

Quarterly Magazine of the Nevada National Guard – Fall 2011

Battle Born



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See stories on pages 4 and 14





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Commander in Chief
Nevada



Brigadier General Bill Burks
The Adjutant General
Nevada National Guard

Governor

Brian Sandoval

The Adjutant General

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Fall 2011

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ON THE COVER: On the 10-year anniversary of the events of 9/11, a temporary memorial to Lt. Col. Heath Kelly, Sgt. 1st Class Miranda McElhiney and Master Sgt. Christian Riege was erected at Joint Force Headquarters in Carson City.

Photo illustration by Maj. April Conway

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invited and encouraged. Please send articles and photos with name, phone number, e-mail and complete mailing address and comments to:

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FROM SENIOR LEADERSHIP

Brig. Gen. Bill Burks, The Adjutant General

Resiliency is crucial trait during difficult times



As I write this column, the tragedy of the IHOP shootings is still prevalent in everyone's mind. The impact of the event on the Nevada Guard and northern Nevada was unparalleled.

Within a few seconds, the Nevada Guard lost as many Soldiers in an unprovoked shooting at a local restaurant as it did in a decade of war in Afghanistan and Iraq.

Why did the gunman choose that day and that restaurant? Why did he choose to shoot our five Soldiers and the other customers? Why did he shoot himself and deny us the answers to our questions? We will never know the whys of the events of Sept. 6.

The outpouring of emotion and support from around the nation was unprecedented. We have seen that the grieving process can be among the most difficult times in a person's life, and the process is different for everyone.

Thoughts of the event can trigger a wide range of emotional reactions and accompanying symptoms. Some may find themselves in shock, scared or traumatized by our shared experience.

As I look back upon my life and ponder my own outlook during difficult times, I remember the story written on a wall hanging my wife had before we were married. The story involved a Native American grandfather and his grandson sitting by the campfire at night discussing life and its meaning.

The grandfather looked over the fire into his grandson's eyes and said, "We all have a war going on inside us between the wolf and the eagle. Each one is a fierce and mighty warrior who is trying to defeat the other. The wolf brings anger, revenge, hate, sadness and despair which will eventually eat at your soul.

"The eagle brings hope, joy, laughter and love, which allows your soul to soar to new heights and to be aware of the beauty around you."

The grandson was very silent and contemplative of his grandfather's state-

ment, but finally broke the silence with a question, "Grandfather, which one will win this war?" The grandfather looked deep into the eyes of his grandson and said, "The one we feed."

The story makes us think about what paths and choices we make as we head into the future after this tragedy. The path the organization chose to take in the days after the shooting was clear.

During those six days between the shooting and the remembrance ceremony, everyone in the Nevada Guard had one overarching priority on their mind: to take care of fellow Guardsmen, take care of their families and, lastly, take care of themselves.

The resiliency the Nevada Guard displayed is the quality that will prevent us from surrendering and the ability to overcome the temptation to quit when difficulties arise.

Be assured we will get through this difficult period of time, and the best way to honor our fallen friends/co-workers/

Guardsmen in the profession at arms is to keep their memories and their dreams in our hearts and our souls, to talk of their deeds and to laugh about the fun times shared.

Nevertheless, it's just as important to talk about your feelings to others and say how the event impacted you. Use your battle buddy or wingman during the grieving process. Take care of yourself by monitoring how much you eat and drink. Be sure to exercise to reduce stress and remain attentive behind the wheel when driving. Finally, make some time for yourself to relax, reflect and restore your energy in ways that are comfortable for you.

In closing, remember a way to display reverence for our five Soldiers is to not be afraid to laugh, to recollect fond memories or to discuss the situation with your friends. Revive and renew your joy in wearing the uniform, be proud of it, wear it without fear and wear it as a true badge of honor in the victims' memory. ■

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Nevada Guard remembers, eulogizes shooting victims

By Spc. Emerson Marcus
106th Public Affairs Detachment

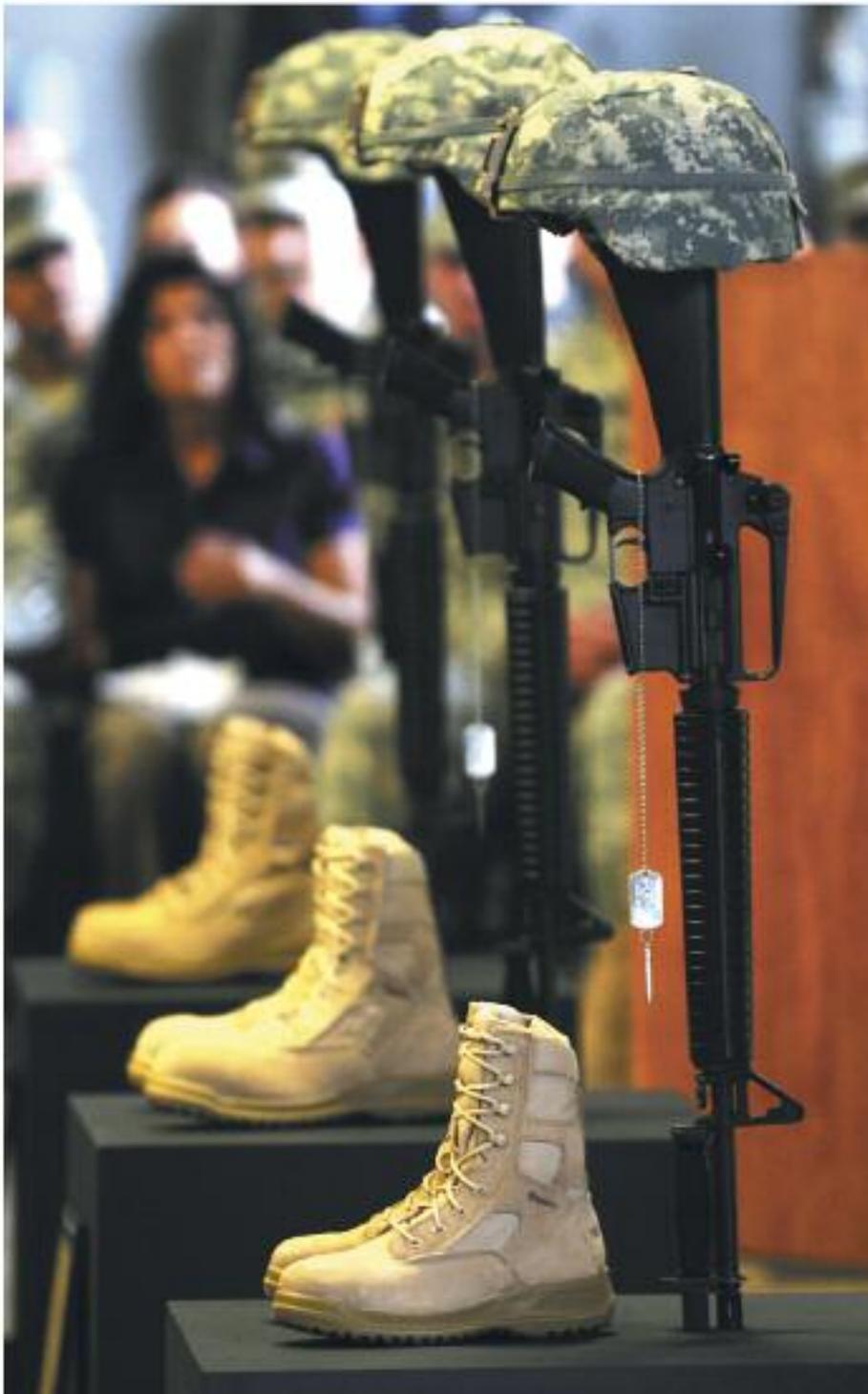
CARSON CITY – Few moments in life tug on the heartstrings more than hearing Amazing Grace on bagpipes after the death of three battle buddies.

It's the type of moment that makes grown men cry.

Grown men did just that Sept. 11 at the memorial service for Lt. Col. Heath Kelly, 35, Master Sgt. Christian Riege, 38, and Sgt. 1st Class Miranda McElhiney, 31, here at the Office of the Adjutant General.

The three Soldiers were gunned down Sept. 6 by Eduardo Sencion, 32, at the IHOP in Carson City while they planned Joint Force Headquarters' September drill activities and family day events.

The three memorial stands for Lt. Col. Heath Kelly, Master Sgt. Christian Riege and Sgt. 1st Class Miranda McElhiney were solemn reminders of the devastating result of the Sept. 6 shooting in Carson City for the 700 people who attended a memorial for the Soldiers on Sept. 11. Photo: Pfc. Michael Orton



"Death will not triumph over their good names," Nevada Gov. Brian Sandoval said during the memorial.

Speakers included the Nevada Adjutant General Brig. Gen. Bill Burks, Army Guard Commander Brig. Gen. Frank Gonzales, and Command Sgts. Maj. Steve Sitton and Daryl Keithley.

"Today is a day for us all to begin to heal," Burks said. "Today is a day to swap stories."

"This is very, very difficult," Gonzales said. "A fog has rolled in and we have to work to lift it."

Keithley was headed to a National Guard Bureau conference in Washington, D.C., before he heard the news of the dead and immediately flew back to Nevada.

Keithley said the last time he saw McElhiney, she was serving cupcakes at a promotion ceremony, as she often did at Guard events.

"I told her I was on a diet," Keithley said. "She said, 'Sergeant major, the lemon-flavored ones are the diet cupcakes. I put a smile on my face, picked up a cupcake and ate it.'"

Keithley also recalled approaching Riege about his purchase of a 1960 Pontiac GTO earlier this year for Hot August Nights, a classic car show in Reno.

"I said, 'It must be nice to be rich,'" Keithley said. "(Riege) put on that big grizzly smile of his and said, 'Life's short. You only live once. You got to get the stuff you want now.' I said, 'You're right.'"

Kelly was remembered for his dry humor and love of the Louisiana State University football team.

"What got him really fired up was anything to do with LSU football," Sandoval said. "He was a Tiger fan to the core."

Sgt. Cait Kelley of the 17th Sustainment Brigade and Sgt. 1st Class Jeremiah Mock of Joint Force Headquarters sat in attendance in the front row. Kelley and Mock were at the meeting at the IHOP and were injured.

"It's a story too awful to be told," said Kelley, who wore a full-leg cast at the event.

The service ended with a final roll call and a playing of taps.

For the roll call, 1st Sgt. Roger Wheeler of Joint Force Headquarters called out the names of three Soldiers in JFHQ. The first three responded.

No one responded when he called out Kelly's name. "Lt. Col. Heath Kelly!" Wheeler continued.

No one answered. He then called out the names of Riege and McElhiney.



Sgt. 1st Class Jeremiah Mock discusses his health with Brig. Gen. Bill Burks before the memorial. Photo: Sgt 1st Class Erick Studenicka

No one answered until a Soldier stood up and yelled, "First sergeant! Lt. Col. Kelly, Sgt. Riege and Sgt. McElhiney are not in this formation!"

The final tribute brought overwhelming emotions to the estimated 700 family and friends in attendance and the flow of tears began once again.

The loss of Kelly, Riege and McElhiney matches the total combat losses of the Nevada Guard in contingency operations around the world since Sept. 11, 2001. The Nevada Army Guard suffered three losses in 2005 when Spc. Anthony Cometa, Chief Warrant Officer John Flynn and Sgt. Patrick Stewart were killed in combat. ■



Sgt. Cait Kelley is consoled by Charlotte Cage before the memorial. Photo: Sgt. 1st Class Erick Studenicka

DROP ZONE

• Carson City

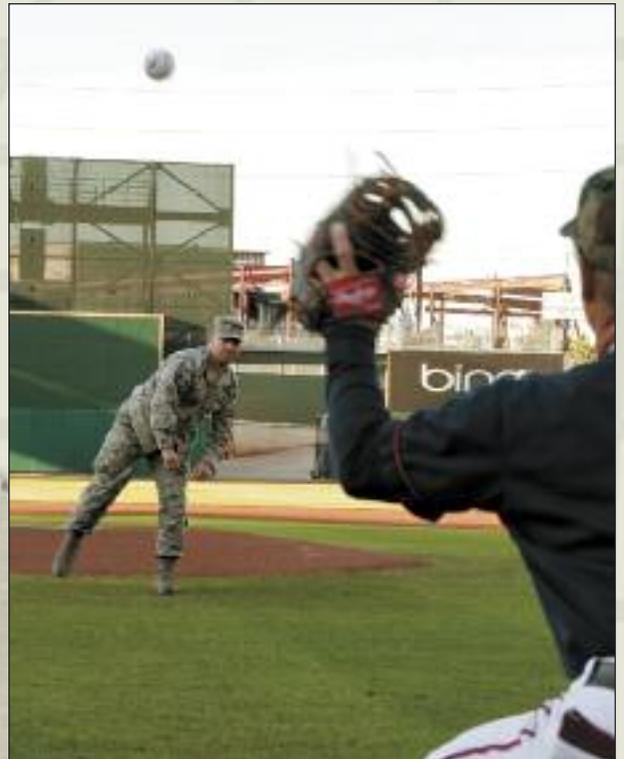
 • Las Vegas



MCGREGOR RANGE, N.M. – Soldiers from the 485th Military Police Company prepare a mock casualty for medical evacuation after a improvised explosive device explosion during a fundamentals of patrolling class here in September. The MPs concluded their pre-deployment training in October and are now in Afghanistan. Photo: Sgt. 1st Class Alejandro Sias, 5th Armored Brigade, 1st Army Public Affairs



LAS VEGAS – Representative Soldiers from the 422nd Expeditionary Battalion (Rear Detachment), the 1/221st Cavalry Squadron and the 1864th Transportation Company receive donated back-to-school supplies from Shine Family Foundation officials in late August on behalf of the companies' dependent children. The Shine Family Foundation prioritizes the support of families of deployed Soldiers in southern Nevada. The foundation purchased the school supplies with proceeds it made from a city-wide garage sale earlier in the summer. Photo: Courtesy of 1/221st Cavalry Squadron



RENO – Master Sgt. Brandon Trehal, the Nevada Air Guard's Senior Noncommissioned Officer of the Year, throws out the ceremonial first pitch on Military Appreciation Night at the Reno Aces game here on Aug. 5. Before the Aces game against Memphis that night, the Nevada Guard's top Airmen and Soldiers of the Year were recognized, Capt. Melissa Beauchamp sang the national anthem, and several Airmen officially joined the National Guard and were sworn in by Adjutant General Brig. Gen. Bill Burks. The Aces defeated the Red Birds 6-4.
 Photo: Pfc. Michael Orton, 106th Public Affairs Detachment



LOS ANGELES – Nevada Air Guard Col. Ondra Berry, center, received the Roy Wilkins Renown Service Award at the NAACP's Annual Armed Services and Veterans Affairs Awards Dinner during the recent NAACP annual convention. From left, Air Force chief of staff Gen. Norton Schwartz, Mrs. Margo Berry; Berry, Nevada Air Guard commander Brig. Gen. Robert Fitch and Hilary Shelton, the NAACP Washington Bureau director and senior vice president for advocacy, were on hand to congratulate Berry on his accomplishment. Photo: Lou Hernandez, U.S. Air Force



SHEPHERD FIELD, W. Va. – A Nevada Air Guard C-130, foreground, is dwarfed by a West Virginia Air National Guard C-5A aircraft on the ramp here in August while the Nevada crew picked up supplies at the home of the 167th Airlift Wing. The Nevada Guard aircraft and crew were in Appalachia assisting with the transportation of troops and materiel to Georgia at the behest of the West Virginia Guard during its busy annual training season. Photo: Dan Lyons



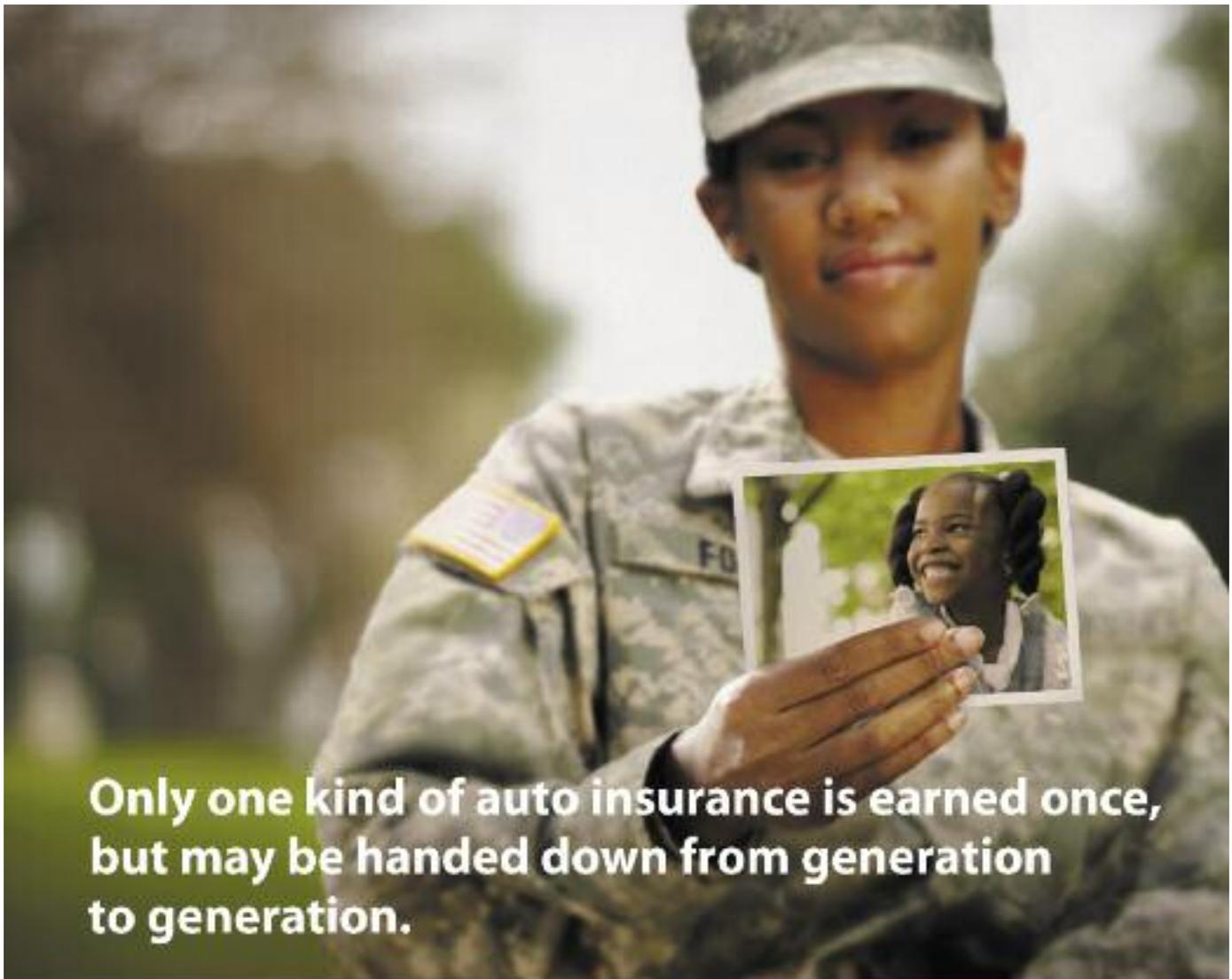
BAGRAM AIR FIELD, Afghanistan – The Army aviation activity never ceases here at one of the largest facilities in southwest Asia, reports Sgt. 1st Class Frank Marquez of the 130th Military History unit. Marquez was at Bagram to witness the 1st Cavalry Division’s color guard perform a patch ceremony at the Joint Operations Center Compound on Bagram Airfield. Marquez is a Nevada Guard Soldier deployed with a North Carolina unit.

KANDAHAR AIR FIELD, Afghanistan – Gov. Brian Sandoval, center, meets and greets 422nd Expeditionary Signal Battalion Soldiers in August during his war zone tour which began in Iraq and continued for about a week throughout southwest Asia. Sandoval made stops in Kandahar, Kabul and Bagram to meet with Nevada Guard Soldiers and Airmen as well as active duty troops who reside in Nevada.

“I am the commander in chief of the Nevada National Guard,” Sandoval said. “It was important to me, if I’m going to serve in this capacity, to come out here and see for myself.”

For additional coverage of the signal battalion, turn to page 13. Photo: Courtesy of 422nd Expeditionary Signal Battalion





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EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK

By Sgt. 1st Class Erick Studenicka

Congratulations! You've just earned a new MOS/AFSC



Although some of my contemporaries might disagree with this revelation, the *Battle Born* magazine isn't perfect.

No matter how quickly our reporters and correspondents write, there remains a considerable amount of time between when an article or news brief is typed and when it reaches your mailbox. We specialize in writing about events and training scenarios after the fact, not in promoting or spreading the word about upcoming events.

Fortunately, the Nevada Guard has implemented several tools that give everyone the ability to be an internal information specialist.

The Nevada Guard has its own official Facebook page:

www.facebook.com/NevadaNationalGuard with more than 1,200 users. After concurring with the user agreement, a simple press of the "Like" button will give you access to post on the site.

The Facebook site is an easy way to inform others about upcoming meetings or events. Best of all, no "middleman" is needed, and you don't need to worry about the availability of the public affairs staff to help you market your event.

The Facebook site is also a great place to post your Nevada Guard-related photos or comments. Examples of great photos for the Facebook site include promotions, unit training activities and course graduations.

Hopefully, one day all 4,200 Nevada Guard Soldiers, Airmen, and their families will check the site regularly, but until then, your Facebook informational posts are viewed by 33 percent of our state's troops and family members, and the number grows daily.

Another handy communication tool is the Army Guard's news "ticker" on the Army intranet page:

<https://nv-web.nv.ngb.army.mil/main.cfm>.

On that page, Soldiers and civilian employees can share news briefs and information on upcoming events. The negatives of the ticker are that most Airmen can't see these briefs, and the space for news is limited.

The Air Guard's answer for the ticker is Sharepoint. The Sharepoint internal website is the Air Guard's repository for internal information. Notes and briefs can be submitted to the Sharepoint administrator at (775) 788-4791.

If you have a vital update or news brief that needs to circulate to every Soldier and Airman in the state, the best way to ensure this is via an all-users email. All-users email usually stems from the chiefs of staffs' offices.

Finally, if you do have an important event coming up and you know the date weeks in advance, *Battle Born* can run a reminder about the upcoming activity. *Battle Born* arrives in mailboxes in February, May, August and November, so please plan accordingly.

* * *

Does the local news station want to interview you? Are you running for city council? Does a local organization want you to appear in uniform?

When it seems inevitable that you or your cohorts will be in the public eye or make a formal public appearance, it's a good idea to double check the rules and regulations surrounding the situation with either the public affairs office or the judge advocate general's office. Often, these offices have guidance that simplifies complex situations and can keep you out of hot water.

It goes without saying that everyone is proud to wear the uniform, but there are situations when it is more appropriate not to wear it.

* * *

One doesn't have to write as well as Jon Krakauer or shoot photos as well as Annie Leibovitz to contribute to *Battle Born*

magazine. Every Soldier and Airman in the Nevada Guard is welcome to send submissions to the magazine. Submissions should be less than 500 words, and photos should be in digital format at 300 dots per inch. Call (775) 887-7250 for information.

Even if you don't have time to write or take snapshots for the magazine, let us know what you believe is extraordinary or newsworthy in the Nevada Guard. If you think something is interesting, chances are the other 4,200 Soldiers and Airmen in our organization will agree. ■

Studenicka's initial military occupation was a 71L clerk/typist. Many people retain the opinion that his writing is just typing.

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DEPLOYMENT ROUNDUP

Signal packing up as 485th arrives in combat theater

By Sgt. 1st Class Erick Studenicka, Joint Force Headquarters Public Affairs

AFGHANISTAN – One Nevada Army Guard deployment is winding down and one is just getting started as both the 422nd Expeditionary Signal Battalion and the 485th Military Police Company are in the combat zone here this holiday season.

The 422nd ESB is in the homestretch of its yearlong deployment and promises to be home this winter. The majority of the battalion's Soldiers are based at Kandahar Air Field performing voice- and data-communication transmission missions.

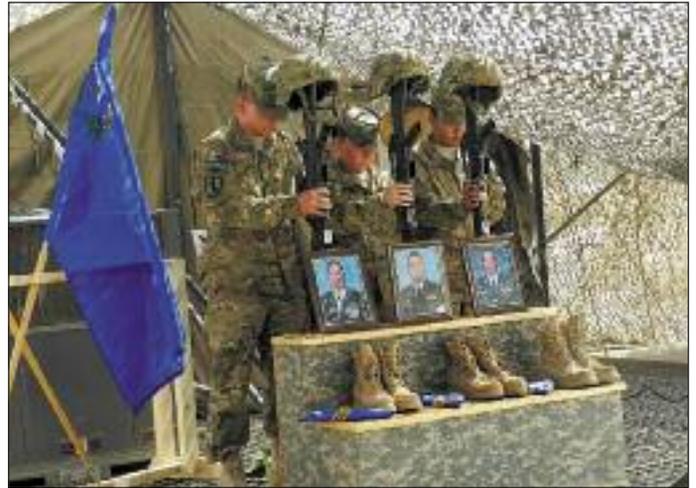
"Signal as a whole is doing well," said 1st Sgt. Elizabeth Liemandt via email. "The Soldiers are excelling out on the battlefield. Many times, people have seen my Nevada patch and commented how well our teams staff the communication cable here at all hours and provide everyone with a good contact to home."

Liemandt said every ground Soldier throughout the Kandahar province knows it's the Nevada Soldiers working to maintain their communications ability with home.

Halfway around the world, the Signal Soldiers were devastated by the news of the shooting in Carson City on Sept. 6. They held their own memorial for the Soldiers on Sept. 12.

"On behalf of the Signal Soldiers, please pass along our condolences from the entire battalion," Liemandt said. "We hurt with you and wish we could be there to support everyone."

While the 422nd ESB is packing up, the 485th Military Police Company is just settling into its new digs at a major air base in Afghanistan where it will both staff a detention facility and police the facility.



Soldiers from the 422nd Expeditionary Signal Battalion conduct a memorial service for Lt. Col. Heath Kelly, Master Sgt. Christian Riege and Sgt. 1st Class Miranda McElhiney.

Photo: Courtesy 422nd Expeditionary Signal Battalion

After leaving northern Nevada in early August, the unit spent about 60 days at Fort Bliss, Texas, to complete its final pre-deployment training including practice time on small-arms ranges.

After one final four-day pass in late September, the unit finally departed for Afghanistan in early October and began its mission, according to rear-detachment officer 2nd Lt. Ken McCarthy. The unit is set to return in the summer of 2012. ■



Sustainability is an increasingly popular word in the Guard's vocabulary

By Sgt. Mike Getten
Joint Force Headquarters Public Affairs.

CARSON CITY – Sustainability is a word increasingly spoken in Nevada Guard vernacular.

According to the Merriam-Webster Dictionary, sustainability is the quality of supporting ecological balances while not harming the environment or depleting natural resources. It's used similarly in the National Guard vocabulary to describe a major priority of the organization – maintain readiness without negatively affecting the environment.

"It's hard to point at 'sustainability,' but it entails the process of operating effectively and efficiently now and into the future,"

said Forest Fox, then Nevada Guard's environmental program manager.

The Nevada Guard's sustainability effort encompasses five areas – facilities, logistics, communications, human resources and training. Each section has a team to contribute to the overall sustainability effort.

"Sustainability is a concept incorporated into our organization's strategic plan to ensure we can meet our mission requirements now and into the future," said Chad Stevens, the Nevada Guard's sustainment program manager. "Whether it concerns land, resources or personnel, we make sure to include sustainability in our planning."

The facilities team works with local officials to reduce encroachment and prepare for potential future construction. It examines ways to minimize power

consumption and remodels Guard facilities to Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design – LEED – standards. The team's efforts are highly visible and include solar panel projects.

The team's goal is to create effective pollution-prevention and green-procurement plans. It examines the Nevada Guard's consumption trends to see how it can reduce future waste and superfluous costs.

The training team also works on expansion and encroachment issues while improving the quality of training facilities.

Other critical aspects of sustainability are interconnectivity and secure communications, which continue to require updates to keep up with modern technology. An educated workforce is also essential to maintain sustainability, Stevens said. ■



Spc. David Lendowski, left, a dental technician with the Medical Detachment, begins the dental portion of a periodic health assessment for Master Sgt. Michael Ariztia in Reno. Photo: Pfc. Michael Orton, 106th Public Affairs

SPOTLIGHT

MEDICAL DETACHMENT registers pulse of Soldiers' health

*By Pfc. Michael Orton
106th Public Affairs Detachment*

RENO – The final barrier on a Soldier's potential deployment gauntlet is often dressed in a purple smock. Any health discrepancy or inconsistency discovered by a magenta medic in the Nevada Army Guard's Medical Detachment may lead to recuperation time at home rather than combat duty abroad.

The medical detachment, also known as the Med Det, is tasked with the Herculean – or is it Hippocratean? – responsibility of tracking the health, wellness and duty capability of every Soldier in the Nevada Army National Guard. The unit continually monitors troop readiness through periodic health assessments of all 3,200 Soldiers in the state.

As part of each PHA, every Soldier receives a comprehensive health screening

annually from the Med Det's staff, despite the fact the unit has only 83 Soldiers.

"We evaluate every Soldier each year from head to toe," said Med Det commander Capt. Daniel Thielen. "We are a resource used by the state's commanders to keep them apprised on the fitness and health of their troops."

Each Soldier's PHA consists of a pre-visit online questionnaire, blood and urine tests, vitals check, immunizations check, and hearing, vision and dental tests in addition to a general health physical and a medical records review.

Soldiers can save time in the dental chair by obtaining a reserve force dental examination form (Department of Defense Form 2813) before their PHA and have the form filled out in advance by their dentist.

On a busy drill day, the Med Det might

examine 300 Soldiers. The unit has two platoons, one in Reno and one in Las Vegas.

Med Det technicians work all PHA stations (except the dental exam station) to keep current on the many specific skills each station requires.

In addition to their medical duties, the Soldiers must remain proficient at warrior tasks and battle drills. They must also stay current with civilian certifications to avoid losing their specialized position in the unit.

"Medics have the only occupation in the entire Army where Soldiers can lose their military credential by failing a civilian test," Thielen said.

The Med Det also provides all medical supplies for each of the Army units in the state and ensures that every first aid kit and combat lifesaver bag is fully stocked and ready for use. ■

Iconic Huey helicopter beat all Vietnam, Nevada odds

By Sgt. Mike Getten
Joint Force Headquarters Public Affairs

STEAD – It was a typical hot, humid October day in the delta region of Vietnam in 1969 when Spc. 4 Marty Schroeder, 21, boarded his brand-new Iroquois UH-1D helicopter with tail No. 68-16084 for a clandestine search mission. The Huey was only three months old.

Schroeder had no premonition the flight was doomed.

Shortly into the flight, the Huey was shot down by small arms fire and landed hard in a rural rice paddy. During the sweltering heat of the day, Schroeder, now 63 and residing in Washington, and the three other crewmen were forced to dodge North Vietnamese bullets for more than 30 minutes while awaiting rescue.

With two Cobra helicopters providing aerial cover, another Huey equipped with a rescue team finally evacuated the downed crew to safety.

It wasn't a promising start for Huey No. 68-16084, aka 084, but more than 40 years later, the helicopter remains intact and is a Nevada Guard icon. It's the aircraft "on the stick" located at the Army Aviation Support Facility in Reno that remains a monument to the extraordinary Huey airframe and the Nevada Soldiers who flew and maintained the helicopters for more than 20 years.

"No. 68-16084 was always my favorite helicopter," said Schroeder, who flew on that specific aircraft for the last half of his two-year combat tour. "It was the fastest and the most dependable bird we had while I was there.

"The Hueys were impressive helicopters. We never had one go down due to mechanical failure. The only time we had to have assistance getting home was after taking that small arms fire."

Those hours in the rice paddy marked the only time the aircraft was inoperable during the entire war, Schroeder said.

Developed by Bell helicopters to meet the Army's need for medical evacuation, escort and armed-attack helicopters, the first HU-1 Iroquois flew on Oct. 22, 1956. More than 16,000 have been produced since then but fewer than 40 remain in the Army's rotary-aircraft fleet. The Nevada Army Guard fielded Hueys from the late 1970s until 1998.



Marty Schroeder reunites with the helicopter he flew in Vietnam more than four decades ago at the Army Aviation Support Facility in Stead in August. "When I first saw her on that post, I was in total disbelief that we both made it home," Schroeder said. Photo: Sgt. Mike Getten

In September 1962, the designation of the helicopter changed to UH-1, but the nickname "Huey" contrived from the original nomenclature HU-1 stuck and remained commonly used.

With the help of Army records and aviation websites, No. 084's history can be traced almost as easily as a family tree. The Army purchased it from Bell Helicopters in July 1969 and it was immediately shipped

to Vietnam where it was used for troop transport and insertion missions.

By the time the helicopter left Vietnam less than 18 months later in February 1971, it had amassed 2,090 flight hours in combat. No. 084 had beaten the odds: 47 percent (3,305 out of 7,013) of the Hueys that flew in Vietnam didn't survive the war.

After 084 returned stateside, it went to an active duty unit for a brief time before it was transferred to the Nevada Army Guard in the late 1970s. It went into the 163rd Cavalry's inventory in Las Vegas and was used in a support and utility capacity.

Just like 084, Schroeder beat the odds in Vietnam, too. After surviving an AK-47 round through his right arm in the winter of 1970, Schroeder finished his stint in southeast Asia the following spring. He had seen enough war and returned to the Pacific Northwest with a Purple Heart and 17 Air Medals.

Four decades after serving with 084, Schroeder searched the internet and found the aircraft's resting place. He drove the 900 miles from his home in Washington

to Stead in July to reunite with the helicopter he crewed daily in Vietnam.

"When I first saw her on that post, I was in total disbelief that we both made it home," Schroeder said. "It was like a reunion with an old friend who I hadn't



Spc. 4 Marty Schroeder shines up Huey helicopter No. 68-16084 in Vietnam in 1970 using Turtle Wax his mom sent in a care package. The helicopter now serves as a monument to the Huey airframe at the Army Aviation Support Facility in Stead. Photo: Courtesy of Marty Schroeder

seen or heard from in 40 years."

The helicopter, one of six Hueys in the Nevada inventory, was then transferred to

the 1150th Air Ambulance Medical Detachment, where it was used for medical evacuations and search and rescue missions and gained the moniker "Decan 84." That detachment became the 717th Medical Company in the 1980s.

Retired Chief Warrant Officer Tom Knight was a sergeant in the 717th in the 1980s and spent a lot of time with 084. He accumulated more than 500 hours as a primary crew chief on it.

"That Huey was a good aircraft with personality," Knight said. "Decan 84 served the Nevada Guard with distinction. We always completed our mission on 084."

No. 68-16084 remained a vital air evacuation asset through the 1990s until it was decommissioned in 1998 because of its age. At the time of its retirement, it had flown more than 6,000 total hours and more than 2,000 hours in combat.

The monument to the Hueys featuring 084 was erected in 1998 at a cost of \$13,517. All six of Nevada's Hueys were decommissioned or reassigned to other out-of-state units by 2000. ■

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Attitudes of 9/11 changed milieu of Nevada Guard

By Sgt. 1st Class Erick Studenicka, Battle Born Editor

CARSON CITY – Just as the Japanese strike on Pearl Harbor spurred the nation into World War II in 1941, the iconic images from Sept. 11, 2001, of twin towers tumbling, the Pentagon engulfed in flames and strewn plane wreckage in a rural Pennsylvania field incited the United States into another war – the Global War on Terrorism. Now a decade old, the GWOT continues to dominate Nevada Guard activities and operations.



Soldiers from the 777th Engineer Utility Team worked hard in difficult conditions in Iraq to improve the country's infrastructure in 2003. Photo: Courtesy of 777th Engineer Utility Team



Symbolic of a decade of deployments, Sgt. David Beachler boards his flight as he departs with the 593rd Transportation Company for duty in Iraq in 2006. Photo: Sgt. 1st Class Erick Studenicka

Through its first 140 years of existence, the Nevada National Guard served exactly as it was intended – as a reserve component military force called upon to support active duty forces when needed.

But the events of 9/11 changed the milieu of the Nevada National Guard – indeed the entire National Guard. In order for the United States to conduct the Global War on Terrorism, the National Guard became a fully integrated military component.

Any pre-9/11 “weekend warrior” stigma associated with National Guard service quickly disappeared as National Guard Airmen and Soldiers shouldered much of the load of U.S. military operations in the wake of 9/11.

“The events of 9/11 changed the perception of the National Guard,” said Adjutant General Maj. Gen. Giles Vanderhoof in 2004. “The Guard is now regarded as a technically and tactically proficient fighting force fully capable of seamlessly serving alongside its active-duty brethren.”

According to the National Guard Bureau, within two years of the 9/11 hijackings and subsequent attacks, more than a third of all ground Soldiers in Iraq were Guardsmen. Nine years after 9/11, the National Guard maintained 30-40 percent of all Air Force fighter, tanker and airlift capacity globally, said Gen. Craig McKinley in 2010.



A Nevada Army Guard CH-47 Chinook helicopter drops off infantry Soldiers in Afghanistan during the 1/189th Aviation Company's deployment in southwest Asia in 2005.

Photo: Chief Warrant Officer Dan Walters, 1/189th Aviation Company

The statistics revealing the Nevada Guard's contribution toward the Global War on Terrorism are even more telling. For example, on Oct. 4, 2004, 1,187 out of the Nevada Army Guard's 1,964 Soldiers (60.4 percent) were either mobilized or had received their deployment orders. At the time, only four states in the nation had a higher deployment percentage.

During the decade, Nevada Airmen contributed more than a quarter million "man days" (days of work) supporting operations Iraqi Freedom, Enduring Freedom and New Dawn. Some Airmen deployed as many as 17 times during the past 10 years.

The parade of Nevada Guard deployments during the decade began just days after 9/11, as more than 200 Soldiers and Airmen were mobilized to provide security to the state's major airports and National Guard facilities.

By October 2001, the 72nd Military Police Company was on its way to the Defense Language Institute in California to maintain security. That same month, the 152nd Security Forces and 152nd Intel Squadron saw dozens of its Airmen deployed around the world.

And the deployment cycle never ceased.

The Nevada Army Guard prepared and sent about 2,700 troops on 19 major unit deployments from 2001-2011. Many Soldiers, including those in the 72nd Military Police, the 1/221st Cavalry, the 1864th Transportation Company and the 1/168th Aviation Company, participated in multiple, long-term deployments during the decade.

Sadly, not everyone came home. Of the more than 655 National Guardsmen who gave their lives in support of contingency operations since 9/11, three were from the Nevada Guard.

On June 16, 2005, Spc. Anthony Cometa became the first Nevada Guard Soldier killed in combat since Cpl. Fitch Rowley lost his life in Holland in 1944. Cometa died in a vehicle accident in Iraq while providing escort security. (Air Guard 1st Lt. Frank Salazar was shot down in Korea in 1952.)

Two more Nevadans, Chief Warrant Officer John Flynn and Sgt. Patrick Stewart, were lost on Sept. 25, 2005, when the Chinook helicopter they were aboard was shot down by hostile fire 180 miles southwest of Kabul. Three other Soldiers were killed during the attack, and a memorial to the victims of the Mustang 22 assault now stands at the Army Aviation Support Facility in Reno.

Exactly 10 years to the date of the events of 9/11, the Nevada Guard had about 420 of its Soldiers and Airmen mobilized in support of Operation New Dawn. The majority of the Soldiers are

deployed with the 422nd Expeditionary Signal Battalion and the 485th Military Police Company in Afghanistan.

The Nevada Guard also supported some of the largest humanitarian relief efforts in history. Following Hurricane Katrina's landfall on Louisiana on Aug. 23, 2005, the Nevada Guard's 152nd Medical Squadron and Army Medical Detachments flew aboard Nevada Air Guard C-130s to New Orleans and subsequently earned national recognition for their work at the Armstrong International Airport providing medical care to evacuees.

Other Nevada Guard Soldiers and Airmen, including those from the 72nd Military Police Company, the 440th Signal Battalion and the 152nd Security Forces Squadron, traveled to Louisiana and participated in search-and-rescue operations and security missions.

The Nevada Guard was one of the first military organizations on the scene following the huge earthquake in Haiti on Jan. 12, 2010. The 152nd Airlift Wing began making supply drops and providing transportation to and from the Caribbean nation within days of the disaster, and the 485th Military Police, 72nd Military Police, 609th Engineer, 593rd Transportation companies all provided Soldiers to provide security for doctors, nurses and engineers. Nevada helicopters remained in Haiti through the summer of 2010 to assist with supply transportation and medical evacuation capabilities.

What's in the future for the Nevada Guard? Certainly it's tough to predict how the organization will appear 150 years from now. But in the near future, it's likely the Nevada Guard will continue to mirror the growth of Nevada itself and continue to expand. In the past decade alone, the Nevada Army Guard grew from 1,879 Soldiers to 3,149, a 68 percent increase since 2001.

New facilities will be built to accommodate increased personnel levels. Work began in September on the new North Las Vegas Readiness Center near the Edsall Readiness Center, and the Nevada Guard is poised to acquire a new facility in Carlin that was previously the University of Nevada, Reno, Fire Science Academy.

It's likely the Nevada Air Guard will begin flying a new platform of aircraft within the next 15 years. The Air Force is in the process of phasing out the venerable C-130, a fixture at the air base in Reno since 1996.

About the only certainty for the future of the Nevada Guard is that it will remain trained and ready to respond when called upon by the president and governor, just as it has done for the past 150 years. ■



Staff Sgt. Kevin Sanada, left, and Tech. Sgt. Leanna Lightfoot perform a veterinary inspection at the Louis Armstrong International Airport on Sept. 3, 2005, in New Orleans, La., in the wake of Hurricane Katrina. Photo: Courtesy of Jeff Scheid, Las Vegas Review Journal



Compiled by Lt. Col. Terry Conder and
Sgt. 1st Class Erick Studenicka
Joint Force Headquarters Public Affairs

Fitch returns to old post as commander of Air Guard



RENO – In August, Nevada Air Guard Brig. Gen. Robert Fitch reassumed a job he knows well. Fitch, commander of the Nevada Air Guard from 2007 until January 2011, returned to his previous position as the commander of the Nevada Air Guard on Aug. 7.

Fitch succeeded Nevada Air Guard commander, Col. Terrence Fornof, who announced his retirement in late summer.

In other visible personnel moves, Col. Craig Wroblewski was named the director of the joint staff, and Col. Johnny Isaak was named the Army chief of staff by Brig. Gen. Bill Burks in September.

Eight new second lieutenants welcomed into officer corps

LAS VEGAS – The Nevada Army National Guard commissioned eight new second

lieutenants at the Las Vegas Readiness Center on a historically noteworthy day: Sept. 11.

The eight new second lieutenants are: Nicholas Galbiso, Leah Hansen, Jeffrey Hopkinson, Brian Mutas, Alexander Quagge, Tyler Rodil, Christopher Souza and Yelena Yatskikh.

“I would say this group of young officers is going to be very successful,” said Master Sgt. Gregory Backus, the Nevada Guard’s noncommissioned officer in charge of its Officer Candidate School. “I’ve been in this position for four or five years now, and every class just seems to be getting better and better.”



Quartermaster sergeant crowned Miss Las Vegas

Sgt. Aileen Buri, a water purification sergeant in the 100th Quartermaster unit, was crowned Miss Las Vegas at the Miss Las Vegas Beauty Pageant in August.

She has been in the Nevada Guard for more than three years and is an assistant manager of a large hotel in Las Vegas.

On the way to her title, she also won the competitions for best evening gown and best model.

High Rollers inspection grade: Excellent

The initial results are in for the Nevada Air Guard’s unit compliance inspection in September, and they reveal the High Rollers earned the rare mark of “Excellent.”

Inspection team chief Col. Andrew Molnar said the High Rollers final score is pending, but he is confident the Nevada Air Guard outperformed the majority of other major commands he’s inspected including active duty installations.

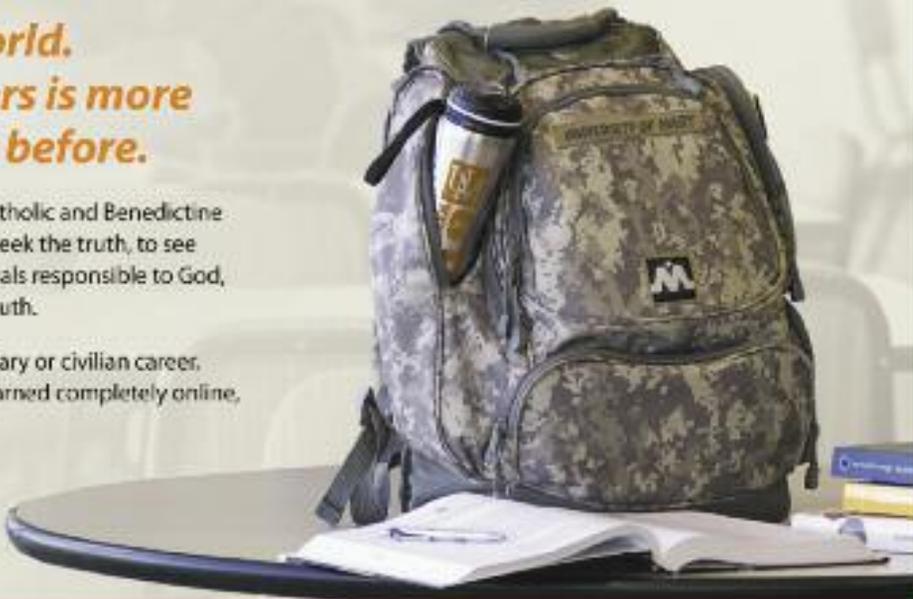
Unit compliance inspections are conducted every four years by the Air Force to ensure each base section is adhering to its respective military instructions and guidance. The inspection also tests each wing’s readiness for future contingencies and combat deployments.

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Sappers have a **blast** during annual training

When a surface Bangalore charge is used to clear an obstacle such as concertino wire, the resulting blast is horizontal. Right: Cpl. Craig Kennison prepares a Bangalore charge while Spc. Charles Rittenhouse provides covering fire during the 609th Engineer Company's annual training in August.

Photos: Pfc. Michael Orton, 106th Public Affairs Detachment

By Pfc. Michael Orton, 106th Public Affairs Detachment

FALLON – Just as the immolation of the Burning Man marks the end of Nevada's most infamous festival each year, explosions resulting from the largest training charges in Nevada Army Guard history denoted the culmination of the 609th Engineer Company's annual training here in August.

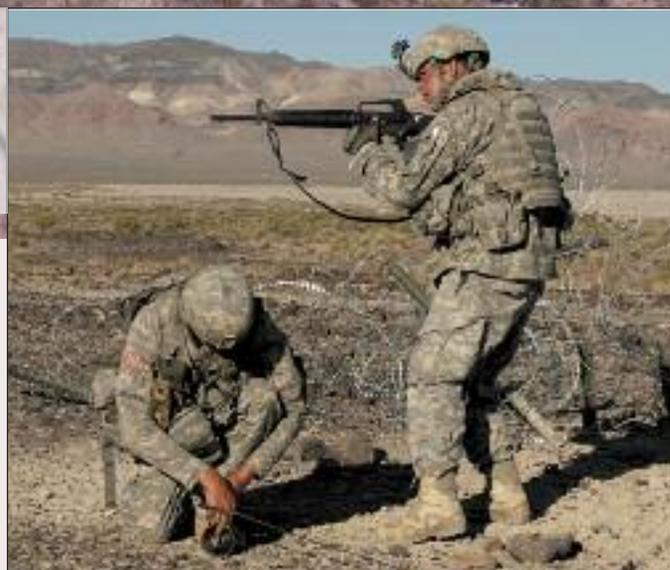
The charges, which reached the equivalent of 30 sticks of dynamite, served to test the Soldiers' skill in detonating explosives and to demonstrate the value of explosives on the battlefield. The three weeks of training conducted at the range training complex at the U.S. Naval Air Station included sessions devoted to deconstruction, survivability, mobility and countermobility.

"This training was a definite eye-opener for the participating Soldiers," said Staff Sgt. Toby Atkins, noncommissioned officer in charge of training for the 609th and a Sapper tab recipient. "This is the first real, light-combat engineering unit in the state, and its Soldiers need to be familiar with the common tool of all combat engineers – explosives."

Cpl. Craig Kenison, a team leader, said combat engineers are famous for having the capacity to ignore distractions and continue on with their mission.

"We are like honey badgers and really don't give a damn about explosions going off as we do our jobs. We breach obstacles and clear the way for infantry units to make passage," Kenison said. "We are considered jacks of all trades during combat. Whatever needs to happen, we are going to make it happen."

Bangalores designed to clear concertina wire were a common type of explosive used during the training. The Soldiers also exploded C-4 in conjunction with cratering charges to create large depressions in the ground. During combat, Soldiers can use these holes to their advantage. Some blasts created craters large enough to hide a vehicle.



More than 60 Guardsmen participated in the unit's drills, including 20 new engineers still in the process of completing all of their requisite combat training.

In addition to practicing their engineering skills, the 609th Soldiers helped prepare the 593rd Transportation Company for its upcoming potential deployment. The 609th acted as an opposition force against the 593rd and tested its ability to react to direct fire and an ambush.

Another highlight of the annual training was the "Sapper Stakes," a five-day trial designed to gauge the Soldiers' skills against the qualification of a full-fledged Sapper. For the first three days of the test, participants were allowed just one hour of sleep and one food ration per day. Platoons within the unit then competed against each other to see how effectively each could complete a mission.

"Combat engineering is a relatively new military occupation in the Nevada Guard, but I believe everyone participating in the training was growing in leaps and bounds in terms of their abilities," Atkins said. "Sapper school is a true validation of a combat engineer. We're in the process of sending every combat engineer Soldier to the school, and slowly but surely we will see dozens of new Sapper tabs throughout Nevada." ■

Streak reaches 11 as 150th captures Connelly food service award

By Sgt. Victor Joecks
106th Public Affairs Detachment

LAS VEGAS – Comparisons between Joe DiMaggio and the Nevada National Guard are sure to begin if the state's Soldiers can maintain their stranglehold on the regional Philip A. Connelly Food Service Competition.

DiMaggio recorded a hit in 56 consecutive baseball games in 1941. And for the 11th consecutive year, a unit from the Nevada Army Guard has claimed the Region 7 title in the Connelly Food Service Competition. The Connelly award is presented annually for excellence in the Army food service arena.

The food service staff of the 150th Maintenance Company represented Nevada this year and earned the state yet another victory for the field meal it served late in the summer outside the Las Vegas Readiness Center. As summer concluded, Nevada officials learned that the 150th had bested units from California and Guam for the Region 7 title.

With this victory, the 150th advances to compete against six other regional winners



As 150th Maintenance Company cooks, Sgt. Kenneth Thackwell and Spc. Jolene Sonner watch, first cook Sgt. Darrell Hurlburt, center, examines the Salisbury steak entrée during the Region 7 Philip A. Connelly Food Service Competition. As summer ended, the unit learned it had won the competition, marking the 11th consecutive year a Nevada unit has won the regional award. Photo: Sgt. Victor Joecks, 106th Public Affairs Detachment

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later this year. During the past decade, Nevada units were the national runner-up four times.

In this year's competition, all competing units prepared a lunch meal that included Salisbury steak, potato wedges, glazed carrots and brownies in a field-kitchen environment.

For the 150th, that meant as many as six cooks at a time had to squeeze into a mobile kitchen trailer that, including stoves and counter space, provided less than 220 square feet of space for the staff.

Working in the cramped environment was one of many challenges faced by the 150th cooks as they prepared to feed more than 120 Soldiers.

"During the Connelly competition, I was impressed with the ability of the Soldiers to adapt," said Staff Sgt. David Ryder, the food operations sergeant. "They kept cool heads, even in this weather; and the experience allowed them to really grow as individuals. They really pulled out all the stops to do 100 percent on this."

Three judges evaluated the units on factors including organization, food handling, variety and taste of food, and sanitation. Senior food service evaluator Ronald Correiria was impressed with the teamwork he observed among the 150th Soldiers.

"Watching them work together is great," Correiria said. "You can see you have a good food service team here. The teamwork starts at the state level and works its way down into the unit level."

The 150th's team included Ryder, first cook Sgt. Darrell Hurlburt, and cooks Sgt. Kenneth Thackwell, Sgt. Robert Rowell, Spc. Jolene Sonner and Spc. Trisha Burdett.

The 150th cooks will now prepare for the national competition in November. They know they have the ability to perform under pressure.

"Everything that goes into the Connelly competition – the preparation, the time, the involvement within the unit itself to prepare for the event – is definitely similar to preparing for a deployment," Hurlburt said. "You've got both a high stress level and time management issues, just like on a deployment."

"Food service is an essential aspect of any mission, and it's crucial that cooks know how to do their job well. The most common denominator in the Army is the fact that everyone likes to eat good food." ■

New in Airman's inventory: Army supply excellence award

By Sgt. Mike Getten, Joint Force Headquarters Public Affairs

CARSON CITY – Nevada Air Guard Master Sgt. Jordan Clark has a new item to track in the 92nd Civil Support Team's storage area: the winning plaque from the Army's Region 7 Supply Excellence Competition.

Clark, the noncommissioned officer in charge of logistics for the civil support team, earned the Army Chief of Staff Supply Excellence award on behalf of the Las Vegas-based unit in August. Clark was eligible for the competition because the 92nd is an Army unit that features Air personnel.

Modeled after the Army's food service and maintenance excellence contests, the supply excellence award was established in 1986 to recognize superior performance in the supply arena at unit and organizational levels. Clark is one of only a handful of Airmen to receive the Army award in its 25 years of existence.

Clark said he owed his success to his diligence in maintaining accountability and availability.

"The most important detail in any supply room is to ensure everything on the property book adds up to what is on hand and everything is properly documented," Clark said. "When equipment needs repair, it needs to get repaired and back into the game quickly."

"Finally, a good logistics sergeant makes sure each section has all of the necessary equipment it needs to accomplish its operational mission."

During the contest, the 92nd received two inspections. The unit received a perfect score on its standardized evaluation assistance team inspection and the highest rating possible on its command supply discipline program inspection. The combined scores placed the CST among the top five supply programs in the Nevada Army Guard.

Clark and the CST were then picked to represent the Nevada Army Guard in the regional supply competition where it outperformed other top units from six states and Guam.

"Receiving the SEA for the region is a great honor," Clark said. "The award reassures me that I do have the ability and knowledge needed to maintain an Army supply system even though I am an Airman."

Clark will now represent the CST and the Nevada Army Guard supply program during the national competition set for January 2012.

"My advice to other supply sergeants is to maintain complete accountability of all items and to make sure you have your equipment on hand to ensure mission requirements can be met," Clark said. ■



Master Sgt. Jordan Clark, left, reviews a hand receipt for a vehicle with Sgt. 1st Class John Fansler in Las Vegas in September. Clark is among the few Airmen to receive a regional Army supply excellence award. He will compete in the national supply contest in January 2012.

Photo: Nanette Sepsey

'Surf Pea' unit adds to Nevada's catastrophic-response capability

By Maj. Jeffrey Johnson
Joint Force Headquarters Public Affairs

CARSON CITY – With the addition of the Nevada Guard's fully-operational "Surf Pea" team this April, the Silver State will rival other states in the Union in terms of catastrophe-response capabilities.

Nevada was one of only eight states selected by the National Guard Bureau in 2010 to receive a CERFP (pronounced "surf pea") unit. Each team features about 170 Soldiers and Airmen specially trained in large-scale catastrophe rescue, decontamination and evacuation. Weapons-of-mass-destruction response capability will also be a primary focus of the unit.

CERFP is a two-part acronym; the C represents "Chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear or explosive," and the ERFP represents "Enhanced Response Force Package." What the mouthful means is the CERFP will provide specialized assistance to local, state and federal agencies in the wake of a catastrophe.

For the majority of the 170 Soldiers and Airmen on the team, their CERFP responsibilities will be an additional duty. The CERFP personnel will come from the 17th Special Troops Battalion, which will provide command and control, the 1864th Transportation Company, which will provide decontamination capabilities, and the 240th Engineer Company, which will provide the search and evacuation resources. The 152nd Medical Group will provide emergency medical services.

The Nevada Air Guard will receive about 45 additional traditional positions to fully staff the CERFP medical team. The unit will have five full-time employees, including two Airmen and three Soldiers.



In this file photo from 2008, California National Guard CERFP Soldiers set up a pulley and winch tripod system as they practice for the Vigilant Guard 2008 training exercise that took place in Nevada. The Nevada Guard's own CERFP will be operational by April.

Photo: Courtesy of Grizzly Magazine, California National Guard

The team likely will be headquartered in Las Vegas at the Clark County Armory and at the Las Vegas Readiness Center. There are now 25 CERFP teams in the nation.

The Nevada Guard will receive about \$2 million to field the units with specialized equipment and about \$1.5 million to train the team. Among the myriad of CERFP equipment set to arrive in the state are 20 heavy-duty trucks with trailers, 30 decontamination tents and an assortment of monitoring and detection equipment.

According to 152nd Medical Group officer Maj. Peter Wong, the CERFP medical team will augment and enhance the Nevada Guard's current emergency-medical capabilities.

"In the aftermath of a major catastrophe, we will provide triage and prep casualties for transport away from the affected area,"

Wong said. "Every Airman assigned to the CERFP will receive six weeks of catastrophe-specific medical training."

Capt. Derek Imig, a CERFP administrative officer, said the team's Soldiers will also receive additional training.

The Nevada Guard fields a full-time, 20-person, joint Civil Support Team trained to respond to CBRNE incidents on a smaller scale than those requiring CERFP capabilities.

Following a catastrophe, the Nevada Guard's CERFP would report to Federal Emergency Management Agency Region 9 officials.

Airmen interested in joining the CERFP can contact Master Sgt. Clinton Dudley at (775) 788-4541 or e-mail clinton.dudley@ang.af.mil. Soldiers interested in joining the team should work with their respective chain of command. ■



VETERANS GUEST HOUSE

provides welcome housing sanctuary

By Sgt. Mike Getten, Joint Force Headquarters Public Affairs

RENO – Across the street from the Veterans Affairs Hospital in Reno is a sanctuary. It's a sanctuary conceived by Nevada Guardsmen and reserved for veterans, military service members and their families in need of housing during medical treatment.

Located at 880 Locust Street, the Veterans Guest House has 12 beds and is available at no cost to military veterans and their dependents. Nevada Guardsmen, active duty, and reserve military service members and their dependents are eligible to stay at the house for free.

"If it wasn't for this house and its staff, many of us would have an extremely difficult time," said Susan Pilkington while her husband, Petty Officer Charles Pilkington, received treatment for asbestos poisoning at the Veterans Hospital. "My husband is dying, and without the support and guidance of this place and these people, I wouldn't know what to do. They are truly angels."

The concept for a house available for veterans and their families to stay in while receiving treatment at the hospital was conceived by retired Guardsmen Col. Chuck Fulkerson and Command Sgt. Maj. Dick Rhyno in 1991. Along with other Guardsmen, including retired Command Sgt. Maj. Walter Willson, they founded the Veterans Guest House organization and leased a 900-square-foot house across from the hospital which eventually became known informally as the Spouse House.

"The cofounders were leaving a meeting at the Veterans Hospital early one morning when they noticed a woman and her children exiting a car with fogged-up windows," said Kathy McGathey, the house manager. "After speaking with the woman and learning that she did not have the means to stay anywhere else while her spouse was in the hospital, they offered her their help.

"That's when they originated their credo: 'Never again on our watch will veterans and their families be without a safe, warm and clean place to stay.'"

After a while, it became clear that more than just dependents needed a place to stay. Veterans, including those from rural areas and those with early-morning appointments, also needed a place to call home while they received outpatient care.

Only a handful of people could stay at the original Spouse House; the organization believed it could do better. Through fundraising activities, the organization raised the money to purchase the property, and it eventually replaced the little house.

The new 4,700-square-foot building, officially known as the Veterans Guest House, was built in 2004 with space for a dozen beds. Following reconstruction, overnight stays jumped from about 800 in 1994 to nearly 4,000 in 2010.

"We usually have no vacancies Sunday through Thursday," McGathey said. "We're even busy on weekends because we have families come in to visit loved ones who are in nursing homes or the hospital.



Nevada Army Guard Lt. Col. Dan Waters, Veterans Guest House board of directors president, discusses administrative matters with Vets Guest House staffers Kathi McGathey, house manager, center, and Noreen Leary, chief operating officer. Waters often drops by the house to visit with guests and staff. Photo: Sgt. Mike Getten

"As long as there are medically associated needs for housing, we are here for veterans, service members and their families."

Occasionally, Veterans Guest House receives more requests for reservations than it can accommodate. When that occurs, the Gold Dust West and Sands Regency Hotel and Casino donate rooms. Last year, the hotels donated about 650 room nights.

The Veterans Guest House is not associated with the VA Hospital, although it does receive referrals from it and other local hospitals.

Noreen Leary, chief operating officer, said the Guest House has an annual operating cost of about \$250,000. Guests are encouraged to donate \$25 per night to help defray costs, but no one is refused housing due to lack of funds. The Veterans Guest House is funded entirely through the donations of individuals, corporations and foundations.

Nevada Guard Lt. Col. Dan Waters is the organization's board president.

"The Guest House reflects the generosity of the entire state," Waters said. "We are supported by donors from throughout Nevada – they really support their military personnel. Our donors come from the National Guard community as well."

The staff at the Veterans Guest House is looking forward to expansion. The organization recently received a grant from the U.S.

Department of Housing and Urban Development to purchase an adjacent property and an existing house for expansion. Currently, the organization is conducting a capital fundraising campaign to renovate the existing adjacent house and eventually replace it with a structure similar to the existing Vets House.

"The need for housing will continue for years," Leary said. "The men and women who served our country and kept us free deserve to have a roof over their heads when receiving medical treatment. That is the least that should be done." ■



Airmen *fired up* for new station

By Staff Sgt. Eric Ritter, 152nd Airlift Wing Public Affairs

RENO – It's been open a few weeks already, but the civil engineer staff is still grinning as they unpack boxes and find homes for equipment in the new firehouse here at the Nevada Air National Guard base. If you ask anyone who worked at the "old" fire station, they'll say it's been a long time coming.

The old 4,000-square-foot Reno Air Base firehouse was constructed in 1955 without a latrine. It was later updated with bathroom facilities, to the relief of many of the firemen.

The new firehouse is adjacent to the maintenance hangar and promises to be a far cry from the old cinder block, one-story building.

"It is a state-of-the art facility," said Senior Master Sgt. Ward Lacy, the air base's deputy fire chief. "This building is everything we've dreamed about."

The firehouse was funded by a \$10 million congressional add and is a facility the Air Force points toward as its model firefighting station.

"A key element of the new building is its efficiency," Lacy said. "It's made of lightweight material. It's a green, energy-efficient structure. Almost everything in it is made from recycled materials, including the steel and concrete."

Solar panels provide energy and heat the water in the station. Huge windows complement the structure's sides and ceilings. In the past, those spaces likely would have been covered with concrete.

"The windows will reduce electricity costs because it will be sunlit throughout the day," Lacy said.

The vehicle bay will accommodate every vehicle in the squadron's fleet; even the four-fold bay doors are a marvel of technology.

"They're ballistic-rated and sturdier than the typical overhead garage door system we're used to seeing," Lacy said.

The building also features overnight lodging facilities, lockers – and plenty of restrooms.

"It will have a nice, new fire pole, too," Lacy said.



Nevada Air National Guard Deputy Fire Chief Senior Master Sgt. Ward Lacy shows off the unique bay doors in the air base's new fire station. The new fire station has been designed with state-of-the-art ideas such as efficiency, "green" technology and flexibility to respond to any emergency. Photo: Staff Sgt. Eric Ritter

Lacy explained that the state-of-the-art building is a reflection of the importance the Air Force places on emergency responders.

"Firefighters weren't thought of like they are now," he said. "If there was an aircraft emergency, typically the aircraft maintenance personnel and pilots would respond. The Air Force moved away from that line of thinking when it saw the need for better-trained, specialty personnel for those situations."

The new firehouse also features space for training.

"The new building includes a unique, confined-space trainer," Lacy said. "It's good we'll have training aids like that right here on base."

Lacy said no matter the aircraft in distress, the firehouse and its firefighters can handle any emergency.

"I'm really excited about our new firehouse," Lacy said. "Fire protection is always evolving. This is a huge leap from the last building. It will be nice to work at a model firefighting facility." ■

Nevada Air National Guard upgrades information superhighway

By Staff Sgt. Eric Ritter, 152nd Airlift Wing Public Affairs

RENO – Technology is a crazy animal. It never sits still long enough to be savored for very long.

Three generations ago, an electronic mathematical calculator would take up enough space to fill an auditorium. Today, we have small devices that not only calculate, but can remotely start the fire in your fireplace at home while you're simultaneously talking on your cellular phone and playing a leisurely game of Angry Birds.

It's gotten to the point where everyone has to keep up with what's current, or failure is inevitable.

A lot of the technology being designed today is being pitched to "real time." It means essential data can be streamed anywhere in the world with no delay.

The Nevada Air National Guard understands the importance of real-time data transmission. It's especially important considering one of its more important missions is remotely piloting aircraft.

To help the RPA mission stream better quality data and with reliable connections, the 152nd Communications Flight recently

completed upgrades to the base's fiber optic network that will immediately improve the High Rollers' mission capabilities in current overseas contingency operations.

According to the flight branch chief, Senior Master Sgt. Steve Graham, the upgrades are a game changer in terms of data delivery.

"This is state of the art," he said. "We're changing the way data is delivered to the base."

As with most improvements, there are growing pains. There's been a lot of necessary digging at the base to install the cable," Graham said. "That always impacts daily lives for a while."

Regardless of temporary disturbance, the new fiber optic upgrades are necessary to keep pace with the wing's increasingly complicated missions.

"The technology is always changing," Graham explained. "We always need to keep up with it. As our mission dictates, we'll always be adapting."

The \$2 million upgrade project was funded through a grant from the Department of Defense. ■

SPORTS NEWS

Airman's alternate flight option across desert: motorcycles

By 1st Lt. Jason Yuhasz
152nd Airlift Wing Public Affairs

RENO – When it comes to flying across the Nevada desert, most High Rollers travel in a C-130 Hercules.

Some, however, prefer to be a little closer to the terrain and use off-road racing motorcycles.

Master Sgt. Michael Martin of the 192nd Airlift Squadron owns, operates and races just such a bike. He competes in races that are more than 100 miles long and can exceed four hours of time.

Martin isn't the only close-terrain High Roller flyer. He and several other Airmen often race in the Motorcycle Racing Association of Northern Nevada series. MRANN sponsors many desert races throughout the year, with different classes, divisions and age groups.

Just like a C-130 pilot, racers must maintain their mental focus, technical skills and remain in top physical condition.

"To do well in a race, riders must push themselves beyond what most consider the

normal limits of endurance," Martin said.

Desert race bikes are always meticulously maintained. Every nut, bolt, piece and part is checked and maintained like a fine watch. Nothing on the motorcycle is left unchecked because even the smallest imperfection can mean the difference between a top place in a race and a DNF (did not finish).

Other riders, stifling heat, loud noise, choking clouds of dust and rim-bending rocks are only a few of the obstacles a rider encounters during a race.

"Both the rider and the machine must handle the grueling effects of off-road desert racing, which is rated as one of the most physically demanding activities in existence," Martin said.

While it may appear to be dangerous, desert racing isn't really as perilous as it may seem. The average speed for a novice rider is about 25 mph, while an expert rider's average is about 40 mph.

"The biggest hazard a rider often faces is himself," Martin said. "Any lapse in concentration or loss of focus can lead to trouble."

Off-road motorcycle racing requires a great deal of mental focus and concentra-

tion, especially when the terrain is technical. The ability to read terrain, choose correct gear, maintain proper speed, select specific lines and dodge obstacles equates to safety and efficient movement.

Martin said the goal of many off-road motorcycle racers is simply to complete the race. Completing one without mistakes is even better. A trophy is icing on the cake for most racers.

Airmen and Soldiers are welcome to join the High Rollers team in the MRANN series. For information, call 788-9431.

Biathlon team scores summer medals

JERICHO, Vt. – Considering its recent performance here at the U.S. Summer Biathlon Championships, the Nevada Guard's biathlon team seems poised for another medal haul this winter. Summer biathlon entails running and rifle marksmanship. In winter, racers take to skis.

Maj. Julie Dietrich, an Air Guard pilot from Mammoth Lakes, Calif., scored silver medals in both the sprint and long-course individual races in the women's master division. She finished the sprint course in 23 minutes, 13 seconds, and was only 43 seconds short of the national title.

Staff Sgt. Paul Duncan, a recruiter from Las Vegas, was the Nevada Guard's top male finisher. He recorded a ninth place finish in the sprint race and a 10th place in the individual long-course race.

The Nevada Guard's winter biathlon schedule resumes Jan. 18, with the Western Regional Race in Heber City, Utah. Call (775) 887-7250 for information.

High Strollers go the distance in relay race

RENO – The Nevada Air Guard's top runners teamed up to run the Reno Tahoe Odyssey this summer. The team, named the High Strollers, completed the 178-mile relay race course in 29 hours, 59 minutes, and recorded an impressive 32nd place out of the 200 competing teams.

The runners included: Lt. Col. Jo Meacham; Capts. John Brownell, Joe Deese and Maryanna Shade; 1st Lt. Maston Bethel; Senior Master Sgt. Martin Meinhart; Master Sgts. Angela Ash, Jon Baker, Tracy Woodfolk, Bill Schy, Sara Coney and Daphne Dominguez; Tech. Sgt. Tim Schweppe; and Army Sgt. Cirila Santillano.



Master Sgt. Mike Martin blasts his way to a first-place finish at the at Twin Peaks 2010 desert motorcycle race. Photo: Courtesy of Master Sgt. Mike Martin, 192nd Airlift Squadron



AWARDS • PROMOTIONS • RETIREMENTS

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AWARDS

Legion of Merit



COL Craig Wroblewski JFHQ
 COL Kim Labrie JFHQ
 COL Ralph Pate JFHQ
 BG Francis Gonzales JFHQ

Meritorious Service Medal



SFC Alberto Cosio 137th MP Det
 SSG Edward Castillo 150th Maint Co
 LTC Rodger Waters 17th Special Troops Bn
 CSM Suzanne Albin 421st RTI
 CW2 Karen Harris 421st RTI
 CPT James Phoenix 485th MP Co
 SFC Thomas Wulf 593rd Transp Co
 MAJ Neil Oscarson 757th Combat Sust. Spt Bn
 LTC James Walker 757th Combat Sust. Spt Bn
 SGT Terry Hilke 777th Fire Spt Co, 1/221st Cav
 SGM Michael Hallert 991st Troop Cmd
 COL Brenda Griffith 991st Troop Cmd
 CPT Nicholas Soapes HHT, 1/221st Cav
 SSG Raymond Sprague I Trp, 1/221st Cav
 MAJ Christy Hales JFHQ
 CPT Brian Hunsaker JFHQ

SGM Mark Rogers JFHQ
 COL Ralph Pate JFHQ
 MSG Christian Riege JFHQ
 SFC Miranda McElhiney JFHQ
 LTC Heath Kelly JFHQ
 MSG Darcy Tiedeman NVARNG Rec/Ret
 CW3 Loyd Crathers NVARNG Rec/Ret
 SFC Robert Parker JFHQ
 Col Frank Landes 152nd Airlift Wing
 CMSgt Michael Muniz 152nd Force Support Sqdn
 LtCol John Week 152nd Medical Grp

Army Commendation Medal



PFC Reynaldo San Juan 150th Maint Co
 SSG James Smith 777th Fire Spt Co, 1/221st Cav
 SGT Gene Garcia 777th Fire Spt Co, 1/221st Cav
 SGT Gerald Cornell HHT, 1/221st Cav
 SSG Stanley Harvey HHT, 1/221st Cav
 SFC Ben Schinzing JFHQ
 SFC Travis Johnson NVARNG Rec/Ret
 SFC Christopher Hammond NVARNG Rec/Ret
 SFC Robert Gates NVARNG Rec/Ret
 CW1 Mark McAllister NVARNG Rec/Ret
 SFC Brandon Stevens NVARNG Rec/Ret
 SFC Jose Obregon NVARNG Rec/Ret

SSG Matthew Peterson NVARNG Rec/Ret
 SFC Suzette Schrupp JFHQ

Army Achievement Medal



SPC Allison Hernandez NVARNG Med Det
 SFC Wade Mendenhall NVARNG Rec/Ret
 SGT Richard Samson NVARNG Rec/Ret
 SSG Che Rios NVARNG Rec/Ret
 SSG Victor Boivin NVARNG Rec/Ret
 SGT Victor Joecks 106th PAD
 SPC Emerson Marcus 106th PAD

Air Force Combat Readiness Medal



MSgt Veronica Jasper 152nd Intelligence Sqdn
 TSgt Michael Clark 152nd Intelligence Sqdn
 TSgt Matthew Fike 152nd Intelligence Sqdn
 SMSgt David Gonzales 152nd Intelligence Sqdn
 Capt Brian Gundersn 152nd Intelligence Sqdn
 MSgt Scott Jasper 152nd Intelligence Sqdn
 MSgt Wylie Mandeville 152nd Intelligence Sqdn
 TSgt Blake Morrow 152nd Intelligence Sqdn
 MSgt Brandon Trehal 152nd Intelligence Sqdn
 TSgt Kipp Westphal 152nd Intelligence Sqdn
 TSgt Brice Church 152nd Intelligence Sqdn
 TSgt Christopher Nolen 152nd Intelligence Sqdn
 TSgt Sam Anderson 152nd Intelligence Sqdn
 Capt Amanda Barnes 152nd Intelligence Sqdn
 TSgt Timothy Buxton 152nd Intelligence Sqdn
 SSgt Stefanie Eddy 152nd Intelligence Sqdn
 SSgt Ronald Fiorillo 152nd Intelligence Sqdn
 MSgt Sherri Hackett 152nd Intelligence Sqdn
 SrA Adam Kilgore 152nd Intelligence Sqdn
 SrA Jared Landers 152nd Intelligence Sqdn
 TSgt Julene Stewart 152nd Intelligence Sqdn

Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal



LtCol Scott Shepherd 152nd Medical Grp

Nevada Distinguished Service Medal



MSG Christian Riege JFHQ
 SFC Miranda McElhiney JFHQ
 LTC Heath Kelly JFHQ
 MSG Michael Hale NVARNG Rec/Ret

Nevada Medal of Valor



PFC April Carr 593rd Transp Co

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Nevada Medal of Merit



TSgt Lisa Mitchell JFHQ

Nevada State Commendation Medal



SPC Oscar Roman 1/168th MEDEVAC
 SPC William Weston 485th MP Co
 SGT Aaron Wiggins 485th MP Co
 SPC Jeremy Dries JFHQ

Adjutant General's Outstanding Graduate Award



SPC Anthony Viglietta 17th Special Troops Bn
 1SG Dennis Basilio 1864th Transp Co
 SSG Alberto Gonzalez 777th Fire Spt Co, 1/221st Cav
 SGT Brian Morrison JFHQ
 SSG Jonathan Rupp K Trp, 1/221st Cav
 SSG Curtis McGuire K Trp, 1/221st Cav
 SPC Timothy Stephenson Camp Stead

Nevada Overseas Deployment Ribbon



Maj Kyle Cerfoglio 152nd Aircraft Maint Sqdn
 SSgt Eric Ritter 152nd Airlift Wing
 SMSgt Michael Brown 152nd Civil Engineer Sqdn
 CMSgt Robert Taulman 152nd Communications Flt
 SSgt Shamika Webb 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
 SMSgt Robert Garrett 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
 SSgt Stacy Walters 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
 SrA Amanda Williams 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
 SSgt Lera Masini 152nd Maint Sqdn
 SSgt Robert Plant 152nd Maint Sqdn
 SSgt Emily Fox 152nd Medical Grp
 SSgt Steven Wolfgang 152nd Security Forces Sqdn
 SSgt Scott Danielson 152nd Security Forces Sqdn
 MSgt Robert Vance 152nd Security Forces Sqdn
 MSgt Paul Banish 192nd Airlift Sqdn
 TSgt Frank Tolete 192nd Airlift Sqdn
 LtCol Glen Martel JFHQ
 LtCol Bartley O'Toole 192nd Airlift Sqdn

Nevada Honor Guard Ribbon



TSgt Diane Castle 152nd Airlift Wing
 TSgt Rosemarie Marston 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
 MSgt Douglas Larson 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn

Nevada Recruiting Ribbon



TSgt Diane Castle 152nd Airlift Wing
 TSgt Steven Givani 152nd Force Support Sqdn
 SrA Christopher Tribble 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
 A1C Antonio Tognoni 152nd Maint Sqdn
 A1C Daniel Regalado 152nd Medical Grp
 A1C Stephen Griffiths 192nd Airlift Sqdn
 SSgt Catherine Ostermeyer 192nd Airlift Sqdn

PROMOTIONS

LTC/LtCol

Nirvana Kundu 152nd Medical Grp
 David Manson JFHQ
 Richard Ferguson 991st Troop Cmd
 Christopher Patterson JFHQ

MAJ/Maj

Darren Chrisman 991st Troop Cmd
 Robert Mays JFHQ
 Joseph Deese 152nd Airlift Wing
 Jason Little 192nd Airlift Sqdn
 Michael Komorous 232nd Operations Sqdn

CPT/Capt

George Caddel 3/140th S & S
 Denisse Ramos JFHQ Agribusiness Dev. Team

1LT/1st Lt

Roy Drew 192nd Airlift Sqdn
 Kimberly Champlin 593rd Transp Co
 Liberty Reyes 150th Maint Co
 Michelle Carson JFHQ

CW5

James Baumann JFHQ

CW4

Shirley Conroy JFHQ

CW2

Brandon Dewhurst 1/189th Aviation

W01

Robert Montgomery . 757th Combat Sustainment Spt Bn

CSM/SGM/CMSgt

Charles Allen 152nd Airlift Wing

1SG/MSG/SMSgt

Martin Alvarez 17th Sustainment Bde
 Julio Guerrero C Co, 422nd Signal Bn
 Stephen Lawrence 485th MP Co
 David Pectol 92nd Civil Support Team
 Debra Graham 152nd Force Support Sqdn
 Tabitha Hartman 152nd Force Support Sqdn
 Joseph Laspina 100th Quartermaster Co
 Dennis Larocca 757th Combat Sustainment Spt Bn
 Gregory Backus 421st RTI

SFC/MSgt

Xiomara Young 152nd Force Support Sqdn
 Jeffrey Linton 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
 Brian Toward 232nd Operations Sqdn
 Epifanio Rodarte 1/189th Aviation
 Thomas Zarembo 1/189th Aviation
 Richard Janise 17th Sustainment Bde
 Tiffany McKimmy 17th Sustainment Bde
 Del Dennis 17th Sustainment Bde
 Joseph Edwards 3/140th S & S
 Pelenato Vailuu C Co, 422nd Signal Bn
 Joseph Giglio 92nd Civil Support Team
 Michael Block 150th Maint Co
 Kamran Khan HHT, 1/221st Cav



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 Christina Espada 421st RTI
 Christopher Laduca 1 Trp, 1/221st Cav
 Heather Carlquist JFHQ
 Autumn Jones JFHQ

SSG/TSgt

Timothy Buxton 152nd Intelligence Sqdn
 Anthony Henry 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
 Alejandro Ontiveros-Carbajal
 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
 Michael Faulkenberry 152nd Maint Sqdn
 Benjamin Reynolds 152nd Maint Sqdn
 Michelle Roberts 152nd Medical Grp
 Rachel Woolard 152nd Medical Grp
 Kathy McEwan 192nd Airlift Sqdn
 Michelle Barras 232nd Operations Sqdn
 Justin Hallahan 232nd Operations Sqdn
 Samuel Manghane 232nd Operations Sqdn
 Heather Cate 1/168th MEDEVAC
 Nicholas Hammond 1/168th MEDEVAC
 Justin Claman 1/189th Aviation
 Steven Watson 1/189th Aviation
 Thomas Rogers 1/189th Aviation
 Christopher Thompson 1/189th Aviation
 Marquette Anderson 100th Quartermaster Co
 David Summers 137th MP Det
 Patrick Homewood 1864th Transp Co
 Michael Pugh 1864th Transp Co
 Shad Palmer C Co, 422nd Signal Bn

Beth Juliar 72nd MP Co
 Robert Grantham 72nd MP Co
 Jose Terriquezmontes 777th Engineer Det
 Arthur McKeller 777th Engineer Det
 James Vail 777th Engineer Det
 Darrel Mally 150th Maint Co
 Ronald Seagraves JFHQ
 Ryan Moorebace JFHQ
 Nicholas Gerace K Trp, 1/221st Cav
 Richard Jager JFHQ Agribusiness Dev. Team

SGT/SSgt

Elliroy Defiesta 152nd Aircraft Maint Sqdn
 Eric Higman 152nd Civil Engineer Sqdn
 Jacob Ellis 152nd Communications Flt
 Williams Boekenooen 152nd Intelligence Sqdn
 Rebecca McEwan 152nd Maint Sqdn
 Robyn Collins 1/189th Aviation
 Jacob Houser 1/189th Aviation
 James Ferris 1/189th Aviation
 Christopher Williams 100th Quartermaster Co
 Marco Jaramillo 100th Quartermaster Co
 Zandra Smith 17th Special Troops Bn
 Leticia Gonzalez 1864th Transp Co
 Eddie Glenn 1864th Transp Co
 Sandra Sandoval 1864th Transp Co
 Edward Goosun 240th Engineer Co
 Michael Vargas 240th Engineer Co
 Robert Case 240th Engineer Co
 Dana Eineichner 240th Engineer Co

Eric Albright 3/140th S & S
 James Wiseman B Co, 422nd Signal Bn
 Erik Janson B Co, 422nd Signal Bn
 Sean Sumalpong B Co, 422nd Signal Bn
 Adam Ortiz B Co, 422nd Signal Bn
 John Rodriguez B Co, 422nd Signal Bn
 Garrick Most C Co, 422nd Signal Bn
 Roslyn Paluay C Co, 422nd Signal Bn
 Patrice Mara C Co, 422nd Signal Bn
 Cesar Bautista C Co, 422nd Signal Bn
 Jonathan Terra C Co, 422nd Signal Bn
 Vera Salazar 757th Combat Sustainment Spt Bn
 Adam Patterson 777th Engineer Det
 Cameron Sather 150th Maint Co
 Juan Marquez 150th Maint Co
 Jeanette Moreno 150th Maint Co
 Eric Head HHT, 1/221st Cav
 Kyle Matthews 1 Trp, 1/221st Cav
 Assaf Bendor 1 Trp, 1/221st Cav
 William Mariona JFHQ Agribusiness Dev. Team
 Svetlana Lopez NVARNG Rec/Ret
 Victor Joecks 106th PAD

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ACCESSIONS

Ryan Carvalho	152nd Maint Sqdn	Derrick Agnew	17th Sustainment Bde	Scott Tulp	485th MP Co
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Patrick Faenza	152nd Force Support Sqdn	Allen Sosnick	17th Sustainment Bde	Ashley Hartman	485th MP Co
Norman Whitney	152nd Force Support Sqdn	Shannon Tuiolemotu	17th Sustainment Bde	Alex Stackhouse	593rd Transp Co
Kyle Ellis	152nd Intelligence Sqdn	Dylan Malla	17th Sustainment Bde	Nicholas Landa	593rd Transp Co
Titus Roberson	152nd Intelligence Sqdn	Michael Mcelroy	17th Sustainment Bde	Kevin Blackburn	593rd Transp Co
Brandon Azevedo	152nd Log Readiness Sqdn	Glen Tobin	17th Sustainment Bde	Vincent Graham	593rd Transp Co
Juan Macias	152nd Log Readiness Sqdn	Stephanie Santos	17th Sustainment Bde	Andrew Fisher	593rd Transp Co
Kristy Castro	152nd Log Readiness Sqdn	Michael Kostak	17th Sustainment Bde	Edward Trujillo	593rd Transp Co
Ryan Hull	152nd Log Readiness Sqdn	Rachel Thompson	17th Sustainment Bde	Joseph Akins	593rd Transp Co
Jared Aranda	152nd Log Readiness Sqdn	Jeremy May	17th Sustainment Bde	Zachary Salyer	593rd Transp Co
Jonathan Begley	152nd Log Readiness Sqdn	Chad Paradis	1864th Transp Co	Brandon Nye	593rd Transp Co
Melanie Beard	152nd Maint Operations Flt	Michaelangelo Bonsignore	1864th Transp Co	Elliott Becker	609th Engineer Co
Dylan Weber	152nd Maint Sqdn	Christopher Cossman	1864th Transp Co	Kevin Tumbaga	609th Engineer Co
Christopher Rice	152nd Maint Sqdn	Hilario Barragantapia	1864th Transp Co	Izaiah Main	609th Engineer Co
Luke Nyhammer	152nd Maint Sqdn	Jose Hernandez	1864th Transp Co	Cody Tucker	609th Engineer Co
Nathan Penny	152nd Maint Sqdn	Anthony Miller	1864th Transp Co	Jessica Atchley	72nd MP Co
Chad Debock	152nd Maint Sqdn	Jack Maurer	1864th Transp Co	Jackie Hulslander	72nd MP Co
Melissa Turner	152nd Medical Grp	Alexis Bulloch	1864th Transp Co	Jeremy Fox	72nd MP Co
Janel Amick	152nd Medical Grp	Brent Landis	240th Engineer Co	Elizabeth Arvizu	757th Combat Sust. Spt Bn
Robert Dowdle	152nd Security Forces Sqdn	Daniel Tamayo	240th Engineer Co	Jonathan Kenerson	757th Combat Sust. Spt Bn
Britany Wilcoxson	152nd Security Forces Sqdn	Nicholas Rollins	240th Engineer Co	Chad New	757th Combat Sust. Spt Bn
Erik Soberano	192nd Airlift Sqdn	Mohammed Hakim	240th Engineer Co	Alexis Jelepiss	757th Combat Sust. Spt Bn
Rita Middleton	192nd Airlift Sqdn	Cal Collins	240th Engineer Co	Marcelo Vargaguerra	777th Engineer Det
John Kephart	232nd Operations Sqdn	Jason Webb	240th Engineer Co	Colby Powell	777th Engineer Det
Samual Manghane	232nd Operations Sqdn	Maria Bonsignore	277th Engineer PI	Miguel Hernandez	777th Engineer Det
Jacob Gimmestad	100th Quartermaster Co	Peter Cothery	277th Engineer PI	Jareny Serranovillanueva	150th Maint Co
Scott Stemmer	100th Quartermaster Co	Jeremy Emerson	277th Engineer PI	Nicholas Graf	150th Maint Co
Bobby Coffman	100th Quartermaster Co	Christopher Rumsey	277th Engineer PI	John Tome	421st RTI
Phillip Admire	100th Quartermaster Co	William Mcie	277th Engineer PI	Quannisha Kincaid	72nd MP Co
Omar Eltakrori	100th Quartermaster Co	Paula Degan	277th Engineer PI	Lawrence Elfstrom	HHT, 1/221st Cav
David Henry	150th Maint Co	Mark Estrada	3/140th S & S	Christian Tannery	HHT, 1/221st Cav
Victoria Butterworth	150th Maint Co	Shelby Zeigler	3/140th S & S	Michael Lobello	HHT, 1/221st Cav
Mathew Schumann	17th Special Troops Bn	Tyler Bannister	3/140th S & S	Michael Urdea	I Trp, 1/221st Cav
Troy Kemper	17th Special Troops Bn	Alvaro Zelaya	B Co, 422nd Signal Bn	Edgar Torres Sierra	K Trp, 1/221st Cav
Gavin Respini	17th Special Troops Bn	Kayla Warmkessel	C Co, 422nd Signal Bn	Brandon Pick	K Trp, 1/221st Cav
Cody Gamble	17th Special Troops Bn	Joshua Garoutte	485th MP Co	Michael Orton	106th PAD
Cuauhtemoc Rodriguez	17th Special Troops Bn				
Laura McCray	17th Special Troops Bn				
Jahel Moreno	17th Special Troops Bn				
Ignacio Regaladopartida	17th Special Troops Bn				
Pamela Rodriguez	17th Special Troops Bn				
Shauna McKinnis	17th Special Troops Bn				
Christian Janssen	17th Special Troops Bn				
Denny Cyganek	17th Special Troops Bn				
Mark Kennoy	17th Special Troops Bn				
Michael McGee	17th Special Troops Bn				
Doyle Sannicolas	17th Special Troops Bn				
Natalie Garcia	17th Special Troops Bn				
Damjan Ristoski	17th Sustainment Bde				
Mark Koop	17th Sustainment Bde				
Joshua Logan	17th Sustainment Bde				
Jason Swanger	17th Sustainment Bde				
Ryan Swindell	17th Sustainment Bde				
Julian Garcia	17th Sustainment Bde				
Carl Carver	17th Sustainment Bde				
Shane Truesdill	17th Sustainment Bde				
Paul Franklin	17th Sustainment Bde				
Daena Lopez	17th Sustainment Bde				
Dominique Valdez	17th Sustainment Bde				

RETIREMENTS

MSgt Sarah Alegre	152nd Communications Flt	Col Frank D. Landes	152nd Airlift Wing
SFC Ryan Baker Jr	HHT, 1/221st Cav	MSG Donna Lucas	JFHQ
COL Mark Bittick	JFHQ	MSgt Scott Malin	152nd Intelligence Sqdn
MSgt Philip E. Brown	192nd Airlift Sqdn	MSgt Leonard Martinez	152nd Maint Sqdn
SSG Edward Castillo Jr	150th Maint Co	SMSgt Wanda C. Martinson-Castro	JFHQ
SFC Van Fortier	JFHQ	TSgt Thomas J. Nelson	152nd Civil Engineer Sqdn
SGT Eric Gatien	593rd Transp Co	TSgt Christopher D. Nolen	152nd Intel Sqdn
TSgt Brian S. Guettler	152nd Communications Flt	SFC Larry Perkins	757th Combat Sust. Spt Bn
MSG Michael Heisler	72nd MP Co	SSG Thomas Polacek	1/168th MEDEVAC
SFC Michael Holcomb	JFHQ	MSgt Deborah Seevers	152nd Medical Grp
TSgt James Kalvelage	152nd Medical Grp	SMSgt John Sekora	152nd Civil Engineer Sqdn
MSgt Robert H. Kipperman	152nd Airlift Wing	SGM Michelle Sykes	JFHQ
MSG Curtis Klitzka	150th Maint Co	SGT Ronald Winbush	150th Maint Co
MSgt Felix J. Kreskey	152nd Maint Sqdn	SFC Thomas Wulf	593rd Transp Co
SSG Richard Krissak	150th Maint Co		



Outward Bound

A firefighting crew from the 1/168th Medical Evacuation unit scoops 660 gallons of water in one swoop while water bucket training in a UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter at Stampede Reservoir, Calif., in June. The Nevada fire season sputtered through the summer but finally exploded in October when 11 fires scorched 163,000 acres near Elko. The Nevada National Guard quickly dispatched the Black Hawk to the Indian Creek fire where it helped suppress the fire by dropping more than 58,000 gallons of water on the blaze. Photo: Barry Smith, Emergency Medical Services Magazine

Prepare your motorpool for **DSCA** and **MSCA** with Phantom StormLights™

COVERT TO OVERT

Military vehicles are designed to be covert on the battlefield. Dull paint and infrared lights enhance that requirement on a deployment. When those same vehicles are called to duty on the home front, however, that covertness can lead to catastrophe! Unwary civilians can roll right up on those vehicles hidden by foliage, harsh rain or blinding snow-- damaging vehicles and Soldiers alike.

When you are called for a DSCA or MSCA mission, be sure to pack a Phantom StormLight™ kit for each vehicle in the convoy! **These kits include rapidly deployable lighting systems to make sure that the vehicle can be SEEN!**

The Phantom StormLight™ system is comprised of lights that can mount on the windshield (powered by a cigarette lighter/accessory plug or to the BUSS bar underneath the driver's seat). Rear-end collisions are avoided by mounting another Phantom Stormlight™ to the rear bumper, drawing power from the adjacent clearance light.



Pack by Tactical Tailor™

Larger kit options include portable hand held lights, battery powered solid state MightyFlares™, road guard vests, jumper cables and tie down straps. Additionally, kits can be customized for your convenience.



Exterior mount (LEFT) bolts to existing hole on bumper, drawing power from adjacent clearance light.



Interior mount (RIGHT) attaches to windshield with adjustable suction cups, drawing power from accessory plug.

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