

**Utah's Worst Wildfire
Season on Record**

**1-145th Field Artillery
Returns Home and 115th
EFD Deploy**

**85th CST Assists FBI in
Suspected Ricin Attempt**

UTAH MINUTEMAN 2018 Volume 4



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Major General Jefferson Burton The Adjutant General

Members of the Utah National Guard: The Profession of Arms is a demanding business. It requires the total commitment of our service members and of our families.

It takes excellence in the physical, mental and emotional realms, and it takes courage. We face uncertainty and a seemingly endless flow of complex problems to solve. If our jobs were easy, anyone could do them; but the fact is few can or will step forward to be a professional warrior. You are an elite group, and within Utah make up just .47 percent of the population. Your daily sacrifices are recognized within our close-knit community and within our extended communities throughout the state and nation.

Command Sgt. Maj. Anderson and I recently returned from a troop visit to the Middle East. We visited with members of the 65th Field Artillery Brigade; 300th Military Intelligence Brigade; and 2nd Battalion, 211th General Support Aviation Battalion. While each one these formations had varied missions, they were all suffering from challenging physical conditions to include temperatures that soared to 148 degrees. We found these great Americans to be in good spirits, excited about their respective missions and totally committed to excellence. In every case, their chains of command were very proud of these Soldiers and the amazing contribution of excellence they were taking to the fight.

These Utah units are successful because their officers have character and vision, and their NCOs have the pride and the grit to lead them with excellence.

After more than 36 years of military service I am still impressed by the American fighting spirit. I am impressed by the way our service members and families bear suffering with courage, and with a bit of humor in the process. Americans have always been optimistic about the future, and our current warriors are no different. We must remain committed to maintaining ourselves and our equipment in a combat-ready condition. We must elevate our level of physical preparedness as we contemplate the “worst day in America,” and what our response will be. As warriors, we must train hard and always be prepared, so that on the worst day, we will be ready to respond to any threat to our beloved homeland.

We must be leaders in our own homes, and within our communities. Gen. Mark Clark of WWII and Korean War fame said, “All my life as both an educator and Soldier, I have searched for the elusive quality of leadership. Nations spend countless amounts of blood and treasure to find it, and nations will rise or fall based on the quality of the leaders they produce.” If his words are true, and history has validated them, then we must stay focused on developing and strengthening our leadership skills at all levels and within every formation. We admire the “Band of Brothers” in Easy Company, 506th Parachute Infantry Regiment because they were inspiring, and they were competent. Emulate that in your own performance, and together we can meet any challenge and defeat any foe. I am honored to serve alongside each one of you.



Command Sergeant Major Eric Anderson Senior Enlisted Leader

The one constant in the Utah National Guard is change. As our military continues to face multi-dimensional threats to the United States, whether it is a near peer competitor, counterinsurgency/unconventional warfare,

cyber activity, manmade or natural disasters, the Utah National Guard stays ready to assist in all areas. Our all-volunteer force is going through an overhaul, one that is rethinking development and maintenance of technology, gear, equipping and maintaining the force. The new Army

Combat Fitness test is a significant transition from a health assessment to a functional fitness assessment. While I see some growing pains, the new ACFT requirement will translate into more physically fit Soldiers ready to fight and win our nation’s wars. All of these changes necessitate training experienced, adaptive leaders who can react to and overcome challenges we will face. The Utah National Guard is the premier Guard unit in our nation. Your efforts have not been in vain. Your dedication is recognized, not by the media, nor by Hollywood, or politicians, but by the Soldiers and Airmen you have served, day in and day out, regardless of the circumstance. I believe in the future of this great nation and I firmly believe we can overcome the many challenges we face, if we are willing to work together.

The Adjutant General

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Cover Photo: Chief Warrant Officer Chris Bradford co-pilots a Black Hawk over the Dollar Ridge Fire near Strawberry Reservoir in Duchesne County.

Photo by Chief Warrant Officer 2 Elliott Hickman





Left to right: Sgt. Ben Rodgers is greeted by his newly wed wife, Danielle. The two married weeks before being separated by the year-long deployment. A happy reunion and family hug is enjoyed by 1st Sgt. Brady McDonald upon his return. Spc. Jason Bennett sees his months-old daughter for the first time after stepping off the chartered plane.

Delta Battery, 1st Battalion, 145th Field Artillery **Returns Home**

ROLAND R. WRIGHT AIR BASE, Utah — Approximately 60 Soldiers from Delta Battery, 1st Battalion, 145th Field Artillery returned home from deployment in the Middle East on Saturday, July 28, 2018 at the Salt Lake air base.

“We are very proud of our Soldiers coming home this weekend,” said the Adjutant General for the Utah National Guard, Maj. Gen. Jeff Burton. “They have been working in multiple locations on many difficult missions and represented Utah in an outstanding way.”

Delta Battery, part of Utah’s oldest military unit, the 145th Field Artillery, deployed to the Middle East providing vital security support for forces in the region and conducted artillery missions with Middle Eastern partners. This was the first of two, nine-month deployment rotations. The second rotation, Echo Battery, left on June 4, 2018 and is scheduled to return home sometime next year. Burton was present to greet the soldiers as they exited the plane.

“We were working five lines of effort between three different countries: Jordan, Kuwait, and the UAE.” said D Company 1st





Soldiers with Delta Battery, 1st Battalion, 145th Field Artillery are greeted by family and friends upon their return from a year deployment to the Middle East to the Roland R. Wright Air Base, July 28.

Sgt. Brady McDonald. “We developed an excellent relationship with the Emiratis and their cannon artillery units.”

Being separated for nearly a year made for an exciting reunion for some Soldiers and their loved ones. Spc. Jason Bennett was greeting his months-old daughter for the first time. “It’s the best feeling in the world to see her for the first time... it’s got to be the best day in my life,” said Bennett. “The hardest part of the separation was not being able to help with the baby and the day to day stuff,” said Bennett.

“Some days were rough alone with the little one, but that’s all going to change now,” said Mrs. Bennett, his wife. “The first thing we are going to do together is go lay in the grass.”

Sgt. Ben Rodgers and his wife, Danielle, had only been married a couple of weeks before they were separated by the deployment. When Danielle saw her husband walk off the plane, she couldn’t get to him fast enough.

“We’ve been married almost a year going on two weeks!” said Sgt. Rodgers. “We have to learn how to be married now... Thanks to my wife, we’ll be able to spend the first night in our home together as a family.”

“Today is my highlight of the deployment,” said Mckeisha, 1st Sgt. McDonald’s wife. “I personally tried to plan a lot of fun things the kids could look forward to while their dad was gone to help pass the time in a positive way.”

McDonald gave some advice to deployed Soldiers and others preparing to go: “Stay busy and engaged in the mission and your work for the unit. That will help keep your mind working and a positive attitude,” he said.

“Approximately 90% of the unit had never deployed before,” said McDonald. “I am so proud of the work we did. My highlight was watching the leaders and their Soldiers complete their training and missions honorably.”

*Story by Maj. D.J. Gibb
Photos by Maj. D.J. Gibb and Ileen Kennedy*



Utah Warrant Officers Celebrate 100 Years of Service



Maj. Gen. Jeff Burton, center, and Lt. Gov. Spencer Cox, right, unveil the Warrant Officer Corps plaques.



Lt. Gov. Spencer Cox speaks at the unveiling of the Warrant Officer Corps plaques at Camp Williams July 9.

Below: The Warrant Officer Corps plaques celebrating 100 years since the Corps establishment are permanently on display at Camp Williams.

CAMP WILLIAMS, Utah — Warrant officers from around the state gathered at Camp Williams in Bluffdale, Utah, for the centennial celebration of the U.S. Army Warrant Officer Corps on July 9.

Lt. Gov. Spencer Cox spoke along with the Adjutant General of the Utah National Guard, Maj. Gen. Jeff Burton.

“Over the past five years, I’ve had a lot of wonderful opportunities, but at the top of those has been the chance to associate with each of you,” said Cox. “As warrant officers you represent the very best of our nation; you are the technical experts...but it’s not just your service here, it’s your service in the community when you’re not in uniform that makes your service so valuable.”

Three plaques donated by Zions National Bank were unveiled during the ceremony celebrating the service and sacrifices of warrant officers and Soldiers since the Corps was established in 1918. Utah has more than 250 warrant officers currently in service.

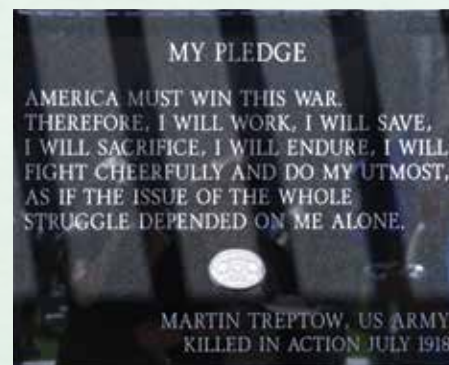
“These guys save lives...because they understand systems and they make them work,” said Burton. “That’s

what warrant officers do, and have done since 1918. We’re very proud of you.

During World War I, an act by Congress in 1918 established the Army Mine Planter Service, or MPS, as part of the U.S. Army Coast Artillery Corps. But before any congressional action, the Army recognized a need for technical experts and leaders in support of mine-planting operations.

Due to the constant flux in personnel, the Army Chief of Coast Artillery requested legislation in 1916 to help militarize the mine-planting vessels. Two years later, Congress granted the request. Along with the MPS, the act established the U.S. Army Warrant Officer Corps.

A total of 40 warrant officers were sanctioned to serve as



masters, mates, chief engineers, and assistant engineers within the Army MPS.

Throughout the war and beyond, warrant officers served alongside crews of enlisted mine-planting specialists in support of MPS operations. Mine-planting teams were responsible for the maintenance of underwater minefields to defend U.S. coastal fortifications at major ports, including the Panama Canal and Manila Bay in the Philippines.

One hundred years later on July 9, 2018, the Army still relies upon warrant officers to be adaptive, technical experts, combat leaders, trainers, and advisors, according to Chief Warrant Officer 4 Billy L. Fritz, the Army staff senior warrant officer and the assistant executive officer for Chief of Staff of the Army Gen. Mark A. Milley.

"On the centennial of the warrant officer cohort, we celebrate who we are, knowing that every situation represents an opportunity to improve our service and support to Army leaders, Soldiers and families," Fritz said. "Today's warrants are faced with limited resources, demanding conditions, and an Army that must meet the challenges of the day while keeping an eye on preparing and modernizing a ready force." 🇺🇸

*Story by Maj. D.J. Gibb
Photos by Ileen Kennedy*



Maj. Gen. Jeff Burton speaks to those attending the unveiling of the Warrant Officer Corps plaques.

Engineers hold farewell ceremony for the 115th EFD as they leave for the Middle East



Fifteen Utah Army National Guard Soldiers said goodbye to family and friends during a farewell ceremony for the 115th Engineer Facility Detachment, 204th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade, Sept. 9, as they depart for an overseas deployment.

CAMP WILLIAMS, Utah — **T**he Camp Williams Officer Club was filled to capacity as 15 Utah Army National Guard Soldiers said goodbye to family and friends during a farewell ceremony for the 115th Engineer Facility Detachment, 204th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade, Sept. 9, 2018 as they depart for an overseas deployment.

The short ceremony consisted of singing of the National Anthem, an invocation and a reading of the unit history.

The ceremony also included guest speakers Brig. Gen. Darwin Craig, director of the Joint Staff for the Utah National Guard and Lt. Col. Budd Vogrinec, deputy commander of the 204th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade. Both officers spoke about the importance the Soldier's families play for a successful deployment and thanked them for their patriotism and support.

The sentiment was echoed by Cpt. Tristan Young, commander of the 115th EFD.

"For the Soldiers, although a deployment is never fun, we are going on a big adventure. We are going to go off and do the job we were trained to do while our spouses are going to stay home and do their job, plus our job, and everything else that will fall on them. You definitely have it harder than we do. We appreciate that and can't express it enough," said Young.

Young also stated that over the last year the 115th EFD has focused on families to ensure spouses know each other and



The 115th Engineer Facility Detachment is primarily comprised of civil engineers and construction project managers and will be supporting the Department of Public Works at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait over the next 10 months.



Brig. Gen. Darwin Craig, the director of the Joint Staff for the Utah National Guard addresses Soldiers and their families during a farewell ceremony Sept. 9.



Master Sgt. Garrett Whatcott emcees the farewell ceremony for the 115th Engineer Facility Detachment, 204th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade, at Camp Williams, Utah Sept. 9.

have a network to be able to rely on in the absence of their Soldier.

The 115th EFD is comprised of primarily civil engineers and construction project managers and will be supporting the Department of Public Works at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait over the next 10 months. They will be tasked with maintaining U.S. facilities and construction projects throughout Kuwait.

“We are very heavy in this unit with civil engineers,” said Sgt. 1st Class Nathan Simper, the detachment non-commissioned officer in charge. “We are going to be doing a little bit of design, but mostly we will be doing contracting and working with the other governments agencies that are in Kuwait.”

For Simper, a police officer from Naples, Utah, this is his third deployment. He said his family knows what to expect and are coping with it very well. He added that being in Kuwait, family communication will be easier than on other deployments.

“This time they know there will be plenty of means to contact us. Communication won’t be a problem,” said Simper.

Not everyone in the 115th EFD has been on a deployment though. This is the first time for Cpt. John Fraidenburgh, a design engineer for the 115th EFD and father of three. He said although he had talked many times with his children about the deployment, this final goodbye was still rough on them. Even so, he is still looking positive towards the deployment.

“I am deploying with a great group of guys and my wife is very happy that we are deploying to a safe and secure location,” Fraidenburgh said.

The 115th EFD commander summed up the sentiment of the unit as they departed for the airport.

“I am proud to be a part of such a great unit. We have some of the greatest minds in the Utah National Guard in this unit. I really do have the dream team,” said Young. 🇺🇸

Story and photos by Sgt. 1st Class John Etheridge

“America’s Thunder” shapes the Middle East

CAMP REDLEG, United Arab Emirates — **T**he 65th Field Artillery Brigade (FA), America’s Thunder, continues to influence the mission as U.S. Army Central’s Force Field Artillery Headquarters supporting Operation Spartan Shield, Operation Inherent Resolve, and Operation Freedom’s Sentinel in the U.S. Central Command’s Area of Responsibility.

65th FA Brigade Commander, Col. Adam Robinson has focused the brigade on five lines of effort: 1) Support the current fight in OIR and OFS, 2) Build partner capacity through Theater Security Cooperation with partner nation countries in Jordan, Kuwait, Oman, United Arab Emirates, Egypt, Qatar, and Saudi Arabia, 3) Enhance and refine capabilities as a field artillery brigade, 4) maintain mission readiness, and 5) Improve Camp Redleg as an enduring base in the AOR.

65th FA Brigade Commander, Col. Adam Robinson, has focused the brigade on five lines of effort:

1. Support the current fight in OIR and OFS.
2. Build partner capacity through Theater Security Cooperation (TSC) with partner nation countries in Jordan, Kuwait, Oman, United Arab Emirates, Egypt, Qatar, and Saudi Arabia.
3. Enhance and refine capabilities as a field artillery brigade.
4. Maintain mission readiness.
5. Improve Camp Redleg as an enduring base in the AOR.

In addition to providing fires with High Mobility Artillery Rocket System, America’s Thunder has deployed its Target Acquisition Platoon to maintain constant vigilance in detecting enemy fires using Q-53 radar systems. These capabilities allow the 65th FA counter-fire batteries to destroy targets in support of OIR and OFS. The Soldiers in the TAP are some of the best the 65 FA has to offer, and are instrumental in providing our coalition



Sgt. 1st Class Kevin Brady, 65th Field Artillery Brigade and a Jordan Armed Forces soldier sit together at a noncommissioned officer conference Aug. 15, 2018 in Amman, Jordan. The noncommissioned officer subject matter expert exchange focused on further developing the relationship between the NCO corps of both countries.

partners the eyes they need to destroy ISIS and other terrorist organizations. America’s Thunder conducts fire missions on a weekly basis that directly support strategic goals in the region.

Under the OSS umbrella, the brigade plans and conducts bilateral and multilateral exercises, subject-matter exchanges, and senior-leader engagements with the field artillery units of seven partner countries. Recent exercises and engagements include a Noncommissioned Officer seminar in Jordan, a joint bilateral HIMARS Rapid Infiltration, a multi-national fires symposium in Nashville, Tennessee, and regular meetings with key leaders of host nations to plan mil-to-mil exercises that build strong relationships and trust with partner nations’ field artillery units.

“The brigade TSC teams have aggressively planned exercises and events in the coming months that will increase ours and our partner nation’s field artillery capabilities ultimately building more lethal forces in the AOR,” stated Maj. Jeremy Williams, 65th FA TSC coordinator.

On a daily basis, Soldiers of America’s Thunder are taking advantage of every opportunity not only to enhance their skills by providing lethal fires, but also by exchanging knowledge on field artillery with partner nations—a rare opportunity for Soldiers in a field artillery unit to execute their specific military occupation specialty in support of a wartime mission. The brigade works with multiple active duty and National Guard units to include the 75th Field Artillery Brigade, 1-14th Field Artillery Regiment, and Wisconsin National Guard’s 1-121st Field Artillery



A Soldier with the 65th Field Artillery Brigade Target Acquisition Platoon (TAP) conducts preventive maintenance checks and services on a Q-53 radar system Aug. 8, 2018. The TAP detected fires for coalition forces to provide counterfire in support of Operation Inherent Resolve.

Regiment, as well as its higher headquarters 28th Infantry Division, of the Pennsylvania National Guard.

America's Thunder has also been host to many distinguished visitors, to include a recent visit from the Utah National Guard Adjutant General, Maj. Gen. Jefferson Burton. During his visit to both the 1-145th FA and 65th FA, Soldiers were recognized for their commitment to their units and mission, participated in unit physical training, and Soldiers demonstrated the impact they are making, and positive reputation they are creating for the state of Utah.

Finally, the brigade works tirelessly to improve its position by making improvements to their base of operations, Camp Redleg. By prioritizing responsibilities for camp development, the brigade is improving Camp Redleg into an enduring base as U.S. ARCENT's Force Field Artillery Headquarters. Recently, they laid a fiber line aimed at expanding high-speed internet capabilities for Soldiers to use in their downtime. In addition, the brigade opened a new cardio gym giving Soldiers more options to sustain their physical fitness and continue mission readiness. Future plans include building more permanent infrastructure, such as a dining facility and life support systems, planting vegetation, providing shaded community-gathering areas, and making better living conditions for Soldiers.

"There is so much we can do here. It will help the overall mission. We want to do our best to give the Soldiers the very best. Soldier morale is equivalent to Soldier performance," commented Capt. James



A High Mobility Artillery Rocket System from Bravo Battery, 1st Battalion, 14th Field Artillery Regiment, 65th Field Artillery Brigade, Task Force Spartan, prepares to conduct a fire mission during exercise Golden Sparrow on June 29, 2018.

Redhouse, deputy project manager for the 65th FA.

As America's Thunder enters the second half of its deployment, they are proud of their accomplishments and look to continue being a force multiplier in the region. The brigade takes pride in serving its country while representing Utah through the defeat of ISIS and other aggressive actors that threaten the freedoms and liberties within the Middle East. 🇺🇸

Story by 1st Lt. Jeffrey Belnap

Photos by 1st Lt. Jeffrey Belnap, Staff Sgt. Matthew Keeler, Spc. Joshua Fraiser, Sgt. Tanner Grant



Maj. Gen. Jefferson S. Burton (left) the adjutant general, Utah National Guard, observes a fire mission exercise as Capt. Jerod Hansen (right) fires control officer, 65th Field Artillery Brigade, explains the fire mission process Aug. 15, 2018 at Camp Redleg. The exercise was part of Burton's visit to see Soldiers of the 65th Field Artillery Brigade while deployed supporting Operation Spartan Shield, Operation Inherent Resolve, and Operation Freedom's Sentinel.



Maj. Corey Mellor (left), projects manager for the 65th Field Artillery Brigade, and Capt. James Redhouse (right), deputy project manager for the 65th Field Artillery Brigade, pose for a photograph in front of a manhole Aug. 8, 2018, at Camp Redleg, United Arab Emirates. The manhole is part of an ongoing project to upgrade the camps internet connectivity.

Governor Herbert reflects on suicide prevention during Governor's Day



Soldiers and Airmen with the Utah National Guard stand in formation as Gov. Gary Herbert, commander-and-chief, renders a salute from a Humvee along with Maj. Gen. Jeff Burton, the adjutant general and Brig. Gen. Tom Fisher, Land Component commander.

CAMP WILLIAMS, Utah — Utah National Guard Soldiers and Airmen took part in the annual Governor’s Day festivities at Camp Williams, Sept. 15.

The ceremony kicked-off with a 19-volley cannon salute and a helicopter flyover in honor of Gov. Gary R. Herbert, commander in chief of the Utah National Guard. The event also allowed Herbert to speak directly to the more than 7,000 Soldiers and Airmen under his command.

He reminded the service members of the importance of not only physical health, but also mental health.

“There’s no shame in seeking medical help for your physical injuries so that you can return to full service in your

unit,” said Herbert. “I worry however, that we are sometimes reluctant to think the same way about emotional stress and emotional injuries. For one thing, because we can’t see them as easily as we can a physical injury, sometimes we question the reality of emotional or mental illness. But they are very real.”

Herbert further pointed out that emotional challenges are more deadly to our Soldiers than physical injury, with an average of 22 veterans committing suicide each day.

“We lose far more of our Soldiers to suicide than to combat or accidents.”



A Utah National Guard Color Guard of both Airmen and Soldiers stand in front of the military formation for Governor's Day on Tarbet Field at Camp Williams, where Gov. Gary Herbert, commander-and-chief, reviews the troops.



He outlined several programs in place to help service members, like Ready and Resilient, the Army's program for strengthening personal and unit readiness.

Maj. Gen. Jefferson S. Burton, the adjutant general of the Utah National Guard, reiterated the concern and care each service member can contribute to.

"May we make a silent promise to keep the faith with our battle buddies and our wingmen," said Burton. "May we be strong for one another, and unashamedly rush to the aid of those in need. May we remember those who have suffered grievous physical wounds in the defense of liberty, and may we never forget those who have given the ultimate sacrifice within our formations so that we might live in freedom."

After the pass in review, attendees participated in a variety of activities to include children's games, food vendors and a car show.

Kristi Grooms, a family member who has been coming to Governor's Day since she was a young girl watching her father on the parade field, now brings her children to enjoy the festivities.

"It's just fun for the families to feel a little bit more a part of all the military stuff and be part of the pomp and circumstance," said Grooms. "We always love the parade because we always like looking for our service members."

Additionally, booths were set up to assist service members in finding programs to help them and their families in their specific needs.



Soldiers and Airmen with the Utah National Guard march in the pass in review with Gov. Gary Herbert, commander-and-chief, Maj. Gen. Jeff Burton, the adjutant general and Brig. Gen. Tom Fisher, Land Component commander.



Photos top down: Gov. Gary Herbert, commander-and-chief, left, and Maj. Gen. Jeff Burton, the adjutant general fly in a Black Hawk to Spanish Fork after Governor's Day. Soldiers and Airmen with the Utah National Guard march in the pass in review on Tarbet Field at Camp Williams. Military members and guests attending Governor's Day watch the military parade of Soldiers and Airmen. Soldiers and guest attending Governor's Day stand during the National Anthem.



“Our primary mission is to help civilians or anyone who has served in the military and their spouses, with obtaining professional licenses or professional certifications,” said Thomas Paul, Utah Department of Workforce Services Accelerated Credentialing to Employment representative. “We are very flexible with other things that we can assist them with regarding education. We have two goals, to support the troops that are here, and help them navigate through everything the ACE program does.”

Governor’s Day fulfilled many purposes by allowing the governor to personally review the Soldiers and Airmen under his state command, hold a family day for the Soldiers, Airmen and their families, and provide service members with information about services to aid them and their families. 🇺🇸

*Story by Spc Madeline Florian
Photos by Tech Sgt. Annie Edwards and
Anna Lehnardt*

Utah Refuels Over Guam During Valiant Shield 2018



ANDERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Guam — Approximately 60 Airmen from the Utah Air National Guard deployed to Anderson Air Force Base, Guam as part of the 506th Expeditionary Air Refueling Squadron in support of Exercise Valiant Shield 2018. The training exercise, the largest U.S. military war game held in the Pacific, took place around the Marianas Islands and Guam Sept. 16-23.

The UTANG rotation in Guam began Sept. 4 and ended Oct. 7 and involved aircrew, maintenance, logistics readiness and support personnel. Col. Brandon Taylor, commander of the 151st Operations group, acted as the 506th EARS Detachment Commander during the exercise.

“This was the busiest year that I have ever experienced,” said Taylor. “When we arrived, Valiant Shield was pre-positioning pulling the Marines, Air Force, Army, and Navy together for this huge joint force exercise.”

Valiant Shield was interrupted when Guam was hit by Typhoon Mangkhut. The storm moved directly over the island with winds more than 100 mph, kicking off a series of evacuations of personnel and equipment that split the jets between three islands and forced more than 100 Air National Guard, Reserve, and Active Duty members to relocate. The typhoon caused a two-day delay for the air-refueling mission for the Pacific Command theatre security package.

The KC-135 Stratotanker continues to demonstrate its importance in extending the range of the military’s tactical fighters, airlifters, and bombers engaged in the Pacific.

“Nobody goes anywhere without tanker support,” said Taylor.

The 506th EARS provides consistent in-flight refueling operations for Andersen’s mission supporting deployed fighters, airlifters, and bombers to maintain a show of force as part of the ongoing bomber presence and theater security packages in the Pacific region.

Under the 506th EARS the Utah Air National Guard completed 55 flights, more than 350 hours of flight time, and offloaded more than two-million pounds of fuel to 72 jets.

“We could not have done it without the hardworking members who put in long hours to meet the high demands of our mission tempo,” said Taylor.

Taylor emphasized the importance of the KC-135 in the PACOM mission, which covers more than half the globe to include the Atlantic Ocean.

“The tanker has the most vital mission and is one of the most prized and sought after assets in the Pacific but we couldn’t do it without the men and women who serve,” said Taylor. 🇺🇸

Story and photos by Maj. Janine Smith



A Utah Air National Guard KC-135 transports Airmen and equipment to Guam to support exercise Valiant Shield 2018.

Utah Military Intelligence Soldiers support Hurricane Florence

ARLINGTON, Virginia — The Utah National Guard sent 10 Soldiers from the 300th Military Intelligence Brigade, 142nd Military Intelligence Battalion (Linguist), to assist relief efforts in the aftermath of Hurricane Florence Sept. 15.

The 142nd MI Soldiers were given 36-hours notice for an opportunity to volunteer to support relief operations during Hurricane Florence for 30 days. They were sent to the National Guard headquarters in Arlington, Va., to provide analytical assistance to key decision-makers and commanders.

“It’s great to use the skills the military has given me to assist fellow Americans in their time of need,” said Staff Sgt. Joshua Kearl. Their role is primarily based around consolidating information from several sources (open-source news, aerial and satellite



Soldiers of the Utah National Guard's 142nd Military Intelligence Battalion analyze aerial imagery of flooding in North Carolina during Hurricane Florence relief operations.



Maj. Roger Mulholland and Staff Sgt. Mitchell Daroczi, 142nd Military Intelligence Battalion, collaborate on assessing damaged infrastructure in North Carolina during Hurricane Florence relief operations.

Hurricane Florence causes severe flooding to a church and surrounding areas in Spring Lake, NC, Sept. 17, 2018. Local and national emergency personnel along with U.S. Military work together to help those affected by Hurricane Florence.



Soldiers from the Utah Army National Guard's 142nd Military Intelligence Battalion stand with the Minuteman statue outside the U.S. Army National Guard Readiness Center in Arlington, Va., where they provide analytical support to Hurricane Florence relief operations. Back row, left to right: Private 1st Class Gabriel Read, Staff Sgt. Joshua Kearl, Staff Sgt. Matthew Otis, Staff Sgt. Daniel Pew, Staff Sgt. Derek Whitney, Staff Sgt. Mitchell Daroczki; Front row, left to right: Maj. Roger Mulholland, 1st Sgt. Miguel Villalona, Staff Sgt. Alan Daimaru, Sgt. 1st Class Ian Hampton



imagery, other governmental reporting, etc.) to answer information requirements. This allows commanders to allocate resources to conduct rescues and evacuation operations and direct-relief operations to areas hit the hardest.

"We've seen some enormous challenges with logistics—with more than 11,000 roads closed in North Carolina alone and drinking water being compromised with contaminated flood water (due to ash pits and hog farms), we are helping find ways to get food and water to those who need it most," said Maj. Roger Mulholland, officer in charge of the Utah Soldiers.

The team has also helped assess damage to critical infrastructure such as roads, dams, energy plants, and bridges in order to determine the safest routes and protective equipment for first responders and to prioritize needs.

"It is humbling and an honor to provide support to a national crisis within the United States," said Sgt. 1st Class Ian Hampton, who assisted in similar ways last year during areas hit by hurricanes. "There is a lot of satisfaction in performing this role as a National Guard Soldier—this is what our core mission is." 🇺🇸

*Story by Maj. Roger Mulholland and Ileen Kennedy
Photos by Tech Sgt. Erich Smith and Spc. Austin Boucher*

85th CST supports the FBI in ricin attempt on President Trump

LOGAN, Utah— In support of the FBI and U.S. Postal Service the Utah National Guard's 85th Weapons of Mass Destruction-Civil Support Team monitored for hazardous materials at a home in Logan, after letters containing ground caster beans, the substance from which the deadly poison ricin is made, were mailed from the residence to President Donald Trump, Defense Secretary James Mattis and Navy Admiral John Richardson.

"The 85th CST members conducted joint entries with FBI agents in order to provide atmospheric monitoring and assist with evidence collection," said 85th CST deputy commander.

The 85th CST deployed with its full complement of equipment to include: advanced communication, analytical, survey and medical. The 85th CST donned protective hazmat gear before entering the Logan residence to begin the investigation. They performed the technical decontamination for all agencies and agents exiting the residence, as well as monitoring inside.

"We had indication he may possess dangerous chemicals in the house," said Doug Davis, an FBI Special Agent from Salt Lake City Office.

"It was a good opportunity for us to participate in a high-visibility event and operate with multiple federal agency partners," said 85th CST deputy commander. "The 85th CST was able to meet all of the objectives of the incident commander and it was another successful support mission of the CST."

Ricin is a highly toxic compound extracted from castor beans that has been used in terror plots. Ricin, which is part of the waste produced when castor oil is made, has no known antidote. It can be used in powder, pellet, or mist form. If ingested, it causes nausea, vomiting, bloody diarrhea and internal bleeding of the stomach and intestines, followed by failure of the liver, spleen and kidneys, and death by collapse of the circulatory system. If inhaled, within a few hours the likely symptoms would be coughing, tightness in the chest, difficulty breathing, nausea, and aching muscles. Within the next few hours, the body's airways would become severely inflamed (swollen and hot), excess fluid would build up in the lungs, breathing would become even more difficult, and the skin might turn blue.



The 85th Weapons of Mass Destruction - Civil Support Team, in support of the FBI, conducted monitoring and testing at a home in Logan, Utah Oct. 3, after letters suspected of containing the deadly poison ricin were mailed from the residence to President Donald Trump, Defense Secretary James Mattis, and Navy Admiral John Richardson.





The FBI released a statement reading:

“The Salt Lake City Division of the FBI has taken William Clyde Allen into custody per a probable cause arrest warrant authorized by the U.S. Attorney’s Office in Utah. Per the USAO, a complaint is expected to be filed in federal court on Friday.”

William Clyde Allen, a 39-year-old Logan resident, confessed to sending the letters laced with poison and was being held in the Davis County jail on a Threat of Terrorism charge. He is a former member of the U.S. Navy.

The probable cause statement includes:

“On or about September 24, 2018, William Clyde Allen III sent, via postal mail, four letters containing ground castor beans to the President of the United States, the FBI Director, the Secretary of Defense and the Chief of Naval Operations. During [an] interview of [Allen] on October 3, 2018 [Allen] confessed to having purchased castor beans and having sent letters. All four letters tested positive for ricin poison.”

“All threats directed towards the president, or any Secret Service protectee, are treated seriously and fully investigated,” the statement said. 📧

Story and photos by Ileen Kennedy

The mission of the 85th Weapons of Mass Destruction - Civil Support Team is to assess suspected nuclear, biological, chemical, or radiological events in support of local incident commanders, and advise civilian responders regarding appropriate actions.

Utah National Guard Rescues Climbers from Maple Canyon Rock Wall

FREEDOM, Utah— **A** climber dangled on the rock wall, more than 500 feet from the ground, after running out of rope while trying to rappel down a 600-foot rock face in Maple Canyon Sept 15.

The Department of Public Safety and search-and-rescue teams requested support to pull a climber from the cliff. Chief Warrant Officer 4 Scott Upton, pilot; Chief Warrant Officer 2 Nick Creamer, copilot; Staff Sgt. Bleu Hawkley, Staff Sgt. Mike Martin, and Sgt. Joe Shelley, medic, all Soldiers from 2nd Battalion, 211th Aviation flew in a Black Hawk, fitted with a hoist, to the area for the after midnight rescue.

"The rescue mission was conducted late at night, the visibility was extremely low due to no ambient light," said Upton. "This makes height and depth perception difficult.

Once the crew arrived at Maple Canyon they were able to see the climber hanging from the side of the cliff about half way down the rock wall.

"I was informed that if we did not recover the individual from the side of the rock face he could lose limbs," said Upton. "DPS and members of the rescue ground crew let us know where the male was, what the terrain looked like and that there was an additional female we need to hoist off the top of the ridge.

"CW2 Creamer hovered the aircraft over to the side of the mountain," said Upton. "We ensured our rotor wash would not blow the



male dangling over the side of the cliff off his rope."

Once in position Hawkley, assisted by Shelley, lowered Martin down on the hoist. The aircraft, which was above the top of the cliff, hovered in place with the climber more than 100 feet below the aircraft. Martin was able to retrieve the male off his rope, then Hawkley hoisted Martin and the male climber up to the aircraft. Shelley retrieved both the climber and Martin into the aircraft and began triage on the climber while the rest of the crew set up for the next hoist.

The female was located on the top of the ridge. She was between two rocks and tied in with a tether. She was hoisted into the aircraft from more than 40 feet below the aircraft. Both climbers were flown down to the base camp and transferred to an ambulance.

"This crew was able to conduct a hoist greater than 100 feet with little or no reference, and rescue two people off the side and top of a mountain side," said Upton "The professionalism, skill, and training is the reason this crew was successful. We have flown in this type environment in combat zones and trained for this mission here and abroad."

Maple Canyon is located just three miles South West of Fountain Green, Utah by the small town of Freedom in Sanpete County. The canyon has an elevation of 6,700 feet and is rated one of the top locations in the world for rock climbing. The rock walls are filled with thousands of embedded cobblestones, making every climb in this canyon very unique. 🇺🇸

Story by Ileen Kennedy
Photos courtesy of Department of Public Safety

Staff Sgt. Mike Martin, a medic with 2nd Battalion, 211th Aviation is lowered on a hoist as the UH-60 Black Hawk hovers for the night rescue mission. On Martin's first descent he is able to rescue a male climber that is dangling around 500 feet above the ground. During the second rescue, Martin is able to hoist a female climber from off the top of the 600-foot cliff. Both rescues were successful during the dangerous night-time mission.



Brothers Face Off In Gettysburg Once Again



Sgt. Eric Armijo rucks through Gettysburg (above) and works his way through an obstacle course (below) while competing in the National Best Warrior Competition held in Fort Indiantown Gap, Pa.

CAMP WILLIAMS, Utah— Soldiers in sweat-soaked uniforms, fatigued from days of intense competition, rucked through the fogbound hills of Gettysburg National Military Park, hands clenched, arms pumping, and lungs burning. The enthusiasm and determination lingered in the humid air, long after the sound of their footfalls had faded into the historic battlefield.

For Army Sgt. Eric Armijo, a combat medic from Utah Army National Guard's 2nd Battalion, 222nd Field Artillery, his arrival at the National Best Warrior Competition held in Fort Indiantown Gap, Pa., on July 22, 2018, marked the culmination of months of hard work and training.

"Competing at the battalion level was kind of a surprise," said Armijo. "I only had a day's notice, and from that point on, I've been loving every second of it. It's been a really good opportunity to prove what I've got and what I can do as a Soldier."

He is just one of 14 competitors in the National Best Warrior Competition. To make it this far, Armijo had to compete and win at the battalion, state, and regional levels.

"I'm excited to see how I'll stack up against the other competitors," Armijo admitted. "I'm probably most

nervous about the land-navigation course and getting all the points, but I'm really excited about the obstacle course and other events."

Under the guidance of Army Command Sgt. Major Harry Buchanan, senior enlisted leader of the Pennsylvania National Guard, a rigorous series of events were developed to test each competitor.

"I want them to be tired when they're done," Buchanan said. "I want each event to challenge them physically and mentally."

The competition included everything from land navigation, weapons qualification, and a three-gun shoot, to an obstacle course, concluding with a 12-mile ruck march through Gettysburg National Military Park.

High winds and torrential rainfall added extra challenges for the competitors. The rain was so intense that the Pennsylvania National Guard had to help evacuate citizens whose homes were flooded.

"Being soaked for almost the entire time definitely weighs on you mentally," said Armijo. "You have to just accept it and keep yourself engaged in the task you are currently doing."

The rain came down so hard that the night-land navigation had to be delayed because of upwards to four feet of standing water on the roads.

Even though the week wore the competitors down both physically and mentally, each of the 14 Soldiers remained positive and consistently joked with their new brothers. The Best Warrior Competition is supposed to be tough but it also gives the Soldiers a chance to forge life-long bonds.

"If you are a Soldier who is interested in doing this, I would highly suggest putting your name forward," said Command Sgt. Major Eric Anderson, Utah National Guard Senior Enlisted Leader. "This is a once-in-a-life-time experience. Not just being here and getting to go to battlefields like Gettysburg, but competing and pushing yourself is something you'll never forget."

Armijo competed with distinction throughout the week, but unfortunately failed to come up on top.

"There were some events that I would have liked to have done better," said Armijo. "But I enjoyed every second that I've been here and I've made some awesome new friends." 🇺🇸

Story and photos by Sgt. James Dansie



Utah National Guard Promotes a New General

CAMP WILLIAMS, Utah — After 32 years of service, the Utah National Guard proudly announced the promotion of Col. Tyler B. Smith to the rank of brigadier general near the parade field at Camp Williams on Aug. 1, 2018.

Smith followed Brig. Gen. Dallen Attack in the position of Assistant Adjutant General—Army on July 2, 2018.

“I am deeply humbled and honored to wear the star of an American general and be counted among those who have played a significant role in establishing the freedoms we enjoy,” said Smith. “I feel the weight of that star and am mindful of the tremendous responsibility and sacred trust that is mine as I serve the Soldiers, Airmen, and members of the Utah National Guard.”

Smith has served over the years in many capacities and leadership roles for the Guard. He commanded the Utah National Guard’s 85th Weapons of Mass Destruction—Civil Support Team located in Salt Lake City until he was selected to serve as the executive officer of Utah Training Center—Camp Williams. In June 2014, he was appointed as the Camp Williams garrison commander. In July 2016, he was assigned as the Construction and Facilities Management Officer responsible for all the real property of the Utah Army National Guard.

“I’ve been in the Army most of my adult life,” said Smith. “It has given me an education, experiences, and opportunities that have shaped and mentored me far beyond what I could have obtained through any other profession. Today the Army offers me the chance to return the favor; I embrace this opportunity.”



Assistant Adjutant General, Brig. Gen. Tyler Smith, receives his new shoulder boards from his oldest grandson, Clayson Cahoon, with the help of his wife Maurnie Smith, and Bronson Smith, his son at his promotion ceremony at Camp Williams Aug. 1. Marley Smith, his granddaughter, holds his new beret.

In his current assignment, he holds great responsibility over the operations of the Utah National Guard and assists the Adjutant General, Maj. Gen. Jeff Burton, with many of his duties as well. Burton spoke at the promotion ceremony.

Smith deployed to Afghanistan in 2008 as the team chief of an embedded training team in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. For his work as an advisor to the Afghan National Army, he was awarded the Bronze Star and Combat Action Badge. He earned two master’s degrees in Public Administration from Brigham Young University and Strategic Studies from the U.S. Army War College.

Smith currently resides in Saratoga Springs, Utah with his wife, Maurnie. Together they have raised four children and currently have 11 grandchildren.

“May we all leave today with an increased measure of commitment to be better citizens, to embrace the Army and Air Force values, and to live up to the expectations and demands of being part of the greatest military the world has ever seen,” said Smith. 🇺🇸

*Story by Maj. D.J. Gibb and Ileen Kennedy
Photos by Ileen Kennedy*



Command Sgt. Maj. Eric Anderson, left, renders a first salute to Brig. Gen. Tyler Smith as Sgt. 1st Class Tina Semanoff displays the brigadier general's new flag.

Utah Records One of the Worst Fire Seasons

SALT LAKE CITY — Governor Gary Herbert said this year will go down as one of the worst wildfire seasons on record.

"It's the worst fire season we've probably had in memory," said Gov. Herbert. "We've had, as of last count, (since Aug. 7) about 875 fires in our state. It's a number that's staggering."

Gov. Herbert explained 60 percent of the fires this season have been human caused. The Dollar Ridge Fire is one of those man-made fires.

The Utah National Guard received requests by the State Emergency Operations Center to help combat some of the larger fires burning around the state.

Pilots and crews with 2nd Battalion, 211th Aviation Regiment (2-211th) flew the Black Hawks that assisted with wildland fires burning around the state. These crews worked for two days on the Middle Canyon Fire in Tooele County, dropping 14 buckets of water for a total of 6,468 gallons. During the Dollar Ridge Fire near Strawberry Reservoir in Duchesne County, two Black Hawks flew for 18 days, dropping 800 buckets of water with approximately 369,600 gallons of water. On the Coal Hollow Fire in Spanish Fork Canyon, Utah County, the Black Hawks flew for five days, dropping 251 buckets of water with approximately 109,160 gallons. High winds grounded aircraft during the fight on the Pole Creek Fire in Utah County, but the Black Hawks flew one day dropping 40 buckets of water.

The 151st Air Refueling Wing's Fire Department assisted Salt Lake City Fire Department with one tanker and two firefighters on Victory Road in Salt Lake City to help with a fire north of the Capitol. The 151st Fire Department also aided the Salt Lake City Airport with a brush fire on I-80 between 1300 South and Foothill Drive sending two fire trucks with personnel.

Earlier this year, Soldiers with the 2-211th deployed overseas, making it a very taxing year for this Black Hawk unit. In order to fulfill the need for qualified pilots to fight fires, the 2-211th had to reach out to other units within the Utah Guard to fill the missions.

"We have a battalion of Black Hawks deployed, so as far as personnel, we are pretty limited this year," said 1st Lt. Rich Johnson, a Lakota pilot with the 112th Aviation. "Lakota pilots that were previously Black Hawk pilots have been brought back to help with the personnel issues in the 2-211th."

During this year's fire season the Guard's Black Hawks are being used more often and flying more frequent missions.

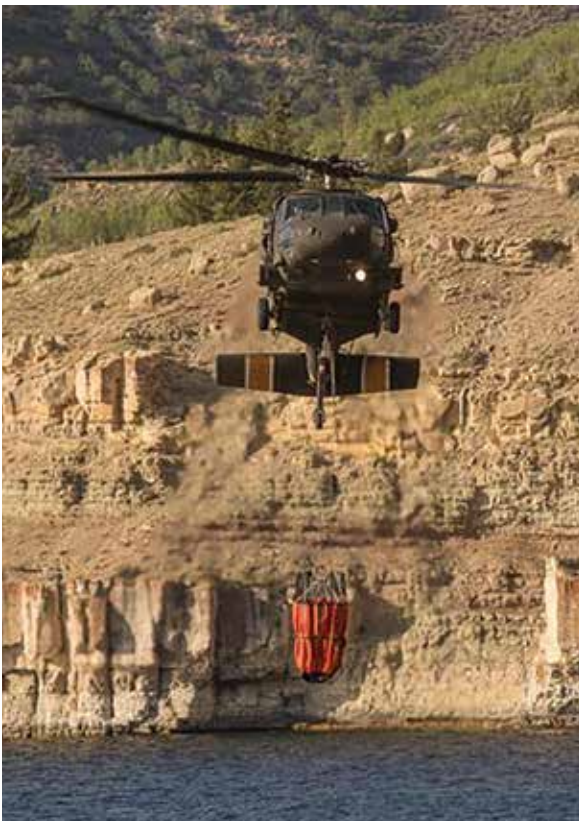
"Fighting a fire from the air is some of the most dangerous flying that we do within the state," said Maj. Jeremy Tannahill, 2-211th administrative officer.

Conditions have been difficult fighting these fires. The beetle-killed pine trees flare up and put off so much heat and smoke, limiting visibility from the air. The fire jumps from one dead pine tree to another, shooting flames close to 100 feet in the air.

"The water is dissipated more when dropped from higher altitudes so it takes more bucket drops," said Johnson. "Working in poor visibility, high altitudes, with multiple aircraft flying in a small area, working with people on the ground that you don't train with on a regular basis, working in a canyon you haven't flown in with steep terrain, and working long days, presents lots of different challenges."



Chief Warrant Officer Chris Bradford co-pilots a Black Hawk over the Dollar Ridge Fire.



A Utah National Guard UH-60 Black Hawk hovers over Soldier Creek Reservoir while fighting the Dollar Ridge Fire in Duchesne County.



In addition to the many different challenges, pilots also had dangerous obstacles like the fire burning around high power lines and burning so hot and creating so much smoke that the visibility was poor in the steep canyons.

"Our job is to lay down the heat so the firefighters can get in to work," said Johnson. "We are dropping the water and trying to slow the fire from advancing and knock it down so the firefighters can get in and create an effective line to stop it from spreading."

"What you should know: this is a state fire. This is not a federal fire, it started on state land, private lands, so it is our responsibility," said Herbert. "We have a shared agreement for costs with the federal government, but it is really up to us to seal up and contain this."

Gov. Herbert praised firefighters and other organizations for doing what they could, fighting the Dollar Ridge Fire, to protect lives and property.

"As you can see, this is quite a team effort. We credit them for the good work they're doing. We feel for those who've lost property," the governor said. "This is a really difficult fire." 🇺🇸

*Story by Ileen Kennedy
Photos by Maj. Jeremy Tannahill, Chief Warrant Officer
2 Elliott Hickman, Geoff Liesik, and Utah Fire Info*

A 2nd Battalion, 211th Aviation Regiment's Black Hawk dips its bucket in a water-filled pumpkin while supporting the Dollar Ridge Fire. Dead and dry pine trees explode with flames in the mountains in Duchesne County. A Bambi Bucket releases its water load onto the wildfire. Smoke from the Dollar Ridge Fire is viewed through the windshield of a UH-60 Black Hawk in August 2018.





Students learn lessons in liberty at Freedom Academy 2018

CAMP WILLIAMS, Utah — Eighty-nine delegates from 57 different high schools around the state spent a week at Camp Williams to participate in Freedom Academy, the annual summer leadership retreat for high school students sponsored by the Utah National Guard, Honorary Colonels Corps of Utah, Zions Bank and Sysco Foods.

The student “delegates” arrived at Camp Williams on the last Sunday in July. For the next five days, from sunrise to sundown, they packed in lessons on freedom and responsibility.

“Freedom Academy is an opportunity for these kids to come out and see things in a new way,” said Maj. D.J. Gibb, Utah National Guard public affairs officer and deputy director of Freedom Academy. “They have typically heard about their freedoms; said the pledge of allegiance or sang the national anthem... but this is the first time for some of these kids that they’ve done it and understood why they are doing it.”



Student delegates from around the state spend a week together at Camp Williams learning about our freedoms.

Ten counselors, all Utah National Guard Soldiers and Airmen, lead small groups of delegates through the activities, all designed to increase appreciation for basic freedoms.

“We go through a myriad of activities throughout the week to learn about freedom of speech, freedom of the press, freedom of religion, and all of our freedoms,” said Maj. Bruce Lewis, commander of the 151st Security Forces Squadron and director of Freedom Academy.

Counselors are an important part of the teaching and mentoring that Freedom Academy offers, according to Gibb. Delegates are each assigned to one of the counselors for the entire week. Freedom Academy planners say the group relationships give delegates a deeper understanding of what they are learning.

“The counselors are great... they just have it set up so perfectly that it’s hard to not have a really good time,” said Adriana Delgado, a senior at Wendover High School.

One of the goals is to have fun while getting a first-class civics education.

“We go to the capitol and meet with the governor and hear his thoughts and philosophy on governing. We also learn about our legislation system and about how we make our laws and work through those challenges,” said Lewis.

Delegates also visited the prison to learn how freedoms can be taken away. They went on field trips to the state capitol, federal courthouse, and KUTV News studios, and spent a day at Roland R. Wright Air National Guard Base, and another day on Camp Williams ranges.

On the Army range, delegates rappelled, climbed a rock wall, and fired M-16 rifles. At the Air base, they did a fireman challenge, handled explosive-ordnance-disposal equipment, toured a KC-130 Stratotanker aircraft, and practiced flightline safety procedures.

While at the garrison side of Camp Williams, delegates heard from speakers on a range of topics. Mike Schlappi, a paralympic athlete, spoke to the group about being happy despite challenges. Jay Hess described his experiences as a prisoner of war during the Vietnam conflict. Najib Kahoush, a political asylee from Lebanon talked to the delegates about not taking liberty for granted.

For Abraham Lamoreaux, a senior at Snow Canyon High School, the visit to the courthouse was a highlight. “We watched the defense counsel and the prosecution argue over sentencing in an actual case. It was really cool to see how the system actually works.”

Delgado enjoyed the leadership reaction course, a set of series of challenges designed to test teamwork and problem-solving skills.

“Freedom Academy has been one of the most influential camps I’ve been to in my entire life. We’ve learned so much,” said Delgado.

It’s an experience many of the participants will not soon forget. The hope of Freedom Academy is the



The delegates tour the state Capitol and talk with Gov. Gary Herbert and members of the state Legislature about civic responsibility. They learn about the military and its role in protecting our freedoms. They also participate in activities at Camp Williams and the Roland R. Wright Air Base. They learn about the importance of freedom, that it does come with a price, and leadership is essential to its survival.



delegates will take what they have learned back to their schools and communities to help teach others.

“When working with these kids you really start to see who they are,” said Gibb. “They are all different, but they have something at the core of who they are, which is a desire to be something better.” 🇺🇸

*Story by Sgt. 1st Class Rich Stowell
Photos by Sgt. Scott Wolfe, Sgt. Nathaniel Free, and
Sgt 1st Class John Etheridge*

Utah Civic Leaders Experience KC-135 Military Refueling Flight

ROLAND R. WRIGHT AIR BASE, Utah —

Seventeen Utah civic leaders experienced first-hand a real-world Air Force refueling mission from the belly of a KC-135 Stratotanker here on Sept. 13, 2018.

“We are honored to have you with us today to experience what it’s like, for one day, in the 151st Air Refueling Wing,” said the Adjutant General, Maj. Gen. Jeff Burton. “Few civilians ever get the opportunity to experience a real-world refueling operation while flying at 30,000 feet! We hope you come away with a better appreciation for the professionalism and expertise our Airmen provide Department of Defense flight operations around the globe.”

Guests of the flight were invited from a variety of business and civic organizations around the state to include the Salt Lake Chamber of Commerce, Wadsworth Corporation, Sundance Corporation, Love Loud Foundation and Encircle.

“This is an incredible experience I will never forget,” said Amy Redford, executive director of the Sundance Corporation. “I can’t believe I’m waving to the pilot of that jet flying right next to us!”

Civic leader flights are a tool the military can use to aid the public in gaining a better understanding of the work Soldiers and Airmen do within the state. This helps the Utah National Guard more effectively communicate how they contribute to both the state and federal missions. It also benefits the public by keeping them connected to their neighbors and friends who not only work in the community with regular full-time jobs, but also serve on the weekends wearing the uniform as a National Guardsmen.

“You guys have the coolest jobs in world,” said Dale Johns, president of the Salt Lake Regional Medical Center. “I’m really glad I got to be a part of this flight today. Thank you for all you do for us in the military.” 🇺🇸

Story and photos by Maj. D. J. Gibb

Utah civic leaders from experience a refueling mission from the boom and cockpit of a KC-135 Stratotanker Sept 13.





"Cut a Rug" at the 53rd annual Military Ball

CAMP WILLIAMS, Utah — Following the Governor's Day pass in review, the Utah National Guard hosted the 53rd annual Military Ball at the Camp Williams Regional Training Institute, Sept. 15, 2018.

Military members from all branches attended the formal-dress gala to enjoy live music by the 23rd Army Band, gourmet ice cream, and a cash bar. The band played a variety of genres during the evening, from modern pop and rock, to classic jazz. The dance floor was a swirling ensemble of sparkling uniforms, shined shoes, and swishing dresses.

"The Military Ball is a time-honored tradition," said Maj. Michael Ditto, of the Joint Forces Headquarters. "All members of the Utah National Guard can come out, represent the corps, and celebrate being a member of the Guard."

Throughout history, military personnel have come together and enjoyed spending time with one another. The annual Military Ball is also a good opportunity to treat a spouse or significant other to a romantic evening.

"I'm here with my wife," said Maj. Ryan Robison, of the 97th Troop Command. "Enjoying date night and the company of fellow officers and NCOs." 🍷

Story and photos by Staff Sgt. CaHugh Giles

Military members and their guests enjoy "cutting a rug" on the dance floor with the 23rd Army Band performing at the 640th Regiment, Regional Training Institute, Camp Williams, Sept 15.



AIR PROMOTIONS

CAPTAIN

Foss, Travis N

SECOND LIEUTENANT

Jones, Sarah E
Skinner, Jeffrey Adam

MASTER SERGEANT

Barnes, Dustin Paul
Larsen, Jason A
Roberts, Paul D

TECHNICAL SERGEANT

Annis, Tammy K
Engh, Abraham K
Haligarda, Michael William
Hatch, William Josef
James, Thomas Eugene Jr
Leeman, Joseph James
Pehrson, Katherine
Roney, Kelsey N
Vaughn, Robby B

STAFF SERGEANT

Bridgewater, Candice J
Clague, James A
Currell, Mark Patrick
Faile, Trent Alan
Gossling, Skyler J
Hansen, Anastasia C
Hollingsworth, Luke J
Jacobsen, Tanner C
Jones, Benjamin D
Kannegiesser, Daniel M
Lance, Brock I
McConnell, Michael B
McCullough, Cameron K
Reeves, Aaron W
Reeves, David W
Sandoval, Andrew P
Sanzone, Brody C
Skinrod, Jason W
Taylor, Scott L
Thompson, Alfer
Ward, Micala N
Wells, Ty Donald
Whipple, Harrison P

SENIOR AIRMAN

Anderson, Jeremy T
Atwood, Matthew T
Baird, Adam P
Billings, Andrew J
Capella, Ludwing
Carpenter, Michael A
Carroll, Amber E
Cole, Jacob N
Colvin, Patrick S
James, Tyler K
Jordan, Harley A
Kemple, Kraymer J
Nicolas, Kimberly D
Pepe, Jami C
Smith, Rachel D
Swenson, David A
Tegart, Rachael L

ARMY PROMOTIONS

BRIGADIER GENERAL

Hadfield Gregory James
Smith Tyler Bert

COLONEL

Bruce Jeffrey Allen
Smith Ricky Neal

LIEUTENANT COLONEL

Dent Robert Alan
Holmer Brandon Lee
Jarvis Michael David
Price David Patrick
Tillmann Wesley Friedrich

MAJOR

Bennett Mark Kenneth
Blanke Barbara Jensen
Carrick Benjamin Thomas
Frey Dennis Robert Jr
Kim Jason Eugene
Larsen Kal Thomas
Lund Kory Ray
Merkley Steven Miles
Nelson Daniel Oliver
Ortega Matthew David
Peterson Jeremy James
Sullivan Casey James
Yardley Brian Dan

CAPTAIN

Baca Tamra Ann
Eckersley George Teasdale
McWilliams Kenneth John
Sestak Keith Alan
Shields Gabriel Cole
Stephenson Jacob James
Turner Angelina Castillo

FIRST LIEUTENANT

Schultz Scott Jeffrey

SECOND LIEUTENANT

Dunn Brittany Antoinette
Findley Samuel Paul
Miller Jacob Alton
Multitalo Keeton Maataua
Price Erik Andreas

CHIEF WARRANT 2

Doll Brook James

CHIEF WARRANT 3

Black David Rex
Gilbert Myles Thomas
Karren Brandon Von
Liddle David Stevens
Taylor Martin Buck
Webb Clint Paul

CHIEF WARRANT 5

Campbell Corby Glen

CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER

Canto Tony Afton
Dilello Michael Don
Hansen Dustin Gary

MASTER SERGEANT

Foisy David Scott

FIRST SERGEANT

Taylor William Allen II

SERGEANT MAJOR

Loy Raymond Jr

SERGEANT FIRST CLASS

Anderson Joshua Wood
Blankenstein Cory John
Edwards Christopher Michael
Foster James Cody
Merlette Jeremy Brett
Parrish Daniel Wade
Rasmussen Jim Maurice
Sharp Mathew Mikel
Taylor Douglas Gerald
Vreeland Mitchell Dale

STAFF SERGEANT

Allred Ron Austin
Anderson Tyler Daniel
Boss Adam Roderick
Chuprajak Panuwatr
Demasters Orlas Gwaine
Graham Aleix Jansen
Howell Craig Donald
Hudson Kellen James
Moser Patrick Guy
Nielsen Benjamin Judd
Noorda Jeffrey Scott
Pope Ryan Wilson
Prince Brandon Lewis
Serranoromero Anthony
Stohel Thomas David
Wood Trevor James
Wygant Vanessa Lauren

SERGEANT

Allen Jimmy Larvin
Allred Jesse Devon
Armstrong Karson
Ainsworth
Burns Gilbert Michael
Campbell George Ted
Cullen John Wayne
Delnort Bryce William
Hartvigsen Tyler Gregory
Hepworth Helaman Moroni
Howell Kameron Kiser
Hudson Elizabeth Joy
Jensen Chance Nephi
Jeon Dohyeon
Lewis Erika Sage
Neville Kyle Eugene
Olmedo Omar
Phalen Tyler Joseph
Probert Curtis Gene
Ramos Osvaldo
Rodriguez Alina Ramos
Schmidt Cody James
Southern Steven James

SPECIALIST

Akagi Tayson Chadwick
Baker Wesley James
Bean Caitlin Noell
Bennett Stetson Gordon
Berber Pablo Rockwell
Blackett Alicia Arianne
Bowcutt C J Donald
Bradley Joshua Thomas
Brittain Cody Douglas
Buhrman Amanda Elizabeth
Calchera Shawn Thompson
Campbell Anthony Daniel
Correnti Kasey S
Curtis David Grandeson
Daniel Maxwell Frederic
Daugherty Joshua Richard
Dejesus Ricardo
Delatorre Nancy Bridgette
Dunn Jonathan Andrew
Epling Sutton Kay
Evans Boe Daniel
Fails Keaton Scott
Fraughton Kolten Dell
Gootee Nathan Scott
Green Steven Andrew
Griffiths Shane Craigh
Hansen Garrett McKay
Hess Jonathan David
Hicken Quinn Alan
Htoo Ser Ehdoh
Kaa Jack
Karl Cody Christian
Lamica Jeffrey Dwayne
Lesser Ty David
Logan Wyatt Leon
Mackay Jeffrey Byron
Mackey Jordan Don
Malachowski Samuel Benjamin
McArthur Rosten Lynn
Medal James
Morris Chenille McKell
Munguia Analilia
Nield Michael Trent
Orellana Marina Mae
Palmer Andrew James
Peahl Christian Frank
Pullman Richard Lawrence
Roberts Jackson Dennis
Robertson Tyler Brent
Scheer Randi Sue
Smith William Trae
Spain Edward Preston Jr
Stalpes Joshua Bradley
Torres Brenda Yaneth
Tuttle Thomas Zachary
Umphenour Nicholas Sterling
Valerio Niko James
Welch Jon David
Wood Rory Teancum Brett
Zaugg Adam Jeffrey

CORPORAL

Johnson Andrew Phillip
Thompson Joseph Robert
Umipig Richmund

PRIVATE FIRST CLASS

Ball Kimberley Nicolle
Benson Robert Benjamin
Bishop Levi Loss
Bountathip Soulisa Tai
Buck Zachery Thomas
Buhler Jordan Carl
Carreto Yoan
Carter Andrew Hamilton
Cather Charles Edward Iv
Clark Tyson Britt Golden
Coyle Tarl James
Craner Austin Kinkead
Curtis Benjamin Clark
Day Chase Kristopher
Dengler Jonas Alexander
Dleon Haley Madison
Farnsworth Victoria Marie
Freeze Joshua Keith
Golsan Palmer Scott
Gonzales Karson F
Goodwin Bret Richard
Gunnerson Kacey W
Heber Chandler James
Horan Elizabeth
Howard Samuel James
Johnson Stephen Trevor
Larsen Dallon Michael
Lau Zachary David
Lewis Parker Shay
Lund Karen Ashleigh
Merchant Dakota Cheyenne
Moon Eric Eun Cheon
Morris Hunter Keith
Nielsen Connor Sterling
Oliver Kagan Robert
Orozcodelvalle Jesus E
Peiffer Christopher Sanford
Reynolds Antonio Diego
Robertson Bailey Daniel
Robinson Blake Joseph
Salas Alcala Daniel
Schipper Nathan Allen
Schroemges Jesse McKay
Scurti Christopher Rondo
Seegmiller Joseph Edward
Sipe Rebecca Marie
Smith Cooper David
Soria Javier David
Stencil Jeremiah Kain
Thomas Colton Wayne
Tindell Paxton Kira
Uehling Bryce Parker
Vermillion Caden John
Wadsworth Simon Skipper
Webster Nicholas Hinton
Weinfurter Joshua Bryan
White Ethan Jarrett
Wilkin Tiara Marie
Winter Tiana Steven
Wisniewski Steven Raymond

PRIVATE (PV1)

Aguilar Bernardo
 Anderson Carter Danny
 Beraja Alexander Julian
 Berardi Dominic Anthony
 Blake Bryton John
 Bravo David Alejandro
 Caoili Judemichael G
 Carlson Emily Michelle
 Chavez Mario Manuel
 Decker Charles Harrison
 Edwards Bryson Murray
 Evans Savanna Rose
 Fullerton Shaiden Russell
 Garner Sydney
 Grant Sariah Christine
 Griffin Deja D
 Hillyard Claye Michael
 Huhtala Alexander E
 Hunter Daimon Marcus
 Jarvis Karlee Dshae
 Judd Michael Jesse
 Keeran-Edwards Kristopher T
 Leon Kaden Humberto
 Loerabustos Isis
 Love Jeremy Robert
 Lundeen Grady Ryan
 Luttmner Weston James
 Manning Cristopher Erwin
 McCulley Corbin L
 Nicholes Kade Jason
 Olsen Trevor David
 Pantaleongeronimo Medel
 Peterson Johnathan Kelly
 Pimentelcabrera Odalis
 Quist Joshua Henry
 Reyes Ybarra Josephsergio
 Rix Devin Wesley
 Rizya Amanda Ai
 Rodrigues Mason Michael
 Saunders West Christopher
 Schimbeck Joshua James
 Shiner Cade Eugene
 Simmons James Taft
 Sorensen Kenneth Marc
 Swaner Cameron Francis
 Taylor Gabriel F
 Willes Jordon Dean
 Yoshikawa Jeremiah Vance

PRIVATE (PV2)

Attwooll Maran Reyn
 Bassett Spencer Shalaco
 Bowden Lexie Nicole
 Boucher Stephen Richard
 Bruderer Brayden Lane
 Brunson Travis C
 Christensen Kristopher Eric
 Crane Jaden Lance
 Dreyer Megan Rylee
 Ellsworth Dylan Tyler
 Fillmore Landon Jeremy
 Finnigan Brynn Jaime
 Fletcher Garrett Martin
 Fraser Aidan D
 Green Isaac Benjamin
 Hernandezalmazan Brandon R
 Hollinshead Alynn Austin Wi
 Jensen Austin James
 Johnson Jace Parker
 Johnson Jacob Daniel
 Judd Braden Robert
 Kenworthy Joshua William
 Lawrence Jaysen Khan
 Lee Alexander Steven
 Lovejoy Braeden Edward
 Maddox Chase Anthon
 Marsh Landon Laine
 McConnel Osborne Kaylee Sue
 McDonald Mateo Brendon
 Mendoza Randallalbert A
 Miller Makenna Noel
 Moore Ryker Richard
 Moss Kevin Marcus
 Moynier Makayla Laree
 Palmer Jaron Cade
 Pledger Mark Daniel
 Powell Jordan Mackenzie
 Prigmore Shad Robert
 Rasmussen Vincent Allen
 Rushton Alyssa Jane
 Schick Bailey Don
 Sharum Payton William
 Tohtsonie Tristan Dine
 Vanleuven Tamara Elise
 Washingtonflorez Joseph A
 Young Davis Scott

Family Assistance Centers

Regardless of location, FACs services include:

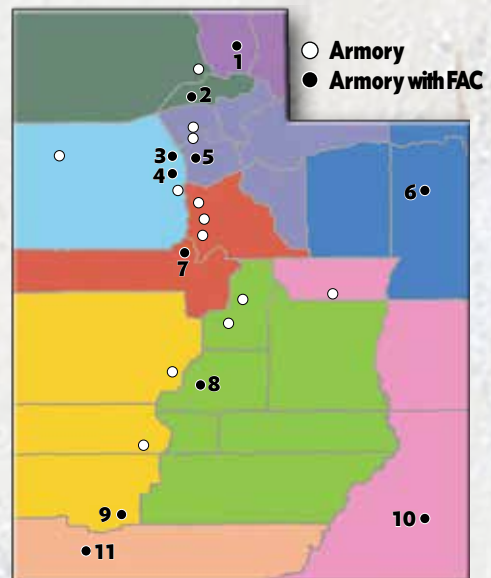
- TRICARE/TRICARE dental assistance
- Financial assistance/counseling • Legal and pay issues
- ID-card referral • Emergency-assistance coordination
- Counseling support/referral • Community support
- Family/household emergencies • Family Care Plan information
- Family communication • Family Readiness Group programs
- Casualty-assistance information, referral, follow-up and outreach
- DEERS information (Defense Enrollment and Eligibility System).

We are here to serve you! 🇺🇸

Utah Family Assistance Centers (FAC) assist service members and their families and are open to all military branches: Army Guard, Air Guard, active-duty Army, Air Force, Coast Guard, Marines, Navy and all Reserve components.

Utah Regional FAC and Armory Locations

1. Logan	801-476-3811
2. Ogden	801-476-3811
3. West Jordan	801-816-3577
4. Bluffdale	801-878-5037
5. Draper	801-432-4522
6. Vernal	435-789-3691
7. Spanish Fork	801-794-6011
8. Richfield	435-896-6442
9. Cedar City	435-867-6513
10. Blanding	435-678-2008
11. St. George	435-986-6705



Contact your local FAC for any questions you may have.

Visit us at www.ut.ngb.army.mil/family



A Black Hawk prepares to fill its bucket while supporting the Dollar Ridge Fire Aug. 12, 2018.

Utah National Guard
12953 S. Minuteman Drive
Draper, Utah 84020



EXPERTS NEEDED!

WARRANT OFFICERS ARE TECHNICAL AND TACTICAL EXPERTS.
THEY ARE CONSIDERED TO BE THE BEST OF THE BEST IN THEIR FIELD.
FOLLOWING THE WARRANT OFFICER PATH MEANS YOU WOULD BE
CRITICAL TO ADMINISTERING AND EXECUTING PLANS, AS WELL AS BEING
THE LEADER OFFICERS AND ENLISTED PERSONNEL
LOOK TO FOR ADVICE AND DIRECTION.

WOSM RECRUITER 801-432-4900