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NGUT-HIS

19 May 2026

MEMORANDUM FOR All Commanders, Utah Army National Guard and Utah Air National Guard

SUBJECT: Joint Guidance on Celebrating Unit History, Lineage, and Heritage

1. This memo serves to encourage all units across the Utah National Guard (UTNG) to actively celebrate their organizational history, lineage, and honors. Recognizing unit history fosters esprit de corps, builds unit pride, and connects current service members with the historic accomplishments of those who served before them.

2. While the Army and Air Force have different administrative processes for recognizing historical milestones, the intent remains the same. Every unit should dedicate time to honor its legacy. Commanders at all levels are encouraged to establish an annual day of observance.

3. Utah Army National Guard (UTARNG), Official "Unit Day" Program. In accordance with AR 870-5 and NGR 870-5, eligible Army units may request an officially recognized "Unit Day." Once approved, the unit will receive an official certificate from the U.S. Army Center of Military History (CMH).

a. Eligibility: MTOE organizations authorized a flag or guidon and TDA units with AA-level UICs.

b. Date Selection: Units should select a date of historical significance, such as a major battle or the receipt of a unit decoration. Constitution and activation dates should generally be avoided as they are administrative actions.

c. Process: Commanders must submit a memorandum requesting the Unit Day, routed through the UTNG History Office to the Chief of Military History.

d. Observance: The approved day serves as a training holiday or drill weekend event at the unit's location, featuring ceremonies, sports, or historical briefs.

4. The Utah Air National Guard (UTANG) - Heritage and Anniversary Celebrations. While the Air Force does not utilize a centralized certificate program for unit days, celebrating unit lineage is a deeply rooted tradition. UTANG commanders have the inherent local authority to designate and celebrate unit history.

a. Designation: Wings, Groups, and Squadrons are encouraged to host a "Heritage Day" or unit anniversary.

b. Date Selection: Events are typically tied to the unit's original activation date, a significant deployment, or a historical milestone.

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c. Observance: Wing, Group, and Squadron commanders may locally direct these celebrations during regularly scheduled drill weekends, Family Days, or official ceremonies. Units are encouraged to utilize squadron Heritage Rooms, host Combat Dining-Ins, or incorporate historical aircraft static displays and markings to connect Airmen with their legacy.

5. Execution. All UTARNG and UTANG commanders are highly encouraged to review their unit's lineage and honors, select a significant historical date, and incorporate a heritage celebration into their upcoming Yearly Training Brief (YTB) or annual training calendar.

6. Please direct questions to Mr. Joel Bragg (801) 787-9666 or joel.c.bragg.civ@army.mil.

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