tight. "I missed you so much."







#### Civilian, Military Responders Practice Joint-Disaster Response Efforts During Vigilant Guard Utah 2014

Story by Sgt. Barbara J. Liau and Capt. Ryan Sutherland

SALT LAKE CITY — magine a 6.0-magnitude earthquake hits Salt Lake City, followed by a larger 7.0 earthquake that hammers buildings and damages infrastructure with devastating affects. Buildings are crumbled, countless residents are trapped in rubble from the aftershocks. Rescue crews are overwhelmed in their search for survivors. Hospitals are overwhelmed, communications are down, and power is out—a state of emergency is issued.

Is the Utah National Guard (UTNG) ready to respond? On Nov. 3-6, 2014, more than 4,300 Soldiers, Airmen, and civilian personnel participated in Vigilant Guard Utah 2014 (VGUT14), a multiagency, multistate, earthquakeresponse exercise held at various locations across the Wasatch Front. The exercise is sponsored by United States Northern Command (NORTHCOM) in conjunction with National Guard Bureau (NGB).

"The closest we can come to the reality of a major disaster requiring a large-scale, interoperable response, is training events like Vigilant Guard Utah," said Maj. Gen. Jeff Burton, the adjutant general of the Utah National Guard. "If you don't train, you won't be ready."

Part of that response plan tested the Guard's ability to work in support of state and federal counterparts. Participants from within the state include the Department of Public Safety, Department of Emergency Management, first responders, private hospitals, related non-profit organizations, and primary utility service providers.

In one scenario, actors portraying mock casualties were brought to the University Medical Center in military vehicles and Black Hawk helicopters. Upon arrival at triage, military and civilian medical personnel assessed the casualties' injuries and sent them to different areas to receive further care.

Jamie Quinlande, a nurse manager with the University Hospital Emergency Department, said it was exciting to work with the military, something she rarely gets to do.

"We get to see things from their perspective and how they operate in the field and they see how we operate in a more controlled setting, and we can merge the two and find some way to operate in a disaster setting," said Quinlande.

Soldiers with the Colorado Army National Guard Search and Extraction Element prepared and trained to extract casualties from a rubble pile in Magna, Utah Nov. 5, 2014. Members of the Utah National Guard Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear (CBRN) Enhanced Response Force Package (CERFP) extracted, decontaminated, and provided medical attention to the mock casualties at the Magna simulated rubble pile Nov. 4.



Another scenario portrayed simulated dormitories at the University of Utah that were damaged during an earthquake, leading to underground gas leaks. The gas leaks then erupted into fires, forcing an evacuation of the area, needing attention of the fire department. Members of the 151st Utah Air National Guard Fire Department, with the help of Questar Gas, and University of Utah Police Department, responded to simulated fires and gas leaks at Questar Village.

Once the simulated fires were extinguished by the fire department, the role players became unruly when told they could not return to the area for safety reasons.

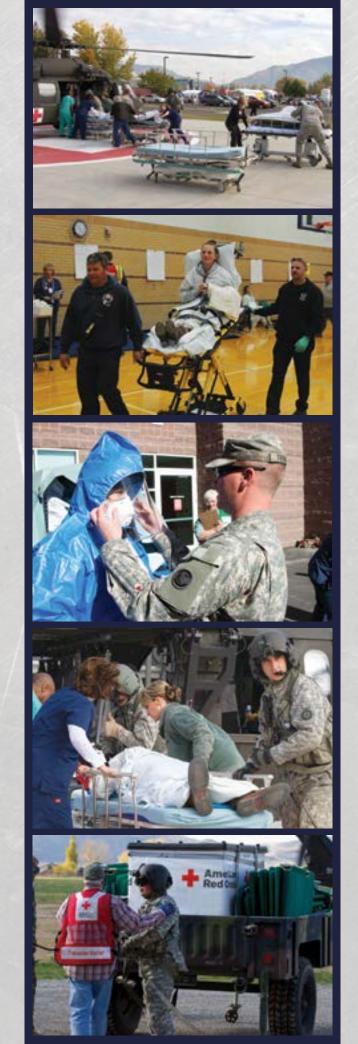
The 151st Security Force Squadron was called in to disperse the crowd, but being such a small force, the 300th Military Intelligence National Guard Response Force under the supervision of the University of Utah police officer Sgt. Heather Horstmeiere, helped control the situation.

"We're doing this training to keep the public safe in future situations," said Sgt. 1st Class Matilde Ott, Alpha Company, 142nd Military Intelligence. "We're getting ready and training to respond in case of a real emergency and we're going to be there to assist."

With this level of damage, the state of Utah requests mobilization of Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC) forces and a dual-status commander to assist with the command and control of federal military forces. Joint Task Force-Wasatch (JTF-Wasatch) received all requests by civilian authorities for military assistance and then identified and deployed the required forces. Brig. Gen. Kenneth Gammon, director of joint staff for the Utah Joint Force Headquarters, was appointed as the dual-status commander.

"When planning for a large-scale disaster, like a 7.0 earthquake, we know that there are simply not enough assets within the state of Utah and the Utah National Guard to cover all the needs," said Gammon. "Out-of-state assets are brought in to cover capability shortfalls and provide manpower, equipment, and skills needed to best accomplish the response and recovery during a disaster."

Servicemembers and Davis Medical Center staff participated in a mass-casualty decontamination and patient transfer by Black Hawk helicopter at Davis Medical Center in Layton Nov. 5. Soldiers, Medical professionals and student role-players gathered at Lone Peak Hospital in Draper, during a simulated casualty care and evacuation exercise while participating in Vigilant Guard. National Guard Soldiers and Central Valley Medical Center staff worked together to treat simulated casualties in Nephi Nov. 5. Servicemembers and Davis Medical Center staff participated in a mass-casualty decontamination and patient transfer by Black Hawk helicopter at Davis Medical Center in Layton Nov. 5. Utah National Guard Soldiers joined the Red Cross to unload simulated supplies from a Black Hawk at Juab County Fairgrounds, Nov. 3. Vigilant Guard trains and prepares multiagencies to assist with emergency operations.



Participants from outside the state of Utah included NORTHCOM, FEMA Region VIII, NGB, and Department of Defense assets. Also participating were National Guard units from the states of Colorado, Idaho, Montana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Wyoming.

Soldiers of the New Mexico Army National Guard and Airmen with the Montana Air National Guard Civil Support Team trained alongside Prove Fire and Rescue Department at the Provo Fire and Rescue Academy in Provo, on a train derailment exercise where they had to contain simulated gas leaks. In a joint effort, all participating had to disperse an unknown contaminate using proper hazardous materials management (HAZMAT) equipment and procedures.

Once the simulated leaks were repaired, the National Guardsmen had to be decontaminated on site to prevent further contamination of the surrounding environment.

"This joint interoperability between responders is vital, and this exercise enabled both military- and civilianagency responders to work together to improve readiness, communications, and capabilities to ensure we are ready to serve our communities in their time of need," said Gammon.

When asked what key lessons were learned during VGUT14, Gammon stressed that establishing relationships is a key factor in developing an effective and efficient response.

"The military finished Vigilant Guard Utah with a solid response plan, prepared Soldiers and Airmen, and strengthened relationships with state, federal, and community partners," said Gammon. "Our commitment is to continue training to improve our processes and sustain and build our relationships with our partners."

Utah National Guard Soldiers with Delta Company, 142nd Military Intelligence Battalion, practice crowd control and tactics to prevent the outbreak of disorder at Questar Village in Salt Lake City Nov. 4. Soldiers and Airmen respond to a train derailment scenerio at the Provo Fire and Rescue Academy in Provo, during Vigilant Guard Utah Nov. 4. Provo Fire Department trains with Utah National Guard Soldiers and Airmen at the Provo Fire and Rescue Academy. Members of the Utah National Guard participate in the Joint Operations Center as part of training exercise Vigilant Guard Utah 2014, at the Utah National Guard headquarters in Draper, Utah Nov. 2, 2014.

Photos by Staff Sgt. Ann Edwards, Sgt. Nicolas A. Cloward, Staff Sgt. Ruth Harvie, Sgt. Chris Lennox, Sgt. Michael Harvie and Ileen Kennedy







## 19th Special Forces Group (Airborne) Stands Up New Battalion

Story by Maj. Wencke Tate

CAMP WILLIAMS, Utah — After approximately two years of transition, a new battalion comes online under the 19th Special Forces Group (Airborne) as of Dec. 3, 2014.

The 19th SFG(A) officially welcomes Group Support Battalion, 19th Special Forces (GSB) into the fold. The GSB will handle the sustainment and logistics function for 19th SFG(A).

Capt. William Biesinger, executive officer, 19th SFG(A) GSB, says the establishment of the GSB brings parity with the Active Component Special Forces Groups and increases sustainment capabilities in support of Special Forces Teams.

"The GSB brings a large sustainment organization with aerial delivery capabilities to the northern portion of the state, located at the Browning Armory in Ogden," said Biesinger. "This is a significant logistics capability that the Utah National Guard can leverage in response to emergencies and natural disasters."

The immediate focus for the GSB is on readiness and Mission Essential Task List development and training.

"The goal for this fiscal year is to work towards being a deployable battalion meeting personnel training, qualification and availability standards and equipment readiness standards," said Biesinger.

Standing up a new unit does not come without challenges.

"We have a large amount of equipment that will be fielded. Receiving this large amount of equipment and putting it into operation in support of the Group's missions is our biggest challenge at this time," said Biesinger.

The Group Support Battalion is one of seven GSB's Army wide and one of two in the National Guard.

With the new addition there is transition as well. The Group Support Company (GSC), becomes the Group Special Troops Company (GSTC).

"The GSB takes over the support/sustainment function for the group, a function formally conducted by the GSC. As the GSC transitions to the GSTC, it switches its external support function from the battalions to internal support of the group headquarters. It also takes on the training function for the group for most of our special-operations, specific-training events," said Lt. Col. Jeffrey A. Bruce, executive officer, 19th SFG(A).

The GSB consists of a Headquarters and Headquarters Company (HHC); a Sustainment and Distribution Company with aerial delivery capabilities, Alpha Company; a maintenance company, Bravo Company; a medical



Members of the newly formed Group Support Battalion, 19th Special Forces conduct a two-mile battalion run.

company, Charlie Company; and three Forward-Support Companies: Delta, Echo, and Foxtrot.

HHC, Alpha Company and Bravo Company are located at the Browning Armory in Ogden. Charlie and Delta Companies are located at Camp Williams. Delta Company is attached to 1st Battalion, 19th SFG(A), headquartered at the Lehi Armory. Echo and Foxtrot Companies are attached to 2nd and 5th Battalions of the 19th SFG(A) located in Colorado and West Virginia respectively.

"As a Special Operations Airborne Battalion, we are a unique organization Army wide. We are different from other support battalions given our airborne capability and we are different from Conventional Airborne Support Battalions given our mission to support Special Operations Forces (SOF)," said Biesinger.

GSB is led by Lt. Col. Paul Rodgers and Command Sgt. Maj. Kevin Mitchell.

The activation ceremony for the GSB will be held in March 2015.



Group Support Battalion, 19th Special Forces Soldiers load Black Hawks for a group-parachute jump.



Utah National Guard's 23rd Army Band and Granite School District students combine to create an amazing 680-voice high school choir and band concert that performed and entertained the audience during the 59th annual Veterans Day Concert.

Story by Capt. Ryan Sutherland

SALT LAKE CITY — The Utah National Guard hosted its 59th annual Veterans Day Concert Tuesday, Nov. 11, at the University of Utah's Jon M. Huntsman Center.

The concert featured performances from the Utah National Guard's 23rd Army Band, led by Chief Warrant Officer 2 Denny Saunders, and the combined 680-voice high school choirs of the Granite School District.

The event, entitled "Generations of Service," honored families whose dedication of service spans across multiple generations.

"So few within our society serve our country in the military," said Lt. Col. Steven Fairbourn, master of ceremonies for this event. "However, it is astonishing to think that of those limited few who serve, there is often a trend where this dedication of service spans across multiple generations."

The concert honored Veterans whose service spanned from World War II to the current conflict. Originally celebrated as Armistice Day, a day meant to commemorate the end of World War I, Veterans Day has become a date on







which all who have served in America's armed forces are recognized and remembered.

"Our proud Airmen and Soldiers have a long and proud history, oftentimes spanning several generations," said guest speaker Brig. Gen. David Fountain, the assistant adjutant general-Air. "In many cases, family lineage runs three or four generations deep, as one generation passes the military torch to the next."

As a tribute to the men and women who have served the United States, the concert incorporated video spotlights between performances, recognizing local Veterans and current Servicemembers.

"The spotlight video provided my father-in-law, Sgt. Lee Christensen, the 'welcome home' and 'thanks' that he missed after returning from combat with the 1st Calvary Division in Vietnam," said Lt. Col. Talon Greeff, whose family was honored in the final spotlight video. He was moved to tears by the support, honor and recognition of his service after so many years."

"My mother, Elisabeth Greeff, a Gold-Star wife, and our family, were deeply moved and touched by the dedication of taps to my father, Capt Remi H. Greeff, who was killed while conducting an aerial mission over Vietnam in 1969," added Greeff. "I felt a significant sense of personal closure that even a trip to the Vietnam Memorial in Washington



didn't provide, by this wonderful act during the Veterans Day Concert."

The concert in recent years has also been used to recognize individuals in our community that have shown a dedication to improving the quality of life of our military and veterans. This year, Zions Bank presented Dennis N. McFall with the Veterans Service Award in recognition of his efforts and leadership in bringing Utah's Veterans the finest healthcare facilities available and much needed improvements to the Veterans' cemetary.

Additionally, for the third year in a row, the Utah PTA has partnered with the Utah National Guard and sponsored an essay contest for Utah students K through 12. The winners of the Utah PTA-sponsored essay contest are formally recognized at the concert and are presented a scholarship award. This year's theme was, "Why I Am Proud of My Veteran." The following students were selected as the contest winners: Nico Torina, a fourth-grade student at Alta View Elementary, Sandy; Emily Erickson, a sixth-grade student at Indian Hills Middle School, Sandy; and Emma Buhman, a senior at Timpanogos High School, Orem.

The winning essays can be found online at UTAHPTA.org. The annual Veterans Day Concert is free and open to the public. 🖺





## Chief of National Guard Bureau Visits the Utah National Guard



Maj. Gen. Jeff Burton, center, and his wife Charn Burton, greet Gen. Frank Grass, chief of National Guard Bureau at the Wright Air National Guard Base Dec. 6.



Gen. Grass, chief of National Guard Bureau, addresses Utah National Guard Servicemembers at Camp Williams during his six-hour visit to Utah.

Story and photos by Lt. Col. Steven Fairbourn

DRAPER, Utah — Gen. Frank J. Grass, the 27th chief of National Guard Bureau, visited Utah National Guard Servicemembers Dec. 6 as part of his trip to the West with plans to attend the Northern Command change of command at Peterson Air Force Base, Colorado Dec. 7.

Gen. Grass, on his second trip to Utah since his appointment as chief of National Guard Bureau, took full advantage of his day with Utah Guard leadership visiting elements at Roland Wright Air National Guard Base, Utah National Guard Headquarters, and Camp Williams during his six-hour stop.

Maj. Gen. Jeff Burton, Mrs. Charn Burton, and other senior leadership of the Utah Guard greeted Grass and his wife, Pat, at the Air Operations Center. Burton hosted Grass, while Col. Christine Burckle and Mrs. Burton provided a separate tour for Mrs. Grass for the day.

Grass visited Airmen from the 169th Intelligence Squadron where they highlighted the Utah Air National Guard intelligence operations, facilities, and capabilities. Several Airmen were spotlighted for their performance and expertise as they were coined by the chief on his stop to the Air base.

Gen. Grass, right, and Maj. Gen. Jeff Burton, center, visit with 1st Lt. Alessandra Kirby, 489th Brigade Support Battalion, about her recent accomplishment of being selected as the first, National Guard, female Soldier observer/advisor at the Ranger Course at Fort Benning, Georgia.

"A highlight was really to be able to talk about my Airmen," said Air Guard Lt. Col. Troy Drennan, commander of the 169th. "Many of us are in a full-time status, working with the Army in a joint status showing the synergy of the Guard, and I think he was very impressed to see our capabilities and our relationship with the local agencies."

Next stop for Grass's visit was the Utah National Guard Headquarters at Draper after a short UH-60 Black Hawk ride provided by 2nd Battalion, 211th Aviation. Brig. Gen. Kenneth Gammon, Brig. Gen. Dallen Atack and others received Grass at the Draper facility where the chief visited members of Ringold, Utah Regional Operations Center (UROC), Utah's United States Property and Fiscal Office, and a short office call with the adjutant general. Grass was



provided further information on Utah Guard intelligence capabilities, operations, and equipment and took advantage of face-to-face meetings with some of our leadership.

"It was a pleasure and honor to host Gen. Grass here in the great state of Utah," said Burton. "I am always happy to share what exemplary Soldiers and Airmen we have here accomplishing great things every day."

At Camp Williams, Grass visited Counterdrug, the 640th Regional Training Institute, and 19th Special Forces Group. It was an honor when Grass presented the Soldier's Medal to Staff Sgt. Robert Kelley at the 640th RTI during his tour of Camp Williams' units.

Pat Grass took full advantage of her time as she visited community partners and Utah Guard spouses at the Zions Bank Founders Room and toured the Family Assistance Center, Youth Programs, and Sub-for-Santa operations at Camp Williams.

Grass last visited Utah when Burton assumed command of the Utah National Guard from Maj. Gen. Brian Tarbet in 2012. During that trip, he was unable to visit units or Soldiers in the state. This time, however, Grass was able to meet both Airmen and Soldiers of the Utah National Guard and become more familiar with some of the outstanding operations and capabilities our talented Servicemembers provide to our state and nation.

"I get to represent 460,000 Army and Air National Guardsmen in Washington as well as the Pentagon every day," said Grass, "But the best thing I get to do is come out and see you all [and] see what you do."



Gen. Grass, right, chief of National Guard Bureau, visited Utah Guard Servicemembers Dec. 6 at Wright Air National Guard Base, Camp Williams, and Draper Headquarters.





LOOKING FOR VETERANS, GUARDSMEN AND MILITARY FAMILY MEMBERS TO JOIN DEL TACO'S TEAM.



#### Gen. Grass Presents Soldier's Medal to Utah Guardman for Heroism



Gen. Frank Grass, left, pins the Soldier's Medal on Staff Sgt. Robert Kelley on Dec. 6, for his heroic actions in saving three people from a burning plane crash in West Jordan Aug. 10.

Story and photos by Lt. Col. Steven Fairbourn

CAMP WILLIAMS, Utah — Gen. Frank J. Grass, chief of National Guard Bureau, presented the Soldier's Medal for heroism to Staff Sgt. Robert Kelley at Camp Williams during his visit to Utah Dec. 6.

"It was very thrilling," said Kelly, Utah Army Soldier of the 1457th Engineer Battalion. "What an honor to meet a four-star and have a medal presented from him."

Kelley received the prestigious award because of his selfless actions when he and two others risked their lives to rescue Steve and Kate Sedlacek, father and mother, and Ann Looper, their daughter, from a burning plane crash that occurred in West Jordan Aug. 10 after a failed takeoff.

"I am proud of Staff Sgt. Kelley and his heroic actions on that fateful day," said The Adjutant General, Maj. Gen. Jeff Burton. "Our Soldiers exemplify bravery and selflessness in times of need, and do it without thought of personal gain or publicity."

Many from Kelley's family were present for the momentous presentation in front of formations of his peers from the 640th Regiment, Regional Training Institute and the 1457th. Even Kirby Crump, one of the two heroes involved, took the time to support Kelley in his moment of military recognition.

Gen. Grass thanked the family of Robert Kelley for their part in making him what he is today.



Gen. Frank Grass, left, presents Staff Sgt. Robert Kelley the Soldier's Medal citation at Camp Williams Dec. 6.



Staff Sgt. Robert Kelley, center, with family and friends after he is awarded the Soldier's Medal at Camp Williams Dec. 6.



A small plane crashed into a West Jordan soccer field adjacent to Airport No. 2, Aug. 10. Witnesses rushed to the scene and rescued the injured people before the aircraft burst into flames.

Photo courtesy of Scott G. Winterton, Deseret News

"Thank you [to Kelley family for raising an outstanding young gentleman that became a Soldier that has served his nation overseas, as well as responded in the homeland when he saw a situation and he saw somebody needed help," Grass said after pinning Kelley. "It really starts at home. It starts as a little child instilling those values—dedication, commitment, and community which come from our families."

The Sadlacek family hosted a party Nov. 23 at their home in Boise in honor of their rescuers. Kellev was able to attend. It was not the sushi lunch that was discussed with Kellev during his visits to the Sedlaceks in the hospital during their recovery in August, but ended up being an appreciation event and celebration of survival.

"It was a very emotional visit," said Kelley as he recalled the party. "The Sedlaceks actually spoke and gave their thanks. It was very touching."

### Family Assistance **Centers**

Utah Family Assistance Centers (FAC) assist Servicemembers and their families during peacetime, training or mobilization. FACs 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. Contact your local/regional FAC for any questions or issues you may have.





#### **Utah National Guard Soldier** Breaking Down Barriers for Women at Ranger Assesment

Story by Lt. Col. Steve Fairbourn

DRAPER, Utah — he U.S. Army Ranger School selected Utah Guardmember 1st Lt. Alessandra Kirby to become an observer/advisor (O/A) last November as part of a stepping-stone program for gender integration into the Army elite group of Rangers. Kirby, platoon leader from Alpha Company, 489th Brigade Support Battalion in Spanish Fork, was selected for the O/A program after a grueling one-week evaluation at Fort Benning, Georgia Nov. 9-15.

Many applied in response to the All-Army-Activity message 221/2014 issued Sept. 11, 2014 seeking female candidates to serve as O/As for the Army Maneuver Center of Excellence Ranger Course Assessment to assist Airborne and Ranger Training Brigade cadre and identify requirements and considerations for potential female integration. Applications were due Oct. 10 with notification of acceptance weeks later. Most Ranger school applicants have six months to one year to train and prepare for their Ranger assessment, but applicants for this program had to be ready in weeks for their physical and mental trials associated with this prestigious and difficult training.

Kirby and 45 other females were assessed on their potential to pass the rigorous Ranger Course with the Ranger Physical Assessment (49 push-ups in two minutes, 59 sit-ups in two minutes, 5-mile run in less than 40 minutes, and six chin-ups), a 12-mile foot march with individual weapon and 35-pound rucksack in three hours, the Combat Water Survival Assessment, night- and dayland navigation, warrior tasks and drills, the Malvesti and Darby Queen Obstacle Courses, and radio/weapons capabilities during the one-week evaluation.

"I believe that every Soldier should be assessed based upon their full potential," said Kirby, resident of South Salt Lake, "not by their stature, or color of skin, or gender, [but rather] by the Soldier's ability to complete the mission."

Thirty-one female Soldiers emerged victorious with offers to serve at the Ranger School from January to September 2015. Of the 31 selected, two were Army Reserves and only one was National Guard—Utah's 1st Lt. Kirby.





"The Utah National Guard is very proud of 1st Lt. Kirby, not just as a woman breaking down barriers, but more importantly as an outstanding Soldier," said The Adjutant General, Maj. Gen. Jeff Burton. "We maintain an environment where our members are judged for their performance and achievement, not on their race or gender."

These women will forge the way for female integration into the long-standing fraternity of Rangers as they identify the training, logistics, and administrative changes required for course integration. All of these top-performers aspire to complete the challenging Ranger Course and become Rangers themselves, but are acting on faith of a positive decision likely to occur no later than January 2016.

The Secretary of Defense will determine whether women will be permitted to become qualified and to serve in other military occupational specialties that are currently closed to women. In Department of Defense release number 037-13 issued Jan. 24, 2013, Defense Secretary Leon Panetta and Joint Chiefs of Staff Gen. Martin Dempsey announced the rescission of the 1994 Direct Ground Combat Definition and Assignment Rule for women and laid the foundation for gender integration into occupational fields to the maximum extent possible.

"The department's goal in rescinding the rule is to ensure that the mission is met with the bestqualified and most capable people, regardless of gender," said Panetta in the announcement.

Kirby, no stranger to challenges and breaking barriers, was the first female Guardmember to advance to the Soldier level of the All-National-Guard Best Warrior Competition in 2011 when she represented Utah with honor.

"I want to be the best Soldier that I can be," said Kirby. "Why not go to a school that can make me that best Soldier? That's how I see it."

The Utah National Guard stands behind 1st Lt. Kirby and wishes her success in her upcoming duty.





Utah National Guard Soldier, 1st Lt. Alessandra Kirby, competes in the Ranger Physical Assessment to become the first National Guard female Soldier observer/advisor at the Ranger Course at Fort Benning, Georgia.

Photos by Patrick A. Albright

#### 19th Special Forces Female Soldier Earns Her MFF Wings

Story by Staff Sgt. Ashley Baum

CAMP WILLIAMS, Utah — crouched near the open door, the bitter December wind chilling her face, Staff Sgt. Stephanie Lewis's heart pounds in her chest as she and other jumpers double and triple check their harness and equipment while their Jumpmaster spots the high-altitude release point.

The Jumpmaster gives the hand signal, which sparks a domino effect as the Soldiers in two-second intervals exit the U.S. Army UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter hovering high above the drop zone. Lewis ignores her fears and takes a leap of faith at 9,600 feet above ground level, earning her wings as the first military-freefall-qualified female in the 19th Special Forces Group (Airborne) and Utah National Guard.

Lewis, a parachute rigger of seven years and section chief for Alpha Company, Group Support Battalion, 19th SF, performed her first military freefall (MFF) with several experienced Special Forces Soldiers from 1st Battalion, 19th SF Dec. 7, at Grant-Smith Farm, Cedar Fort, Utah.

"It was the first time I've ever had the feeling of tempting death," said Lewis about her first MFF jump. "Ultimately you are falling to your death unless you do something about it."

Lewis graduated as the only female in a class of 65 from the U.S. Navy Military Freefall School Oct. 17, at Coronado Naval Amphibious Base, San Diego, Calif. Lewis said she considered herself incredibly lucky to have had the opportunity to attend the course, let alone graduate from it, since MFF schools are generally reserved for Servicemembers in male-dominated, Special Operation fields. Parachute riggers, including female riggers, are the only other authorized personnel who can attend MFF school. Becoming MFF qualified was the next step in Lewis's career.

The five-week course comprised of intense, high-tempo training, pushed Lewis's physical and mental endurance. Students went through extensive training in equipment familiarization, aircraft procedures and exits, body stabilization, canopy control and landings, and emergency procedures. Lewis performed 21 accelerated freefall and MFF operations from a civilian-contracted, UV-18 Twin Otter at 13,500 feet AGL and conducted high-altitude, combat equipment and nighttime airborne operations. Even though Lewis was smaller and lighter than most of the other students, she was still required to wear the same equipment and gear as the males.

Lewis said the adrenaline rush and intensity that came before each jump was incredibly overwhelming.

"It's not normal to jump out of a plane, let alone at 13,500 feet," said Lewis. "As we would get higher in elevation, my heart would beat faster. When the door opened, all my mind would tell me to do was to not jump."



Staff Sgt. Stephanie Lewis, 19th Special Forces Group (Airborne), proudly stands with SF Soldiers after completing her first, military-freefall-airborne operation, at Grant-Smith Farm in Cedar Fort.

However, Lewis persevered and overcame her fears by trusting in her instructors, her military training and years of experience as a Soldier in the 19th SF.

"In the moments of your freefall skydive, there is nothing but complete awareness," said Lewis. "There is a calmness in those 50 seconds that brings you closer to your true self."

Now back at her unit, Lewis will continue to perform MFF operations with her friends and colleagues in the 19th SF. She said she was honored to perform her first unit MFF jump alongside Special Forces Soldiers who she had worked with throughout her military career.

"Jumping with my unit at home really gave me the sense of accomplishment that I had completed something usually only reserved for these big, Special-Operation-fighting machines," said Lewis. "It was an honor to perform my first jump with those great men."

Lewis said her leadership and mentors supported her throughout her MFF and military training and credit them for showing great trust and faith in her. Lewis said she also attributes her success from the support of her family, especially her hero: her mother.

"When her children accomplish something, it fills my mother with something she can never get from anywhere else," said Lewis. "I hope I can continue to give her that same joy the rest of her life. She has endured so much, and she inspires me to overcome everything life throws at me."

Lewis can now add MFF qualified jumper to her military resume, which also includes static-line Jumpmaster. She said she hopes her MFF experience along with achieving what no other female has accomplished in the 19th SF and Utah National Guard will push other female Soldiers to overcome personal obstacles and use their gender as a strength and not a hindrance in their military career.

"No matter how tough it gets, don't give up," said Lewis. "Don't listen to your negative thoughts or to anyone who tells you that you can't. I believed in myself, and ultimately, that's all that matters."

Staff Sgt. Stephanie Lewis successfully completes her first military freefall (MFF) Dec. 7. Lewis is the first female in the history of the 19th Special Forces Group (Airborne) to become MFF qualified.

Photos courtesy of Staff Sgt. Stephanie Lewis and Staff Sgt. Ashley Baum









#### Camp W.G. Williams Celebrates 100 Years of Service with Open House

Story by Lt. Col. Steven Fairbourn

CAMP WILLIAMS, Utah — Utah Gov. Gary Herbert and The Adjutant General, Maj. Gen. Jeff Burton spoke at the Camp Williams Centennial Celebration and open house May 17 in conjunction with the Iron Will races in Bluffdale.

Thousands from the public attended the open house events, which included police, fire and military displays as well as kids' races and obstacle course, bounce houses, food and music. The event was conducted in conjunction with Iron Will

races, sponsored by Evolo Events and KUTV2. They enabled runners from the community to experience the uncommon terrain of the Camp Williams training area in seven different events in mountain biking, cycling, and running.

Camp Williams, established in 1914 as a permanent maneuver ground for training National Guard units during World War I, was named after Brig. Gen. William G. Williams who was the Utah National Guard's longest serving adjutant general from 1917-1946. Camp has been expanded over the years, with peak construction occurring during World War II and the onset of the Cold War in the late 1940s and early 1950s. Camp Williams continues to grow to support the training needs of our Servicemembers with construction currently underway for expansions to the

640th Regiment, Regional Training Institute facilities and the new Serviceman's quarters planned for completion in the spring of 2015.



Gov. Gary Herbert, left, and Maj. Gen. Jeff Burton walk onto Tarbet Field at Camp Williams to start the 100-year centennial celebrations of Camp Williams.



Camp Williams August 1914.









Runners and bikers competed in the Iron Will races at Camp Williams as part of the 100-year Centennial Celebration May 17.



Camp Williams August 2014.

The mission of Camp Williams is to create a quality training environment for military units, the individual Servicemember, and other organizations by providing facilities, logistical support, and personnel assistance to ensure optimum military and organizational training. This premier training facility has certainly accomplished this mission as more than 7,400 Utah Army Guardmembers have conducted pre-mobilization training there since 2001 in support of the Global War on Terrorism and tens of thousands of students have been supported while attending training with the 640th RTI.

"Projected population growth in the communities surrounding Camp Williams is on a steep upward trajectory," said Col. Tyler Smith, garrison commander of Camp Williams.

Camp Williams has been an active participant in being a good neighbor to the nearby cities of Saratoga Springs, Eagle Mountain, Lehi, and Bluffdale with participation in Joint-Land-Use Studies and other ongoing efforts to mitigate noise created

by artillery, engineer, and small-arms, live-fire training.

"Camp Williams has submitted a proposal to qualify for the Army Compatibility Use Buffer program," said Smith. "[this program assists] in managing incompatible development around priority areas in an endeavor to preserve training lands in support of the military mission and ensure a good quality of life for residents who live around our borders."

With the completion of the Utah Data Center in late 2013, Camp Williams added another neighbor to its list. To the surprise of many, the data center does not reside on Camp Williams property. Instead, it is a separate landowner run by the United States Intelligence Community and is an immediate

neighbor to Camp Williams.

Camp Williams has been a mainstay of most Utah National Guard units and their members for their training needs over its 100 years of existence. We look forward to many more years of excellence in the years to come.









Decontamination personnel set up tents for ambulatory and nonambulatory personnel during the exercise evaluation Nov. 3. Photo by Capt. Mike Burgin

#### Region VIII HRF **Evaluated for Mission Preparedness**

Story by Sgt. Barbara Liau

CAMP WILLIAMS, Utah — EMA Region VIII's Homeland Response Force (HRF), headquartered in Draper, Utah, conducted a 36-hour, non-stop exercise operation for its exercise evaluation (EXEVAL), Nov. 7-9, 2014 on Camp Williams.

Like most individuals and organizations, the HRF has to be evaluated and graded on its ability to successfully accomplish its mission objectives. The mission of the HRF is to provide support to civil authorities, upon request, following a chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, or high-yield explosive (CBRNE) incident, terrorist attack, or other domestic emergency. The HRF is expected to respond to emergencies within six hours of being activated. Region VIII includes Utah, Colorado, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota and Wyoming.

Officials from the National Guard Bureau and the Joint Interagency Training and Education Center were present during EXEVAL to help train Servicemembers and evaluate them on their effectiveness in performing their assigned tasks.

In particular, this evaluation was to assess the competence of Region VIII's HRF command-and-control element, composed of approximately 180 Soldiers and Airmen from the Utah National Guard. The command-and-



Utah National Guard Soldiers Sgt. Jon Cooper, left and Sgt. 1st Class Erik Oswald track current operations during the Homeland Response Force (HRF) exercise evaluation (EXEVAL). Below: Utah National Guard Soldiers conduct an hourly update brief for all HRF staff sections at Camp Williams during the HRF EXEVAL.





Utah National Guard Soldiers with Alpha Company,
145th Field Artillery assigned to the chemical, biological,
radiological, nuclear enhanced response fore package
(CERFP) conduct preparations to establish an area
of operations, called a footprint, during the exercise
evaluation Nov. 3 at the Magna Rubble Pile.
Photos by Capt. Mike Burgin





control element is responsible for monitoring personnel and unit status (such as logistical and medical concerns), tracking and assigning units as needed, and providing a bird's eye oversight to the entire mission.

In this scenario, the HRF had been called up to handle a varied set of disasters, to include earthquake destruction, terrorist attacks, and security issues. The HRF was responsible for directing the appropriate units to specific incident sites according to their function, whether that was decontamination from hazardous materials, search and extraction, or medical triage. Multiple events happened throughout the 36-hour operation and the HRF had to be ready for any and all possibilities.

Fortunately, the HRF had been preparing for this EXEVAL for months prior, working through processes and simulations in order to be prepared.

"The HRF started out in a crawl phase, progressing to a walk and then run phase," said Lt. Col. Ryan King, executive officer for the HRF. "Basically, that means that we went through the processes slowly, breaking each step down, and slowly speeding up until we're functioning at mission speed."

Prior exercises leading up to EXEVAL include individual unit training, Patriot Guard held in July and Vigilant Guard, a four-day, statewide-disaster simulation, held immediately prior to EXEVAL.

The training and commitment to perform as best as possible paid off for the HRF as they passed their EXEVAL successfully. Though EXEVAL is over for Region VIII's HRF, they will continue to train and stand mission ready for when they are needed.





Army Staff Sgt. Devin Jameson Sr. a combat medic with the Utah Army National Guard's 2nd Battalion, 640th Regiment (Regional Training Institute), puts on his protective equipment before the first mystery event at the 2014 Department of the Army Best Warrior Competition, Oct. 7, 2014 at Fort Lee, Va. Jameson performs a push up during the Army Physical Fitness Test.

## Utah's Best NCO Competes in the Department of the Army Best Warrior Competition

Story by 1st Sgt. Daniel Fellingham

FORT LEE, Virginia — Utah National Guard's Staff Sgt. Devin Jameson Sr., 640th Regiment, Regional Training Institute, took second place at the Army National Guard (ARNG) Best Warrior Competition (BWC).

Jameson was selected to represent the ARNG and competed as the National Guard's best noncommissioned officer (NCO) at the four-day, best-of-the-best, Department of the Army's (DA) BWC. The DA BWC is the premier event in the Army. The event was held at Fort Lee, Virginia. Every Soldier and NCO competing was an apex predator with exceptional skills and every quality the military seeks out. Jameson's military knowledge, tactical-skill set, and physical capabilities were tested to their very limits.

The DA BWC events included: an Army physical fitness test (APFT), military operations on urban terrain (MOUT), Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear (CBRN), combatives, M9 and M203 ranges, land navigation, weapons assembly, uniform inspections, oral board, written test, and a leadership-reaction course.

Jameson's highlight was the MOUT lane, which included a mission to recover a sensitive item in a MOUT village, while clearing rooms on the clock in an urban-assault lane.

The CBRN lane was a suspected chemical-spill site where he was initially in Mission Oriented Protective Posture (MOPP) level 2, then upgraded to MOPP 4. Jameson tested a nerve agent in a gas chamber, while treating a patient, then moving the patient across 150 meters.

Jameson negotiated a combatives lane with a scenario in a foreign village.

The M9 and M203 ranges were flat ranges having Jameson run across obstacles, requiring him to focus on

breathing and speed. The land-navigation lane was four points, in the day, with distances varying between 300-800 meters apart. There was a weapons assembly lane of M9, M16, M249, M240. All systems were broken down on a table and Jameson had eight minutes to assemble them and conduct functions checks.

Jameson was graded in a uniform inspection lane, where multiple Soldiers were in ASU, Class B, ACU, and APFU uniforms. He had a minute and a half to inspect each Soldier and identify four infractions. He also had an oral board with the sergeant major of the Army and four other major Army command CSMs. He was administered a general knowledge written test with 60 questions to be completed in 45 minutes.

Finally Jameson completed a leadership-reaction course (obstacle course) and a whole lot of dummy drags.



Jameson is tested on his knowledge of Army uniform policy.











Jameson evaluates and then drags a mock casualty toward a medical-evacuation point at the warrior-task and battle-drill event.

"I didn't know what was worse; the pressure of an oral board with the sergeant major of the Army and his panel of four nominative CSMs," said Jameson, "or MOPP level 4, in the heat and humidity of Virginia, for hours on end, doing dummy drags while unable to breath in full kit."

Apart from other competitions Jameson had competed in earlier in the year, the DA BWC isolated him from his mentor Staff Sgt. Kinross, 65th Field Artillery Brigade. Kinross worked as Jameson's mentor from day one, assisting him as he studied and prepared.

"My all-time-favorite event was the urban-assault lane, because it required thinking on the fly while shooting," said Jameson.

Top down: Jameson stands in formation at the Army Best Warrior Competition. Jameson starts the height, weight and tape portion of the competition.

Photos by Staff Sgt. Darron Salzer, Sgt. Jourdain Yardan, and Spc. Heather England

Even though Jameson did not win the final competition, he was grateful for the chance to compete and represent the Utah National Guard. The UTARNG is exceptionally proud to have such a warrior among our ranks. Jameson represents the best we have to offer this nation. Today he is a student at Fort Sam Houston earning his nationally registered paramedic license just prior to deploying downrange with the 2-211th Aviation as a critical-care, flight medic in Afghanistan. 🖹



Jameson (right), assigned to U.S. Army National Guard, and U.S. Army Staff Sgt. Peter Kacapyr, assigned to U.S. Army Forces Command, use their land-navigation abilities.



Jameson prepares to scale a short wall at a warriortask and battle-skill event as part of the 2014 Department of the Army Best Warrior Competition.

Utah Honor Flight brings WWII Veterans to D.C.

Story and photos by Senior Master Sgt. Gary Rihn

WASHINGTON, D.C. —  $\Gamma$  or the first time in seven decades, a group of World War II veterans got together and wore matching uniforms.

Instead of their last uniform of camouflage and boots, this time they were wearing matching red, white and blue T-shirts, emblazoned with Utah Honor Flight across their proud chests.

The group of 66 veterans traveled from their homes in Utah to Washington, D.C., on Sept. 18 to see the World War II Memorial, dedicated 10 years ago in their honor. For most, it was their first time to see the memorial.

Upon their arrival in D.C., they were greeted by a military color guard, and then had time on their own to explore the memorial and surrounding sights.

"It is just incredible to see," was a common sentiment of many, as they relived their past, telling stories and catching up on lost time.

Art Meredith, 88 years old and a Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class during the war, was a corpsman charged with treating sailors and Marines injured in combat.

"It was pretty intense at times, but very rewarding when a Marine thanks you," said Meredith. "It was nice to help other people and to know you're contributing to others getting well so that they can go home to their families."

The veterans were each paired up with a travel guardian during their trip, to ensure their safety and well-being while away from home. Some guardians were family members, and others were volunteers who just wanted to help.

Ninety-two-year-old Bill Bradshaw of Ogden, Utah, a former Navy radio operator who later turned into a dive-bomber gunner during the war, was accompanied by his daughter, Janet.

"I figured it was now or never," she said. "I wanted him to come here to get the acknowledgment that he deserves. The whole treatment here, witnessing the reactions here and in the airports—they parted the seas for these guys as they came through. They treated these veterans so



Art Young, a sergeant in the Army Air Corps during World War II, is escorted into the World War II Memorial in Washington, D.C., Sept. 19, 2014. Young was escorted by his daughter, Kristi.

beautifully."

Another guardian was Wayne Madsen, a history teacher from Clinton, Utah. He was a volunteer for a veteran that was unable to have family travel with him. He looked forward to sharing the experience with his students.

For others, it was an opportunity for family members to get a welcomed visit. Kelly Weaver, who lives in Virginia, was waiting to see her



World War II Veterans gather for a group photo at the World War II Memorial in Washington, D.C., Sept. 19, 2014. Family members standing amongst Veterans also held portraits of recently passed Veterans. The Veterans were part of a group of 66 that were there to see their memorial, many for the first time.

grandfather George Ford. He flew food drops with the Army Air Corps during the war. Ford is now 96 years old and gets to see his granddaughter once or twice a year, so this was a special trip for him.

While these veterans served during wartime, some also had personal connections to their former opponents.

Allen Young, an Army Air Corps Sergeant, was stationed on Guam during the war and then served part of his time at a radar site in Japan after its surrender, 50 miles north of Tokyo. While there, he constructed a boat to pass the time, and would take local Japanese children out for rides on the sea. One day, he saw a mother carrying her sick child up the beach towards him, asking Young to help. He was able to get the child to a hospital for treatment. Young returned to Japan on vacation, 40 years later, and had the opportunity to reconnect with the child's mother, who related that her son had gone on after that to become a doctor himself.

The journey to Washington, D.C. was organized by the Honor-Flight organization. This was the first year in nine years that Utah Veterans made the trip, according to Judy Lemmons, who serves as an Honor-Flight coordinator. It was also their largest group to date, with two more flights scheduled later this year.

"It is really fun to watch them open up and share, and how it brings back their memories," said Lemmons.



A military color guard sang the National Anthem and played Taps for Utah Honor Flight Veterans upon their arrival at the World War II Memorial in Washington, D.C.

Kristi Moulton, daughter of Sgt. Young, added, "Everybody here is so great. These Veterans deserve this; they sacrificed so much to put this country where it is."

Besides their memorial, the Veterans also experienced other local memorials, and riding tours of Washington, D.C. as well as attending a Heroes Banquet and being met by a few officers.

Utah currently has about 8,700 surviving World War II veterans.







The American Red Cross has always been a supporter of all branches of the military - including Guardsmen - through our Service to the Armed Forces (SAF) programs. Our new mentorship program helps service members and veterans find the tools and resources they need to reach their goals, whether it is education, work related, or VA compensation. We also provide assistance in obtaining emergency financial support. There are many ways we can help you!

To learn more about the mentorship program contact Chris Lambe at 801-323-7024 or chris.lambe@redcross.org. Visit redcross.org for more information.

Utah Region





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Story by Lt. Col. Steven Fairbourn

Many of you have received the most recent installment of the Army and Air Remember My Service books which depict the Utah Guard service from 2011-2014. However, many do not know that there is a significant online portion of this project which has great video, additional images and a complete digital copy of the book. Rather than including discs in this installment, online content has

been made available so it is easy to access and share. Inside the first pages of the book you will find the QR code and the links to get you there.

Take a moment to view your contributions and the great achievements of the Utah Guard as a whole since 2011 and remember to pass along the link to your family and friends!

Army and Air 2011-2014 Remember My Service **Books Online** 



Army-

http://www.remembermyservice.com/02-landing/utaharmyguard.html Air- http://www.remembermyservice.com/02-landing/utahairguard.html



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## Army Aviation Restructuring Initiative includes Apache Helicopters

Story by Lt. Col. Gregory Hartvigsen

WEST JORDAN, Utah — he Army's Aviation Restructuring Initiative (ARI) is a proposal designed to save significant funds through the divestiture of the OH-58D Scout aircraft and related training aircraft. To fill the void in Combat Aviation Brigades (CAB) created by this divestiture, ARI would also move all AH-64 Apaches from the National Guard to Active Duty CABs. The Army chief of staff and the secretary of defense have approved this plan.

Recently the House and Senate passed the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for 2015, which among other things, puts on hold the movement of any National Guard Apaches to the Active Component (AC) through Fiscal Year 2015. However, it does allow for the transfer of 48 Apaches from the National Guard to the AC in FY 2016. The NDAA also establishes an independent commission to study ARI to determine its feasibility and effect on national defense.

The National Guard has eight Attack/Reconnaissance Battalions (ARB) fielded with up to 24 AH-64D Apaches each; included is Utah's 1-211th ARB currently fielded with 16 aircraft.

This means that potentially Utah's 1-211th could lose its 16 aircraft as early as Oct 2015, if the Army takes the 48 aircraft allowed in FY2016 as per the NDAA.

National Guard Bureau (NGB) is currently working with the nine states where Apaches are fielded to determine which units would be providing those 48 aircraft. Utah's 1-211th is a 401 Soldier Battalion, which also has 180 authorized, full-time, technician positions associated with maintenance and training for the Apache, as well as 26 authorized Active Guard Reserve (AGR) positions.

If ARI is fully implemented and/or Utah is selected to be one of the two units to provide the first 48 aircraft to the AC in 2016, these M-Day, Technician and AGR positions would be in jeopardy. NGB has indicated that if Utah were to lose its Apaches, that some UH-60 Black Hawks would be provided in return. But this would not be on a one-for-one basis with Apaches, nor would the six companies and 401 M-day positions that make up the 1-211th be replaced on a one-for-one basis.

The Adjutant General, Maj. Gen. Jeff Burton, and the Utah Congressional Delegation are working with NGB to develop a course of action that best meets the needs of National Defense and the State of Utah.

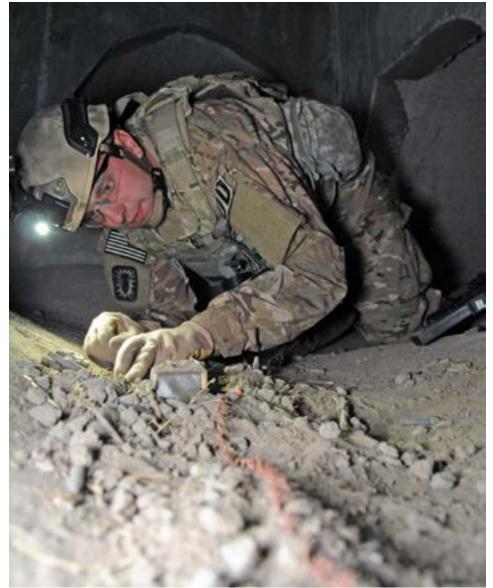
Apache firing 2.75 rockets: Rotorcraft Pro image taken from the cabin door of the LUH72 Lakota. A Longbow Apache aircrew prepares to take off to conduct gunnery operations at Fort Hunter Liggett, California. 1-211th ARB aircrews fly over the Pacific coast and U.S. Highway 1 near Fort Hunter Liggett for annual training June 2014.











Staff Sgt. Christopher Johnson assesses how to destroy an improvised explosive device he located in a tunnel. Johnson navigates through a culvert wearing night-vision goggles. Airman 1st Class Lance Steck, left, and Airman 1st Class Derrin Creek assessing situational awareness. Senior Airman Aaron Grabbs provides security to the area.

## 151st Civil Engineering Squadron Explosive Ordnance Technicians Hone Their Skills

Story by Ileen Kennedy

CAMP WILLIAMS, Utah — Members of the 151st Civil Engineering Squadron, Explosive Ordnance Disposal Flight (EOD) participate in an improvised explosive device (IED) training exercise at Camp Williams Dec. 9.

"The Camp Williams training location is perfect for preparing for Afghanistantype terrain which prepares for possible deployments into higher elevations," said Master Sgt. Kevin Bullivant, flight chief with the EOD.

The training plan was to practice clearing IEDs in a combat zone, tunnel systems and buildings in an urban area. Two of the seven Airmen were observer/facilitators and the other five newer team members were honing their skills. The training is scenario-driven to help mimic what Airmen may face in a combat situation.









Photos by Staff Sgt. Ann Edwards and Tech Sgt. Amber Monio

"The training itself is essential to skills that will be needed to successfully complete their missions safely on a combat deployment," said Sgt. Timothy Edwards, EOD assistant flight chief.

Working in two- or three-man teams during the exercise would be similar in a real-world situation when working in confined areas. During one phase of the training, the EOD technician had to enter a culvert, simulating a cave or tunnel system, that the facilitators say has become commonplace during deployments.



The seven-man team of explosive ordnance technicians discuss lessons learned after the improvised explosive devise training exercise.

"This provided a real-world experience for our members to prepare them for any upcoming deployments that will occur," said Edwards.

Additional training known as military operations in urban training or MOUT, practices how to safely clear buildings of IEDs in an urban environment.

"This training is vital for the members to be successful while performing combat operations," said Bullivant.

When locating and identifying an IED, it is a very stressful situation to walk up to a known explosive and assess how to best render it safe.

"For an EOD tech, when you're making a manual approach, it is definitely the most dangerous part of our job," said Bullivant.

When doing a manual approach only one member, the one in charge, will come up to the IED from downrange. The other team members will be giving out needed tools and providing security. Similarly when entering a tunnel system, only one will enter, while the second team member will stay within eyesight of the individual. The second team member, known as a safety observer, provides back-up and rear security.

"The skills learned directly relate to the mission we are tasked with when deployed. Our main deployed mission is disrupting and disarming IED and anti-personnel explosive devices," said Edwards. In today's battlefield there are no clear-cut front lines. Many missions involve working out in the open or having to go down into crevices, tunnels or cave systems. This has become a pretty normal situation. To plan how to prepare for these types of situations the training scenarios portrayed what EOD technicians could expect to experience on deployment.

"It was extremely successful training," said Edwards. "We were able to assist our guys to make safer decisions during what could be stressful situations."



Sgt. Timothy Edwards, left, observes as Airman 1st Class Lance Steck evaluates the removal of an improvised explosive device.



Utah National Guard Soldiers with Joint Forces Headquarters prepare for the commanders update brief at Camp Asaka, Japan.



Lt. Col. Reece Roberts, Joint Forces Headquarters, works with the Japanese operations force during Yama Sakura 67 in the development of the synchronization matrix.

# Joint Forces Headquarters

# Trains with Japanese Central Army for Yama Sakura 67

Story and photos by Master Sgt. Damon Harvey

CAMP ASAKA, Japan — This year marks the 32nd year that the Japanese Self-Defense Force (JSDF) and the United States Military have participated in the bilateral, computer-based Command Post Training Exercise (CPX) known as Yama Sakura (YS). Yama Sakura gets its name from the Japanese words for cherry blossom, "Sakura," and Mount Fuji, "Yama." These are the symbols for the Japan Ground Self-Defense Force and United States Army Japan, respectively. The location for YS rotates between all of the Japanese regional armies; this year the Eastern Army hosted the exercise at its headquarters in Camp Asaka.

This year the Utah National Guard Joint Forces Headquarters (JFHQ) supported YS for the seventh consecutive year in the opposition force (OPFOR) bilateral cell. The OPFOR cell is responsible to make the training as real as possible for the JSDF Army that is playing as the friendly force with its bilateral U.S. counterparts. The OPFOR plays a crucial role as a training aide to ensure the completion of the training objectives established during the planning conferences. While providing simulated enemy forces for the exercise, the OPFOR does not have free reign to try to defeat the friendly forces. The real goal is to provide an environment that effectively exercises the military staffs of both the American and Japanese forces.

When asked why he thinks JFHQ was solicited to come and provide support as the exercise OPFOR, 1st Sgt. Kody Nelson responded, "It provides a way for Utah to showcase our expertise in many different areas."

Utah provides subject-matter experts in Field Artillery, Engineering, Aviation, Special-Purpose Forces, and Military Linguists. Utah is fortunate to have such a diverse military force within its National Guard structure. With just a small staff of 25 members, JFHQ is able to provide a realistic and highly effective OPFOR.

One of the fun facts about YS is that the 65th Field Artillery Brigade and the 97th Army Aviation both participate in the exercise as friendly forces. It is always good for morale and esprit de corps when JFHQ has the opportunity to challenge some of the units from within the state.

Another benefit of training alongside the Japanese forces is the bilateral team building and friendship. It is a great opportunity to learn about another culture and share our culture as well. Many of the Soldiers from JFHQ look forward to YS every year as a time to re-engage old friends and build new bonds. Since we have the role of the OPFOR, the Central Army Japanese force that we trained with this year will be the force we "fight" against next year.

During one of the multiple dialogues between the two staffs, Lt. Col. Reece Roberts joked with Maj. Tatsuya Koike of the JSDF Central Army, "We are learning everything about you this year so that next year we will know how you think."

We truly enjoy working as a bilateral team and throughout the exercise there is much idea exchange as well as plenty of laughter. By the end of the exercise both of the bilateral staffs have come to respect and learn from each other and we look at it as a way to hone our skills and an opportunity to continue to build relationships with the Japanese forces.

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Local military units partnered up with the National Basketball Association to complete community service projects, an effort to support local communities through combined service.

# Committment to Service **NBA** Cares Hoops for Troops

Story by Staff Sgt. Aaron Bonzo

SALT LAKE CITY — he NBA partnered with the Department of Defense, USO, and other military and veteran service organizations to create the NBA Cares Hoops for Troops program. This program honors and serves both active and retired Servicemen and women as well as their families. As part of this year's program, they implemented the shared "Commitment to Service" that provides the opportunity for military Servicemembers to work side by side on community service projects with NBA players from their local teams. Command Chief Master Sgt. Rhonda Miller called this "giving back and saying thanks for letting us be part of your community."

Soldiers and Airmen of the Utah National Guard partnered with other local Servicemembers and the Utah Jazz for this project on Nov. 6, 2014. The 25 Utah Guardsmen who volunteered for this project had the opportunity to work alongside players such as Gordon Hayward and Trey Burke of the Utah Jazz as they focused on three service projects for the benefit of local veterans.









Soldiers, Sailors, Marines and Airmen participated in local landscaping projects in cooperation and with the support of the NBA. These projects not only provide Servicemembers the opportunity to serve the local populace, but also foster a stronger relationship with surrounding communities.

Photos by Staff Sgt. Austin Smith

Gordon Hayward, forward for the Utah Jazz, called this a "bright spot" and an opportunity to give back to "all the veterans who did what they did for all of our freedom."

With shovels and rakes in hand, these volunteers went to work cleaning and landscaping both the courtyard at the Veterans Administration Hospital and the grounds of the Fisher House in Salt Lake City. The Fisher House is a non-profit facility that houses the families of Servicemembers and veterans who are hospitalized for treatment at the Veterans Administration. These projects helped to provide a clean and relaxing environment for the Veterans and their families to be able to get away from the stress of their medical and recovery process.

The third project the volunteers participated in was making visits to the hospitalized Veterans along with their NBA counterparts. This face-toface visit with fellow Servicemembers and local NBA celebrities provided the Veterans with a bright point and much-needed distraction during their recovery process.

At the end of the day, the Commitment to Service project was a great success and provided much-needed support to Veterans and their families in their time of need. Each of the Utah National Guard volunteers involved with the project commented on both the fulfillment they felt as well as how enjoyable the projects were.









# Community Members Rally to Help Military Families in Need



Story by Katherine Lambert

CAMP WILLIAMS, Utah — For those that have served their country in the military, a service was given in return. The week before Christmas, military families in need had their wish lists fulfilled thanks to the Sub-for-Santa program.

"We don't want any of our military children to go without a Christmas," said Mindy Larsen, Camp Williams Family Assistance Center specialist.

More than 200 military children received gifts this year through the Utah National Guard Sub-for-Santa program.

"We are always amazed by the generosity of the people that step forward every year," said Paul Raymond, executive director of the Utah Guard Charitable Trust.

Though the amount of families in need changes year-toyear, Raymond said that the amount of sponsors and donors this year was more than enough to meet the needs of the military families requesting support.

"This year we had over 38 different donors that sponsored entire families or just kids," Raymond said, "We had so many the we had to turn some away because we ran out of children to sponsor the last week or two."

Raymond said L3 Communications was among those that donated to this year's Sub-for-Santa.

"L-3 donated more than 450 gifts this year," Raymond said. "Over \$1,400 in gifts were donated between L-3 and and its employees."

On Dec. 10, more than 50 members of Goldman Sachs Salt Lake City Veteran Network shopped together to fulfill the needs of families from multiple military branches.

"It went really well," said Mike Burgin, a Goldman Sachs regulatory capital controller associate and Utah Army National Guardsman. "It was the best year I've seen so far. We got more support from Walmart. They set out refreshments and gave us a 15 percent discount for the gifts."

The network has worked with the Charitable Trust to help with Sub-for-Santa in past years as well.

"Some people have been doing it for years," Burgin said. "They look forward to it. It's become an annual tradition."

Burgin, who has been a connection between the Guard and Goldman Sachs for the past three years, said he enjoys seeing the interaction between the Veteran network and Guard members.

"Working with Soldiers from the Guard helps strengthen the relationship between the Army and civilian sectors," Burgin wrote in an email. "It has been my privilege to help plan this event for the past three years. Being in the UTNG (A Battery, 1-145 Field Artillery Brigade) and working for Goldman Sachs has been a great opportunity, and I am thankful to help coordinate the efforts of our Veteran network in ways that support Utah military families."

Some civilian sponsors have made it a Christmas tradition to provide for families and return year after year, those like Susan Peterson.

"This is Christmas to me," Peterson wrote in an email. "I get a Christmas bonus every year. I make a point of using much of it to help a National Guard family. When I do Sub-for-Santa they are 'my family.' From the time I get their information, they are my focus."

Peterson also wrote that those she works with make sacrifices to donate to the Sub-for-Santa. An attorney at her work donated \$100 last year and \$200 this year. A donation of \$50 was made by a single mother.

> "This was a sacrifice to her," Peterson wrote, "but she's heard me go on and on about our program that she wanted to help."

Numerous community members willing to donate for Sub-for-Santa was inspiring to many this year.

"It's heartwarming to see so many community members rally around our Military members during Christmastime," Larsen said.







Goldman Sachs employees and Utah National Guard Soldiers gathered at a Walmart in Salt Lake City, Dec. 10, to shop for Christmas. Together they helped make holiday wishes come true for children of local Servicemembers from all branches of the military. With the help of the Utah Guard Charitable Trust, they were able to get gifts for every good girl and boy on their list. Below: Retired Master Sgt. Sterling Poulson, Maj. Gen Jeff Burton, and CiCi Compton load gifts for the Utah National Guard's Sub-for-Santa.

Photos by Sgt. Nicolas Cloward and Paul Raymond



# Building 5 Ribbon Cutting Joint Language Training Center

Story by 2nd Lt. Carlos Gomez

CAMP WILLIAMS, Utah — The Joint Language Training Center (JLTC) hosted a ribbon-cutting ceremony to officially open a new building on April 17, 2014. Maj. Gen. Jeff Burton, adjutant general of the Utah National Guard and W. Bond Wells, Jr., director, Office of Special Intelligence Deputy Assistant Administrator U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, cut the ribbon together to mark the opening of the building.

Dignitaries in attendance included Gen. Burton; Mr. Wells; Col. Derek Tolman, Counterdrug coordinator for the Utah National Guard; Gregg Lindskoog, Document and Media Exploitation (DOMEX) section chief; and Nicki Hollmann, assistant special agent-in-charge of Salt Lake City.

"Today we are facing shrinking budgets and a military force that makes it that much more vital for our forces to be relevant in what they do," said Burton. "Our language and intelligence capabilities are one of the most demanding skill-sets that we can offer in support of national defense and at the same time meet the needs of other government agencies."

The new building will house JLTC's two DOMEX teams.

"This event signifies how our linguist support has grown over the years. Different organizations can bring their varied skills together to collaborate in making our communities and state a better place to live," said Lt. Col. Shahram Takmili, JLTC officer in charge. "The Utah National Guard has great linguistic capabilities and this facility provides us a place to bring those capabilities to bear in support of state, local, and federal government agencies."

Mr. Lindskoog praised the Utah National Guard's support to his office.

"These teams are a force multiplier for us," said Lindskoog. "We are able to tap into their linguistic skills and capabilities which we just don't have throughout our other offices. It allows us to accomplish work that otherwise might take a back seat."

Col. Derek Tolman indicated the benefit this program has on the readiness of the Utah National Guard.

"This mission allows our Soldiers to keep their language skills sharp along with other military skills that they use down range when we deploy," said Tolman. "It truly is a win-win situation."

The Joint Language Training Center is in its 21 year of providing linguist support to local, state, and federal agencies.

# Korean War Veterans were Honored by Republic of South Korea

Story by Maj. Gerald Williams

CEDAR CITY, Utah — Members of the 2-222nd Field Artillery, 213th Forward Support Company, Korean War veterans and local officials attended a Korean War Memorial wreath laying and special luncheon hosted by the Republic of Korea Minister of Patriots and Veterans Affairs commemorating the 60th anniversary of the end of the Korean War.



"60 years of commitment—60 years of friendship," said Director General Gong Wang Park from the Ministry of Patriots and Veterans Affairs. "The peace, prosperity and liberties that we cherish today are built on your Soldiers selfless sacrifices and contributions. Korea's forever indebted and will continue to build the trust and friendship between our nations." ■



Retired Col. Dan Roberts, center, with Director General Gong Wang Park from the Ministry of Patriots and Veterans Affairs of the Republic of Korea stands with veterans of

the Korean War as they are honored. Below: Maj. Gen. Jeff Burton, right, and Soldiers from the 222nd Field Artillery and 213th Forward Support Company present battalion and unit colors to Minister Park.

# Air Promotions

COLONEL Anderson Julie A Streukens,Kristin M

> MAJOR Fielding Ross P

CAPTAIN Searles Raymond V Barber Jesse R Whaley Ryan M

#### FIRST LIEUTENANT

Barley Adam C Bocage Amy C Dillingham Steven Richard Moss Brian Spencer Williams Dustin J

#### CHIEF MASTER SERGEANT Allen Todd J

Allen Todd J Kennicott Jeffrey N

#### SENIOR MASTER SERGEANT

Lock James K Miller Raymon L Adamson Heather M Glade Paul L Kirchhoff Melissa R Nuccitelli Julie E

#### MASTER SERGEANT

Whatley Raymond H III
Lawson John David
Armstrong Kasie L
Garcia Mark Stephen
McFadden Robert J
Beesley Jeffrey Shane

Bresee Adam Keith Marl Nelson Peter B

## TECHNICAL SERGEANT

Belka Jeffery L Hendrickson David M Nelson Joshua R Roberts Paul D Bennett Joseph Lee Bernasek Joel B Peterson Mark Giles Edtl Andrew J Hoover Lydia Michelle Porter Nathan G **Jackson Lucas E** Vogel Thomas D Adams Mandy A Kendell James C Groberg David J Crosby Michael D Elhendi Souad Ali Naylor Austin James Scherzinger Rudy W Wheeler Casey D Jones Nathan D

#### STAFF SERGEANT

Mowry Ryan G
Walje Austin L
Weeks Aaron D
Lamb Scott D
Miller Ryan L
Stark John Houston
Bailey Cord H
Horne Thomas Michael
Baca Anthony G
Craig Taylor D
Mackay Nathaniel J
Bermensolo Christopher S

Cook Christopher J Hoover Marjorie A

# SENIOR AIRMAN

Atkinson Shawn M Barry Aaron N Ellis Corev D Malmborg Nickolas L Davis Jaron C Eldredge Gillian Irish Jeremy B Mudrow Jaron A Betts Craig Anthony Grubbs Aaron L Parker Kyle R Engh Abraham K Plouzek Cameron F Raskey Savannah L Tholen Landon N Leffler Amanda E Spencer Stephanie J Hansen Kyle A Vradenburg Jerry S Bird Ashlee K Jorgensen Joseph R Lister Clinton A Perez Michael R White Colby L White William T Jr Bell Andrew T Bradford Nicholas Blair Gilbert Peter C Terpening Adalinda C

#### AIRMAN FIRST CLASS Jackson Julian Marcus

AIRMAN Ostler Mary M

# **Army Promotions**

COLONEL Montoya James Anthony

#### MAJOR

Ahn Edward
Blatter Timothy William
Davis Corey J
Douglas Colton C
Edwards Michael Stephen
Gunnarson Egan Neal
Jarvis Michael David
Letourneau Darren Thomas
Smith Justin Quinn
Vernon Christopher Jones
Webster Steven Benjamin
Young William Tyler

#### CAPTAIN

Chruma Clint Jack Martinez George Brandon Witte Christopher Cord Abrams Jared Daniel Bowen Matthew Courtney Bringhurst Samuel Wade Brooking Gabriel Cordell Carrick Benjamin Thomas Condie Cory Lorin Davies Jeremiah Lynn Davis Sharon Renae Dolce Amy Marie Johnson Ryan Timothy Robert Marden Chad Dewayne Nitchman Lee Alan Sharp Caleb Chad Smith Spencer Crawford Syzdek Brian Wheatley Daniel Lewis Wollenzien Samuel Clint Wright Jeffrey Jay

#### FIRST LIEUTENANT Devine Daniel Ames

Floyd Jerrid Anthony Adams Bennett Kinyon Green Jordan David Ito James Nobukichi

#### SECOND LIEUTENANT Bybee John Matthew Daimaru Blaine Keaton Jewett Kira Furse

CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER 4 Lloyd John Melvin Plewe Tyler David

#### CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER 3

Baird Lonnie Joseph Brakke Brian Edward Cade Dennis James Galbraith Joseph Atine Nelson Hiram Silver Smith Carlyle S Smith Joseph David Williams Dustin Scott

# CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER 2 Kaminska Colt David

WARRANT OFFICER Hunt Nicholas Dover

#### COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR Bollinger Bruce Scott

SERGEANT MAJOR Hird Christopher Paul Wingate Randell Dean

### **Army Promotions Continued**

FIRST SERGEANT Hansen Micah Shane

MASTER SERGEANT

Anderson Michael Gordon
Anderson Rawlin Daniel
Boughton Kevin Tracy
Groggett Barbara Lynn
Harrison Kyle Barry
Hoepfner Curt Emery
Hutchinson Val
Jensen Joel Gray
Lawrence Thomas Allen
Mata Rolando
Orton Troy Kenneth

SERGEANT FIRST CLASS

Andersen Steven Labron Beck Shawn Lee Brakke David Eugene Brewer Caleb Kendall Brubaker Ryan Enos Chicas Baltazar Ernesto Cowley Jade Thomas Fifield Caleb Kyle Foisy David Scott Gilmore Josiah Andrew Goodrich Benjamin Arthur Gratson Bret Matthew Heath Brett Curtis Hill Jeremy Wayne Holland Ronald Jay Jr Holm Michael Steven Jones Bevin Willis Jones Jeffrey Wayne King Adam Ray Madsen Ronald Jens McClure Phillip Dennis Measels Drew Thanh Murdock James Craig Peiffer Kenneth Raymond Platt Lyman Dee Raines Matthew Richard Spalding Matthew John Stephensen Stephen James Sudler Brian Samuel Thomas Jonathan Kim Turner Gregory James Wall Daniel Alexander Wilcock Nathaniel Berin Wyatt Daniel Leigh

#### STAFF SERGEANT

Anderson Casie Lee Austin Joseph Ashley Brown Michael Wayne Bruninga Allyn Scott Buchanan Kayle Kevin Bybee James Lee Bybee Johnathan Aaron Chen Jian Cones Garett Jay Cope Jeremy Richard Curtis Nathaniel Richard Davidson Shannee June Egan Christopher Buckley Ford Tyman Taylor Greeff Jareth Remihendricus Harbin Caleb Robertson Helfer Yuliva Hendricks William Thomas Hyde Carrie Elizabeth Jewkes Tyler Wayne

Lampman Peter C Malmborg Casey Bruce McArthur Robert Jared Merlette Jeremy Brett Mortensen Bart Stuart Mrykalo David Thomas Nielson Terrance Trevor Ocana Joe Xavier Owens Ronald Errol III Peterson Jeremy Dean Rahlf Tony Christopher Rapp Trevor Richard Richins Casi Jo Rivera Luis Alberto Robinson Jeremiah Thomas Snow Alissa Marie Soelberg Janelle Kay Sorenson Jace Robert Starr Joseph Lee Stroik Frank Edward Teela Jeremy Scott Twitchell Ronald Dennis Vreeland Mitchell Dale Williams Michael Homer Williamson David Victor Winterton Sarah Elizabeth Yates Michael Zinn Dale Cannell

#### SERGEANT

Allen Brock Hayden Andrus Joel Ryan Barnes Jake Mecham Barton Iordan Scott Boehme Derrik Matthew Booher James Edward Bradford Lional Briton Brooks Jessica Elaine Cazares Laman Joseluis Clark Justin Isaac Corry Kimberly Cowan Jeremiah William Cowley William Derrik Daines Mark Christian Davis Alex Jeffrey Dickson Jonathan Alexander Ellsworth Jason Eric Eubanks Robert Connor Felt Matthew David Gale Rvan Michael Geddes Matthew John Gonzales Victor Ray Gorrell Kyle Duane Green Jordan Scot Hansen Benjamin Franklin Hastings Amy Marie Heap Steven Elliott Helsten Chase Colby Higgins Shane Bell Hoover Corey Bryan Wayne Jacobson Caleb James Jennings Steven James Jones Trevor Chad Kaiser Nicholas Michael Kendall Jason David Kevern Myles Carl Kinsman Kolten James Lamb Jordan Hunter Law Jared Fred Lebaron Jacob Dewey Levet Jordan Michael Lunceford Ashton Orlo

Lyman Kenneth Lavar

Mabey Daniel Dwayne Maddox Austin Skylor Martin Casey Eric Miller Duwayne Mix Jonathan Jacob Moore Cory Lee Morse Austin Levi Oyler Brooke Ann Palma Henry Israel Pearson Devin Lane Poll Spencer Spendlove Punimata Ettie Anne Ralphs Joseph Edward Rhodes Charles Guy Sermon Taylor Nichols Thomas Wayne Richard Tucker Shaun Michael Voorhees Tyler David Wheatley Steven Wayne Widerburg Jeffrey Brian Wiedmeier Peter Randall Williams Wade Daniel Wilson Jeremy Ricks Winder William Christifer Woodward James Anthony

CORPORAL / SPECIALIST
Aguilarmacias Raul Julian

Allen Casey J Allred Jason Aaron Allred Marcus Julian Andrus Kristopher Kelly Bardelliniramirez Gian Paol Barker Blake Christian Barker Bracken Lynn Barrett Michael Ford Beckstrom Ronald Sean Bell John Everest Bittner Frederick Robert Blackburn Jimmy Lee Boone Benjamin Hudson Brammer Douglas Perry Brown Katherine Michelle Brown Spencer Lewis Burke Ryan Okeefe Burningham Eli Andrew Chapman Daniel Scott Christensen Steven Joseph Christiansen Kylie Ann Clark Dylan Kay Clement Jacob Cole Clement Jeffery Matthew Clement Sherry Nichole Cloward Ryan Tanner Coffer Brittney Ann Conrad Johanna Correa Noe Garcia Delnort Bryce William Dettle James Brian Ii Dickinson Nickolas Robin Dill Anna Rosedemaree Duke Robert Merrill Egbert Alma Jedediah Ehrenzeller Bret Eric II Ellsworth Angelo Christian Errett Richard Scott Ferrell Timothy John Foote Anastasia Fullmer Tyrell Stephen Galbraith Michael Atine Gallegos Brandon Sean Gappmayer Riley Michael Germaine Grant Robert

Greer Alexander Goldrick

Guzman Jonathan Francisco

Hatch David Lyman Hatch Steven Milton Hebertson Max W Heidemann Justin Daniel Henry Major Titan Hernandez Juan Manuel Hunter Zachary James Jackson Justin Lee Jefferson Parker Jay Joens Zachary Adam Johansen Linda Ann Jolley Matthew David Kalm Chase Ryan Kamadjeu Michel Korankye Christian Lang David James Larson Stefan Robert Leavitt Kaden McKinley Lee Jamie Curtis Leue Timothy Scott Lewis David Iv Limburg Briton James Linden Alexandra Grace Lindsay Travis Edward Luevano Sergio Lyman Ryan Walter Marsolek Melissa Nicole Martinez Alex Gordon Mason Henry William McCorristin Andrew Gabriel McNeely Danny Lynn McNeil Skyler Mitchell Miller Samantha Nicole Miskin Craig Jonathan Mitchell Christopher Joseph Moffat Gavin Kenneth Musselman Russell William Nelson Chelsea Angel Nielsen John Aric Paul Nope Charles Christopher Norton Scott Charles Nowell Caleb Spencer Olson David Daniel Osmond Cody Dennis Partridge J Ryan Pavia Kenneth Scott Jr Petty Brandon Ted Pfau Logan Scott Pope Ryen Wilson Potter Travis Earl Ramos Joshua Elliot Randall Brandon Alma Reed Keylee Page Reed Teven Gentry Reed Ty Jordan Regaladosuarez Jonathan Richey Travis Larry Riddle Peter Hereward Rigby Jeffrey Dabell Robertson Joshua Clark Rodriguez Alina Ramos Sauer Nicholas Sean Scheid Jared Micah Schermerhorn Keith Allen Shurtz Logan Scot Singleton Jesse Aaron Smith Weston Charles Soto Michael Spears Kristen Laura Sperry Jereme Austin

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Rugebregt Benjamin Marco Scales Tyler James Scrivaninelson Sidney Searcy Brayden Thomas Sevy Austin Vaughn Smith William Harrison Spencer Dillon Daitatsu Spoerri Tristan August Stamp Bryce Alex Stephenson Jack William Swan Zachary Paul Taylor Caiden Phillip Thompson Joseph Robert Tryon Christopher Warren Tuikolongahau Asipeli Ikama Upshaw Danae Nicole . Uribe Oscar Omar Valdez Anthony Mario Vanroosendaal Jacob C Vargas Moises Jon Villarreal Olivia Marcella Warwood Andrew Jason White McKade Bryan Whitlock Jaden Ryan Wickel Aaron Scott Wilson Spencer Harris Wilson Trent Randall Wright Connor Scott Wright Russell Morgan Zimmermann Colby Justin Zitting Stephen Clayne

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Curtis Jase Nathen Downward Shadrick Shawn Drouet Antonio Dante **Dunn Connor Willis** Elmer James R D Flores Marc Anthony Flygare Casey Leo Frazee Christian Taylor Fuentes Anthony Galassi Alexus Leighann Goldman David Matthew Gomez Gerardo Ruvalcaba Grenz Dayna Lavon Hammond Zackary Oberon Harrell Andrew Rolla Hellon Meshell Shauri Helm Kolton Russ Houchin Wade Loren James Devin Louis Jeffs Ian Barlow Johnson Jarom Carlon King Wyatt Harrison Kroll Alyssa Louise Kunsman Richard Michael Kurtz Alexander Paul Lambson Jeremy Edward Larsen Collin Archie Leavitt Jayden Andrew Lewis Erika Sage Lopez Diquan Joseph McBride Riley Morgan Monson Kristopher Jorge Morrison Myles Jack Nelson Eric Dean Pantaleon Samantha Perry Paul Daniel Petersen Colton Charles Peterson Travis Lee Phalen Tyler Joseph Pham Viet Ky Robb Zachurey Myles Rollins Braeden Rance Rosebaugh Jacob Tyler Sinthavy Vinai Penn Tindell Kylie Christine Whited Breanne Elizabeth Whittaker Richard Dean

Williams Andrew Michael Young Kawika Alma James

PRIVATE (PV2) Ajayi Ayoola Adisa Allred Jesse Devon Anderson Halleyann Bliss Anderson Tyler James Arnold Aaron Russell Bahr Preston Michael Baker Emilee Shirley Barker Brantley Beaux **Barrett Bradley Dennis** Bennett Jason Garn Binschus Kameron Fredrick Bradford Jordan Kline

Bradshaw Calli Cooper Broadway Jacob Scott Brown Mariaann Nombres Burns Gilbert Michael Carrazcohernandez Diego E Chadburn Jacob Morgan Christie Carter Keanu Clayson Tyler Timothy Coe Jonathan Kevin Condie Michael Lorin Cooper Dalton Allen Curtis Joshua Reed Davis Jeffrey Glenn Jr Day Warren Tyler Deleon Monica Anne Fordham Michael Conner Francis David Andrew Gethers Devon Eric Goddard Autumn Nicole Grant Tanner Martin Griffith Ronald Jeffrey Jr Guadarrama Frederick A Haws Bradley Samuel Hernandez Jake Edward Hernandez Tierra Richelle Hickenlooper Jason Kern Horlacher David Joseph Huber Nathan Samuel Hutchings Garrett Reece Inglet Ashton Tyrell Jackson Garrett Adam

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# 640th RTI Hosts Head Shaving for Young Cancer Patient

Story by Command Sgt. Maj. William Ewert

CAMP WILLIAMS, Utah — Kyley Cornwell, daughter of Staff Sgt. Brian Cornwell, 1st Battalion, 640th Regiment-Regional Training Institute, Warrior Leadership Course instructor, begins cancer treatment Sept. 23.

Kyley has a very aggressive and rare form of cancer that attacks young children. She has undergone two major surgeries prior to this, and is doing well considering her situation.

Soldiers and friends show support to Kyley and what she will soon be going through, by shaving their hair in support of her pending hair loss. The head-shaving haircuts took place on the 640th RTI drill floor Sept. 22.



Utah National Guard's 640th Regiment, Regional Training Institue Soldiers, along with family and friends of Staff Sgt. Brian Cornwell, host a headshaving event to support his daughter, Kyley, as she begins cancer treatment.

White Jaymon Phil





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