

UTAH MINUTEMAN

Fall/Winter 2016



116th Engineers and 159th Aviation return from deployment

65th FAB and 204th MEB conduct large-scale, annual trainings in remote locations

Utah Guard's first female general officer selected to command Utah Air National Guard

EXPERTS NEEDED!



With the right MOS, you may qualify to become a Warrant Officer!

WOMOS	Warrant Officer Title	Enlisted Feeder MOS
120A	Construction Engineer Technician.....	12H, K, N, P, Q, R, T, W
125D	Geospatial Engineering Technician.....	12Y, 35F, 35G
131A	Field Artillery Targeting Technician.....	11C, 13B, D, F, M, P, R, T
140A	Command and Control Systems Technician.....	14G, 14H, 14S
140E	Air and Missile Defense (AMD) Tactician/Technician (Patriot Systems Technician).....	14E, 14H, 14T, 94S
150A	Air Traffic Control Technician.....	15Q
150U	Tactical Unmanned Aerial System (TUAS) Operation Technician.....	15E, 15W
151A	Aviation Maintenance Technician.....	All CMF 15 MOS (Excluding 15P & 15Q)
153A	Rotary Wing Aviation.....	All MOS's
170A	Cyber Operations Technician.....	Preferred CMF 25 & 35 MOS
180A	Special Forces Warrant Officer.....	All CMF 18 MOS
255A	Information Services Technician.....	All MOS's (must have 4 years IT experience IAW prerequisites)
255N	Network Management Technician.....	All MOS's (must have 4 years IT experience IAW prerequisites)
270A	Legal Administrator.....	27D
290A	Electronic Warfare Technician.....	29E, 25B, 25E, or 13F with ASI 1J
311A	CID Special Agent.....	31D
350F	All Source Intelligence Technician.....	35F
350G	GEOINT Imagery Technician.....	35G
351L	Counterintelligence Technician.....	35L
351M	Human Intelligence Collection Technician.....	35M
325N	SIGINT Analysis Technician.....	35N, 35P, 35Q
325S	Signals Collection Technician.....	35S, 35Q
353T	Military Intelligence Systems Maintenance/Integration Technician.....	35T
420A	Human Resources Technician.....	42A/42F
420C	Bandmaster.....	All CMF 02 MOS's (All CMF 42R and 42S)
640A	Veterinary Services Food Safety Officer.....	68R, 68S
670A	Health Services Maintenance Technician.....	68A
740A	Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN) Technician.....	74D
880A	Marine Deck Officer.....	88K
881A	Marine Engineering Officer.....	88L, 12P, w/ASI S2
882A	Mobility Officer.....	88N, 88M, 88H
890A	Ammunition Warrant Officer.....	89A, 89B, 89D
913A	Armament Systems Maintenance Warrant Officer.....	91F, 91A, M, P, S
914A	Allied Trades Warrant Officer.....	91E
915A	Automotive Maintenance Warrant Officer.....	91A, B, C, D, H, L, M, P, S, X
919A	Engineer Equipment Maintenance Warrant Officer.....	91B, C, D, H, J, L, X
920A	Property Accounting Technician.....	92Y, 68J
920B	Supply Systems Technician.....	92A
921A	Airdrop Systems Technician.....	92R
922A	Food Service Technician.....	92G, 68M
923A	Petroleum System Technician.....	92F, 92L, and 92W
948B	Electronic Systems Maintenance Warrant Officer.....	94D, E, F, H, M, R, W, Y, & Z (25S/with waiver only)
948D	Electronic Missile Systems Maintenance Warrant Officer.....	94A, M, P, S, T, X, & Z

Additional details on qualified MOSs, please visit
<http://www.usarec.army.mil/hq/warrant>

For more information contact your
Warrant Officer Strength Manager.
 801.432.4900



Photo by Sgr. 1st Class Stacey Berg

Major General Jefferson Burton The Adjutant General

Fellow warriors and family members:

As is my custom, I take a moment every day to reflect on what I am grateful for. First and foremost, I think of you and of your individual family members. The sacrifices that you make, often without fanfare or even acknowledgment, continue to humble me. I am aware of the challenges associated with uniformed service, which requires complete devotion to maintaining a state of readiness in answering our nation's call. It is a sacred trust, and one that is equally shared between service and family members. Personal and family readiness are essential to our success as we enter a new era of global instability. Pay close attention to your levels of physical, mental, emotional and family fitness. Develop your own "maintenance checklist," as you seek to balance your personal and family life.

The future looks no less daunting than our recent past. Emerging threats, coupled with old ones, will keep the United States military extremely busy for as long as you wear the uniform. To put it simply, the world is more volatile, uncertain, complex and ambiguous than it was yesterday and will continue to present dynamic global challenges that we must face and solve. One of my favorite adages is that you must "bring all of your brain to work" every single day. In the digital age in which we live, response times have been shortened, while threat levels have increased. We must be able to respond more rapidly than ever before, and that creates an environment where we must be forward thinking. We must have a vision of what our future conflicts will look like, and prepare now to meet those challenges. Living on past accomplishments will NOT ensure a positive future. Consistency, excellence, adaptability, innovation and flexibility will determine our outcomes. As members of the profession of arms it is our sacred duty to be ready. As our Army Chief of Staff often states, "There is no 2nd place in combat." Either we win, or we lose; the latter is incomprehensible and we will not let that happen—ever.

The State Command Sergeant Major and I recently returned from visiting one of our great Special Operations warriors who lost both legs during combat operations in Afghanistan this past year. It was inspiring to talk to this amazing young man who still possesses the warrior spirit

and desires to stay in uniform, in spite of his new physical challenges. He gets up every morning and does physical training, as he rehabilitates his body. He pushes through the pain, because he is a man of excellence. His example of resilience is one we all need to emulate!

In the past few months, elements of B Company, 1st Battalion, 19th Special Forces Group, have returned from combat operations in Afghanistan and security and stability operations in Jordan. They performed with valor and sustained casualties under some extremely difficult conditions. Teams from the 141st and 142nd Military Intelligence Battalions of the 300th MI Brigade have returned from operations in Iraq where they were "game changers" in the fight to defeat militant Islam. Within a few days, two more of our Army units will return from deployment, the 5-159th Aviation Medical Detachment and the 116th Engineer Company (Horizontal). Our aviators have served with distinction in Afghanistan, where they were involved in the medical evacuation of wounded warriors while under fire. They performed magnificently! Our engineers were forward deployed to Kuwait, and sent teams into Iraq and Afghanistan in support of sustainment and combat operations. They received accolades from their commanders for their innovation, bravery and excellence. Our Air National Guard Warriors are as busy as they have ever been, with elements of the 151st Air Refueling Wing's Mission Support Group, Operations Group and the Maintenance Group recently returning from deployments in Central Command supporting the war fight. These stories of outstanding performance and resilience are nothing new for the Utah National Guard. They are business as usual.

As we face the future we need to do it with our eyes wide open. We are members of the greatest fighting force that this world has ever known, and with that comes great responsibility. The citizens of our nation, and indeed the world, depend on our capability and resolve, and we will not fail them. Our priorities are: 1) **Readiness**—preparing for the current fight, 2) **Future Fight**—being ready now for the challenges of the future, and 3) **Taking Care of Service Members and Families**—now and always. I know that we are equal to the task, and that together we can accomplish any mission. ONE TEAM!

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Pfc. Joshua Kumpf, 118th Sapper Company, 1457th Engineer Battalion prepares a hazard tree for demolition as a part of training that was coordinated through the U.S. Forest Service to remove old and diseased trees, at Strawberry Reservoir, Utah, June 9.

Photo by Sgt. 1st Class John Etheridge



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Stacey Berg

Command Sergeant Major Michael Miller Senior Enlisted Comments

Often times we look back at the past, and in our profession, it is remembered by those who serve to the left and right of us. One of the most remarkable things about our responsibilities is that we are afforded the great opportunity to accomplish our mission with individuals that share the same values, commitment, and level of service to others, which is bigger than any one individual. We are the best fighting force in the world because of our service members, our profession, and the support of many.

This past quarter the majority of our units completed their yearly collective training, while others were executing real-world missions around the globe. No matter the event, our service members continue to prepare and execute at a very high level of proficiency.

As mentioned in previous posts, one of the most humbling opportunities the leadership gets to be part of, is hearing the accolades or witnessing the work of Utah Guard members. A few examples of great work is the 151st Refueling Wing achieving unbelievable marks on a recent inspection; 2nd Battalion, 211th Aviation training at the Beaver County Local Training Area; 204th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade at Strawberry; or the 116th Engineer Company leaving Kuwait and returning home after a very successful year. What is it that separates our force from others? It is my opinion, that our members and our supporters put their personal needs aside to ensure the team succeeds. We work to no end to ensure those by our side are safe and successful, and we understand we will accomplish the mission by living our service values. As a cohesive team, we know we're stronger together. Every member is needed, every member is counted on. Yet, every member has to be trained, disciplined, and committed.

It is a continuous cycle; we train and become more proficient at the individual level so when we get into the

platoon, company, or flight-mission sets, our team is able to meet the mark—the collective objective.

As I traveled around this past summer, I was once again very impressed with each unit and the level at which they were executing. Can we get better? Absolutely. But, it is awesome to see firsthand our units performing their collective mission, building from the Soldier, or the Airmen, to achieve unit success. In addition to the training, we are making memories, building relationships and esprit de corps that further strengthens our team. Some of our fondest memories are of training events that were challenging, where we got very little sleep, or the weather was not so pleasant. It may take a year or a decade to look back and remember the event as a positive one, but no matter the time, if we put all we have into the training, it will be a memorable one.

We have something special in our noncommissioned officer corps in Utah. I get the fortunate opportunity to put the uniform on each day and serve with great leaders, Soldiers, Airmen, and families. I know, and I am confident those on my left and my right can be trusted; we share the same common values and goals—when called upon our members will be ready to put their personal needs aside to ensure the team succeeds. This, in turn, affords our great state and nation the confidence that our units are trained, proficient, and can be counted on to perform our mission. I challenge each of you to be a leader with character, confidence, and with the commitment to be ready so our team will continue to be successful, yet create an atmosphere that will build positive memories. Remember the team needs you—we need every team member in order for us to be special.

What we do today will affect tomorrow; make the most of today.



116th Engineer Company Home After 10-Month Deployment

SALT LAKE CITY — Excited chatter poured from the open hangar as the crowd grew more anxious. Hundreds of family members, friends and loved ones of Soldiers serving with the 116th Engineer Company were buzzing with excitement in the pre-dawn darkness at the Utah Air National Guard's Roland Wright Air Base ready to welcome their Soldiers home from Kuwait Aug. 27.

As the plane carrying nearly 130 Soldiers finally came to a halt in front of the open hangar, cheers erupted and the crowd's excitement could not be contained any longer.

After shaking hands with Utah National Guard senior leadership who had come to welcome them home, one by one the Soldiers found their loved ones in the crowd and the collective delight surrounding the 116th's return gave way to hundreds of intimate moments of joy shared between Soldiers and those they hadn't seen for more than 10 months.

Capt. Ryan Johnson, commander of the 116th Engineer Company, 1457th Engineer Battalion, 204th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade, was met by his wife Michelle and their three exuberant children. Johnson expressed joy at being home, and described the deployment, his second, as a success.



Soldiers from the 116th Engineer Company return to the Utah Air National Guard's Roland Wright Air Base after spending 10-months deployed to Kuwait. The approximately 130 Soldiers were greeted by a large crowd of family, friends and fellow Guard members who excitedly awaited their arrival Aug. 27.

Photos by Sgt. 1st Class John Etheridge, Staff Sgt. Annie Edwards and Ileen Kennedy



"We were staged in Kuwait and forward deployed to six countries in the Middle East, providing horizontal-engineer support throughout Army Central's and Central Command's [areas of responsibility]," he said. Johnson's unit completed more than 65 construction projects and work orders while deployed.

"We partnered with the Kuwaiti army on the construction of an anti-tank ditch along the Iraq-Kuwait border," he said, discussing the highlights of his unit's accomplishments. "We also improved airstrips or increased runway capacity. We did a lot of counter-mobility obstacles as well as drainage improvements throughout Kuwait," said Johnson.

Coordinating so many elements across such an expansive area of operations was particularly challenging.

"It was really tough. Luckily we had a very strong headquarters section that was able to do the logistical side and help streamline the process. Being able to track all the different people and missions we had going on, all at the same time was very demanding, but we had a great team that was able to do very well."

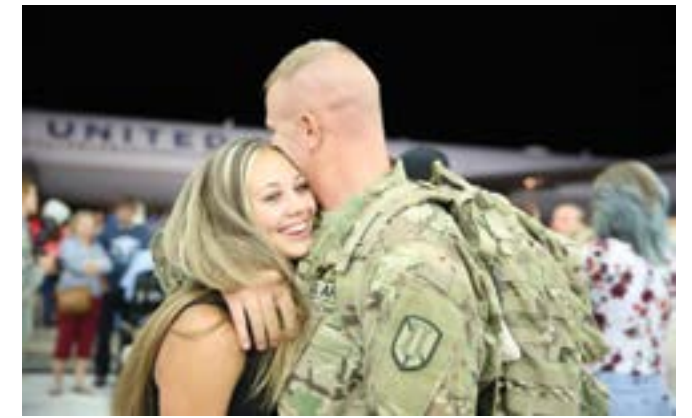
Spc. Fofaivoese Ungor of Tooele, Utah, who serves as the company medic with the 116th, was responsible for making sure Soldiers stayed healthy. Coming home from this, her first deployment, was surreal, she said.

"I don't feel like I'm quite home yet," Ungor said, surrounded by her family. "I feel like it's a dream, but I'm really happy that I'm home. I missed everyone... Being back with my family is just the best thing that's ever happened to me."

Michelle Johnson, wife of Capt. Johnson, was happy to have her husband home, and admitted that keeping everything going on the home front has its ups and downs.

"Sometimes time goes so fast and you can't believe it's already been six months," she said. "Other days it's like, 'When is this day going to be over?' But it was good overall. You just wait for him and pass time the best you can." 📧

Story by 1st Sgt. Brock Jones



5-159th Medevac Soldiers Reunite with Their Families Following 10-Month Deployment

SALT LAKE CITY — Salt Lake International Airport’s Terminal 1 buzzed with excitement Aug. 15, 2016, as family and friends of Soldiers with Detachment 2, Charlie Company, 5th Battalion, 159th Aviation Regiment, Utah National Guard, waited for their loved ones’ long-anticipated return. Cheers erupted over the usual airport noise as the first Soldiers passed from the secure side of the airport into the arms of those whom they had left 10 months earlier.

A young girl in a red, white and blue dress could not contain her excitement when she saw her dad, Sgt. Joe Shelley, coming toward her, smiling broadly. She ducked under the safety strap barricade and ran to him. Shelley, a flight paramedic with the 5-159th, returning from his second deployment, scooped her up in a long embrace. He admitted that coming home was both wonderful and a little surreal.

“It’s going to take a while to sink in,” he said. “This is what we do this for, so we can come home and enjoy the freedoms that we have.”

The anxious energy in the terminal continued to rise as more of the 15 returning Soldiers came into view. Morgan May waited for her fiancé, Spc. Josh Barsdorf, holding a sign that read “I’d wait forever but 303 days is long enough!” She was barely able to contain her emotions as she waited for her Soldier, and for good reason: not only had she been apart from Barsdorf for 10 months, they were hoping to get married as soon as possible.

“We got engaged two weeks before he left,” May said. “So we’ve been engaged for 10 months.” Waiting for Barsdorf to return has been the longest months of her life, May said. “But he’s worth it. Like my sign says, I’d wait forever but I’m glad that it’s over.” May said this deployment was Barsdorf first, and hopefully his only, though she readily admitted that such is the life of a Soldiers’ wife and family.

The returning Soldiers arrived in Utah on two separate flights, the second flight arriving in Utah just before midnight. Staff Sgt. George Young, a Black Hawk crew chief, was the lone Soldier with the 5-159th on the second flight. Getting to Utah so late, and nearly four hours after the main group, was a little inconvenient, but it also served to



benefit plans that Young’s wife, Zoey, had made to surprise their children the next day during a Salt Lake Bees baseball game.

The plan went off without a hitch. Midway through the second inning, Zoey and her three children walked out onto the first base side of Smith’s Ballpark under the guise that they were being honored for their dad’s service. After recognition by the announcer and the crowd, a video message from Young to his family played on the scoreboard. As the children watched their dad on the screen, Young ran up behind them and pulled them all into a surprise embrace.

“It was awesome,” Young said afterward. “We wanted to make something memorable for the kids, something that they can look back on and remember.” Young had spent his entire first day home without seeing his kids, trying to keep the secret of his return from getting out.

“The waits been way hard. I just wanted to go pick them up and grab them,” he said.

As he waited in one tunnel at Smith’s Ballpark for his cue to run onto the field knowing his family was just yards away in

Staff Sgt. George Young surprises his kids at a Salt Lake Bees baseball game Aug. 16.



another tunnel, Young said he felt both nervous and excited. After the emotional reunion in front of thousands of spectators at the game, he said he was glad the wait was over. “You think as a Soldier you’ve felt all these nerves before, doing the things that we do, but just seeing the kids again...I was pretty nervous but there’s a lot of excitement as well.”

Sgt. 1st Class David Openshaw, NCOIC of the 5-159th, summed up his unit’s deployment. “We hit the ground running and spread our Soldiers thin out to various sites throughout [Afghanistan]. We conducted a little over 150 deliberate operations supporting Train Advise and Assist Command-South,” he said. “This is a great group of guys and gals... I’m glad they’re all back with their families and can relax a little bit and spend some time with their loved ones.”



Returning Soldiers from Detachment 2, C Company, 5th Battalion, 159th Aviation Regiment are greeted by loved ones upon their return after a 10-month deployment Aug. 16.



The 5-159th’s leadership expressed pride in the unit’s

professionalism and joy at having all the Soldiers home. Command Sgt. Maj. Anthony Shaw, senior enlisted leader of 2nd Battalion, 211th Aviation Regiment, mingled with the families of his returning Soldiers, staying at the airport until the last Soldier, Young, had returned and the terminal no longer hummed with excitement.

“One of the key things these Soldiers do is save lives in critical situations. They are the best at what they do,” Shaw said. “During their deployment they had critical situations where they made life decisions for other Soldiers as well as themselves. As battalion CSM, I couldn’t be prouder of their actions during this year in theater.”

Story and photos by 1st Sgt. Brock Jones



Utah Medevac Soldiers Come Under Fire in Afghanistan

KANDAHAR, Afghanistan — Knowing one Black Hawk was down and injured Soldiers were still in a firefight, Utah National Guard's 5-159th Aviation Medevac Soldiers were willing and eager to rescue and evacuate the injured in Marjah, Helmand Province, Afghanistan Jan. 5.

"It's what we do," was the sentiment of the pilots and crew on board the Black Hawk. "We are just thinking of the job that needs to be done."

Training kicks in when you fly into the aftermath of a battle. The firefight is a second thought to the mission at hand when lives hang in the balance.

Utah's 5-159th Aviation Commander, Capt. William Grimshaw and Staff Sgt. George Young, pilot and crew chief respectively, of the UH-60 Black Hawk, flew the mission to rescue those wounded in Marjah.

As they approached the area for pick up, their Black Hawk sustained considerable damage from incoming small-arms fire. One round passed just above Grimshaw's shoulder, barely missing him, but struck the aircraft just behind Young's neck. Another round embedded into the aircraft in front of Young's face, spitting shrapnel out and striking Young in his neck.

"I felt something hit my neck, and I didn't know what it was, but I knew I was breathing," said Young. "Unfortunately, when I turned to look back at my medic it opened up the scar and blood started pouring out, and it swelled up to about the size of a golf ball."

The medic on board quickly stepped into action assessing the damage and condition of Young while they were still under fire and inflight.

"They cut all my stuff off, so now I didn't have a shirt or vest and it was January," said Young. "They asked me if I felt OK to go back in and I said yes, absolutely, let's go get these guys."

But they wouldn't get the opportunity to complete the mission. It would be passed to another crew, but not until more than 18 hours passed with the Special Forces Soldiers and Black Hawk crew pinned down under heavy fire.

An order was given to discontinue attempts at recovering the downed aircrew and patients; and the decision was made to soften the area with bombing and other airborne assets before recovery efforts could begin again.

"The decision was made to wait until dark," said Grimshaw. "They tried to eliminate enemy fighters from the compound."

The enemy fighters had surrounded the compound so F16s, an AC-130 and around 300 ground-force Soldiers were brought in to secure the area.

"They [the U.S. Forces] started bombing the ever-living crap out of the compounds," said Grimshaw. "They brought

in an AC-130, then put in over 300 people to secure the area as soon as darkness fell, but for 18 hours we lost three birds and didn't recover a single patient."

The first two helicopters responding to the area flew in together. The first one landed in the compound but then, for whatever reason, the main rotor blades hit the wall rendering it unable to fly. The second aircraft was hovering a short distance away; as it approached to attempt a landing it was attacked, and under heavy fire, sustained damage when forced it to divert to the nearest base.

"The second aircraft in that flight is the one that received extensive battle damage and had to fly home before it basically fell out of the sky," said Grimshaw. "We were the third responding aircraft."

The first two helicopters were stationed at Marjah, the area where the intense fire fight was going on.

"When the helicopter was disabled in the compound and the other one had received massive amounts of battle damage," explained Grimshaw, "that's when they had preemptively launched us from Kandahar, which was a long way away, so we had about a 25- to 35-minute flight into the area."

The Apache helicopter that was escorting and providing covering fire for the first two Black Hawks was still in the area as Grimshaw and Young's Black Hawk approached Marjah.

"As we got into the area we started talking with the Apaches and they helped walk us in," said Grimshaw.

"Unfortunately, they had low fuel and a mechanical issue right as we were on final approach to attempt a landing, so that first landing that we went in to do was completely unguarded by any attack asset."

The Apache left the area literally seconds before the Black Hawk's arrival. The Black Hawk pilots decided to use a building as cover and go in to try to get everyone out. They had been informed that the rounds hitting the second aircraft had been coming from the north.

"Our attempt to use the building as cover based on what we knew was a good idea, but it didn't work," said Grimshaw. "On our approach we received a lot of fire from an area that no one was discussing; all the fire was coming from the north and we were shot from the south."

The Black Hawk pulled back, hovered and waited for Apaches to arrive so they could make another attempt to land.

"Once we came off and established Sgt. Young was good to continue, we held at an area waiting," said Grimshaw. "As another set of Apaches were on their way to us and we were holding there waiting for those other Apaches to arrive to escort us in, that's when we were ordered to leave the area and go back to the FOB [forward operating base]."



Left to right: Staff Sgt. George Young, crew chief, Utah National Guard; Chief Warrant Officer 2 Jason Hartley, pilot, Wyoming National Guard; Staff Sgt. Tyler Neff, medic, WYNG; Sgt. Sarah Van Horn, medic, WYNG; Capt. William Grimshaw, co-pilot, UTNG, prior to leaving Marjah to return to their home base in Kandahar.

Photo courtesy of Capt. William Grimshaw

By this time Young's neck injury started to swell and bleed so it was decided to transport him to the hospital even though he kept saying he was fine. Young put his vest back on for warmth and protection, his shirt and jacket were destroyed when they were cut off.

"They ended up deciding to take me to the hospital, and I was terrified that the round that fragged me might have gone through our strut, and that's what holds the helicopter up," said Young. "So when we were landing, I'm hanging out the window, no shirt on, bullet proof vest on and my gun, making sure my strut doesn't collapse. It was funny, so the running joke of the deployment was, I was Rambo."

Young was extremely lucky the shrapnel embedded in his neck didn't hit a main artery.

"We were about 15 minutes out from any type of medical facilities. If it would have hit my artery I would have been done, I think, I don't know, it's hard to stop that kind of bleeding," said Young. "It was close, they cut in there [pointing to the scar on his neck] and dug in there pretty good."

"We didn't actually accomplish our mission because we didn't get anybody out," said a very somber Grimshaw.

"Those guys stayed there for 18 more hours on the ground."

The fallen Special Forces Soldier from Buckley, Washington, Staff Sgt. Matthew McClintock, Engineer sergeant for Operational Detachment Alpha 9115, Alpha Company, 1st Battalion, 19th Special Forces Group (Airborne) was killed while working with Afghan forces to retake part of Marjah. Two other service members and several Afghan troops were wounded in the fighting.

"We can confirm a U.S. helicopter has landed in Marjah, Helmand Province, and is experiencing mechanical problems. It was not shot down," said Army Col. Michael Lawhorn, Director of Public Affairs at Resolute Support and U.S. Forces Afghanistan.

"One U.S. service member died as a result of wounds sustained during operations near Marja in Helmand Province. Additionally, two U.S. service members were wounded," Brig. Gen. Wilson Shoffner said in a statement. "We are deeply saddened by this loss. Our heartfelt sympathies go out to the families and friends of those involved."

Grimshaw and Young were both awarded the Air Medal with Valor. Young also received the Purple Heart. 🇺🇸

Story by Ileen Kennedy



MEDCOM Provides Free Medical Services During Health Fair at Ibabah Powwow

IBAPAH, Utah — **T**he Confederated Tribes of the Goshute Reservation on the Utah-Nevada border honored the Utah Army National Guard Medical Command with traditional song and dance during a collaborative health fair and multi-tribal powwow, Aug. 6.

This collaborative and festive two-day event was the first of its kind. It brought the UTARNG and the Utah Department of Health together to provide free immunizations, vision and dental check-ups, medical exams, blood work and education on diabetes to Utah’s Native American tribes.

There was a sense of excitement when the truck containing the immunizations pulled into the community. Members of the tribal council applauded as the cooler full of vaccines was carried into the tent where they would be administered.

Native American in full regalia during a multi-tribal powwow in Ibabah, Utah, near the Utah-Nevada border Aug. 6.

“We started the day with a one-year-old,” said Sgt. Heidi Berdan, a patient administrative sergeant operating at the check-in portion of the clinic. “But we’ve seen children as young as four-months old, to elders who are over 70-years old.”

An event like this is special because a lot of the Native American communities don’t have water readily accessible, let alone essential medical services, Berdan explained. Ibabah is unique because it’s one of the few communities in the area that has a running stream. Out of the approximately 600 members of the Goshute tribe, 200 of them live in the community, which is over an hour away from the nearest hospital.

“Health is very important for all of us. Sometimes when you are far away from access to health care, it’s nice the Guard can come out and provide some of those health services,” said Dr. Joseph K. Miner, executive director of the Utah Health Department. “I’m thrilled to be here, to experience the culture and the wonderful people we collaborate with.”



Maj. Ken Lord, MEDCOM ophthalmologist, helps five-year-old Doya Jorgensen test for refractive errors in the eye.



Staff Sgt. Dan Andrews, a medic, tests blood during a health fair and multi-tribal powwow at Ibabah, Utah.



Medic Sgt. David Swanson draws blood from a Native American tribe member during the free health fair Aug. 6.

Utah’s MEDCOM provided medical screenings for dozens of people who came to Ibabah for the powwow—some of whom traveled from as far as Nevada and Idaho—who in turn offered a taste of their culture with their unique dancing styles.

“We’re celebrating being united in a spiritual way through our traditional singing and dancing,” said Virgil Johnson, Confederated Tribes of Goshute chairman. “There are many tribes being represented today, and they are here to dance in the arena, to invite a certain feeling, and to bring people together. It’s something that’s traditional among Native Americans.”

All MEDCOM Soldiers present were invited to participate in an artistic parade called the “Grand Entry,” similar to an Olympic opening ceremony, where all of the individual groups of dancers are showcased and recognized in the arena. A Goshute elder carried an eagle staff into the arena at the head of the formation, a sacred symbol to the Native Americans similar to the American flag, which they affectionately call the “first American flag.” The drumming, dancing and celebrations continued late into the night.

“From the moment the helicopter landed, I have felt so welcomed,” said Col. Peter Taillac, a medical doctor who serves as the Utah National Guard state surgeon and is an emergency physician and educator at the University Hospital in Salt Lake City.

Taillac thanked the tribal council for giving the MEDCOM the opportunity to practice their essential medical skills.

“Setting up and using our equipment prepares us for other missions like this, and for our wartime missions as well,” Taillac said.



Native American dancers in traditional dress perform a ritual dance during the multi-tribal powwow and health fair.

That morning, members of all the individual tribes honored Brig. Gen. Val Peterson, commander of Land Component, and other military leaders, with a special “victory song,” performed by the White Bull Singers, and a dance by senior members of the tribe in traditional dress. Afterward, many of them took the time to shake Peterson’s hand, and thank him personally.

“It’s a pleasure to have you here to help our tribe,” said Zelda Jonny, vice chairman of the Confederated Tribes of Goshute. “I thank each and every one of you for coming out today.”

“If you haven’t figured it out already, the native people have a certain spirit about them,” Johnson said in a sit-down meeting with the Utah Division of Indian Affairs, UDH and UTARNG. “During the powwow, we honored the men and women of the Armed Forces in the arena with song and dance on their behalf, and they started to loosen up a little. And I would say, if you asked them, they felt of our spirit, a different spirit than the outside world, a native spirit.”

*Story by Spc. Nathaniel Free
Photos by Spc. Nathaniel Free and Staff Sgt. Richard Rapp*



Left to right: Col. David Coates, MEDCOM commander; Virgil Johnson, tribal chairman presented with a plaque of appreciation; Lt. Col. Pete Adams, event project officer; and Brig. Gen. Val Peterson, commander, Land Component Command.



The “grand entry” at the opening of the powwow is lead by a tribal elder carrying the eagle staff, the American flag carried by a Native American war Veteran, and the Utah National Guard’s MEDCOM in column formation.



Utah Engineers Serve Community While Training for Wartime Mission

STRAWBERRY RESERVOIR, Utah — Remodeled restrooms and upgraded roads will greet visitors this summer to recreational areas in and around Strawberry Reservoir thanks to a partnership between the Utah National Guard and the U.S. Forest Service. The 204th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade and its subordinate units performed the improvements from June 5-15, 2016, as part of its domestic-disaster-response-training mission during its annual training.

The 1457th Engineer Battalion took the lead on the remodels and road upgrades. Its engineer companies improved and rerouted roughly a half-mile of dirt road at Mud Creek and

Above: Soldiers with the 204th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade compete in the 5th Annual James Thode Remembrance Ruck March at Strawberry Reservoir, June 12. The annual race honors the service and sacrifice of Sgt. 1st Class James Thode who served with the brigade's 118th Sapper Company and was killed in Afghanistan in 2010. Below: Soldiers with the 118th Sapper Company prepare to detonate explosives to hazard trees as a part of demolition training that was coordinated through the U.S. Forest Service to remove old and diseased trees at Strawberry Reservoir, June 9. Sgt. Jonathan Stotts and Spc. Miguel Torres, both from the 118th Sapper Company, attach an explosive charge to a hazard tree.



renovated three restroom facilities at Renegade and Soldier Creek boat ramps and Aspen Grove campground.

The three restroom facilities all received complete, interior makeovers by Soldiers of the 624th Engineer Co.

“We are completely renovating the restroom,” said Sgt. 1st Class Jason Pierce, a platoon sergeant with the 624th, at the Renegade boat-ramp project. “We are replacing the tile, the fixtures, the paint, the partitions and installing all new plumbing.”

Pierce also said that his team worked hard to overcome the challenge of getting the right replacement materials at the beginning of the renovations, but he expected that the work crews would have most of the project finished by the last day.

The bulk of the roadwork was completed by the nearly depleted 116th Engineer Company. Most of the unit is currently deployed out of country so it had to overcome its personnel shortage to complete the project.

“Most of my Soldiers driving the heavy equipment here are mechanics,” said 1st Lt. Nickolas Blackham. “We’ve been cross training them for quite a while now to be able to complete this mission.”

The 118th Sapper Company and the 1457th Forward Support Company also helped to complete the road construction by replacing several culverts and cattle guards along the route.

Farther up Mud Creek, combat engineers with the 118th Sappers conducted demolition training on hazardous and diseased trees that had been previously identified by the Forest Service. This gave the engineers a rare training opportunity to create abatis obstacles. This is a technique that is created by fallen trees that have been interwoven across a path to prevent movement of vehicles through a corridor or a route.

“This is the first time we’ve been able to do tree operations since I’ve been in the unit, and I’ve been here for 12 years,” said Staff Sgt. Dustin Stephens. “It’s great that the lower enlisted Soldiers are getting this training now. The experience will last their whole career.”

Capt. Lee Nitchman, commander of the 118th, described the training as a win-win for both the engineers and the U.S. Forest Service.

“While we benefit from the training, the Forest Service and the forest benefit from the removal of dead and diseased trees,” he said.

The large-scale construction operation required a hefty logistical- and distribution-support effort. The 489th Brigade Support Battalion provided the much-needed construction material and other supplies and services to keep the operation going.

“When you break it down, we are supporting 550 Soldiers throughout the brigade with potable water for all the kitchens



Soldiers with A Company, 489th Brigade Support Battalion, in conjunction with the 1457th Engineer Battalion and 2-211th Aviation Regiment, conduct sling-load operations June 10, at Strawberry Reservoir.



Spc. Kevin Gwilliam from the 624th Engineer Company, 1457 Engineer Battalion, uses a wet saw to cut a section of concrete as part of a renovation project on a restroom facility at the Renegade Point Marina, Strawberry Reservoir, June 8.



Medics with the 204th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade cross train with medical personnel from the University of Utah AirMed at Strawberry Reservoir, June 13.



Soldiers with the Forward Support Company, 1457th Engineer Battalion remove a cattle guard as part of upgrades to Mud Creek Road at Strawberry Reservoir, June 8. The roadwork is part of an interagency project between the Utah National Guard and the U.S. Forest Service allowing Utah Soldiers to train realistic, disaster-response operations while improving community recreation facilities. Soldiers with the 116th Engineer Company, 1457 Engineer Battalion excavate and prep the ground as part of upgrades to Mud Creek Road at Strawberry Reservoir, June 8.

and showers, and we are also supplying all the fuel and running the fuel points,” said Capt. Keisha Worthen, commander of A Company, 489th BSB. “This specific mission we have hauled all the plumbing and construction supplies that the 1457th is using for the bathroom renovations including copper wire, toilets, sinks, wood, fuel and any kind of rental property that is needed.”

In addition to the distribution efforts, the 489th had a water purification team set up on the shore of Strawberry Reservoir that provided the whole operation with potable water.

“This is the first time in Utah that we’ve been able to purify water from a natural source and use it for sustainment purposes,” said 1st Sgt. Justin Thomas from A Company, 489th. “They’ve been running operations close to 18 hours per day at the water site.”

During the operation, the 489th was also able to train in other aspects of its distribution mission. Along with the 1457th and the 211th Aviation Regiment, the 489th practiced helicopter sling-load operations. The Soldiers practiced hooking up and unhooking various types of loads to the bottom of UH-60 Black Hawk helicopters that were airlifted across Strawberry Reservoir.

Headquarters and Headquarters Company of the 204th, in addition to providing command and control for the entire construction operation, also had the opportunity to train in its military- and disaster-response mission.

The headquarters staff officers participated in a Domestic Operations exercise in which they had to respond to a simulated-earthquake-disaster scenario. The exercise was designed to allow the staff to practice the decision-making process of accomplishing a state-headquarters-directed, domestic mission through its subordinate units.



“The exercise was meant to identify any gaps, lack of resources, and any missing parts that we might come across in a domestic-operations situation,” said 1st Lt. Phillip Sievers, with the 204th liaison office.

As a part of the domestic disaster-response training, the HHC medical staff and other medics throughout the brigade had an opportunity to cross train with the University of Utah Air Med team. The Air Med team and the Army medics spent the day familiarizing themselves with the different types of equipment and different medical techniques each of them used in case they need to work together in a future operation.

“Ultimately the goal of this training is that if we ever have to respond to a civilian emergency, that our medics will be able to give emergency care and transfer patients as seamlessly as possible to our civilian counterparts,” said Capt. Kristopher Carlile, the 204th’s medical training officer. “This is the first time that I know of that our medics have had the opportunity to do civilian-air-ambulance operations. It’s exciting for them to be able to train with their peers on the civilian side.”

The construction operation and domestic exercise concluded nearly a year’s worth of interagency planning. It also gave the Soldiers of the 204th invaluable training in their military duties and increased their domestic-response capabilities by working alongside the U.S. Forest Service and Wasatch County agencies.

“I want them to be able to train in their military tasks and be proficient at that, but I also want them to feel like they are serving their state and nation,” said Col. Thomas Fisher, commander of the 204th. “To come out on Forest Service land and be able to do our military tasks, and serve the dual benefit of doing something that the Forest Service needs in order to make this a great place to recreate for our citizens— what a great thing for all of us.”

Story and photos by Sgt. 1st Class John Etheridge

Engineer Soldiers’ Employers Attend a Boss Lift to Strawberry



Employers visit 204th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade Soldiers during their annual training at Strawberry Reservoir, June 11. Employers were able to visit with their employee-Soldier and watch as the Soldiers improved roadways, cleared dead trees, and renovated restrooms for the U.S. Forest Service.

WASATCH COUNTY, Utah — Seventeen civilian employers, supervisors and bosses of Soldiers from the 204th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade, 1457th Engineer Battalion, participated in a Boss Lift at Strawberry Reservoir June 11.

The event, which was coordinated by the Utah Chapter of the Employer Support for the Guard and Reserve (ESGR), allowed the bosses to see their employees in action during military training.

“The Boss Lift is a great opportunity to show employers the unique skills and leadership traits Soldiers gain by being a member of the Utah Army National Guard,” said 1st Lt. Corey Lewis, who serves as a training officer for the 1457th. “Boss Lifts provide employers with valuable ESGR-program information and insight into the lives of their Soldiers; hopefully building support and advocacy for Guard and Reserve Soldiers.”

Lewis explained further the 1457th had conducted a Boss Lift last autumn for one of their companies that deployed to Kuwait, and it was so successful another Boss Lift was incorporated into the battalion’s annual training plan.

“The focus of this AT was to execute the unit’s assigned state mission as part of a domestic-incident response-a simulated earthquake,” Lewis said. “It also afforded the



battalion an opportunity to renew its partnership with United States Department of Agriculture, and Forest Service as well as forge new partnerships with other state and local entities.”

“I didn’t really know what to expect or realize the amount of work Soldiers put in to their military job,” said Jason Owen, owner of Great Harvest in American Fork and Soldier employer to Spc. Theodore Schultz, who serves with the 118th Sapper Company as a combat engineer. “It’s been amazing to see what Theodore has done.”

The employers were flown from West Jordan to Mud Creek near Strawberry Reservoir in UH-60 Black Hawks. Employers were given an overview of the 1457th’s combined state, civil, military and community mission from battalion leadership as well as members of the USDA Forest Service.

“To be honest, I didn’t know what he did. I thought he went out and played Army,” explained Ryan Swapp, the plumbing director for BML Services, about what his employee, Sgt. Daniel Murdock did during his drill weekends and military leave.

“As an employer, when you have a big work load and short schedule it’s hard to lose a guy,” Swapp said. “But this gives me a better appreciation of what he does for us and makes me want to be more supportive.”

Employers were able to see training in a wide scope: they witnessed sling-load training conducted by the 1457th; road-construction operations by the 116th Engineers; demolition training by the 118th Sapper Company; maintenance, fueling and cooking operations at the Logistic Support Area with the Forward Support Company; and the 624th Engineers’ construction operations at two of the three restroom-renovation sites involving electrical, plumbing, and tile works.

“Coming up here and seeing it [the Guard] first hand has given me a completely different understanding of it,” said Owen. “I learned how important it is if there was a major accident or tragedy, and we really needed to rely on those resources. I wish more people could come up and see this, because I think they would want to let their employees have the time to do this and even pay them for it.”

“It’s a wonderful opportunity and it’s been good to have them come out and see what we do during our training,” said Sgt. Daniel Murdock, a carpenter and mason who serves with the 624th Engineer Company. “They don’t really get to know what we do, so this has been awesome for them to see it first-hand. With my employer knowing what I do for the military, I know it will strengthen their support for my service.”

Story and photos by Staff Sgt. Kristin Calderwood

Utah ESGR Boss Lift Bridges Gap Between Soldier and Employer

CAMP GUERNSEY, Wyo. — Several employers of Utah National Guardsmen disembarked aboard a C-130 airplane to Wyoming's Camp Guernsey Airport, May 17, for a Boss Lift hosted by the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR).

Citizen-Soldiers serving in the Army National Guard and Reserve have a unique lifestyle in which their duality of profession requires them to maintain a healthy balance as a Soldier and employee. The ESGR does many things to bridge the gap between Soldiers and their employers, including conducting Boss Lifts. A Boss Lift offers the employer an opportunity to empathize with their Soldier and gives Soldiers an opportunity to give their employer something back.



Employers and municipal leaders exit a C-130 aircraft to visit their Soldiers with the 65th Field Artillery Brigade and its subordinate units training at Camp Guernsey, Wyo., during a Boss Lift sponsored by the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR), May 17, 2016. Employers of Soldiers serving in the 65th Field Artillery Brigade and its subordinate units fire a Paladin howitzer.

Employers were able to embed with their Soldiers for several hours and shoot Paladin howitzers, eat a meal-ready-to-eat (MRE), ride in Humvees, and just hang out with their Soldier in a moment of down time.

“You definitely see your Soldier in a different light than what you usually see them in back in the office,” said Mark Hale, a certified public accountant with Hawkins Cloward & Simister, and a Star Valley, Wyo., native. Mark was present in support of his employee, Sgt. Brandon Lloyd, who serves as an artilleryman with Alpha Battery, 145th Field Artillery Regiment.

“Without a doubt, if you have a chance as an employer to come and experience this, you should take it,” Hale said. “You get to see what Soldiers go through, and it helps you to understand and appreciate what they do.”

Not only does the Boss Lift encourage a healthy relationship between boss and employee, it also creates memorable experiences that directly tie that civilian boss to the military, explained Sgt. Derrick Cowley, a Logan, Utah native who serves with the 214th Forward Support Company, 65th Field Artillery Brigade.

These memories that employers create with Soldiers bring positive feedback to the community, which ties the population directly to the military.

“It’s nice to see and experience what Brandon does with the military, and how the military trains and fights. You know we’re the most powerful fighting force in the world, and I can see why we are,” Hale said.

A day in the field with their Soldier gives a supervisor a birds-eye view into other abilities that their employee is capable of, Hale explained.

“Brandon is just a great guy; he’s very respectful to all of the people he talks to, and he serves our clients very well. I see that part of his personality coming through here in training,” Hale said. “But here he’s in a director role, and gives out commands, which usually isn’t the case back at the office. Here, he’s in charge of that gun, and he does it in a really awesome way.”

Cowley described one of the most difficult dynamics of being a citizen-Soldier is asking your employer for time off of work. There’s a deep feeling that you need to convince your employer and coworkers that what you’re doing is really important.

“With a realization it’s not really two weeks off of work, but two weeks of hard work, it helps a boss to see and really support their Soldier,” said Cowley. “It makes it easier for both parties, really. When the Soldier needs the time off for training and that

employer has been on a Boss Lift, they have no problem letting that Soldier go. In fact they’re happy to let him go.”

This is the second time that Cowley has brought his supervisors on a Boss Lift. He expressed deep gratitude for the efforts of the ESGR and for “those who have made this



A Paladin howitzer fires a 155mm artillery round at Camp Guernsey, Wyo. Spc. Blaine Florian, who serves with Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 145th Field Artillery Regiment points out an impact area to Mike Hale, an employer who was visiting his Soldier at Camp Guernsey, Wyo.

Story and photos by
Sgt. 1st Class Whitney Houston

History Made With Operation Gunsmoke

CAMP GUERNSEY, Wyo. — Whether by train, plane or automobile, more than 1,300 service members of the 65th Field Artillery Brigade converged on remote Camp Guernsey, Wyoming, for a historic annual-training event to be remembered—Operation Gunsmoke.

“Operation Gunsmoke is a concept that we started a few years ago with the brigade commander desiring to bring all of the units together to create a large-scale, field artillery training event, which has never been done before,” said Maj. Jeremy Williams, operations officer, 65th FAB. “This was a very unique opportunity of this scale, one that I have not seen, nor will I likely see again in my career, where we were able to exercise our ability to command-and-control firing battalions.”

The 5th Battalion, 113th Field Artillery shipped its 12 High Mobility Artillery Rocket Systems (HIMARS) via railcar from North Carolina and flew in its troops with commercial airliners. The 340th Brigade Support Battalion arrived via military airlift and fell in on equipment from Wyoming’s BSB. Utah’s 1st Battalion, 145th Field Artillery and 2nd Battalion, 222nd Field Artillery commercial-hauled its howitzers, while other Utah-based units convoyed their service members and equipment across the 464-mile journey to Guernsey.



Operation Gunsmoke is the 65th Field Artillery Brigade live-fire exercise consisting of 1,300 Soldiers from six states conducting operations in Camp Guernsey, Wyo., for annual training 2016.

Photos by Spc. Nathaniel Free

In these years of challenged budgets, it was an astounding accomplishment for the brigade to coordinate for all of its units, from California to North Carolina, to participate in the multi-echelon, scenario-based exercise. The operation involved 10 units in either a participation or support role, including support from Utah National Guard’s Joint Force Headquarters and Camp Guernsey itself.

“We’ve really never done anything of this size or magnitude, so it was essential to have a solid plan as we came out here and went live with all of these different units,” said Maj. Brett Anderson, headquarters commander, 65th

FAB. “I am thrilled to have been a part of such a historic operation where we trained with 1,300 troops from six states in one location training together, learning together and doing something that none of us have ever done.”

Considering the multitude of moving pieces and increased communications complexity, Col. Todd Thursby, commander of the 65th FAB, determined his two priorities for the event to be communications and logistics. This set a high bar for the brigade’s recently activated 190th Network Support Company, who only received its Joint Network Node (JNN) and corresponding Satellite Transportable Terminal (STT) systems months prior, and additionally had just completed a software upgrade for the critical communications equipment. The JNN and STT serve as the backbone of the brigade’s digital communications network, so going without was not an option.

The next hurdle in accomplishing the brigade commander’s communications priority was to fulfill shortfalls of the battalion-level Command Post Node (CPN) equipment. Only two of the required four CPNs needed had been fielded to the respective battalion headquarters, and all of the CPNs required software updates. While this may not seem like a big challenge to those outside of the military, this shortfall was a significant problem as these highly technical pieces of gear are very difficult to acquire. Planners, leaving no stone unturned, worked tirelessly to coordinate for two CPNs to augment Gunsmoke from Colorado and Wyoming. Now, with the critical communications enablers finally in hand, Capt. Jeff George, commander of the 190th, just had to get them all to talk! No other National Guard brigade had achieved this feat in a field-training environment, but America’s Thunder doesn’t let failures of others limit its achievements. After much trouble-shooting, technical expertise, and late nights, the brigade headquarters and its four subordinate battalions established that which had never been done before by a National Guard unit during a stateside training event—all brigade elements squawking digital. All modes of communications, digital, high-frequency,



SINCGARS, and the logistician’s Very Small Aperture Satellite Terminal (VSAT) were online in a milestone achievement.

“Preparation was the key, getting here with all of the right equipment and having a plan are all essential,” said Anderson.

Col. Thursby’s next priority was logistics, and the 340th BSB from California came through in spades. The 340th had the challenge of integrating the forward-support companies of each battalion into a Forward Logistics Element which was to be located, as the name would suggest, forward of the main headquarters to facilitate logistics operations. The FSCs are typically controlled by their respective battalion, so this change in paradigm was resisted in the early stages. While unfamiliar, this command relationship of the FSCs to the BSB is doctrinally correct. Pressing through initial resistance, the 340th successfully coordinated and executed support for the event, driving more than 4,900 miles, delivering 38,000 gallons of water, 45,000 gallons of fuel, and preparing an astounding 39,000 delicious meals throughout Gunsmoke.

The 65th FAB took Gunsmoke one step further, stretching to acquire target acquisition radars and unmanned aerial systems to enhance the battle-focused training. While radar units have always been in the structure of the brigade, radar equipment demands for war efforts had kept the brigade without these critical sensors since the brigade’s inception in 2008. Again, planners hit the grindstone to source a Q37 Firefinder Radar and two Q-50 Lightweight Counterfire Radar Systems from Colorado and Idaho. These sensors provided invaluable hands-on training and visibility of live acquisitions during the annual training.

Above: Soldiers line up to shoot at targets during Operation Gunsmoke at Camp Guernsey, Wyo. Left: Howitzers convoy to firing position for Operation Gunsmoke.

Photos by Spc. Nathaniel Free

Right: Convoy operations in the rain during Operation Gunsmoke. The logistics supply area, supporting 1,300 Soldiers from six states conducting operations in Camp Guernsey, Wyo., for annual training 2016.

Additionally, the 19th Special Forces (Airborne) Tactical Unmanned Aerial System Platoon flew Shadow UAS systems to enhance the training having conducted aerial reconnaissance, call for fire, and even fire-mission adjustments, utilizing the advanced camera systems onboard the UAS.

Another great addition to the massive-training event was the 144th Area Support Medical Company from Utah, which provided medical support and training, integrating into the 340th BSB as its operation’s medical element.

“For us, Operation Gunsmoke was great,” said Maj. Trish Brown, 144th ASMC commander. “We frequently conduct a lot of training on our own, but we don’t get to interact at a brigade level which is how our unit would actually function if we were to deploy. We were working with the brigade surgeon and battalion physician assistants and medics to integrate our medical operation to ensure that execution is seamless from the gun line, or point of injury, to the medical support area in the rear.”

External evaluations are an important element of any training; Col. Thursby would not let a collective-training event such as this go without feedback. Coordination was made so the brigade headquarters, the firing battalions, and even the BSB were provided evaluation teams. This detailed feedback provided unbiased, objective feedback to brigade leaders to build upon successes and appropriately address any shortcomings.



The ground shook in the small town of Guernsey from May 9-23, as 57-tracked and 432-wheeled vehicles of the 65th FAB executed Operation Gunsmoke, where 2,400 155mm howitzer rounds were fired, 42 HIMARS rockets were launched, more than 140,000 rounds of .50 caliber, 7.62mm, and 5.56mm were shot in total.

“In this exercise we had nearly 1,300 Soldiers executing their individual jobs as artillery-crew members, fire-direction-control personnel, administrative personnel, medics, logisticians, supply personnel, signal and communications and many more, and each one functioning at their individual level for the success of the mission,” said Williams. “This opportunity tests their training, their understanding and everything they learned at their military schools.”

More important than the impressive statistics accomplished during Gunsmoke was the safe, battle-focused, collective training that was conducted which improved unit readiness, forged life-long relationships with leaders and members alike, and provided a training milestone that all will reference for many years to come. America’s Thunder! 🇺🇸

Story by 1st Lt. Rory Mele and Lt. Col. Steve Fairbourn



144th Medical Company Supports Operation Gunsmoke



CAMP GUERNSEY, Wyo. — Soldiers from the 144th Area Support Medical Company, Utah Army National Guard, joined other National Guard units from six states for Operation Gunsmoke, a live-fire artillery exercise hosted by the 65th Field Artillery Brigade in Guernsey, May 9-22. The annual training exercise consisted of some 1,300 Soldiers and offered a unique training environment for the 144th ASMC because it was the first time they had done anything on this scale, supporting this many units.

“We’re providing medical support for everybody that’s here. Anything from ‘I have the sniffles,’ to something more serious, like an amputation, for example,” said Spc. Eli Burningham, a combat medic with the 144th ASMC, from West Jordan, Utah.

The 144th ASMC convoyed to Camp Guernsey with everything they needed to set up a Role 2 field hospital, which is something categorically between an ambulance, and a fully capable hospital. They had a field surgeon, a blood lab, and even dental clinic, compete with x-ray capabilities.

Beyond the real-world emergencies they faced on a daily basis, like headaches, dehydration, and the occasional broken arm, the medics of the 144th ASMC taught at least one

Combat Life Savers class, which allowed the commanders of the various units to retain their combat power effectiveness by preventing injury ahead of time and minimizing threats. They also triage simulated victims for a mass mass-casualty incident, or MCI. This exercise is designed to push the medics to their limits by creating more casualties than they are capable of handling at any given time.

Said Burningham about the MCI training event, “First we had an evisceration of the ankle, a head injury, a back injury, and we also treated a patient with burns to her face and eyes. When you’re stressed like that, you can’t think clearly and you have to rely on muscle memory.”

The simulated casualties were carried by jump teams to exchange points along the gun line, and the more serious injuries of the simulation were evacuated by air ambulance on a UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter that landed near the brigade’s tactical operations center. Maj. Patricia Brown, commander of the 144th ASMC, and also a physician’s assistant, explained that the 144th’s main mission and motto is to “conserve the fighting strength.”

Medics with the 144th ASMC support Operation Gunsmoke at Camp Guernsey, Wyo., May 18.



To accomplish this, they have both mental health and 72-hour, patient-hold capabilities for Soldiers they can treat, triage, and return to duty within a short time frame. Soldiers that cannot be triaged are evacuated to higher-level care so they can get the treatment they need.

“Frequently we do a lot of training on our own so we don’t get to interact on a brigade level, and this is how our unit would actually function if we were to deploy or go to war,” said Brown. “Medical is a key part of continuing the fight for the Army, and for the armed forces in general.”

When medical issues arose during Operation Gunsmoke, the medics were there to minimize the recovery time for Soldiers and get them back to duty as quickly as possible.

“We are a force multiplier,” explained Brown. “We enable Soldiers to continue the mission without having to be evacuated out of theater for medical issues that we can take care of ourselves. That’s really what makes us relevant.”

Operation Gunsmoke gave the medics an opportunity to exercise their training, to see sick calls, to manage stress, and to care for the wounded. It gave them an idea of what they would be doing on a deployment.

“I always tell my Soldiers that we have a sacred mission,” Brown said. “The men and women of the United States entrust their sons and daughters with the Army, they trust that we are going to do our best to take care of them. Medical is a big part of that.”

When a Soldier goes to war, when they go out on the line, they are counting on Doc to be there for them, they’re counting on Doc to take care of them when they get sick or when they get wounded. They call for the medic when they are sick or wounded and we answer that call. We ensure that they can get better so



Medics with the 144th ASMC prepare to evacuate simulated casualties during a training exercise at Camp Guernsey, Wyo.

they can fulfill their duty to the military and return to their families.”

Operation Gunsmoke at Camp Guernsey provided an ideal environment for the medics of the 144th ASMC to operate with the full range of their capabilities.

“We don’t want anyone to get sick and we don’t want anyone to get injured, but if they do, it gives us the opportunity to exercise our training, to prove to ourselves that the training works, that we’re prepared if we get called on,” said Brown.

Story and photo by Spc. Nathaniel Free and Spc. Ryan White

UH-60 Black Hawk air ambulance in flight over an exchange point at Camp Guernsey, Wyo., May 18.



Black Hawks Sent to Combat the Box Canyon Fire

WEST JORDAN, Utah — The Utah National Guard was activated to assist with firefighting efforts on the Box Canyon Fire, approximately 12 miles east of Oakley in the Smith and Morehouse Creek area on Aug. 28-31.

Utah Guard's 2nd Battalion, 211th Aviation, 97th Aviation Troop Command answered the call by responding each day with two UH-60 Black Hawk helicopters, with two pilots and a crew chief on board, to help attack the fire from the air.

"It was really a challenging fire," said Chief Warrant Officer 3 Joe Galbraith, 2-211th Aviation pilot. "It was a high-altitude area so we were dipping water out of the reservoir at 7,500 feet and dropping about 500 gallons at a time at 10,000 feet, which is really high for dropping the load we were dropping."

Each helicopter made repeated trips to Smith and Morehouse Reservoir to dip its 530-gallon Bambi bucket and drop the water on the flames.

"What differs us from a civilian helicopter dropping water is that we have crew chiefs in the back and they get really good at spotting where to drop the water," said Galbraith. "That's what it's all about—putting the water in the right spot. Those guys really do a lot of the work for us. They hold a button with their thumb, they are laying on their bellies with their heads out the side of the cabin door. They're the ones that can see the bucket and where to release and they are the ones that time it so the water hits on target."

The goal was to keep the fire contained in Box Canyon, appropriately named for its tight canyon walls.

"We were working a certain ridge," said Galbraith. "They were trying to protect the other side of the ridge line from the fire so that the fire was contained to the one canyon."

The Black Hawks ended up dropping a total of 295 buckets of approximately 147,500 gallons of water, with a total flying time of 49.7 hours.

"We were dipping from Smith and Morehouse at the bottom of the canyon," said Galbraith. "There is quite a difference between the dip site and drop site, about 2,500 feet."

The Black Hawks refueled at Heber Valley Regional Airport so they could spend more time in the area fighting the fire—each aircrew flying eight hours each day.

Fighting the fire is a team effort where the Guard works closely with both state and federal agencies to protect our natural resources.

"I feel like it's great for us to be able to serve our state and community and it's good training for us," said Galbraith. "It makes me feel good to know that we can contribute to the state in this way." 🇺🇸

Story by Ileen Kennedy

Two UH-60 Black Hawk helicopters from the Utah National Guard's 2-211th Aviation dip water from Smith and Morehouse Reservoir as they make repeated water-bucket drops on the Box Canyon Fire.

Photos by 1st Sgt. Brock Jones and Spc. Nathaniel Free



New Commander for Camp Williams



Lt. Col. D. Matt Price, left, assumes command of Utah Training Center with receipt of unit colors from Maj. Gen. Jeff Burton.

CAMP WILLIAMS, Utah — Lt. Col. D. Matt Price assumed the mantle of responsibility from Col. Tyler Smith at the change-of-command ceremony conducted in the shade below the majestic trees surrounding Tarbet Field at Utah Training Center, Army Garrison Camp Williams, June 28.

“I feel a lot of pride out here today,” said Maj. Gen. Jeff Burton, adjutant general of the Utah National Guard, as he recounted that approximately eight years ago, Utah Guard leadership would move focus on taking Camp Williams, already a successful training garrison, to the next level. Burton continued, “When a Soldier or family member comes out here, I think what they see is a place that is cared for, looks professional, and demonstrates that we care about the resources we have.”

Col. Smith, a resident of Saratoga Springs, one of the communities surrounding Camp Williams, understands well the importance of the training mission of the garrison and the critical need for collaboration and coordination with surrounding communities.

“Our police department trains here all of the time,” said Saratoga Springs Police Chief Andy Burton, while presenting a certificate of appreciation to Col. Smith for his support over the years. “The support and help we get from Camp Williams is amazing. We know it comes from the top, both from you, sir, [to Maj. Gen. Burton], and from the commander of the garrison.”

“What a great partnership we have with our neighbors. We have worked hard to foster relationships because, Camp Williams, when it was first established, was out in the middle of nowhere,” said Smith. “But, as you can see, the communities have started to really grow and expand onto our borders.”

Smith, recognizing the potential challenges of encroachment, was pivotal in the advancement of the Army Compatible Use Buffer (ACUB) program implementation for the Utah Training Center. The ACUB program provides

funding to purchase lands surrounding military garrisons, in coordination with the surrounding cities, and established appropriate uses for the land.

“The communities have been great to work with to help come up with compatible use of land around Camp Williams and establish ordinances that help our training and also ensure quality of life of the residents,” said Smith.

The impact and interdependencies of Camp Williams are significant, but not commonly understood. Smith characterized this reality, recalling he has seen many come and go in his time at Camp Williams, but one consistency is that the employees and staff have no idea of the sheer magnitude of the operations of Camp Williams until they experience them firsthand.

“Since 9/11, more than 14,000 troops have passed through here on their way to Afghanistan or Iraq, and none of our elements go anywhere without coming to this place to train,” said Maj. Gen. Burton as he emphasized the importance of Utah Training Center’s operations. With more than 11,000 Soldiers who train at Camp Williams annually, requirements are high for the command and staff of the garrison as Burton continued, “These 23,000-plus acres are integral to the training and development of our Soldiers. It’s ‘par excellence’ for this unit right here.”

Smith passed along heart-felt appreciation to his staff for the tremendous success of the garrison during the unprecedented period of growth stating, “They have done an incredible job, doing the mission at a very high level of expertise and excellence with fewer resources than ever before.”

“The bottom line is this is a great place because of you [to the leadership and staff of Camp Williams],” said Maj. Gen. Burton. “I’m proud of this team—we send our best here.”

Lt. Col. Price, resident of American Fork, has big shoes to fill and is up to the challenge. Command of troops is nothing new to this Veteran, who has deployed as a company and battalion commander in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation New Dawn. He is also a recent graduate of the U.S. Army War College, where he completed a fellowship at Queens University, Centre for International Defense Policy in Kingston, Ontario, Canada.

“I appreciate this opportunity to serve with you [to the staff of Camp Williams], and hopefully to serve you,” said Price humbly immediately after his assumption of command.

His enduring leadership will be instrumental in the ongoing growth and success of the installation, with significant construction and development already on tap for the future 19th Special Forces Group (Airborne) building and more.

Maj. Gen. Burton has tremendous confidence in Lt. Col. Price stating, “I know Matt is going to pick up the gauntlet and take camp to new heights.”

Price closed with compliments and confidence in our fellow service members stating, “I am so grateful to work with wonderful Americans that love the Constitution, that love their country, and that aren’t a façade—they have strong roots.”

Story and photo by Lt. Col. Steve Fairbourn

Utah Guard’s First Female General Officer Selected to Command Utah Air National Guard



SALT LAKE CITY —

Maj. Gen. Jefferson Burton, Utah National Guard adjutant general, selected Brig. Gen. Christine Burckle, Joint Force Headquarters Director of Staff, to assume command of the Utah Air National Guard. Burckle was

formally promoted to Brigadier General on Aug. 6 at Roland R. Wright Air National Guard Base.

With this new assignment, Burckle became the Utah Air National Guard’s highest-ranking official, as well as the state’s first National Guard female general officer and the first woman to serve as commander of the Utah Air National Guard. Burckle assumed responsibility for the control and operation of plans and programs affecting more than 1,400 Airmen, to include combat readiness and mission capability of the 151st Air Refueling Wing and three tenant units. She is also responsible for working with a wide variety of federal and state authorities in all aspects of operations, personnel, equipment and funding.

“I’m humbled and honored to have this amazing opportunity to continue to serve with and lead the men and women of the Utah Air National Guard,” said Burckle. “As we celebrate 70 years of excellence, I’m proud to honor our legacy and equally as excited about our future.”

Now in her 28th year of military service, Burckle began her Air Force career as a navigator on the KC-135 Stratotanker. Her resume also includes time as the 151st Mission Support Flight commander, State Human Resources Officer, and 151st Air Refueling Wing vice commander.

“Certainly, this change of command is historically significant; however, more important is the fact that Col. Burckle represents one of the most talented, dedicated professionals in our ranks,” said Burton. “I have every confidence the men and women of the Utah Air National Guard will continue to perform our critical state and federal missions with masterful skill and precision under her guidance and leadership.”

*Story by Maj. Jennifer Eaton
Photos by Tech. Sgt. Amber Monio and
Staff Sgt. Annie Edward*



Brig. Gen. Christine Burckle’s husband, George, and daughter, Kate, pin new rank on her uniform during a promotion ceremony held prior to the assumption of command. Burckle was formally promoted to the rank of Brigadier General on Aug. 6, 2016, at Roland R. Wright Air National Guard Base in Salt Lake City.



Maj. Gen. Jeff Burton, adjutant general; Utah Gov. Gary Herbert; and Brig. Gen. Christine Burckle stand at the beginning of an assumption of command ceremony where Burckle was formally promoted to the rank of Brigadier General and assumed command of the Utah Air National Guard. With this new assignment, Burckle became the Utah Air National Guard’s highest-ranking official, as well as the state’s first National Guard female general officer and the first woman to serve as commander of the Utah Air National Guard.



Maj. Gen. Jeff Burton hands the Utah Air National Guard flag to Brig. Gen. Christine Burckle during the assumption-of-command ceremony.

Determination and Skill Propel Utah Sapper Team Past Peers at National Competition

FORT DRUM, N.Y. — On the first night, they only slept for about four hours. The next night, they slept for two. Over a three-day period these Combat Engineers called “Sappers” carried their heavy rucksacks through the heat of the day and near freezing temperatures at night. They endured rain, sleep deprivation, and traveled nearly 25 miles by foot. Never once did their pace slow nor their positive attitudes falter.

Eight Combat Engineers from the 118th Sapper Company, 1457th Engineer Battalion, representing the Utah National Guard, placed fifth overall at the 412th/416th Theater Engineer Command Combined 2016 Sapper Stakes Competition held at Fort Drum, New York, May 11-14, 2016.

The eight Soldiers competed against 23 other Army Reserve, Army National Guard, and active Army teams from around the country. The three-day competition was designed to test the team members on their basic Soldier skills, combat-engineering skills, and physical and mental toughness.

“It’s a competition that tests all the Sapper and combat-engineer tasks, day- and night-land navigation, demolitions, emplacing and breaching obstacles, and a total gut check on our physical ability,” said Staff Sgt. Kurt Meryhew, the Utah team leader. He also added, the team had been training since February, and he thought they would do very well.

After being kept up late with registration and briefs, the first day of competition began before dawn with a non-standard Army Physical Fitness Test. The test consisted

of a push-up and sit-up event followed by a one-mile team run while wearing their combat uniform, combat boots, and carrying a rifle.

Following the physical training test, the Soldiers marched over to the next event to be tested on their land-navigation skills. Each team was given five points to find within four hours in the thickly wooded, hilly, and marshy, land-navigation course. The Utah team easily found all five points and finished the event with time to spare.

Next, the team members were tested on their knowledge of small weapons and small-weapons tactics. Their first task was to draw a range card, identifying the terrain around a weapons position. Then the team had six minutes to put together five firearms, whose pieces were mixed together in a bin. To close out the weapons testing, the team participated in a reflexive-fire range, where they engaged pop-up targets with the M-4 carbine rifle.

“We did very well on the weapons jumble. We put all the weapons together in about four minutes,” said Sgt. Walter Patterson. “The team is working very well together so far and morale is very high.”

The first day of competition ended with nighttime-land navigation. The team had to navigate the same course in which they competed earlier in the day but this time in the dark without the aid of any kind of light. The Utah team found two of four points in this event.

Due to a different team getting lost in the nighttime-land-navigation event, the Soldiers were only able to sleep a

couple of hours before the second-day events started.

For the second-days events, the Soldiers navigated through an urban, improvised-explosive-device lane and had to identify the various IEDs they found, perform a call for artillery fire, conduct a bridge recon, measure and assess a bridge for demolition, and traverse through a combat lane giving first aid to casualties and carry them to a medevac point, all while under fire from assailants and simulation explosives.

During all of these events in the competition, the Soldiers had to carry a combat load complete with rucksack and weapon. The heavy load, warm daytime temperatures, and lack of sleep were weighing heavy on the Soldiers.

“The first day we only had about three-and-a-half hours of sleep before we started the land navigation. It was very taxing going through the forest and marsh,” said Utah’s Pfc. Richard Kunsman. “Last night we only had a little more than an hour of sleep before we started again. The exhaustion is definitely a mental and physical challenge.”

The events for the third day of competition were mostly combat-engineer-related tasks. The Utah team embarked on another bridge recon, participated in a mine identification and knot-tying event, and set up a triple-stand-wire obstacle. Also, they had two demolition events, where they breached the triple-wire obstacle with explosives and had to wire and place explosives for a cratering charge.

The team did well during all the events and was even complimented by the event controller on its speedy work building the triple-wire obstacle.

To finish the third day of competition the combat engineers had to complete a seven-mile, tactical-road march as a team. There was a slight concern they would not be able to finish the event as a team because one of the Soldiers twisted his ankle earlier in the day while his group was running to one of the events.



Pfc. Richard Kunsman, one of eight Utah combat engineers, uses a compass to shoot an azimuth during the 2016 Sapper Stakes Competition. The three-day event tested 23 teams from around the country on their basic Soldier skills, combat-engineering skills, and physical and mental toughness.

“When I twisted my ankle, I was very upset. I thought I was going to drag my team down and not be able to finish the road march,” said Sgt. Jeremy Smith.

But after a quick visit to the medics, he was cleared and able to compete. During the road march, Smith said he and his team leader stopped and stretched out his injured ankle for about 10 minutes, which separated them from the main group of the Utah team. When he was finished stretching, they started running as fast as they could to catch back up with their team.

“We ran so hard we were flying past the other teams,” said Smith. “When we caught back up with our team, we were all pumped!”

Despite the separation, the Utah team finished the road march together and were the second team to cross the finish line.

“I’m a little tired, but it feels good to finish as a team,” said Patterson afterwards.

Although the Sapper Stakes was designed to be a competition, the real importance of the event was the valuable training the Soldiers received.

“It’s huge to have a team be able to compete at a national competition,” said 1st Sgt. Garrett Whatcott, 118th Sapper Company first sergeant. “Some of the tasks that they have taught here we have never done at our home station. Bringing all of the knowledge of the Active and Reserve components together into this has definitely helped us expand our own training ability.”

Whatcott also added he was very proud of his team and they represented the state very well.

“It has been amazing to watch how these Soldiers have overcome the hardest of obstacles. It really shows the quality of Soldiers we have in the Utah National Guard,” he said. ■

Story and photos by Sgt. 1st Class John Etheridge



Spc. Michael McGookin, 118th Sapper Company, 1457 Engineer Battalion combat engineer, performs first aid to a simulated burn victim during the 412th/416th Theater Engineer Command Combined 2016 Sapper Stakes Competition.



Pfc. Richard Kunsman, a 118th Sapper Company, 1457 Engineer Battalion combat engineer, performs first aid to a mannequin representing a combat casualty during the 2016 Sapper Stakes Competition held at Fort Drum, N.Y., May 11-14.

The Soldiers who competed on the 2016 Utah Sapper Stakes team:

Spc. Daniel Bradley, Orem
Pfc. Richard Kunsman, Orem
Spc. Michael McGookin, Roy
Sgt. Walter Patterson, Blanding

Staff Sgt. Kurt Meryhew, American Fork
Pfc. Tyson Roberts, Herriman
Sgt. Jeremy Smith, Monument Valley
Spc. Carlos Torres, Spanish Fork



Centennial Rogue puts the Utah Homeland Response Force to the Test

Soldiers with the Utah CERFP, CBRNE Enhanced Response Force Package, took part in multi-state exercise Centennial Rogue in the greater Denver metro area in May 2016. At the North Metro training site, Soldiers performed chemical decontamination operations for simulated survivors of a collapsed building, rubble extraction and hoist operations during a nighttime training scenario.

DENVER, Colo. — Soldiers and Airmen were spread thin across six training venues around Denver as members of the Utah, New Mexico, Indiana, and Colorado National Guards trained to respond to multiple terrorist attacks on a metro area from May 20-22.

The exercise, deemed Centennial Rogue 2016, was designed to test the full skill-set of the Homeland Response Force (HRF) and the Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Enhanced Response Force Package (CERFP). While the HRF provided mission command for the units scattered around the metro area, the subordinate units conducted a variety of missions such as wide-area search, search and extraction, rope rescue, confined-space rescue, mass decontamination, medical triage and patient evaluation.

“This is very valuable training for us as the search and extraction unit of the CERFP... what’s so valuable about this Katrina building is that we don’t have training facilities like this one in Utah—it allows us to further hone our abilities,” said Capt. Lee Nitchman, Search and Extraction commander from the Utah CERFP.

The Katrina building on the campus of the Community College of Aurora is part of the Disaster Management Institute training facility which offers realistic training to a variety of emergency responders.

The scenario, developed by the HRF exercise-control section was masterminded by 1st Lt. Kylie Boyle.

“We put a lot of detail and background information into the scenario using real-world tactics, techniques, and procedures we are seeing used by terrorist organizations,” said Boyle. “I used the Paris attacks, with a radiological-dispersal device (RDD) thrown in, as the basis for the scenario.”

The depth of the scenario provided realistic training for the participants and helped to test the HRF mission command ability to conduct staff operations and maintain situational awareness with multiple units in the field.

The CERFP from the Colorado National Guard (CONG) was working the scenario from the Denver North Metro Fire Training Center where they were presented with a multitude of challenges. Sgt. Ariella Martinez, team leader in the Search and Extraction element, faced some of these challenges on the North Metro rubble pile.

“We had a lot of casualties come out of nowhere,” said Martinez. “When the wind shifted and we ended up getting a gas drill—it caused us to be longer on mission in our suits, but I’m really proud of how my guys handled it.”



Soldiers with the Utah CERFP, CBRNE Enhanced Response Force Package, extract a simulated survivor of a collapsed building as part of 2016 training exercise Centennial Rogue.

The challenges extended to the medical element assigned to the CONG CERFP.

“With some of the nerve agents that are being used now it’s been beneficial for us to learn what the signs and symptoms are and different ways we can treat and stabilize patients,” said Flight Surgeon Maj. William Peace, assigned to treat intermediate patients coming out of patient triage. “We’ve changed some of the medications we carry with us now to make sure we are able to fully treat different kinds of nerve agents.”

Participants were reacting to the exercise and training simultaneously at several other places. The University of Colorado Hospital was receiving patients delivered by local ambulances from the simulated-bombing sites. The hospital staff along with members of the Aurora Fire Department and the UTNG CERFP moved the patients through decontamination, then medical triage, and onto the hospital itself.

“It’s going to be really good to work interdisciplinary, we can see how the Guard does things and learn a lot from you,” said Shelby Moll, a nurse in the emergency department, about her first time working with the National Guard. “Things that we don’t know and equipment we are unfamiliar with, so in a real situation we will be able to work with you more comfortably.”

Role players filed through the decontamination lanes multiple times keeping the CERFP and hospital staff working hard processing both ambulatory and non-ambulatory patients. When fully staffed, CERFP mass-decontamination capability exceeds 200 patients per hour.

Lt. Col. Gregory Motz, CERFP commander, Indiana National Guard was attending the exercise as an observer and commented on the value of the interdisciplinary training happening at the hospital.

“The value is they understand the equipment and capabilities we have, so if Denver has its worst day they know that they can call on the National Guard to bring resources to help them deal with whatever situation they find themselves in,” said Motz.

Over the course of four days in May many lessons were learned and relationships formed which contributed greatly to the readiness and mutual understanding of all those who participated. 🇺🇸

Story and photos by Maj. Bruce Roberts



Soldiers of the 118th Engineer (Sapper) Company, Utah National Guard, receive their briefing prior to entering the “Katrina” Building. Soldiers at the “Katrina” scenario performed search and rescue operations for persons injured in a simulated collapsed building, removing debris and shoring up the building’s structure for safer follow on efforts.



Soldiers with the Utah National Guard’s Alpha Battery, 1-145th Field Artillery Regiment trained at Castlewood Canyon State Park in Colorado as part of 2016 training exercise Centennial Rogue.



19th SFG(A) Graduates New Jumpmasters

A Jumpmaster student conducts actions in the aircraft procedures on a U.S. Air Force C-130 Hercules mock door at Camp Williams, Utah, May 22, 2016.

CAMP WILLIAMS, Utah — “Ten minutes! Get ready!”

All 19th Special Forces Group (Airborne) paratroopers know these Jumpmaster commands by heart, instilled in them throughout their airborne career. They take heed from these Soldiers, proficient in leading and executing all personnel and equipment during airborne operations. They undergo vigorous, stressful training to earn the coveted title, “Jumpmaster.”

The 19th SFG(A) is very good in growing competent Jumpmasters.

Group Support Battalion, 19th SFG(A) graduated 47 Soldiers in its U.S. Army Special Operation Static-Line Jumpmaster Course (SLJM) at Camp Williams from May 9-27. The course started with 51 candidates, but only lost four students due to the fast-paced, high-stress, course requirements demanded of becoming an airborne leader.

“An individual paratrooper has the responsibility to jump in a safe manner and be situationally aware of his surroundings,” said Master Sgt. John McNichol, SLJM course noncommissioned officer in charge, GSB, 19th SFG(A). “A Jumpmaster takes on the additional responsibility of safely conducting the airborne operation from planning to execution. Jumpmasters are responsible for safety both in the air and on the ground. Failure in any of the Jumpmaster steps and leadership can result in a serious injury or death of a paratrooper.”

Jumpmaster candidates must be an officer or enlisted-ranked sergeant and above, have completed at least 12 high-performance airborne jumps, been on jump status for at least

one year, and be recommended by a battalion commander or officer-grade lieutenant colonel. These requirements ensure the best of the best jumpers and leaders are considered to attend the course.

Before enrolling in the course, students must pass a 100-question nomenclature test, which includes every component and assembly of the MC-6 parachute system. The purpose of the pre-entry exam is to ensure students know the proper terminology of the parachute and its components, which is essential since Special Operations static-line jumpers use this same equipment while conducting airborne operations.

Jumpmaster students learn a variety of general subjects pertaining to airborne operations including all duties and responsibilities of personnel involved in the operation, various aircraft types with their associated jump altitudes, and formulas and computations to determine the jumper-release point and point of impact on the drop zone. One of the most important blocks of instructions the students endure is the dreaded Jumpmaster Personnel Inspection (JMPI), which is considered the most difficult module in the entire course. Students undergo the rigorous crawl-walk-run phases as they aggressively learn every minute detail of the parachute system, guaranteeing each jumper wears his rig correctly. The phrase, “slow is smooth and smooth is fast,” is repeated by the instructors throughout JMPI training as students replicate the fluid sequences until it becomes muscle memory.

Super glue is a lifesaver, keeping dry, cracked cuticles and fingers from bleeding as students perform the stressful JMPI sequence continuously for seven days before jumping right into the JMPI evaluations. Students have at least five attempts to conduct the inspection and find 11 different deficiencies on three jumpers, including one with combat equipment, in five minutes or less. It may seem like a simple

At 1,500 feet above ground level, airborne jumpers anxiously wait on standby, ready for their student Jumpmaster to spot the release-point panels below on Grant-Smith Farms drop zone from the UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter, May 25.



task since the students have endless hours of JMPI procedure practice. However, once time is introduced, students feel the stress as they race against the clock without missing major deficiencies and citing proper nomenclature.

“The students are looking for over 50 possible deficiencies during the exam,” said McNichol. “The time standard adds a degree of stress to ensure Jumpmasters are able to identify quickly. At times a small number of Jumpmasters may be required to inspect over 100 paratroopers in a short period of time while making sure the airborne operation is on schedule.”

“The anticipation up to the exam was horrible,” said Staff Sgt. Daniel Ellers, SLJM student from Alpha Company, GSB, 19th SFG(A). “During the test you know you have to move fast in order to make it under the five minutes without missing any major deficiencies. That thought is constantly going through your head.”

After JMPI testing, the students move on and apply all the general studies and JMPI procedures in the actual airborne operation. Students practice on mock aircraft doors before conducting practical work in the aircraft (PWAC), where they are tested on executing appropriate time warnings, jump commands, aircraft door and ramp-check procedures, and ensuring all airborne personnel safely exit once the aircraft is directly over the designated release point.

Most students would admit the door-check procedures are intimidating since they must hang onto the door frame and force half their body out of the aircraft in order to conduct required air safety checks 2,000 feet above ground level at 130 knots (approximately 150 miles per hour).

However, with the aircraft wind deflector blocking a majority of the headwind, anxiety turns to excitement as students feel the adrenaline rush leaning out of the C-130.

“I loved it,” said Ellers. “It was an awesome view 1,500 feet in the air, performing air-safety checks and watching for panels marking the DZ, and you’re hanging outside the C-130 at roughly 130 knots.”

The USASOC Static-Line Jumpmaster Course emphasizes the critical importance of safety and attention to detail while performing as a Jumpmaster. Jumping approximately 200 parachutes during the PWAC exams, students were able to apply what they have learned over the past two weeks and take the lead in executing actual airborne operations.

“This is an Airborne Leadership Course, where we build professionals in the airborne community,” said Capt. Thomas Ashton, SLJM Course officer in charge from GSB, 19th SFG(A). “We stress safety and teach these advanced jumpers how to be safe and how to make sure the jumpers they are leading are safe.”

Going through the course allows students to not only gain skills to become Jumpmasters, but also builds their confidence and ability to grow into proficient jumpers.

“Being a Jumpmaster helps me be a better



A Jumpmaster instructor guides a student in spotting the release-point panels over Grant-Smith Farm’s drop zone, Cedar Fort, Utah, from a U.S. Air Force C-130 Hercules aircraft, May 24.

jumper,” said Ellers. “It’s a huge responsibility and is not to be taken lightly. That builds confidence in me, which I can convey to less experienced jumpers. It’s very rewarding to be able to use my newly attained skill set in more of a leadership role.”

McNichol invites new and veteran Jumpmasters to instruct in upcoming SLJM courses, saying their own experience as students and active Jumpmasters would tremendously add value to the course while giving back to the airborne community. 🇺🇸

Story and photos by Staff Sgt. Ashley Baum



A Jumpmaster student stows jumpers' excess-static lines, ensuring he has room to move in the UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter while performing actions in the aircraft at Grant-Smith Farm's drop zone, Cedar Fort, Utah, May 25. Sgt. David Blackmon, power generation equipment repairer for Forward Support Company, Group Support Battalion, 19th Special Forces Group (Airborne), inspects the MC-6 parachute pack tray, looking for any corrosion or frayed material, while conducting Jumpmaster Personnel Inspection at Camp Williams, Utah, May 18.



Utah Training Center Trains in Wendover



Soldiers from Utah Training Center (UTC) perform a dismounted patrol during annual training May 9-13.

WENDOVER, Utah — Imagine you are a private first class and your company commander puts you in the position of infantry squad leader for a Squad Training Exercise lane. You have 20 minutes to organize your squad, brief the plan and begin execution. Your squad is comprised of eight others who outrank you, including sergeant first class, chief warrant officer 4, captain, first sergeant and brigade command sergeant major. Your mission is to confirm the presence and composition of an improvised explosive device (IED) without being detected by opposing forces, and secure the IED until the Explosives Ordnance Disposal team arrives and disposes of it.

At the brigade update brief (BUB) the next morning, you represent the brigade S4 and conduct your brief to the brigade deputy commander. That is exactly the scenario that Pfc. Nicole Toledo, an automated logistics specialist in the logistics section of Utah Training Center (UTC), completed during the annual training for Headquarters, Headquarters Company, UTC at the Wendover Air Field, May 9-13.

The UTC, commanded by Maj. James Peterson and 1st Sgt. Gerald Robinson, rotated Soldiers throughout the week to Wendover Airfield so they could conduct realistic, challenging and difficult Soldier training. For the first time in many years UTC planned and conducted a convoy to Wendover. Upon arrival there were many challenges. The first challenge was to get the water running, fix the many water leaks, and get the water heater working. The Soldiers of UTC quickly accomplished this, exercising the Department of Public Works (DPW) section away from Camp with limited resources. The UTC conducted classes that evening on leadership and infantry tactics in preparation for the next day's activities.

On day two, UTC conducted a tactical convoy to the ranges. The convoy was hit by an IED. The Soldiers set up a patrol base and ran situational-training-exercise lanes in a very realistic scenario. The missions included a key leader engagement with Sgt. Aaron Stanton of the DPW section leading the way.

Another mission was to recover weapons from a cache with Sgt. Kenneth Hill of the DPW section serving as squad leader. Spc. Raul Aguilar of the logistics section then led the squad in a recon mission to recover valuable intelligence, after which Sgt. Luke Sorenson from the logistics section led

the squad in an IED lane. Finally, Sgt. Duwayne Miller of the maintenance section led the squad in a cordon and search mission, capturing one opposing force and killing another.

In the afternoon the Soldiers had the opportunity to zero their personal weapons and go through a reflexive-firing course, shooting while moving forward, sideways, and backwards. They peeked through windows shooting very

quickly to complete the course. It was challenging and realistic training. Staff Sgt. Willard Goldsmith, Staff Sgt. Doug Taylor, Sgt. Cody Wilkes, and Sgt. Jereme Sperry did a wonderful, innovative job of finding materials on site and constructing the course for the Soldiers.

The BUB was conducted the third morning, but instead of officers and senior noncommissioned officers doing the majority of the briefing, it was primarily sergeants with a specialist representing one section. It was challenging and a good learning experience for the young noncommissioned officers.

Instead of conducting a convoy back to Camp Williams, the Soldiers got a lift from the 211th Aviation, who dropped off the next rotation to complete the same training for the last two-and-a-half days of the week. The second rotation arrived at the forward operating base with everything in place; they were able to spend more time training as a brigade staff working through several realistic scenarios and again, the junior Soldiers did most of the briefing.

The next day the key-leader engagement was led by Sgt. Daniel Warner of Range Control. The weapons-cache mission was led by Master Sgt. Val Hutchinson of the DPW section. Sgt. 1st Class Kevin Lowe of the maintenance section led the squad in the recon mission and then Pfc. Nicole Toledo from the logistics section led the squad in an IED lane. Finally,



Pfc. Nicole Toledo, automated logistics specialist, UTC, receives advice from the radio operator, Capt. Chris Kroeber, the range control officer, UTC, during annual training.

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A Recruiting Ribbon may be presented to any member of the Utah National Guard who personally causes the enlistment of individuals to earn 10 points based on the following value formula:

Non-prior Service Enlistment	4 points
Prior Enlistment Service	2 points

Chief Warrant Officer 4 Jeffrey Hanson of the brigade S1 section led the squad in the cordon and search mission, overwhelming the opposing force and killing them both.

In the afternoon, the Soldiers had the opportunity to zero their personal weapons and go through a reflexive-firing course, shooting while moving forward, sideways, and backwards. Sgt. 1st Class Casey Page led the range-control personnel in finding materials on site and constructing the course for the Soldiers. Everyone chipped in that evening to



Utah Training Center Soldiers take simulated wounded to a medical evacuation site during annual training.

clean weapons, clear the ranges, and begin packing for the convoy the next morning.

On the last day everyone had the chance to brief Lt. Col. Annette Barnes, deputy commander for the UTC. The convoy back went smoothly and safely. Cleanup went quickly, and the fantastic annual training was complete. We resumed duties at Camp Williams the next day, ready to serve units who train there. 🇺🇸

Story and Photos by Maj. James S. Peterson



Sgt. Aaron Stanton and Spc. Raul Aguilar interact with simulated village leaders during annual training May 9-13.

High School Students Converge Upon Camp Williams for Freedom Academy 2016

SALT LAKE CITY — More than 130 student delegates from high schools throughout the state attended Freedom Academy 2016 from July 31 through Aug. 5, at Camp Williams, Utah.

Each delegate is a student-body officer who was nominated by his or her respective school to attend the annual week long program which focuses on providing them with a better understanding and appreciation for the freedoms they have. The delegates participate in a variety of activities, listen to guest speakers and take field trips to several Salt Lake area locations to give them a different perspective and greater knowledge of freedom, while improving their leadership and teamwork skills.

Lt. Col. John Darrington, director of Freedom Academy, said it is important for members of the Utah Army and Air National Guard to participate in the program because it gives them a chance to give back to the community they serve.

“Freedom Academy allows us the opportunity to help high school delegates from around Utah to gain a deeper



understanding and appreciation of the freedoms this amazing country affords us, and their responsibility to ensure these fundamental freedoms are maintained to ensure they will be here for future generations,” said Darrington.

Tech. Sgt. Rosalina Brunt, unit deployment manager with the Utah Air National Guard’s 151st Maintenance Group, served as a counselor during Freedom Academy. Brunt said she enjoyed the opportunity to be surrounded by delegates that have such a positive outlook on life and drive to succeed.

“My primary role as a counselor was to try to be an example, which was also the most challenging part,” said Brunt. “Most of these delegates have set goals and accomplished more in their short lives than I did by the age of 21, and trying to draw from my own life experiences and come up with ways to positively influence such talented young adults proved to be a challenging task.”

The Freedom Academy activities challenged delegates to utilize different leadership skills including compassion, willingness to listen to the ideas of others, working with others to achieve a common goal, and the ability to persevere through adversity.

Brunt said she felt it was important for her to support Freedom Academy “because it focuses on developing the attributes of leadership and creating a sense of patriotism in our future leaders.”

Tomoya Averett, a student delegate from Clearfield High School, said this experience really helped her see how the students have the ability to do good and change things as leaders in the community.

During Freedom Academy the delegates had a chance to rappel from the Camp Williams rappel tower as well as challenge themselves at the Leadership Reaction Course, an obstacle course requiring participants to work together as a group. Freedom Academy delegates also visited the state capitol where they were addressed by Gov. Gary Herbert; attended a presentation by the Utah State Highway Patrol, encouraging safe and responsible driving practices; received a tour of the federal courthouse and the state prison; learned about the Guard’s Army and Air capabilities through presentations and static displays; and visited the Channel 2 news studio.

Many students participated in the speech competition and talent contest at Camp Williams.

Freedom Academy, which is sponsored by the Honorary ColonelsCorps as well as several local businesses and community members, has been held in Utah for the past 55 years. 🇺🇸

*Story by Staff Sgt. Annie Edwards and Tech. Sgt. Amber Monio
Photos by Staff Sgt. Annie Edwards*

More than 130 student delegates from high schools throughout Utah had the opportunity to improve their leadership and teamwork skills during Freedom Academy 2016 held at Camp Williams, Utah July 31 through Aug. 5, 2016.



Left: An Army and Air Force veteran of the Vietnam War salutes the colors as he is recognized at the ceremony. Above: Senior members of the American Legion watch as a pyre is consumed by flames at the 18th annual Flag Retirement Ceremony at the Spanish Fork County fairgrounds July 19, 2016.

Spanish Fork's "Ragged Old Flag" Retires

SPANISH FORK, Utah — In honor of Flag Day, National Guard Soldiers from C Battery, 145th Field Artillery and the 23rd Army Band Brass Quintet supported the 18th annual Spanish Fork Flag Retirement ceremony, a solemn tradition that pays special tribute to military members, emergency-service personnel and the United States flag.

"It all started with the Soldiers from C Battery, 145th," said Mark Harrison, who has been chairman of the event for over a decade now. "People would bring these old flags to our armory in Spanish Fork, unsure of what else to do with them. Finally, someone suggested we hold a flag-retirement ceremony."

In the weeks and months before the ceremony, local Boy and Girl Scouts helped to gather weathered, sun-bleached, and tattered flags from the community to be honorably retired in the flames.

"Eighteen years ago, it was a very small event, with a 55-gallon drum in the Macey's parking lot," Harrison explained. "And it's grown to what you see today."

This year some 1,400 flags were retired and more than 4,000 people attended, including members of the American Legion, fire department and Scout troops from as far as Tooele and Ogden. One family came from out of state, driving four hours one way.

"We even had a few World War II Veterans in attendance," Harrison said.

They weren't alone.

The oldest flag to be retired had only 48 stars, and would have been flown between the years of 1912 and 1959, before Alaska and Hawaii became states. This particular flag was

collected by Benjamin Short, a Cub Scout from Springville Community Pack 1456, who understands that the flag is a symbol of America, patriotism and national pride.

"We've talked about why we have to burn the flag," said Hailey Short, Benjamin's mother and pack leader. "Because that's been weighing heavy on his mind lately."

According to a presidential proclamation issued Monday, July 18, the flag over the outdoor arena at the county fairgrounds flew at half-staff. It continued to fly at half-staff until Friday, July 22, for those officers who were shot and killed in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Having been previously lowered for victims of the Dallas police shooting, and the terrorist attack in Nice, France, the flag was at half-staff for most of the month of July, 2016.

"This is really special for me," said Capt. Timothy Clayson, chaplain of C Battery, 145th FA, who offered the invocation. "It's a way for Soldiers to interact with the community, for everybody to come together and celebrate our freedom."

Clayson spent 19 years in C Battery, as an enlisted Soldier, before he commissioned. He has participated in this event many times over the years.

"It's important to know what men and women have done for our freedom," said Jourdyn Reid, Miss Spanish Fork. "And I'm here in honor of them."

In 1942 the United States Congress decreed that "the flag, when it is in such condition that it is no longer a fitting emblem for display, should be destroyed in a dignified way, preferably by burning." This is why Spanish Fork has held a special flag retirement ceremony for the last 18 years.



Soldiers serving in C Battery, 145th Field Artillery, reverently receive American flags from Girl Scouts, then salute the American flags as they are retired in the flames of a burning pyre at the Spanish Fork County fairgrounds.

"What does the United States flag mean to me?" Asked guest speaker Command Sgt. Maj. Gregg Ludlow, in his opening statement. "I've struggled with this for weeks now, just trying to figure out how to put it into words."

Ludlow was recruited by Harrison to join the National Guard back in 1988, and he is currently the Command Sergeant Major of the 65th Field Artillery Brigade. After also serving in the American Fork Police Department for 22 years, he said it's difficult to speak about the flag without getting a little emotional.

"I blame it on my upbringing," says Ludlow, a home-grown Spanish Fork local. "My dad, and his dad before him, served in the military, and set the example. They taught me, right here on Main Street, while watching the Fiesta Days parade, to stand quietly with my hand on my heart when the flag went by." In closing, he shared the spoken word tribute *Ragged Old Flag* by Johnny Cash, which read, in part:

*And she's getting threadbare and she's wearing thin
But she's in good shape for the shape she's in
'Cause she's been through the fire before
And I believe she can take a whole lot more*

*So we raise her up every morning, we take her down every night
We don't let her touch the ground and we fold her up right
On second thought, I do like to brag
'Cause I'm mighty proud of the Ragged Old Flag*



The American flag flies at half-staff for the officers that were shot and killed in Baton Rouge, a solemn reminder during the opening remarks of guest speaker Command Sgt. Maj. Gregg Ludlow.



Below: A 21-gun salute was performed by Utah Army National Guard Soldiers serving in C Battery, 145th Field Artillery at the close of the Flag Retirement Ceremony.

Below: Ryon Carter, a local Boy Scout from Troop 1519 presents a flag he helped to gather for the 18th annual Flag Retirement Ceremony on July 19, 2016.



Sgt. 1st Class Dave Kruger, 23rd Army Band played Taps as the first flag was carried into the flames. Each of the other 1,400 flags were handled with equal care by the Spanish Fork Youth Council, Boy Scouts and their leaders. The flags were at last delivered into the flames by the Soldiers, and then reverently saluted. The ceremony concluded with a raising of a new flag over the fairgrounds and a 21-gun salute from three howitzer canons.

This year's event was one of the biggest flag retirement ceremonies anywhere in the United States.

"If you've never been before, you need to come," Harrison said. "You'll be amazed. You'll walk out of here with a sense of patriotism and a sense of pride." 🇺🇸

Story by Spc. Nathaniel Free

Beyond the Horizon Guatemala 2016

SAN MARCOS, Guatemala — Utah National Guard Soldiers supported Beyond the Horizon 2016 Guatemala exercise with 67 Soldiers during two back-to-back rotations from April 23 to May 1 and May 7 to May 22.

During the exercises, U.S. troops worked with a variety of governmental and non-governmental agencies to train in civil-military operations. Soldiers provided engineering, construction, and healthcare services to communities while conducting valuable deployment training and building important relationships with partner nations.

“What I think is so neat about doing these things is building the bonds and relationships with the Guatemalan army and the locals,” said Master Sgt. Garrad Johnston, 489th Brigade Support Battalion (BSB), noncommissioned officer in charge.

“We were able to visit with a lot of the Guatemalan Soldiers and find out about their military,” said Staff Sgt. Jeremy (J.D.) Williamson, a mechanic for 19th Special Forces Group (Airborne) (SFG (A)). “We talked to some of the locals to see what their lifestyle and income were like. They live off of probably \$10 a day for an average family. It was good to see the difference in lifestyle and culture. They were so happy to have their family and a roof over their head. They were very grateful for the schools going in and the medical clinics. It was a really good, positive experience.”

The 204th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade (MEB) had Soldiers from the 489th BSB, 1457th Engineer Battalion with additional support of Soldiers from the 19th SFG (A) and 115th Maintenance Company to provide sustainment-operations support with personnel at both San Marcos and Coatepeque, Guatemala.

“My mission was to support the wheeled vehicles and power generation maintenance,” said Williamson. “I would go out to recover vehicles that had broken down.”

Utah Soldiers’ responsibilities included maintenance and mechanic support, vehicle-recovery operations, logistical-administrative tracking and support for equipment within the theater, delivery of construction material and equipment, cooking support, and fueling operation for all U.S. military equipment on forward operating bases and work sites.



Staff Sgt. J.D. Williamson, 19th GSB, gives guidance to Spc. Jessica Tanner, 115th Maintenance, while working on the air system of an LHS.



Sgt. Troy Lopez, 489th BSB and Spc. Cesar Ahumada, 115th Maintenance, fuel generators in San Marcos, Guatemala.



“I was there for four weeks for both rotations,” said Williamson. “When I first arrived the brakes went out on a Humvee ambulance because of the steep canyons. The Humvee lost its brakes, hit a civilian vehicle, then crashed into a banana tree and totaled the truck. On a previous rotation an ambulance lost an engine. We made one functioning vehicle out of the two to make a functioning ambulance.”

The Humvee’s driver was sent home; she was pretty sore but not seriously hurt. Her passenger stayed the full rotation, and the civilians weren’t injured in the accident.

The steep terrain and weather presented some challenges to the mission.

“It is really humid there all the time,” said Johnston. “When it rains, it puts a lot of water down in a short time. It rains every day, but there were a couple of days they had to



Spc. Cesar Ahumada, 115th Maintenance works on a Humvee. Photos courtesy 204th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade

shut down operations on the work sites due to the excessive amounts of water and accompanying lightning storms.”

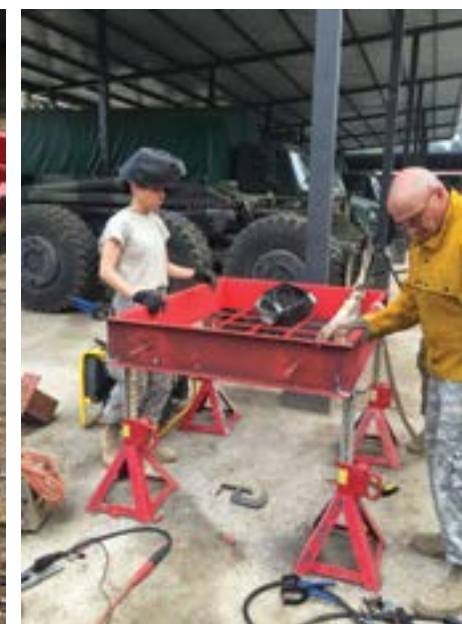
Utah Soldiers were sent out to job sites to assist with engineer-construction projects of schools and health clinics that had fallen behind schedule due to rainfall and lightning storms.

“Engineers had fallen behind, so some of the Utah Soldiers worked with the engineers and helped lay brick or cinder block, rebar and concrete, so when we left they were back on schedule,” said Johnston.

“We were able to go out and see the schools and clinics,” said Williamson. “We helped engineers with laying block, painting, and hauling debris away from the work sites.”



Staff Sgt. J.D. Williamson, 19th Group Support Battalion, grinds a window after making modifications.



Sgt. Guissela Davis, 204th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade and Chief Warrant Officer 2 Marc Blom, 115th Maintenance, prepare to weld a window cover.



Master Sgt. Garrad Johnston, 489th BSB, helps build walls for a health clinic at San Pablo, Guatemala.

Beyond the Horizon required units to carefully plan and conduct logistical operations to support deployments to remote regions. Such mobilization and real-world execution provides unparalleled training that cannot be simulated in the United States.

“Going over there, when you are a support element, you don’t really get to see the work being done, like the schools being built,” said Johnston. “It made me happy I was able to help and take part in the real work of the buildings and schools, instead of just support.”

“I think it shows the U.S. cares about its foreign-national partners and not just going to war,” said Williamson. “It shows we give aid and build them up and want to show the Guatemalan people the U.S. does good things, and we try to spread freedom to other places in the world.”

The mission was a success, and Utah Soldiers received much praise from the task-force commander and his staff for their work ethic and professionalism.

“I think us going down there was a really good relationship builder with the Guatemalan people,” said Williamson. “If I could go again, I would in a heartbeat. It was one of the better missions I’ve had the opportunity to support.”

“When we are in the service of others, and others see we care, it really bolsters our image of who we are as Soldiers,” said Johnston. “We don’t just go places to fight battles, but we also go around the world and help people.”

Story by Ileen Kennedy

Warrant Officer Symposium Emphasizes Making and Retaining Good Leaders

DRAPER, Utah — Warrant officers and noncommissioned officers gathered for a Warrant Officer Symposium at Draper, Utah, May 15.

The focus of the symposium was education, critical and creative thinking, and retention of warrant officers in the Utah National Guard.

“Warrant officers began appearing about 200 years before Christopher Columbus,” said Chief Warrant Officer 5 Phyllis J. Wilson, military fellow with the Strategic Studies Group. “Nobles were given rank and ships without knowledge of seamanship, and the operations of the ocean going vessels they commanded. They relied heavily on senior sailors for the technical operations of their vessels.”

Today the U.S. Army warrant officer is a highly technical Soldier, whose specialty knowledge provides a level of technical expertise not had by other Soldiers.

Wilson explained that much of the military schooling that warrant officers participate in can often be transferred to civilian education hours, sometimes reaching credit-hour equivalents of an associate’s or bachelor’s degree. These levels of education are often left unrecognized on military assessments and unused for civilian education credits.

“Our office is working with several schools to assess how we can get our warrant officers’ civilian degrees with the credits they already have and use tuition assistance funding to fill in the gaps,” Wilson said.

Each discourse put emphasis on education at some point, either to advance careers, enhance technical expertise or to help develop critical and strategic thinking.

“My hope is that when I retire and I watch the news about the stuff you warrant officers are doing, that you are thinking better than us,” said Col. Richard T. Calchera, who serves as deputy assistant commandant, Fort Rucker,

Alabama. “I hope that you are finding solutions and saving lives better than we did.”

Calchera explained the importance of Soldiers developing critical-thinking skills to develop innovative solutions to problems. He addressed how creative solutions to military processes can be assessed using a method of evaluating the costs and benefits of the idea. He emphasized how important it is for the Army to be innovative and adaptive, coming up with creative solutions for problems.

“If some ‘Lieutenant Joe’ brings me a plan and I know he usually doesn’t take the time to evaluate his own work objectively, I probably won’t look at it or put much weight behind it,” Calchera said. “On the other hand, if a sergeant I know is a hard worker and thinks critically gives me a plan, I’ll take it more seriously because I know I’ll get solid work.”

The same sentiment was mirrored by Maj. Gen. Jeff Burton, adjutant general of the Utah National Guard. He explained the need for warrant officers to be the “go-to-knowledge” base for both commanders and NCO’s in their field. Burton also expressed how important it is for leaders to have a strong moral compass.

“The Army Values make us what we are, and leaders must recognize deficiencies in themselves so they can address them and be an example for all Soldiers,” Burton said. “We are in the business of crafting culture. We need to task ourselves with creating a resilient, critically thinking culture in the Army.”

In closing, Wilson said she was honored to be at the symposium and there was such a great turnout from the Utah Guard. Wilson explained that the technical expertise from warrant officers will always be in high demand and it is unfortunately in short supply.

“The Utah Guard alone has 30 warrant officer slots unfilled,” Wilson said. “I hope that we can change that and fill those slots.”

Story and photos by Sgt. Ariel Solomon



Maj. Gen. Jeff Burton describes the importance of morally strong warrant officers to the Utah Warrant Officer Symposium attendees.



Chief Warrant Officer 5 Phyllis J. Wilson, Military Fellow with the Strategic Studies Group out of Arlington, Va., speaks to Utah National Guard warrant officers during a Warrant Officer Symposium hosted at Draper Headquarters, Utah, May 15.

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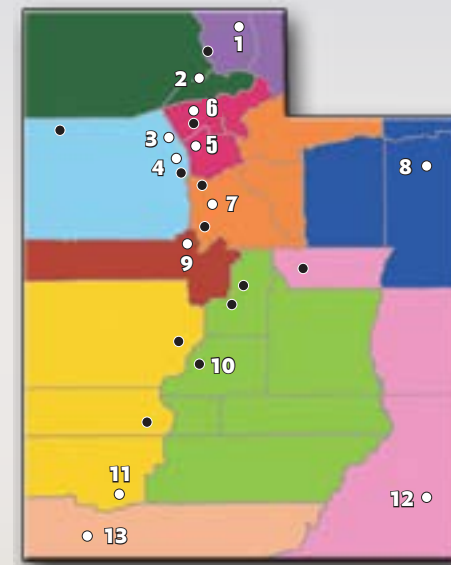
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Honor Flight Heads to WWII Memorial

SALT LAKE CITY — Approximately 25 of members of the Utah Air National Guard volunteered hundreds of hours to help make a trip to Washington, D.C., to see the World War II Memorial possible for more than 150 Utah Veterans during the first three 2016 Utah Honor flights.

Airmen from the 169th Intelligence Squadron, 151st Air Refueling Wing and 130th Engineering and Installation Squadron worked with Utah Honor Flight staff and members of the Utah Army National Guard to ensure the Veterans were honored during the send-off ceremony before the flights and welcomed home by cheering crowds upon their return.

“This is an opportunity for us to honor these Veterans and show our respect,” said Lt. Col. Dustin Carroll, commander of the 130th EIS. “We are thanking the generation that was asked the impossible and paved the way for us to even have the opportunity to be here and do what we are doing.”

Each honor flight takes 50 World War II Veterans and their guardians to Washington, D.C., to visit the memorial built in their honor. Some of the spring honor flights also included Korean and Vietnam War-era Veterans. The trips are free for the Veterans and are made possible through donations to the Utah Honor Flight organization.

In addition to providing a location for the departure and return ceremonies and transportation to and from the airport, members of the Utah Air and Army National Guard met with the Veterans as they arrived and honored them with a salute during the ceremony. They also handled and transported all the luggage for the Veterans and their guardians.

“It has been such a privilege for the Utah Air National Guard to support such an important event in honor of our World War II heroes,” said Brig. Gen. Christine Burckle, Utah Air National Guard commander. “The opportunity to meet them and hear their stories is so inspiring. We are all incredibly grateful for their service to our nation.”

Master Sgt. Chalain Glade, 169th Intelligence Squadron, served as the primary military liaison and spent several months working with the Utah Honor Flight civilians to plan the ceremonies and coordinate logistical support.

Glade said his unit wanted to honor the Veterans with a more formal military presence during the events. They helped develop the script and provided a master of ceremony for the send-off. In addition to formally recognizing the Veterans with a salute during the departure, members of the 169th Intelligence Squadron escorted the group to their gate and assisted them with boarding the plane.



Members of the Utah Air National Guard provided support for three 2016 Utah Honor Flights that brought more than 150 World War II, Korean and Vietnam-era Veterans to Washington, D.C., to see the memorials built in their honor.

“It was very important to us as military members still serving to show the WWII and Korean War Veterans how much we appreciate them,” said Glade, adding that she was there to show her respect and recognize the Veterans’ achievements.

“We wanted to make sure everything went as smoothly as possible during their trip so they received the recognition they deserved and were able to have a meaningful experience,” said Glade.

Judy Lemmons, flight leader with Utah Honor Flight, expressed appreciation for the hard work and effort of the 169th IS and the Utah Air Guard.

“They did above and beyond what we had even thought of,” she said.

Lemmons added that it was very important to the Veterans to have the military presence and interaction during these ceremonies.

“It’s the old and the new coming together and it’s a beautiful thing to watch,” said Lemmons.

Master Sgt. Melanie Sparr, 169th IS, also served as a Utah Honor Flight military liaison and said that working with the Veterans had a huge impact on her personally.

“Being able to honor these Veterans, who feel almost forgotten, is the most humbling experience and a deeply personal opportunity, as I see both of my grandfathers in each of their eyes,” said Sparr.

Marlene Maio whose father Marler Allen Tibbitts went on a spring honor flight said since returning her father has been in deep thought with a permanent

grin and feels so honored to have been recognized for his service.

“I made memories with my dad that will stay with me long after he’s gone,” said Maio. 📷

Story and photos by Staff Sgt. Annie Edwards

Air Promotions

BRIGADIER GENERAL

Burckle Christine M

COLONEL

Ogan Ryan J

LIEUTENANT COLONEL

Anderson Paul D
Musselman Gregory Scott

MAJOR

Mumford Bradley Newbold
Smith Brandon Michael

CAPTAIN

Bortkewicz Kristyl M
De Vita Vincente Nicola
Reiprich Laurie Ann

FIRST LIEUTENANT

Paulsen April A

CHIEF MASTER SERGEANT

Garrett, Brian L

SENIOR MASTER SERGEANT

Herbert Brady R
Hooper Mitchell Henry
Laughter Marlon M
Reynolds Alan Boyd

MASTER SERGEANT

Adamson Curtis M
Asay Robert J
Buell Michael John
James Robert T
Lacome George Lawrence
McDonald Andrew M
McGinnis Page Courtland
Meyer Alicia Ida
Miller Darin J
Muir Elray C
Nichols Brian Allen
Nielson Lalani Nelson
Peterson Bodie R
Peterson Robert Scott
Schlittler Holly Elizabeth
Tyler Roger A
White Landen R
Wimmer Mark W

TECHNICAL SERGEANT

Adams Hayley Barrett
Baggett Andre Joseph
Beck Thomas P
Call Shaun Thomas
Cooper Ryan C
De Laney Christen Lee
Doll Kelly J
Griguhn Brad W

Harris Bradley D
Johnson Jason K
La Giglia Dominick Phillip
Larsen Jason A
Lunt Jeffery M
Palmer Jason L
Simmons Justin Lee
Trujillo George Terry Jr
Ward Berkeley A
Willenweber Rachel L
Young Nolan F

STAFF SERGEANT

Arcia Rex J
Coombe Anthony E
Davidson Joshua James
Engh Abraham K
Fallows Mark A
Flatau Zachary A
Franke Joshua Alan
Gardner Braden L
Geister John Regan
Harley Kevin G
Harper Cody Shane
Hatch William Josef
Heckel Dean W
Henningfeld Paul J
King Ryan David
Kinzie Jordan D
Noorda Kent W
Souza Jeremy Wade
Tholen Landon N
Vasquez Eguasquiza Joseph Benjamin
Wasden Alexander S

SENIOR AIRMAN

Bialcak, Cody R
Cain, Jamal A
Cazimero, Adam M
Creger, Taymon J
Dew Brandon
Flynn James T
Hall Bryan J
Honcoop Duane J
Kadleck Garrett M
Mejia Renee Dillman
Netjes Elijah
Neville Mark E
Oden Christopher L
Reeves David W
Reid Garrett J
Rhodes Jason M
Roberts Brady J
Ruhnau Dane N
Sandoval Andrew P
Smith Jason T
Whipple Harrison P
Woodward Bradley N
Yerian Flint C

Army Promotions

COLONEL

Hartvigsen Gregory Beesley
Turley Michael James

LIEUTENANT COLONEL

Strong Cody James
Wiedmeier Erick Randal

MAJOR

Anderson Lewis David
Biesinger William Kunze
Kroeber Christopher Hall
Warby Bryce Edward
Wood David Samuel

CAPTAIN

Jacobson Garrett Martin
Biesinger James Christian
Francis Kenton Lee
Hurtado Helaman Luis
Lapel Douglas Sarayrith
Mouritsen Jason Lagrand
Papproth Carrie Catherine

FIRST LIEUTENANT

Martin Gina Mae
Martin Markus Oswolf
McGraw Gavin Robert
Smith Solomon Carter
Wright Adam Garrett

SECOND LIEUTENANT

Bjorkman Keshara Heather
Egbert Alma Jedediah
Fagan Adrian Holbrook
Houston Hashim Benjamin
Lamb Jordan Hunter
Opdahl Breanna Jo
Palma Henry Israel
Sonderegger Jeffery Clayton
South Jennifer Lynn

CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER 4

Lovejoy Andrew Gale

CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER 3

Brant Michael Richard
Watson Benjamin Callis

CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER 2

Adams Tyler Gray
Montgomery Robert Ford

WARRANT OFFICER

Branin Cody William
Burton David William
Hurst Jason Joseph
Loftus D Nathan
Paul Joshua Jay
Tuoti Gregory John

SERGEANT MAJOR

Johnson Shane Peter
Lopez Lawrence Fermin

FIRST SERGEANT

Briones Marco Enrique
Carlson James Robert
Hicks Frank Jason
Hoepfner Curt Emery
Kirby Michael Brian

Kluse John Robert
Oldroyd John Wayne

MASTER SERGEANT

Lowery Joshua David
Moon Keith Richard
Taylor William Allen II

SERGEANT FIRST CLASS

Bawden David Brian
Blizzard Richard James
Bonifacio Marck Ronald
Carpenter Cole Robert
Clark Christopher Douglas
Day Justin W
Hoffman Charles Shupe
Hunt Stephen Lee
Martinez Jesse Ray
McFall Timothy Adam K
Mills Michael Andrew
Rodriguezvalentin Erivan
Sehy Christopher Corey
Simper Nathan Raymond
Townsend Jason Bryan

STAFF SERGEANT

Adams Zackary Jordan
Allen Shay Colby
Barbour Hobart Brent
Bell Michael Peter
Bell Trevor Lane
Bushnell Kyle Lynn
Clark Travis Russell
Davis Benjamin Ross
Esplin Steven Kassidy Dale
Felt Matthew David
Fox Tara Denee
Gerfen Jason Lee
Gheri Monica Avelina
Hardy Jerry Lee III
Heywood Jeremy Chad
Hunter Steven Terry
Joseph Tracie Lynn
Keel Benjamin Charles
Kretschmann Eric Daniel
Lytle Avery Michael
Martin Michael Steve
Mills Carson Jack
Moncur Ryan Scott
Muramoto Kami Kristine
Murray Neil James
Oswald Trevor Dean
Prince Clinton Scott
Rhodes Charles Guy
Robbins Shawlan Verl
Romaine Ronald Joseph
Schiereck Strom Shawn
Snowden Ruelle Capri
Spear Joseph Trent
Stein Paul Anthony
Stowe Brian Mack
Virostko Benjamin Ryan
Walker Caden Clark

SERGEANT

Allen Casey J
Allen Jason Travis
Alvarez Kasey Christopher
Anderson Shawn Evans
Argyle Wyatt Bernell
Austin Wayne Given III

Bettino TJ McKeag
Black Corbin Mason
Bolhuis Jami Ann
Bott Kylee Ann
Burton Zachary Kael
Chang Cecil Kamai III
Childs Nicholas Blake
Christensen Bryce James
Christensen Steven Joseph
Christiansen Steen Henrik
Clawson Annalie Lorene
Clement Jeffery Matthew
Cox Jake
Davis Kristopher Lynn
DeJesus Steve Christian
Dettle James Brian II
Dietz Michael Daniel
Fager Aaron Klinesmith
Foote Anastasia
Fullmer Stephen Michael
Henry Major Titan
Ibarra Anthony Kurtis
Jefferson Parker Jay
Keate Jared Jeffs
King Tristin Bret
Layne Christy Lyn

Mackelprang Lance Deven
Manriquez Erwin Dennis
Martin Dylan Charles
McCarty Geoffrey Robert
McCorristin Andrew Gabriel
Meeks Lance Andrew
Nelson Aaron Merrill
Neville Casey Ross
Pantos Brayden Coy
Peacock Kyle Lynn
Penrod Weston Darius
Pollard David Michael
Potter Travis Earl
Privett Thomas Lee
Radcliffe Elden Charles
Richardson Adam Theodore
Riddle Peter Hereward
Rivera Emerson Geovany
Rolfe John Taylor
Romney Daniel Aaron
Root James Richard Willis
Ryan Mark Tyler
Sauer Nicholas Sean
Seeley Alicia Marie
Shamov Maxim
Simmons Mitchell Lee
Smith Colin Clark
Steinberg Brandon Robert
Stotts Jonathon Raymond
Sullenberger Keith Lee
Thunell Andrew Isaac
Till Sean Shelton
Tonge Alexandrya Marie
Visser Anthony Mathew
Warr Seth Nathaniel
Willingham Robert Steven
Wood Rhett William
Wright Michael Alan
Wright Tyler Brandon

SPECIALIST / CORPORAL

Mason Tyler David
Acree Montana James
Aitogi Ahina Alakai
Alder Ben Holden

Army Promotions Continued

Alford Colton Jake
Allen Chance Eric
Allred Jesse Devon
Andersen Levi James
Anderson Daniel James Jr
Antonich Brayden Robert
Aragon Sebastian Gabriel
Atilano Adriana
Babbel Nathan Shan
Bahr Preston Michael
Baird Nicholas Dale
Beaman Deborah Dee
Beckh Charles Peter
Bennett Jason Garn
Biehn Seth Carrolgunnell
Bischoff Jordan Douglas
Bissell Andrew Ethan
Blancia Jerome
Bluth Bryton Daniel
Bradsby Skyler Cameron
Bradshaw Gary Lee Jr
Brewer Michael Jude
Brinkerhoff Courtney Chanel
Brown David Johnlee
Broyhill Christopher Allen
Burke Riley Laurence
Carson Triston Kalob
Christensen Luke Steven
Christiansen River David
Christie Carter Keanu
Clarke Zachary Llewellyn
Clayson Tyler Timothy
Cluff Andrea Rose
Cluff Kyle Junior
Connell Cody Douglas
Curtis Joshua Reed
Dansie James Allen
Davies Garryck Berney
Davis Jeffrey Glenn Jr
Davis Samantha J Peatross
Dayton Christopher Richard
Deleon Monica Anne
Downward Shadrick Shawn
Draper Michael Martien
Drouet Antonio Dante
Dunn Brittany Antoinette
Durrant Jesse Dean
Elmer James R D
Faherty Spencer Riley
Fallentine Nathan Michael
Farr Levi Cacie
Fillmore Robert Bruce
Fordham Michael Conner
Foster Michelle Rose
Fuentes Anthony
Gailey Jeffrey Glenn
Gandarilla Fernando
Garita Jose Ernesto
Garrick Chandler David
George Peter
Gorder Gage K
Graham Shea Michael
Grant Tanner Martin
Griffiths Dustin Brandt
Guadarrama Frederick A
Guttryhall Kendrick S
Hales Darren Samuel
Hall Payton Cole
Haltiner Toby Issac
Hampton Connor John
Hancock Trevor David
Harrell Andrew Rolla
Heeter Michael Zain
Helm Kolton Russ
Holloway David Emmanuel

Horrocks Brock Kohler
Hough Garrett Kenneth
Howell Andrew Merrick
Howell Kameron Kiser
Hughes Jeanette Jalocon
Hunt Jesse Brook
James Devin Louis
Jarnagin Zachary John
Johnson James Riley
Kauffman Jacob George
Keele Joshua Edward
King Cyrus McCormick
King Wyatt Harrison
Kirkman Colton Keith
Kunsman Richard Michael
Lacombe Mathew David
Lambson Jeremy Edward
Larson Israel Mosiah
Larsson Stephen Richard
Leavitt Jayden Andrew
Leckie Scott Andrew
Lewis Erika Sage
Liau Ezra Joseph Cawit
Lindsey Samantha Morgan
Lopez Diqan Joseph
Lott Bryan John
Madsen Levi Caleb
Marshall Ty Travis
Martinez Kaitlyn Corin
McDowell Ranch Levi
McGee Kaitlin Elizabeth
McIlrath Jeffrey Thomas
Mecham Logan Donald
Mills Stephen Kent
Monson Kristopher Jorge
Narciso Jacob Aral
Neil Anthony Scott
Nelsenbowman Nicholas Lee
Nelson Eric Dean
Nelson Sid Albert Jr
Olson Dalton Scott
Ovard Logan Michael
Overstreet Armand Michel
Pacheco Haroldo Fernando
Perry Zachary Joseph
Petersen Adam Roy
Peterson Waydanne
Petty Brandon Ted
Pope Dalton Lance
Prothero Eddie David
Ramsay Lorin Breana
Reeder John Scott
Renouard Dallin John
Riding Michael Linley
Robb Zachurey Myles
Rodino Joseph Rocco Jr
Rosenburg Dustin T
Rougeau Tyler Cross
Rowell Scott Phillip
Rugebregt Benjamin Marco
Rumsey Jared Michael
Sadler Spencer Dee
Saenz Carmen
Salvin Atif
Sandoval Macarena Ayelen
Serranoromero Anthony
Shook Dakota Dean Dalton
Sinthavy Vinai Penn
Skinner Riley Jeff
Slim Taijthonna Latoya
Southern Steven James
Sparbel Matthew Robert
Spence Daniel Lee Jr
Stewart Joshua Joseph
Sullivan Paul Howard Jr

Thomson William Issac
Torres Miguel Angel
Toyn Jordan Kent
Tucker Bryce Andrew
Wallace Hayden Shane
Wells London James
Wight Dominic James
Williams Andrew Michael
Wilson Benjamin Sheryl
Wilson Joseph Keiichiro
Yardley Ty Trevor
Young Kawika Alma James
Zumwalt Khamchaunh Jacoblee

PRIVATE FIRST CLASS

Anderson Taylor
Baray Derek Michael
Barton Cash Derrel
Bass Kenneth William
Bigelow Wyatt William
Blizzard Packer Bruce
Bone Rayven Joanna Pauline
Brownfield Daniel Lewis
Burge Zachary Scott
Cannon Morgan Cheyenne
Carver Jason Philip
Caton Gregory Nicolas Jr
Chapman London Dean
Cheney Cristian Jacob
Cheung Henry Jun Jr
Childers Colton Lee
Christensen Joseph Dix
Connor Daniel Joseph
Cooper Tayler
Croft Scott Braxton
Curtis Bretton Neil
Curtis Jase Nathen
Dalton Kellie Suzanne
Dearinger Shane Carlton
Demond Clayton Read
Douglas Derek Anthony
Drechsler Derek Anderson
Eggleston Taylor James
Ford Kierstin Breanne
Francis Sydney
Frasier Joshua Becker
Friend Courtland Raymond
Galland Corinne
Gonzalez Claudia Adelita
Gonzalez Davian
Gragg Tristen Andrew
Griffiths Shane Craigh
Gutierrez Indira
Harris Parker Scott
Hatch Colton R
Hernandez Harvene Joy
Herrick Trace Lowell
Hess Jonathan David
Holdaway Cash David
Horspool Robert Michael
Hudson Skyler McKay
Hutchings Zachary Davis
Jenkins Colton Lawrence
Jensen Joseph Andrew
Jensen Logan Lambert
Johnson Nathan Samuel
Jolley Taylor Gavin
Juarez Christian Legrande
Juarez Marcelo Manuel
Kaaihue Keaweamaahi Haine L
Kern Ryan Daniel
Kinnersley Wells Russell
Larson Johnathan Michael
Lima Wesley Nunes
Link Greyson James

Lopezaquino Alfredo Miguel
Lunt Payton Kyler
Mateos Erick Alberto
Medal James
Medinarivera Yaritza Sarahy
Melendez Michael Garrett
Mendoza Katie Granados
Mikkelsen Pietr Andrew
Montgomery Levi Reavis
Murie William Gaige
Olmedo Nataly Fabiola
Owens Dilan Ray
Pascale Adam Douglas
Poindexter Dallin Ty
Powell Spencer Dean
Pritchett Kyle Ethan
Reynolds Tucker Lindon
Rich Laramie Cole
Riddle Mark Devon
Rivera Jose Valentino
Roberts Tyler Luke
Rojas Jessica Cuevas
Sholly Garrett Heath
Simons Mathew Oakley
Smithostergaard Gunnar B
Spring Nikolas Karl Patrick
Stock David McKay
Taylor Caiden Phillip
Teixeira Eliel K Fernandes
Teti Joseph Scott Gilman
Thompson John
Toivonen Braden James
Tovar Noe Alan
Trujillo Ricardo Alberto
Umipig Richmund
Vega Bogar
Velaarvillaga Reyna L
Waite Braydon Kelly
Walter Daniel Edwin
Watts Taylor Michelle
Weatherby Cooper Smoki
Welcker Bo Martin
West Brighton Lee
Willard Dexter Rex
Williams Caiden Charles
Williams Nathan Alexander
Zamoramonterroso Samuel F

PRIVATE (PV1)

Adair Joshua Aaron McKee
Ardon Raul Antonio Martinez
Barney Marcus Richard
Campbell Anthony Daniel
Cropper Weston James
Delacruz Spencer Eric
Epling Sutton Kay
Farrer Chase Ray
Hudson Logan Jeremy
Hymas Steven Boyce
Kelly Aaron Jacob
Macguire Vincent Michael
Morgan Jared Nephi
Morris Chenille McKell
Mullen Nathan Sean
Nguyen Loc Thuy Vinh
Opdahl Jerod Jerome
Peck Maxwell Dylan
Pullman Richard Lawrence
Ramirez Maxcmino Jr
Robles Zabdriel Eliasib
Saylor Ammon Robert
Shearer Daniel Martin
IliStanton Austin Paul
Stott Payton Cache
Tullis Kyle Richard

Vickers Kaylen Joseph
Whiteley Ammon Ray

PRIVATE (PV2)

Adsit Forrest Rylan
Bennett Stetson Gordon
Breck Peyton Bingham
Brinkerhoff Benjamin Tyler
Campbell Aaron Alexander
Castillo Sebastian Jose
Chidester Trace Richard
Christensen Michael Dean
Cisneros Matthew Quinn
Clawson Cameron Macdonald
Conger Bryson Kerry
Doel Gavin Turner
Dunn Christopher Bruce
Ewell Rayjun CJ
Facer Russell Martin
Fails Keaton Scott
Farmer Ryan Mark
Fitzpatrick Brian Dean Jr
Folston Joshua Tyler
Frisby Jordan Robert Ivan
Gapinski Braden Jeffrey
Garcia Brandon Daniel
Green Steven Andrew
Gregerson Dallas James
Hale Alexander Daniel
Harris Daniel Louis
Heath Logan Glenn
Hess Morgan David
Holt Timothy Daniel
Hoyt Spencer David
Hunt Baylen Richard Jensen
Jones Sarah Stefanie Renae
Kramer Nancy Marlies
Kunzler Matthew Crosby
Lauti Poukei Ngauamo
Matthews Henry Allan
Mattinson Bradlie Scott
McGee Michael Lawrence
McPhie Chance James
Monson Keyne Taylor
Newkirk Tyson George
Nielson Matthew Adams
Olsen Brendan Jack
Owens Riley Norman
Parham Matthew Eric
Pei Tavae Truman
Peterson Troy Lynn
Pitts Harper Brent
Ramos Maria Guadalupe
Rentmeister Kadence Ray
Robertson Tyler Brent
Rohde Kraig Richard
Ruizcamacho Melissa A
Salgadogomez Andres
Salinas Jonathan David
Sarris Rowdy Dallas
Savage Dallin Michael
Slack Bradley William
Smith Jared Douglas
Sombath Alex
Sprague Kimberly Ann
Stinnett Ricky Vince
Stones Bryson Kenneth
Straughan Phoebe Louise
Thomas Jeffrey Daniel
Tippetts Jacob Shepherd
Trevino Christian Lee
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I, _____, do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; and that I will obey the orders of the President of the United States and the orders of the officers appointed over me, according to law and regulations.

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